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HISTORY  
OF  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY,  
CONNECTICUT,

WITH  
ILLUSTRATIONS AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES  
OF ITS  
PROMINENT MEN AND PIONEERS.

---

COMPILED UNDER THE SUPERVISION  
OF  
D. HAMILTON HURD.

---

PHILADELPHIA:  
J. W. LEWIS & CO.,  
1881.





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## PREFACE.

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THE province of the historian is to gather the threads of the past ere they elude forever his grasp and weave them into a harmonious web to which the Art Preservative may give immortality. Therefore he who would rescue from fast-gathering oblivion the deeds of a community and send them on to futurity in an imperishable record should deliver "a plain, unvarnished tale,"—

"Nothing extenuate,  
Nor set down aught in malice."

In such a spirit have the compilers of the following pages approached the work of detailing the history of the county embodied herein, and trust they have been fairly faithful to the task imposed.

It has been our honest endeavor to trace the history of the development of this section from that period when it was in the undisputed possession of the red man to the present, and to place before the reader an authentic narrative of its rise and progress to the prominent position it now occupies among the counties of New England.

That such an undertaking is attended with no little difficulty and vexation none will deny. The aged pioneer relates events of the early settlements, while his neighbor sketches the same events with totally different outlines. Man's memory is ever at fault, while Time paints a different picture upon every mind. With these the historian has to contend; and, while it has been our aim to compile an accurate history, were it devoid of all inaccuracies that perfection would have been attained of which the writer had not the faintest conception, and which Lord Macaulay once said never could be reached.

From colonial and other documents in the State archives, from county, town, and village records, family manuscripts, printed publications, and innumerable private sources of information, we have endeavored to produce a history which should prove accurate, instructive, and in every respect worthy the county represented. How well we have succeeded in our task a generous public, jealous of its reputation and honor, of its traditions and memories, of its defeats and triumphs, must now be the judge.

We desire to acknowledge our sincere thanks to the editorial fraternity generally for much valuable information, which has greatly lessened our labor in the preparation of this work, and also to each and every one who has assisted us in its compilation, and would cheerfully make personal mention of each, but it is impracticable, as the number reaches over a thousand.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 1, 1881.

D. H. H.





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# HISTORY

## OF

### FAIRFIELD COUNTY, CONNECTICUT.

#### CHAPTER I.

##### GEOGRAPHICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.

FAIRFIELD County is located in the southwestern part of the State of Connecticut and is bounded as follows: On the north by Westchester Co., N. Y., and the counties of Litchfield and New Haven, in Connecticut; on the east by Litchfield and New Haven Counties; on the south by Long Island Sound; and on the west by the counties of Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess, in the State of New York. It is separated from New Haven County by the Housatonic River, which also separates it in part from Litchfield. The southern part is deeply indented by the waters of the Sound, which form some of the best harbors on the Connecticut coast. Oysters and clams of excellent quality are found in abundance along the coast.

The surface of the county along the Sound is level and very fertile. In the interior and northern parts it presents, chiefly, a bold outline of irregular hills and deep valleys. The soil is generally strong and fertile, and the county is one of the richest farming-districts in the State.

Fairfield County is not rich in minerals, for neither the useful nor the precious metals abound to any extent,—at least, not in paying quantities. About fifty years ago iron-ore was found in the southwestern part of Reading, near Branchville, but after being worked a short time was abandoned. Coal was dug for about thirty years ago near Georgetown, and a silver-mine was worked in 1765 in the northern part of Wilton. Silica and feldspar quartz have been found in large quantities in the eastern part of Ridgefield and the western part of Reading, which are now being worked quite extensively.

##### ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY.

Fairfield County was organized at a Court of Election held at Hartford May 10, 1666, at which time John Winthrop was Governor of the colony.

The bounds of the county were described as follows: "This court orders that from the east bounds of Stratford to y<sup>e</sup> west bounds of Rye shalbe for future one county w<sup>ch</sup> shalbe called the County of Fairfield, And it is ordered that the County Court shalbe held at Fairfield on the second Tuesday in March and the first Tuesday in November yearly."

At the date of organization of the county it embraced but five towns—viz., Fairfield, Stratford, Norwalk, Stamford, and Greenwich. As the population increased other towns were formed, until at the present time there are twenty-three civil subdivisions, as follows: Bethel, Bridgeport, Brookfield, Danbury, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Huntington, Monroe, New Canaan, New Fairfield, Newtown, Norwalk, Redding, Ridgefield, Sherman, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport, and Wilton.

In 1701 "Cap<sup>n</sup> Nathan Gold was appointed Judge of the Countie Court and Court of Probates in the countie of Fairfield."

"Justices of the Peace and Quorum appointed for the Countie of Fairfield are: M<sup>r</sup> Richard Blackleeche, M<sup>r</sup> John Wakeman, M<sup>r</sup> Mathew Sherwood, M<sup>r</sup> Peter Burre. Justices of the Peace appointed for the Countie of Fairfield are: Capt<sup>n</sup> James Olmsted, Capt<sup>n</sup> John Minor, Capt<sup>n</sup> James Judson, M<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Hoyt, M<sup>r</sup> Sam Peck, M<sup>r</sup> James Beebe."

##### CIVIL OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1792.

##### JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT.

Hon. Joseph Platt Cook, Chief Judge; Hon. John Chandler, Lemuel Sanford, Philip Burr Bradley, Hon. James Davenport; David Burr, Clerk.

##### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Robert Fairchild, Daniel Judson, Robert Walker, Abijah McEwen, Daniel Fairchild, Abraham Brinsmade, Abjah Sterling, Deodare Silliman, Daniel Morse, Joseph Strong, Samuel Squire, Andrew Rowland, Ebenezer Jessup, George Burr, Thaddeus Betts, Eliphalet Lockwood, Mathew Mead, Samuel C. Silli-

man, John Davenport, Jr., Charles Webb, Reuben Scofield, Amos Mead, Jabez Fitch, Samuel Wakeman, John McKay, Benjamin Mead, John Benedict, Daniel Corley, Eli Mygate, Daniel Taylor, Thaddeus Benedict, Danbury; Thomas Taylor, Nehemiah Beardsley, James Potter, Zacchæus Towner, Alexander Stewart, Jabez Bottsford, William Edmonds, Henry Peck, Stephen Betts, Thaddeus Benedict, Redding; Daniel Duncan, Timothy Ruggles, Elisha Mills, Daniel Bernet, Joseph Smith, John Sherwood, James Clark, Dudley Baldwin, Philip Nichols, David Burr, Daniel Towner, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Andrew Hill.

## ATTORNEYS.

*State's Attorney.*—Andrew Rowland.

*Practicing Attorneys.*—Andrew Rowland, Jonathan Sturges, Dudley Baldwin, Joseph Noyes, David Burr, Lewis Burr Sturges, Fairfield; Thomas Fitch, Taylor Sherman, Norwalk; Thaddeus Benedict, Samuel S. Smith, Redding; John Davenport, Stamford; William Edmunds, Nehemiah Strong, Newtown; Elisha Whittlesey, Danbury; William A. Thompson, Greenwich; Joseph Melker, Robert C. Johnson, Stratford; Isaac Mills, Huntington; Samuel Burr Sherwood, Weston.

## SHERIFF.

Elijah Abel.

## DEPUTY SHERIFFS.

David Maltby, Matthew Reed, Zachariah Lyon, Aaron Morehouse, Amos Hoyt, David Beers, Hezekiah Clark.

## JAILERS.

Jesse Benedict, Frederick J. Whiting.

## TOWN CLERKS.

Nathan Bulkley, Fairfield; Robert Walker, Stratford; Samuel Grummon, Norwalk; John Hoyt, Jr., Stamford; Jabez Fitch, Greenwich; Benjamin Smith, Ridgefield; Maj. Taylor, Danbury; Amos Hubbell, New Fairfield; Caleb Baldwin, Newtown; Lemuel Sanford, Redding; Nathan Wheeler, Weston; Elisha Mills, Huntington; Ashbel Ruggles, Jr., Brookfield.

The following citizens of Fairfield in 1791 were members of the Connecticut Society for the Promotion of Freedom, and for the Relief of Persons unlawfully holden in Bondage:

In the towns of—

*Fairfield.*—Rev. Andrew Elliott, Rev. Dr. Dwight, Rev. Hezekiah Ripley, and Andrew Rowland, Esq.

*Huntington.*—Elisha Rexford.

*Stratford.*—Rev. Step. W. Stebbins.

*Greenwich.*—Rev. Isaac Lewis.

*Ridgefield.*—Thomas Keeler, Esq.

*New Fairfield.*—Rev. Medad Rogers, Dr. James Potter, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Daniel Towner.

*Danbury.*—Isaac Ives, Esq.

*Norwalk.*—Rev. Justus Mitchell.

## COURT-HOUSES AND JAILS.

Fairfield is a shire county, the courts being held alternately at Bridgeport and Danbury. The first courts were held in the town of Fairfield, and the first court-house was erected in 1720. This was destroyed by the British in 1779, and rebuilt in 1794. In 1853 the courts were removed from Fairfield to Bridgeport, and the jail, which was in process of construction in Fairfield at that time, now forms part of St. Paul's Church, Fairfield.

The present court-house in Bridgeport was first occupied in 1855, and is a neat and substantial brown-stone structure, located on a public square which is bounded on three sides by the following streets, State, Broad, and Bank, and on its fourth side by private property. The jail is located on North Avenue, and is a substantial brick building.

The first court-house in Danbury was a small square building, two stories in height, surmounted with a small cupola. The present court-house was erected in 1820 or 1824, and repaired and beautified a few years since. In front of the old court-house stood the whipping-post and stocks. The late Aaron Seeley and Samuel Wildman, deputy-sheriffs, and Levi Starr, constable, were the last who presided at this "engine of torture."

The jail at Danbury is a neat and substantial brick building, located on Main Street.

## CHAPTER II.

## BENCH AND BAR.

AMONG the prominent agencies which give shape and order in the early development of the civil and social condition of society, the pulpit, press, and bar are perhaps the most potential in moulding the institutions of a new community; and where these are early planted, the school, academy, and college are not long in assuming their legitimate position, and the maintenance of these institutions secures at the start a social and moral foundation upon which we may safely rest the superstructure of the county, the State, and the nation. The establishment of courts and judicial tribunals, where society is protected in all its civil rights under the sanction of law, and wrong finds a ready redress in an enlightened and prompt administration of justice, is the first necessity of every civilized community, and without which the forces and press of society in its changeable developments, even under the teachings of the pulpit, the direction of the press, and the culture of the schools, are exposed to peril and disaster from the turbulence of passion and conflicts of interest; and hence the best and surest security that even the press, the school, or the pulpit can find for the peaceful performance of its highest functions is when protected



by and intrenched behind the bulwarks of law, administered by a pure, independent, and uncorrupted judiciary.

The Fairfield County bar has from its beginning numbered among its members able jurists, talented advocates, and safe counselors. Here many have lived, flourished, and died, while others still are upon the stage of action who have been prominent in the advancement of the interests of the county and figured conspicuously in the councils of the State.

ROGER LUDLOW.—First in the galaxy of eminent attorneys who have practiced their profession in Fairfield County stands the name of Roger Ludlow, familiar to every student of the pioneer history of Connecticut. Among the various sketches of this intrepid and talented jurist and pioneer which have from time to time been written, the following, by the Hon. Gideon H. Hollister, is selected as thoroughly delineating the meteoric career of this impulsive man:

"He was a lawyer of good family, and resided in Dorsetshire, in the southern part of England. Feb. 13, 1630, he was chosen as assistant by the General Court of Massachusetts. In May following he sailed from Plymouth for America in the 'Mary and John,' and entered upon the discharge of his official duties at the first Assistant Court held at Charleston, in August of the same year; he continued to occupy this place for four years. In 1634 he was chosen Deputy Governor of the province, and hoped to have been raised to the rank of Governor, but was disappointed by the jealousy of the deputies, who appear to have taken offense at some impolitic remarks made by him, probably in relation to the growing strength and to the frequency of elections. To show him how well they could vindicate themselves, and perhaps to reciprocate his good advice by giving him a practical lesson upon exercising the Christian virtue of humility, they elected John Haynes Governor. Ludlow protested against this appointment in terms of severity. He alleged that the election was void for the reason that the delegates had agreed upon their candidate before they left their respective towns. By way of requital for making such an accusation, which was in all probability true, and as a further proof of the popular power, he was left out of the magistracy for that year. He had not learned the art, so common in our age, of telling the people precisely what he did not believe to be true.

"Discouraged at this decided expression of the popular displeasure, he removed to Connecticut during the summer or fall of the year 1635, and established himself at Windsor. Here he continued under the gentle ministrations of Mr. Wareham, and soon became one of the most conspicuous men in the colony.

"In the summer of 1637 he was sent by the General Court as one of the advisors of the Connecticut forces in the second stage of the Pequot war. He was probably the first lawyer who ever came into the colony, and one of the most gifted who have ever lived in it."

He took an active part in the framing of the constitution of 1639, and it was in all probability mainly his work. He was the first Deputy-Governor of the commonwealth, elected April 11, 1639. After his removal to Fairfield he still continued to perform important services for the government. In 1646 he was appointed by the General Court to reduce the crude and ill-defined laws to a system, which code was published at Cambridge in 1673. He was also several times a commissioner for the colony in the New England Congress. He remained in Fairfield until 1654, when he embarked at New Haven for Virginia, where the remainder of his days were passed.\*

SAMUEL B. SHERWOOD was born Nov. 26, 1767. He graduated at Yale College in 1786, was admitted to the bar in or about 1790, and commenced the practice of his profession in Westport. He continued in the active practice of his profession until 1831. He was one of the leading members of the Fairfield bar, and had a large practice. He frequently represented the town in the Legislature, and for several years was one of the twelve councilors or upper House of the Legislature, answering to a Senate before the adoption of the Constitution of 1818, and was a member of the Fifteenth Congress of the United States. Probably no man in Connecticut had from 1810 to 1815 greater political influence than Samuel B. Sherwood. From a sound physical constitution and uniform good health Mr. Sherwood had doubtless calculated on long life, but on the 26th of April, 1833, he was prostrated by brain-fever, and died after a single day's suffering, universally regretted.

ELIPHALET SWIFT was an early practitioner in Westport. He was born in Windham Co., Conn., July 6, 1780. He graduated at Yale College in 1803, and, having been admitted to the bar, commenced the practice of his profession in Westport in 1806, where he continued it until within a year or two of his decease. He died Sept. 21, 1857.

THOMAS BURR OSBORNE was born in Easton, July 8, 1798. He graduated at Yale in 1817, studied law with the late S. P. Staples, and was admitted to the bar in 1820. In the same year he commenced the practice of his profession in Fairfield, where he resided until his death. He was clerk of the Superior and County Courts of Fairfield County in 1826, and held that office until 1839. He was a representative to the General Court in 1836 and 1841, and in 1839 was elected to Congress, and re-elected in 1841. He was State senator in 1844, and the same year was appointed judge of the County Court, which office he held several years. He removed to New Haven in 1855, and was appointed professor of law in Yale College, which position he held until 1865, when he resigned. His reputation as a judge was of the highest, and his qualities of mind and disposition, while they

\* See history of the town of Fairfield, elsewhere in this work.



peculiarly fitted him for the bench, also caused him to enjoy its duties far more than the active vocation of the bar.

HENRY DUTTON was born in Watertown, Conn., Feb. 12, 1796. He graduated at Yale College in 1818, and commenced the study of the law with Roger Minott Sherman in Fairfield, at the same time teaching in the village academy at that place. He was subsequently tutor in Yale College two years, and in 1823 commenced the practice of law in Newtown. Here he remained until 1837, when he removed to Bridgeport, where he continued in the active practice of his profession. He held various offices; was State's attorney and representative to the General Court. In 1847 he removed to New Haven, and accepted the chair of Kent professor of law in the Yale Law School. In addition to the duties of the professorship he engaged in the active practice of his profession, and during this time also prepared and published his "Revision of Swift's Digest," and assisted in preparing the "Revision and Compilation of the Connecticut Statutes" in 1849, 1854, and 1866, and in 1854 was chosen Governor of the State by the Legislature, the people having failed to make a choice at the preceding election. In 1861 he was chosen a judge of the Supreme Court of Errors and of the Superior Court. He remained on the bench as associate judge of the Supreme Court until he reached the age of seventy years, Feb. 12, 1866. He died in 1869.

ISAAC TOUCEY was born in Newtown, Nov. 5, 1796, and studied law with Asa Chapman. He commenced the practice of his profession in Hartford in 1818, and subsequently held various offices of trust and responsibility. He was State's attorney for Hartford County from 1822 to 1835, and in the latter year was elected to Congress, where he served four years. He was elected Governor of the State in 1846, and during the latter year of President Polk's administration filled the office of Attorney-General; in 1850 was a member of the State Senate; in 1851 was elected to the United States Senate, and was Secretary of the Navy under Buchanan. Mr. Toucey was offered a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States, which he declined. He was one of the ablest lawyers in the State. He died July 30, 1869.

THOMAS BELDEN BUTLER was born at Wethersfield, Aug. 22, 1806. He was prepared for college by his father, and entered Yale Medical School, where he remained two years, then went to Philadelphia, where he continued one year and completed his professional studies. He commenced the practice of his profession at Norwalk, and continued about eight years, when he abandoned the practice of medicine and commenced the study of law in the office of the late Judge Bissell, and was admitted to the bar in 1837. He soon after formed a copartnership with Thaddeus Betts, and upon his death entered into partnership with Orris S. Ferry. He was subsequently a partner

with Josiah M. Carter. He was called to the bench of the Superior Court in 1855, and remained there until his election to the Supreme Court, in 1861. In May, 1870, he was appointed chief judge, which office he held until his resignation, in May, 1873. He was elected to Congress in 1849; was State senator in 1848, 1852, and 1853, and member of the General Assembly in 1832, 1833, 1837, 1843, and 1846. He died June 8, 1873, aged sixty-six.

NELSON L. WHITE was born in Danbury, April 7, 1812. He studied law in the office of the late Reuben Booth, and in 1840 was admitted to the bar. He was clerk of the State Senate in 1844 and 1845; judge of Probate in Danbury in 1847, 1848, and 1849. In 1856 he was a delegate to the first Republican National Convention, at Philadelphia. He was State's attorney for Fairfield County from 1868 to 1874. In 1861 he joined the Wooster Guards, at Danbury, but was rejected on account of his age. He was promptly commissioned by Governor Buckingham as a field-officer in the Fourth Connecticut Infantry. He was lieutenant-colonel, and also served as inspector-general.

In the words of Hon. Gideon H. Hollister, "he loved his profession ardently and always stood up in the defense of the right. He had peculiar power as an advocate, and sometimes spoke with a fervor that made him a dangerous antagonist before a jury.

"Col. White came of an old colonial family, and lived up to its record. He possessed great personal advantages and a peculiar style and manner, but at the same time seemed unconscious of them. The thought of himself found little place in his sympathetic and impulsive nature, while the kindliness of his heart yielded only to his sense of justice and his fidelity to truth."

JOSIAH MASON CARTER was born in New Canaan, Jan. 19, 1813, and graduated at Yale College in 1836. He studied law with Hon. Thomas B. Osborne, of Fairfield, and was admitted to the bar in August, 1839. He commenced the practice of law in the city of New York in 1841, and in 1847 removed to Norwalk and formed a partnership with Hon. Thomas B. Butler, which continued until Mr. Butler's elevation to the bench, in 1855. He was a member of the General Assembly in 1856, 1861, and 1862, and the latter year was Speaker of the House. He was the candidate of the Whig party for lieutenant-governor in 1856. He was appointed State's attorney for Fairfield County in 1862, and held that office until his death. On two different occasions he declined to be a candidate for the judgeship of the Superior Court, as he never allowed politics to interfere with the practice of his profession. He died March 21, 1868.

GIDEON TOMLINSON.—The ancestors of Gideon Tomlinson, late Governor of the State of Connecticut, were distinguished for activity, firmness, and integrity. His father, Jabez Huntington Tomlinson, was born in 1760, and died Jan. 14, 1849, aged eighty-nine years. He was an officer in the Revolutionary

war, and after the war followed the occupation of a practical farmer, residing in Stratford, Conn. He had three sons and three daughters, viz., Gideon, George, Huntington, Hannah, Nancy, and Sally.

Gideon was born at Stratford, in this State, Dec. 31, 1780, educated at Yale College, and graduated there in the year 1802. In June, 1805, he was admitted to the bar in New Haven County, and soon after commenced the practice of law at Fairfield, in this State (it was then the county-seat), where he continued to reside until his death. He married Sarah Bradley, daughter of William Bradley, of the parish of Greenfield Hill, Dec. 15, 1807. They had one son, Jabez H. Tomlinson, born June 28, 1818, died April 2, 1838, aged twenty years.

Gideon Tomlinson was a representative of the town of Fairfield in the General Assembly at the May session of 1817, and at the October session of the same year, when he was chosen clerk of that body. He was re-elected a member of the General Assembly from the same town at the two sessions of the year 1818. At the session in May he was chosen Speaker of the House, and at the October session in that year he was re-elected to the same office. He was a member of the convention which formed the constitution of this State, and gave to it his cordial approbation and effective support in the convention and before the people. In the year 1818 he was elected one of the representatives of Connecticut in Congress, and took his seat as a member of the House of Representatives of the United States in December, 1819. At the three successive elections of members of Congress from this State he was re-elected, and continued to serve in the House of Representatives of the United States until March, 1827, when the term expired for which he had been last elected. In April, 1827, he was chosen Governor of this State by the people, and was re-elected to the same distinguished and honorable station in the three succeeding years. Having been elected a senator in the Congress of the United States in May, 1830, for six years from the 4th of March, 1831, he resigned the office of Governor of Connecticut on the second day of March, 1831. At the commencement of Washington College, at Hartford, in the year 1827, the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred on him by them. In December, 1831, he took his seat in the Senate of the United States, and served in that body until the 4th of March, 1837, when his senatorial term expired. After that time he did not resume the practice of law, but retired to his home in Greenfield Hill, Conn., where he died, Oct. 8, 1854, aged seventy-three years, eight months, and nine days.

JUDGE DAVID HILL also lived in Fairfield, and was a leading and influential man in the parish and town, where he held many important offices.

ABRAM BALDWIN was a distinguished lawyer, residing in Fairfield, and was United States senator from this State. He assisted in the formation of the Constitution of the United States, and died in office,

March 4, 1807, aged fifty-two years. His tombstone in the cemetery at Greenfield Hill bears the following inscription: "Abram Baldwin lies buried at Washington. His memory needs no marble. His country is his monument, her Constitution his greatest work."

ROGER MINOTT SHERMAN, son of Rev. Josiah and Martha Sherman, was one of the lights of the Fairfield bar. He was born at Woburn, Mass., May 22, 1773. His father was brother to the Hon. Roger Sherman, of Revolutionary celebrity. In 1789, when only sixteen years of age, he entered the sophomore class in Yale College. After the completion of his academic course he commenced the study of the law with the Hon. Oliver Ellsworth, and subsequently continued it with Judge Reeve at Litchfield, and later with Hon. Simeon Baldwin. He was admitted to the bar in New Haven, and commenced the practice of his profession in Norwalk. In 1807 he transferred his residence from Norwalk to Fairfield, where he remained till his death. In politics Mr. Sherman belonged to the school of Washington, Jay, Hamilton, Ellsworth, and his illustrious uncle, and held many prominent official positions, the last being associate judge of the Supreme Court. His high legal endowments raised him to an eminence almost peerless in every department of legal practice. He died Dec. 30, 1844, aged seventy-one years.

TAYLOR SHERMAN, a native of Woodbury, Conn., practiced law in Norwalk prior to 1812, contemporaneously with Roger Sherman, of whom, however, he was not a relative. He emigrated to Ohio, and was the grandfather of Gen. W. T. and the present Secretary of the United States Treasury, John Sherman.

Among other lawyers who resided in Fairfield are mentioned the names of John Banks, Jehu Burr, Thomas B. Wakeman, Daniel Wakeman, Burr Wakeman, Thomas B. Osborn, Thomas Robinson, George B. Kissam, George B. Murrey, E. H. Nichols, J. H. Bradley, Abram Wakeman, Edward B. and Frank C. Sturges.

JUDGE ASA CHAPMAN was a native of Saybrook, Conn., and a lineal descendant of Robert Chapman, of Whitby, Yorkshire, England, who was born in 1616, and came to this country in 1635, taking up his residence the following spring at Saybrook, where he served many sessions in the colonial legislature, finally dying on the estate he had settled upon, on Oct. 13, 1687, at the age of seventy-one years.

Judge Chapman was born Sept. 2, 1770, fitted for college with Rev. Frederick W. Hotchkiss, and graduated at Yale in the class of 1792, and shared the highest honors of his class with the Hon. Roger M. Sherman. After he graduated, he taught for a time in the academy of North Salem, and also at Norwalk, and continued to teach while in the practice of his profession. He studied his profession with the Hon. Tapping Reeve, of Litchfield, and was admitted to the bar in 1795, settled in the practice of the law at



Newtown, and was repeatedly elected the representative of that town to the General Assembly of the State, and in 1817 was elected a member of the Governor's Council, comprising at that time twelve members. In 1818 he was elected judge of the Superior Court and Court of Errors, which office he held until his death, in New Haven, on Sept. 25, 1825, leaving a widow, who died in 1850, and three sons, the eldest of whom (Charles Chapman, the well-known lawyer of Hartford) had attained the years of manhood.

Judge Chapman married, at Newtown, Miss Mary Perry, a daughter of Bennet Perry, M.D., by whom he had five children (four sons and one daughter). He possessed a vigorous mind and was prompt in his official duties.

CHARLES CHAPMAN, his eldest son, died in Hartford in 1870, at the age of seventy years, and will be remembered by many of our readers as a lawyer of distinction and one of the most witty and genial men of his time. He studied law with Judge Williams, of Hartford, and subsequently with Judges Reeve and Gould, of Litchfield; was admitted to the bar in 1820. He several times represented the city of Hartford in the State Legislature, and represented his district in the Thirty-second Congress of the United States.

REUBEN BOOTH was born in Newtown, Conn., Nov. 26, 1794. While quite young his parents removed to Kent, in this State. He assisted his father at wool-carding until he was about seventeen years of age, when he commenced the preparatory studies for a collegiate course, and in 1813 entered the sophomore class in Yale College. Soon after, his father was drowned in the Housatonic River, and young Booth hastened home, expecting to abandon his collegiate course, as he was unwilling to reduce the slender means of his mother; but a few friends in Kent generously loaned him the amount requisite to complete his course, and he returned to college. He was graduated at the commencement in 1816, being the last at which President Dwight presided. Upon leaving college he entered the law-office of David S. Boardman, at New Milford, where he remained about a year, and then removed to Danbury and continued his studies with Moses Hatch, Esq. At the same time he was employed as an instructor in the academy at Danbury.

He was admitted to the bar in 1818, and immediately opened an office for the practice of his profession in Danbury. In 1822 he represented the town in the General Assembly, and in the same year was appointed judge of Probate of the district of Danbury. He continued in this office until 1835. He was elected State senator in 1830, and in 1844 and 1845 was lieutenant-governor of the State.

At the time of his death his practice was as large as that of any member of the bar in the county. He was distinguished for his industry; his cases were always thoroughly prepared, and his knowledge of the

law was accurate. He was at once zealous for his client and courteous to his attorney.

He was well known in this State as a leading and active politician, but his policy was always conservative. During the two years that he was presiding officer of the Senate of this State, the members of that body who were his political opponents felt and acknowledged his liberality of sentiment and conduct. He was always firm in his principles, but when principles were not concerned he regarded and treated his political opponents as friends. He was a warm and generous-hearted man. Remembering that in early life he was indebted to others for aid, no deserving young man ever asked in vain for a loan from him which it was in his power to make. He was simple, unostentatious in his manner, and kind and benevolent in his disposition. He loved the young, and they never feared to approach him, as they knew that his sympathies were with them. He died at Danbury, Aug. 14, 1848, after a brief illness of about two days.

EPAPHRAS W. BULL came to Danbury from Hartford in about 1800, and removed to Ohio in 1841.

MOSES HATCH came to Danbury from Kent; was an able lawyer, and, with Asa Chapman, defended the negro Amos Adams, who was hanged at Danbury in 1817. He soon after removed to Kent, where he died.

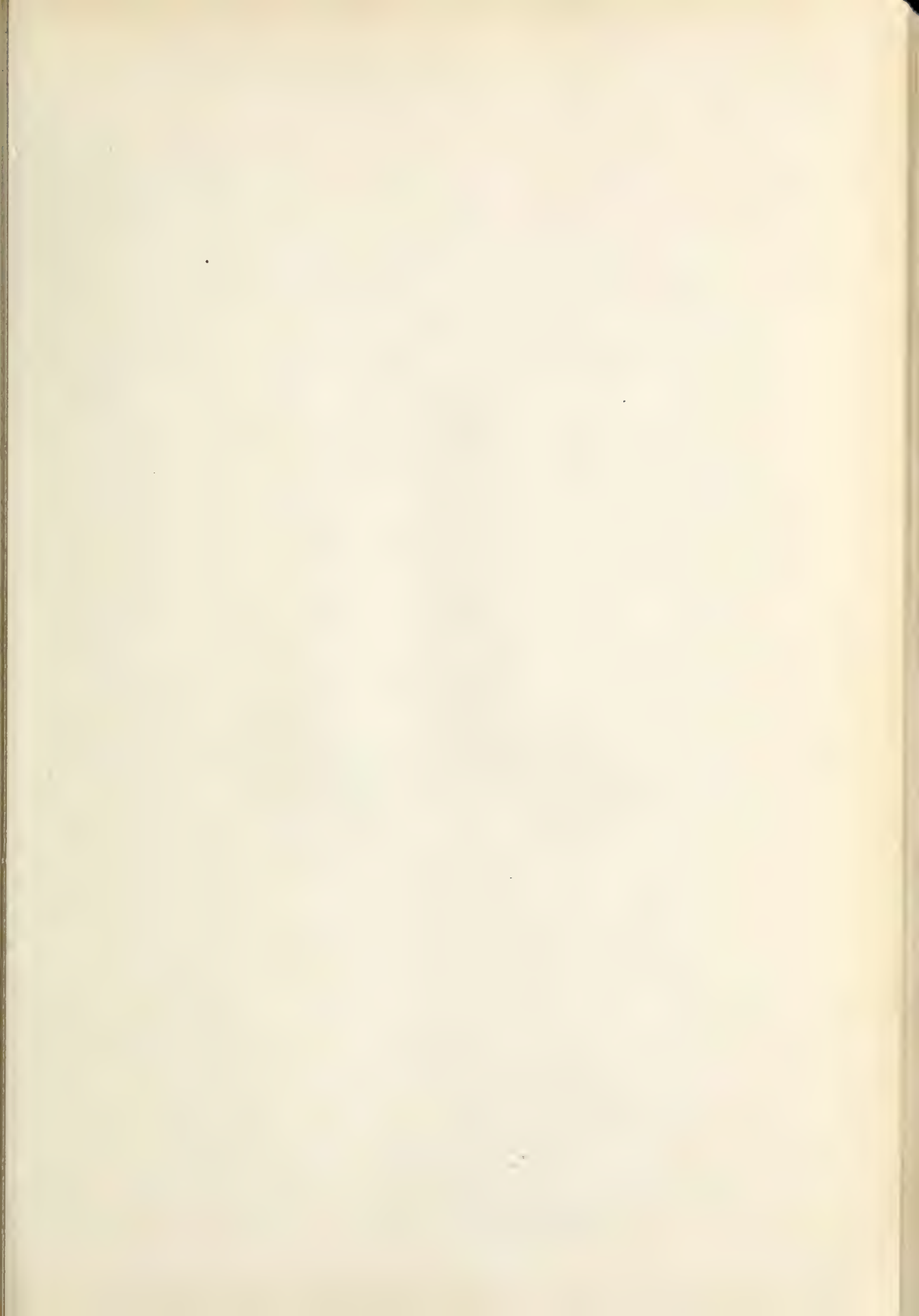
ELISHA WHITTLESEY was also a prominent lawyer in Danbury at the close of the last century.

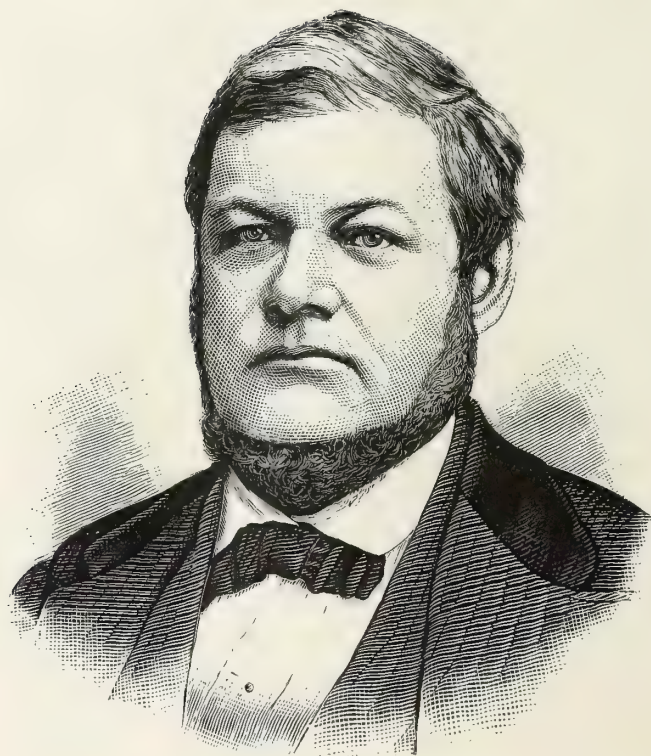
MATTHEW B. WHITTLESEY commenced practice in Danbury at about the beginning of the present century, and was a prominent and influential citizen. He held various official positions, among which were member of the Legislature and State's attorney.

LYMAN DENNISON BREWSTER was born in Salisbury, Conn., July 31, 1832. He entered the Freshman class of Yale College; graduated in the class of 1855; studied law with Hon. Roger Averill, of Danbury; was admitted to the bar Jan. 21, 1858, and has since practiced his profession in Danbury. He was judge of Probate in 1868, a member of the Legislature in 1870, judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Fairfield County, 1870-74; was elected State senator in 1879 for 1880-81. He was married, Jan. 1, 1868, to Miss Sarah A. Ives, of Danbury.

ROGER AVERILL was born in Salisbury, Conn., Aug. 14, 1809. He was educated at Union College, graduating in the class of 1832. He studied law with Chief Justice Samuel Church, of Salisbury, Conn. He was admitted to the Litchfield County bar, and practiced in Salisbury till, in 1849, he removed to Danbury, where he has since practiced. In 1843 he represented the town of Salisbury in the State Legislature, and was elected judge of Probate, District of Danbury, which position he held for three years; he also held the office of trustee of the State Normal School for thirteen consecutive years. He was elected Lieutenant-Governor in 1862-65, and represented Danbury in the Legislature in 1868. He was appointed







HON. SIDNEY B. BEARDSLEY.

commissioner for the State of Connecticut to the World's Fair to be held in New York in 1883, on the one hundredth anniversary of the treaty of peace and recognition of American independence.

Mr. Averill was twice married,—first to Miss Maria D. White, of Danbury. By this marriage he had four children,—Arthur H., a practicing lawyer with his father, in Danbury; John C., practicing with Jeremiah Halsey, of Norwich; Harriet E., and Minnie W. His second wife was Miss Mary A. Perry, of Southport, Conn.

DANIEL B. BOOTH, son of Reuben Booth, studied law in the office of his father, and is now a practicing attorney in Danbury. He has occupied various official positions; has been a representative several terms, judge of Probate, town clerk, etc.

#### THE FAIRFIELD BAR IN 1797.

The following were practicing attorneys in the county in 1797:

*Fairfield.*—David Burr, Joseph Noyes, Lewis B. Sturges, and Samuel Rowland.

*Danbury.*—Elisha Whittlesey and Matthew B. Whittlesey.

*Newtown.*—William Edmond.

*Norwalk.*—Taylor and Roger M. Sherman.

*Redding.*—Seth S. Smith, William H. Hawley.

*Stamford.*—John Davenport, Jr., and John T. Benedict.

*Stratford.*—Thaddeus Benedict and Joseph Walker.

*Weston.*—Samuel B. Sherwood.

HON. THADDEUS BETTS was born in Norwalk; was twice elected lieutenant-governor of Connecticut, and at the time of his decease was United States senator.

CYRUS H. BEARDSLEY, father of the Hon. Sidney B. Beardsley, was born in Monroe, July 4, 1799, and died in August, 1852. He graduated at York in 1818, in the class with the late Henry Dutton and Thomas C. Perkins. He occupied many official positions, and was a man of commanding influence in the county and State. He was repeatedly a member of the General Assembly, and Speaker in 1846. He was a judge of the County Court, State senator, etc., etc. He married Maria Burr, who is still living.

SIDNEY B. BEARDSLEY was born in Monroe, Fairfield Co., Aug. 20, 1822. He was educated at Wilton Academy and Yale College. He studied his profession with Reuben Booth, of Danbury, and was admitted to the bar in August, 1843. He commenced practice in Norwalk, where he remained until 1846, during which period he was judge of Probate. In 1846 he removed to Bridgeport, where he has since resided. He has had associated with him at different times as copartners in practice Judge De Forrest, William K. Seeley, and Col. S. B. Sumner. In 1858 he was elected State senator, and has also been a candidate for Congress. In 1874 he was elected by the Legislature judge of the Superior Court, which term expires in 1882.

ORRIS S. FERRY was born at Bethel, Aug. 15, 1823. At the age of seventeen he entered Yale College, and graduated in 1844 with high honors. He commenced the study of the law with Judge Osborne, of Fairfield, and subsequently continued it with Hon. Thomas B. Butler, of Norwalk. He was admitted to the bar in 1846, and for a short time was in partnership with Judge Butler. He rose rapidly in his profession, and, in the language of Asa B. Woodward, Esq., "while yet a young man he ranked among the leaders of the bar in the amount of his business and the ability and success with which it was conducted." He was judge of Probate in Norwalk, in 1855 and 1856 was State senator, and from 1856 to 1859 was State's attorney for Fairfield County. He was elected to Congress in 1859. Being in Washington at the breaking out of the Rebellion, he enlisted in a volunteer battalion for the temporary defense of the capital, and served until troops were obtained from the North. He entered the United States service as colonel of the Fifth Connecticut Regiment, and served through the war. He was subsequently promoted to be brigadier-general. At the close of the war he returned to Norwalk, and in 1866 was elected to the United States Senate and re-elected in 1872, and was regarded as one of the ablest members of that body. He died Nov. 21, 1875.

DWIGHT MORRIS was born at Morris, Conn., Nov. 22, 1820. His father, James Morris, was a graduate of Yale, in the class of 1775, entered the army, and continued through the Revolution, and was a literary man, having published a history of Litchfield County and other meritorious contributions from his pen. Dwight Morris entered Yale and left about the close of the sophomore year and went to Union College, where he graduated in 1838. The honorary degree of A.M. was received by him in 1878 from Yale College.

He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1840, and commenced practice in Bridgeport, where he has since resided. He represented Bridgeport in the General Assembly in 1845 and 1864; was judge of Probate in 1845, 1851, and 1852. He raised and commanded the Fourteenth Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, 1862. Left the State with the regiment Aug. 25, 1862. September 7th was assigned to the command of the Second Brigade, French's Division, Second Army Corps; commanded the brigade, numbering two thousand men, at Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862; loss in killed and wounded, five hundred and twenty-nine. He continued the command until February, 1864, when he was mustered out. In 1864 he was nominated by President Lincoln judge of the Territory of Idaho, but declined the appointment, and in February, 1866, was appointed Consul-General to Havre, France, and remained such until Aug. 1, 1869. In November, 1876, was elected Secretary of State of Connecticut, and at present is a representative to the General Court.

JAMES C. LOOMIS was born in Windsor, Conn.,



April 24, 1807. He prepared for college at the grammar school in Hartford, and entered Yale College in 1824, then only seventeen years of age, and graduated with honor in the class of 1828. Among the members of his class were Rev. P. T. Holley, of this city; ex-Governor Hoppin, of Rhode Island; and Judge William Strong, of the United States Supreme Court. Having decided upon the law as a life-work, he commenced his studies at Charlottesville, Va., and completed them in the office of the late Hon. Clark Bissell, of Norwalk. He pursued his studies with diligence and attention, and was admitted to the bar in 1832, and commenced the practice of his profession in Westport, with the late Hon. Samuel B. Sherwood, one of the leaders of the Fairfield bar, which at that time was adorned by such brilliant legal luminaries as Roger Minot Sherman, Charles Hawley, Clark Bissell, T. B. Butler, Reuben Booth, Fitch Wheeler, Henry Dalton, etc.

Mr. Loomis rose rapidly in the profession, and, desiring a more promising field for successful practice, in 1840 removed to Bridgeport, where he at once entered into a large practice and participated actively in public affairs.

In 1848 he formed a copartnership with George W. Warner, which continued several years. He was for a number of years the city attorney and legal adviser of the city, and mayor for one term in 1843. His municipal service was at a period of much excitement, when important questions of finance, etc., had to be grappled with and settled.

The employment of a special steamboat to run in connection with the Housatonic Railroad in opposition to the old line at this period caused the exhibition of much bad blood between the partisans of the rival lines, and Mayor Loomis was repeatedly called upon to appear with posse to keep the peace on the arrival of trains from Albany.

He twice represented his town in the lower house of the State Legislature, and once or twice the Tenth District as State senator, and by virtue of this position became a member of the corporation of Yale College. The business and investments of Mr. Loomis were very successful financially, and he finally, a few years previous to his death, withdrew from the active practice of his profession, dividing his time between the cares of his private affairs and numerous public interests, with which he became identified. The most arduous and important public service of the later years of his life was in connection with the public schools of the town. In April, 1876, the town voted to consolidate the school districts, and elected a new board of education for the care and management of the schools, of which he was elected president. He at once entered with an interest and zest peculiar to himself upon the work of organization, involving an amount of thought, attention, and labor few can realize.

He was one of the first projectors of Seaside Park, was a commissioner thereon, and was very active and

influential in its early improvement and management.

At the time of his decease he was president of the Bar Association of Fairfield County, of the board of education, of the Mountain Grove Cemetery, of the Bridgeport Library Association, and was also an active director in the City National Bank, and trustee of the People's Savings-Bank.

He manifested a decided interest in religious matters; was president of the stockholders' association for the erection of the present edifice of the First Congregational Society from 1849 to about 1860, when its interests became merged in and absorbed by the society, of which he was also a member and liberal supporter. He was a constant attendant upon public worship.

In 1833 he united in marriage with Miss Eliza Mitchell, of New Haven, who, together with their young son, died in 1841. In 1844 he married Mary B., daughter of Ira Sherman, Esq.; their family consisted of two children,—a son and a daughter,—both deceased, the former while a member of the senior class in Yale College, and the latter in early childhood.

Politically, Mr. Loomis was a conservative Democrat, and in 1861 and again in 1862 was the candidate of his party for Governor of the State against Mr. William A. Buckingham. Though he failed of gubernatorial honors at this period, during his long career almost any position, political or judicial, would seem to have been within his reach; but he was never sufficiently ambitious to strive very earnestly for such honors, or to accept them when proffered.

His death made a painful void in his home, in the family and social circle, in the church and society to which he was attached, in the legal profession, and in numerous boards in which he presided or participated. He died at South Egremont, Mass., Sept. 16, 1877.

AMOS SHERMAN TREAT was born in the town of Bridgewater, Litchfield Co., Conn., Feb. 5, 1816. He is a son of Daniel A. and Almira Sherman Treat, and is a lineal descendant of Richard Treat, one of the patentees in the colonial charter, and of his son Robert Treat, for many years Governor of Connecticut. On the maternal side he is descended from Samuel Sherman, one of the pioneers of Connecticut. His father owned a small farm in Bridgewater, and died when the subject of this sketch was twelve years of age, leaving a widow and five children. Having decided upon a collegiate course, he prepared for college in Hudson, Ohio, and entered Yale College. After leaving college he taught school in South Carolina, and still later in New Jersey. He commenced the study of the law with Hon. Jacob W. Miller, of Morristown, N. J., at one time United States Senator from that State, and completed his studies with C. R. Butler, Esq., of Plymouth, Conn. He was admitted to the bar in Litchfield in 1843, and commenced the practice of his profession in Newtown, Conn., where



*James C. Loomis*





he remained until July 12, 1854, when he removed to Bridgeport, where he has since resided, except from May, 1870, to November, 1875, when he lived in Woodbridge, in this State. Although actively engaged in the practice of an arduous profession, Mr. Treat has been much in public life, and has manifested a genuine interest in public affairs and in all projects tending to advance the material interests of his adopted city and the county in general.

He was clerk of the Fairfield County Court from 1854 to 1859; member of the Peace Congress in 1861; represented Bridgeport in the Connecticut Legislature in 1858, 1862, 1869, and 1879; and Woodbridge in the same body in 1871, 1872, and 1873.

He was Speaker of the House in 1872, chosen to that position by the Republican party, of which he has been a member since its organization. He was a director in the Bridgeport and City National Banks; director in the Gas-Light Company many years; and its president for ten years. While a resident of Newtown he was a member of the board of education several years, and postmaster one year.

In the Masonic fraternity Mr. Treat has taken a prominent position. He was made a Mason in 1855, and has held nearly all the offices of the lodge, including Master. He has also held nearly all the offices in Hamilton Commandery, and has been its Eminent Commander, and was Grand Commander of the State Commandery in 1868 and 1869.

Dec. 15, 1869, he united in marriage with Mary A., only daughter of Treat Clark, of Woodbridge, Conn., and they have one daughter, Mary Clark, born Jan. 28, 1872. Mr. Treat attends the North Congregational Church.

JOSEPH F. FOOT has practiced law in Norwalk more than a quarter of a century, and has always been considered an excellent legal adviser. He was for several years one of the justices of Fairfield County.

The following list of Stamford lawyers is taken chiefly from Huntington's "History of Stamford":

JOHN DAVENPORT, the first child of Hon. Abraham and Elizabeth (Huntington) Davenport, was born in Stamford, Jan. 16, 1752. He graduated at Yale in 1770. His scholarship is indicated in his appointment to a tutorship in 1773. Entering on the legal profession, he was soon called to take an important place among the Revolutionary patriots of that day. With a major's commission he was employed in commissary department, and his duties here were often onerous and difficult. When the patriot cause was suffering for the want of a suitable public interest in the welfare of the new nation just ordained by the Declaration of Independence, he was appointed by the Assembly of the State as one of a commission to visit the principal towns and arouse the people to a just sense of their dangers and move them to corresponding exertions. On the death of his brother James, in 1799, he was chosen to take his place in the

national Congress, and held his seat in the House of Representatives until 1817, when he declined a reelection. He was a member of the Congregational Church in Stamford, of which he was appointed deacon in 1795. This was the office in which his eminent goodness was best shown. He was, to his death, an example of earnest, living piety, whose fruits were ever manifest in the character of a benevolent, fervent, and exemplary Christian. His death occurred Nov. 28, 1830.

JOEL T. BENEDICT, son of Rev. Mr. Benedict, of North Stamford, after a short practice of his legal profession became a preacher.

JAMES STEVENS was the youngest child of David and Mary (Talmage) Stevens, and was born July 4, 1768, in that part of Stamford—Ponus Street—which has since been incorporated with the town of New Canaan. He became a lawyer and opened an office in his native town, in the village of Stamford. He was a man of considerable native talent, and, joining heartily in the Democratic movement, then inaugurated, he won his way to a seat in the House of Representatives of our national Congress. He was in that famous Congress which passed the "Missouri Compromise," and gave his vote for that measure. He represented Stamford thirteen times in the State Legislature, and was much in public life until his death, which took place April 4, 1835. A brief obituary of him in the *Sentinel* of that date says, "Mr. Stevens has been extensively known as a kind neighbor and friend, as a politician of sterling integrity, and as an inflexible advocate of Democratic principles. He has represented this town in both branches of the Legislature of this State; was for some time a judge of the County Court; has been a representative from this State in the Congress of the United States."

SIMEON H. MINOR was son of ———, of Woodbury, where he was born, in 1777. He was descended from that Thomas Minor who was born at Chew Magna, England, April 23, 1608; came to New England in 1630, and settled in New London in 1645, where he died in 1690. He was a prominent man among the settlers in Eastern Connecticut. His family name dates back to about the middle of the fourteenth century, when the third Edward bestowed it upon Henry the Miner, of Mendippe Hills, Somersetshire, England, for his prompt efficiency in furnishing him an escort as he embarked on that famous invasion of France in which he won the battle of Crecy against so great odds.

John Minor, third son of John, of New London, was born in 1634 (so Cothren, in his "History of Woodbury," says), went to Stratford, and thence to Woodbury, and was a leading man for years. Simeon H., of Stamford, was probably a great-great-grandson of this second John. On being admitted to the bar, he settled in Stamford in 1831, and spent here the rest of his life. He rapidly won a high position at the Fairfield County bar, of which he was a promi-

ment member until his death, Aug. 2, 1840. The *Stamford Advocate* of the same week pays a high tribute to his professional ability: "Possessed of a strong mind and sound legal judgment, no member of the bar commanded a greater share of practice, until his health began to fail him, than he. For fourteen years he discharged the office of State's attorney." He represented the town in six sessions of the Legislature, and was judge of Probate several years. In the discharge of all official duties he was prompt and efficient.

FREDERICK SCOFIELD, son of Benjamin and brother of Selleck Scofield, was born Aug. 13, 1778. He graduated at Yale in 1801, and entered the legal profession, and for a few years had an office here. He subsequently became a teacher in Philadelphia, where he died in 1841.

JOSEPH WOOD was a descendant, in the sixth generation, of Jonas Wood, one of the pioneers of the settlement in Stamford. Joseph Wood, second, a great-grandson of the pioneer, removed from Hempsted to Stanwich, where Joseph was born, March 24, 1779. His father, David, son of the above Joseph, second, was among the respectable farmers of Stanwich, a man of intelligence and piety. His mother, Sarah Ingersoll, was noted for her cheerful and amiable disposition. Brought up on his father's farm, he acquired habits of industry, and, being of an inquisitive turn of mind, he commenced in his seventeenth year fitting for college. He graduated at Yale in 1801, and devoted himself to the legal profession. His law-teacher was Judge Chauncey, of New Haven. He was admitted to the bar of New Haven, when he selected Stamford as the field for commencing his professional career. Here he opened an office in 1803, where he continued to practice until 1829. During his stay here he was held in esteem as a good citizen and honorable in his profession. He represented the town in the State Legislature, and was judge of Probate several years.

In 1826, Mr. Wood removed to Bridgeport, thence to New York City in 1837, and from this city, in 1841, to New Haven, where he spent the remainder of his life. Here he stood among the first citizens of the classic city in intelligence and social worth. After his removal to New Haven he was appointed judge of the County Court, in which office he showed eminent qualities as jurist. His stern and sterling integrity never forsook him here. He was still later chosen to the office of city clerk. His tastes were especially literary. While in New York he had edited an agricultural periodical. He had also gathered largely the materials for a memoir of his father-in-law, but never published it. He died Nov. 13, 1856, during a session of the literary club at the residence of Rev. Pres. Day, just after an interesting discussion in which he had taken part.

BENJAMIN T. SHELTON is reported as a practicing lawyer here in 1812.

CHARLES HAWLEY was born June 15, 1792, in what is now the town of Monroe, formerly Huntington, and still earlier Stratford. His ancestors were among the early settlers of that old town, and both on his father's and mother's side they were among the most respectable and honored of the settlers. Joseph Hawley, the progenitor of the family in this country, came to Stratford, probably with the pioneers of the town, and for many years was a leading man in the new colony. He represented the town several times in the State General Assembly. In his will in 1689 he gives to his son Samuel all his "buildings and lands in Parwidge, Derbyshire, in old England," indicating thus, no doubt, the early English locality of the family. On his mother's side Mr. Hawley was descended from William Curtiss, another of the prominent settlers of Stratford. He also numbered among his Stratford ancestors Henry de Forest, who fled from France on the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1655, and Richard Booth, the ancestor of another honored line. Thus Mr. Hawley is found to belong to the best names of which our country can boast. From a record of his ancestors, gathered by him with much pains and care, we learn the following facts: His great-great-grandmother, Bethia Booth, was born in 1658, and lived until 1759. At the time of her death, her grandson, Milton Hawley, the grandfather of Charles, was twenty-four years of age; and at the date of his death, in 1819, Charles was twenty-six. Thus it was made possible for Mr. Hawley, in 1865, to report from the lips of his grandfather the story which he had learned from the lips of his grandmother of events coming under her personal observation as far back as 1665. Possibly so rare an opportunity of learning the family story may account for one of the most marked characteristics of Mr. Hawley's later years,—his strong family affection.

Mr. Hawley graduated at Yale College in 1816, and entered on the study of law in the Litchfield Law School. On being admitted to the bar, he established himself in Stamford in 1819. From the first his diligence in business and his zeal in working won the confidence of the public. That he might fit himself locally for his profession, he made himself early familiar with the records and traditions of the town, and even became so much interested in these gleanings for professional use as to form a plan of the history of the town. But he rose so rapidly in his profession that he found himself obliged to abandon this attempt; and so the opportunity of preserving much of the material for such a history which then existed was forever lost to the town.

Giving himself wholly to his professional work, he soon placed himself among the first jurists of the State. From the very beginning of his professional career he was thorough, exact, and exhaustive in whatever cause he undertook. His sense of right and justice was as keen as his discriminations of falsehood and truth, and this made him one of the

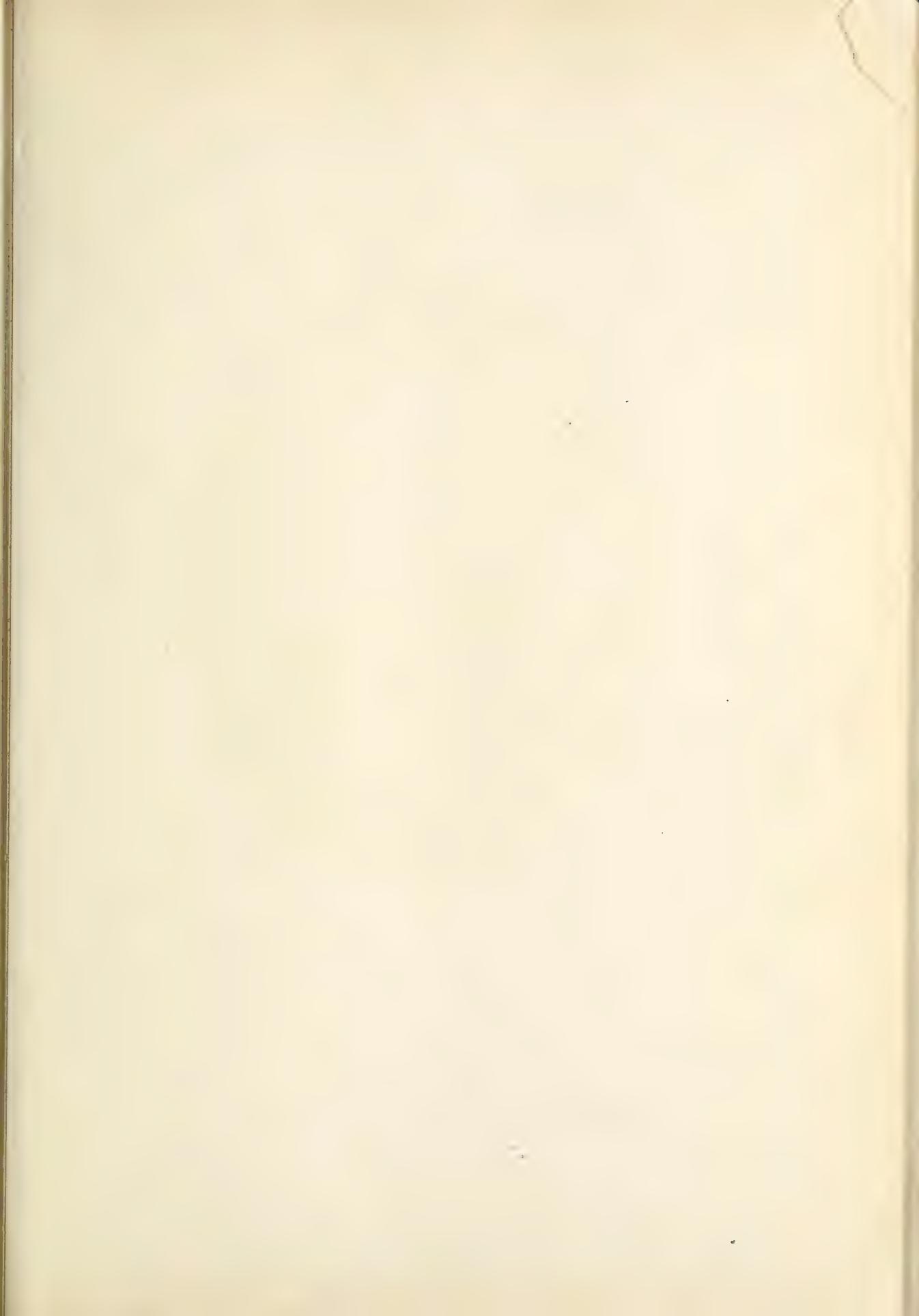


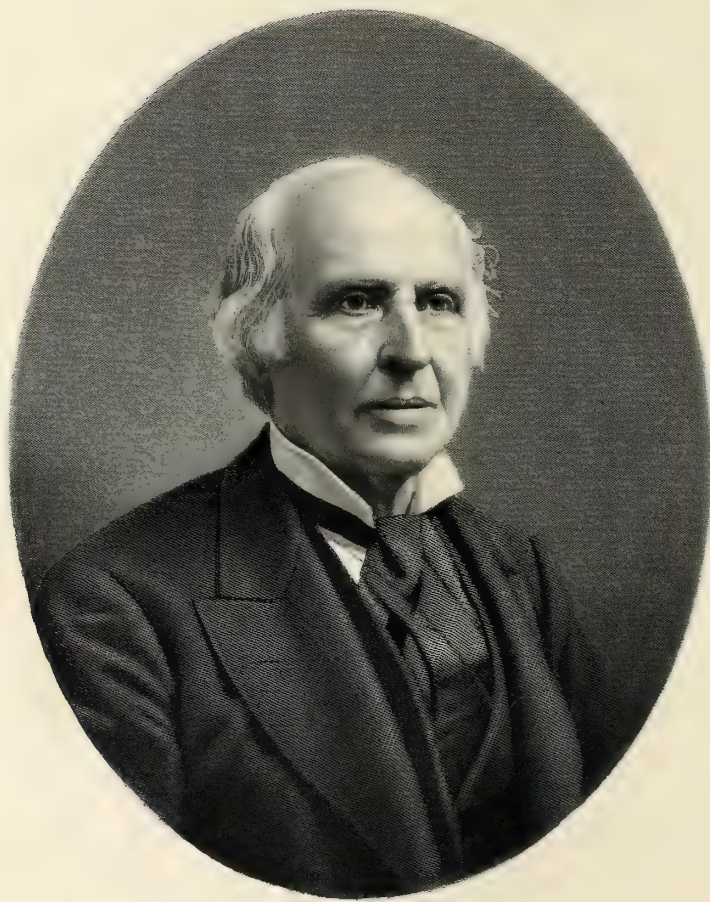


*Anwar Khan*









*Joshua B. Ferris*



most persistent and inexorable of advocates. A cause accepted by him became a bond on his conscience, and he could do no less than his best in its management. He was never a politician, yet few men of the age had more carefully studied the whole science of government. Without seeking or wishing office, he represented his adopted town in seven sessions of the State Legislature, and once represented his senatorial district in the State Senate. Once, also, he served the State as its lieutenant-governor. But his tastes and aims were pre-eminently professional, and his success and reward, both in professional eminence and in substantial wealth, were very great. His estate was one of the largest ever gathered in the town, and it was as solid as it was large.

Of Mr. Hawley's fine literary tastes almost every plea he made for the last half of his professional career, and indeed his most ordinary conversation on ordinary topics, gave most abundant proofs. His language was exceedingly terse and exact, rising often, under the glow of earnest feeling, to a high degree of strong and fervid eloquence. In his religious experience Mr. Hawley's record is peculiarly one of the conscience and heart. Educated early in the faith of the Congregational Church, to the day of his death he accepted and cordially endorsed that faith. Without ever making a public profession of religion, few men have given better evidence of the control of religious principles, and both his lips and his life modestly yet unequivocally assured those who knew him best that his was the faith of Jesus.

Mr. Hawley was married Jan. 28, 1821, by the Rev. Jonathan Judd, rector of St. John's Church, in Stamford, to Mary S., daughter of David Holly, Esq., of Stamford.

ALFRED A. HOLLY, son of John William and Rebecca (Welles) Holly, of Stamford, graduated at Union College in 1818; was admitted to the bar, and began practice here. He soon left the profession, and since then has been connected with the Stamford and savings-banks of the town.

JOHN BISSEL was a student of law in the office of Charles Hawley, and, after being admitted to the bar, opened an office here, but soon went to New York City.

HON. TRUMAN SMITH, formerly United States senator, is also a resident of Stamford. When in practice he ranked among the sound and able lawyers of the Connecticut bar.

JOSHUA BEAL FERRIS, son of Joshua and Letitia (Lockwood) Ferris, was born in Greenwich, Conn., Jan. 13, 1804. The name Ferris is from Leicestershire, England, from Henry, son of Gualchelme de Feriers, house of Feriers, to whom William the Conqueror gave large grants of land in the three shires of Stafford, Derby, and Leicester. Thus the ancestry of Mr. Ferris is traced back through Jeffrey Ferris (spelled Firries in old records of Stamford) from America to England and to France.

Jeffrey Ferris, who was made freeman in Boston in

1635, came with the first settlers, helped pay for the first survey, and received ten acres of the first allotment of land. Savage says he was from Watertown, Mass., going from there to Wethersfield, thence with the first colony to this section. He was one of the eleven Greenwich men who petitioned to be accepted under the New Haven jurisdiction. He lived thereafter in Greenwich, and died in 1666.

During the many years the ancestors of Mr. Ferris have resided in Greenwich, they have been agriculturists, well-to-do, not rich, and in his early years Mr. Ferris attended the common schools, but while still young was placed under the tutelage of and prepared for college by Rev. Daniel Smith, of Stamford (who was pastor of the Congregational church for more than forty years), and entered Yale College in 1819, graduating there in 1823. Immediately thereafter Mr. Ferris began teaching a preparatory school for boys in Stamford, at the same time devoting every hour he could give to the reading of law, on which his mind constantly dwelt. He continued teaching until 1833, but was admitted to the bar in 1829. He spent some time in Hon. Charles Hawley's office as clerk of Probate for Mr. Hawley, who was Probate judge. In 1833, Mr. Ferris opened an office as a lawyer, and has been in active practice since. About 1870, Mr. Ferris admitted Calvin G. Child, and afterwards Samuel Fessenden, into partnership. Mr. Child, in 1875, opened an office for himself, and the firm has since been "Ferris & Fessenden."

Mr. Ferris married, in 1823, Sally H., daughter of William B. Peters, Esq., whose father was the celebrated Rev. Dr. Peters, of Hebron, Conn. She was born in Stamford. Their children have been: Harriet (deceased), Samuel J. (lost at sea), Isadore W., Joshua B. (who was drowned), Elizabeth J. (who married William R. Fosdick, of Stamford), Mary L. (who married Rev. E. O. Flagg, of New York), Samuel P. (now a major in the United States army), and Henry J. (now residing in New York).

Mr. Ferris represented Stamford in the State Legislature in 1836-38, and was a member of the State Senate during 1840-41 and 1849-50. He was appointed judge of Probate (to succeed Hon. Charles Hawley) by the General Assembly in 1838, and held that office many years. He was also State's attorney for several years. His politics, in early life, were in accord with the Whig party. Since the organization of the Republican party he has given that his support.

From the beginning of his practice, Mr. Ferris has taken rank with the ablest lawyers of his age in the county. His client's interests have always been his own, and he has shown great shrewdness in the management of his cases, and care in preparing the minute details on which success so often depends. As a counselor he is careful, far-seeing, and safe. His courteous demeanor and unaffected politeness render his companionship pleasing, and have tended to win him many friends. He has been engaged in many difficult

and laborious cases in the highest courts of the State, and has a reputation for integrity, fidelity to the interests of his clients, indefatigable labor, and legal acumen second to no other lawyer in this section of the State. Many interesting and important cases in which he has participated might be cited had we space, and did it comport with the wishes of Mr. Ferris to publish them.

WILLIAM THOMAS MINOR, LL.D., the second son of Simeon H., of this town, graduated at Yale in 1834, and studied law with his father. After being admitted to the bar he commenced practice in his native town, where he has continued to reside. He has always been popular at home, and his townsmen from the first have looked to him as a leader for them in all local movements for the prosperity of the town. He has represented the town in the State Legislature seven times, and once his district in the State Senate. In 1855 he was chosen Governor of Connecticut, and re-elected the next year. He received in 1855 the honorary degree of LL.D. from the Wesleyan University at Middletown. In 1864 he was appointed by President Lincoln consul-general to Havana, which office he resigned in 1867. On returning to his native town he was chosen to represent the town in the State Legislature, and by the Legislature he was appointed judge of the Superior Court of the State.

HENRY A. MITCHELL, of New Canaan, was here in 1842 and 1843.

JAMES H. OLMSTEAD was born in Ridgefield, Conn., Nov. 24, 1830. He was educated at the district schools of his native town and Ridgefield Academy. He subsequently taught school in Tarrytown, N. Y., and other places, and finally, having decided upon the legal profession as a life-work, went to Stamford and commenced his studies in the office of the late Charles Hawley. He continued his studies with diligence and attention, and in October, 1854, was admitted to the bar, and began practice in his adopted town of Stamford, where he has since resided. He entered into the practice with vigor and persistency, and soon took a prominent position at the Fairfield bar. He was appointed State's attorney in 1874; was reappointed, and again received the appointment, but resigned the office July 1, 1880. He was judge of Probate five years, and member of the Legislature in 1874. During his official career as State's attorney he prosecuted ten trials for murder, the first being that of James Lattin, and the last the celebrated Buckholz case. He discharged his official duties fearlessly, and, in the language of a present judge of the Superior Court, "was one of the most vigorous prosecutors in the State."

Oct. 2, 1854, he united in marriage with Adelaide F., daughter of the late Col. Lorenzo Meeker, and their family has consisted of eight children, four of whom are living,—viz., Cora Montgomery Meeker, Irving, Fanny, and Mary.

FRANCIS M. HAWLEY, son of the Hon. Charles, a

native of Stamford, graduated at Trinity College, studied law with his father, was admitted to the bar in 1864, and opened here a law-office.

JULIUS B. CURTIS was born at Newtown, Conn., Dec. 10, 1825. He was the only son of Nicholas and Sarah A. (Bennett) Curtis, and is a lineal descendant of William Curtis, one of the first settlers of Stratford, Conn. (The birthplace of Mr. Curtis is erroneously given in Huntington's "History of Stamford" as being at Stamford.)

Mr. Curtis received his early education at the public schools of his native town, supplemented by one year's attendance at the Newtown Academy and at a private school of academic character. But his education was largely obtained by studying alone without the aid of a teacher.

He commenced the study of law with Hon. Edward Hinman, of Southbury, Conn., in the summer of 1846, and afterwards continued his legal readings under Isaac M. Sturges, Esq., then of Newtown, and Hon. Amos S. Treat, completing his studies at the law school at Ballston Springs, Saratoga Co., N. Y., in the summer of 1850, and was admitted to the bar at Fairfield, Conn., at the session of County Court held in December, 1850.

Mr. Curtis commenced the practice of his profession at Greenwich, Conn., in the summer of 1851, and soon took high rank and established a fine practice. He was elected in 1858 and re-elected in 1860 as senator, to represent the Twelfth Senatorial District in the General Assembly of the State. He removed to Stamford in the fall of 1864 and opened an office for the practice of law.

In 1867, Mr. Curtis was elected judge of the court of Probate for the district of Stamford, and held the office by successive yearly elections until 1870. His practice as a lawyer is extensive. In his profession he is esteemed as acute, painstaking, and diligent; of perfect rectitude, one can intrust business to him without fear that his trust is misplaced. As a lawyer he is logical and argumentative, rests his case upon the law, and his presentation of it is apt to discover any technical defect in an opponent's case.

In politics he has ever been a pronounced Free-Soiler; voted for Martin Van Buren and Charles Francis Adams in 1848. Previously he was a Whig, and a Republican from the first nominations of that party.

Mr. Curtis married Mary Acker, daughter of Peter and Mary Acker, of Greenwich, Oct. 30, 1854. Their two children are Sarah, born March 9, 1866, and Louis J., born March 11, 1869.

Mr. Curtis is of positive character, independent thought, and close reasoning powers,—does not blindly follow the lead of any one, but must satisfy himself that his course is right. He is strong and loyal in his friendships, and would stand alone, if occasion demanded, to defend either a friend or a principle, and, in consequence, has to a large degree the respect and





John B. Curtis



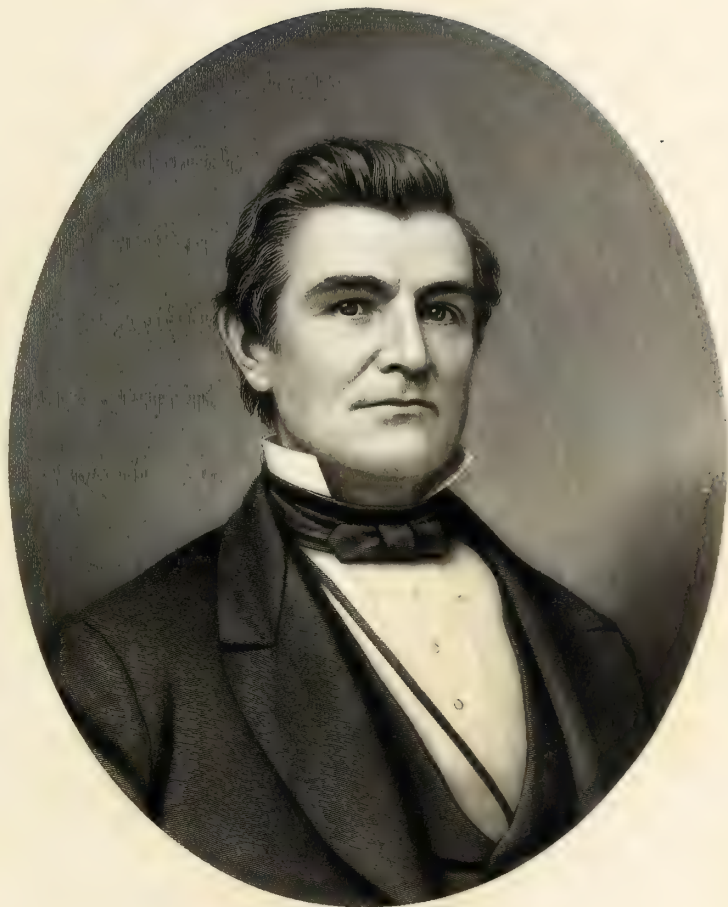






COL. GEO. A. DAVENPORT.





Yours truly  
J. M. Sturges



confidence of the community. He is pre-eminently the enemy of shams, wherever they exist, and nothing will sooner disgust him than hypocrisy, prevarication, or untruth. He has been a diligent and persistent worker in his chosen sphere, and has met with good reward financially and otherwise.

CALVIN G. CHILD, son of Asa Child, Esq., a native of Norwich, Conn., graduated at Yale in 1855, and practiced law in New York until 1866, when he removed to this place. He died Sept. 28, 1880.

SAMUEL FESSENDEN, the present State's attorney, is also a resident of Stamford.

JUDGE GEORGE A. DAVENPORT is of English descent, which may be traced through a long line of ancestry, reaching back, according to the "Davenport Genealogy" of Mr. A. B. Benedict, to the eleventh century. He was born in Wilton, Fairfield Co., Conn., Jan. 31, 1808. His father was a manufacturer of woolen fabrics in a small way, carrying on farming at the same time. His educational advantages were both common school and academic. At the conclusion of his studies he entered the profession of the law. Of his career as Probate judge, however, we wish more particularly to write, and we think we cannot do better than to quote entire an article appearing in the *Norwalk Gazette*, Jan. 8, 1878, upon the retirement of the judge from the office which for nearly thirty years he had filled so creditably:

"During the present month Judge George A. Davenport, who for a quarter of a century has administered the duties of the Orphans' Court of the district of Norwalk, will retire from further service by reason of the constitutional limitation of age. This is no trivial event in our local history. Few, if any, Probate districts in the country have been so highly favored with such exceptional capacity and fidelity to public trust, and we are sure that the regrets at Judge Davenport's retirement will be both universal and sincere. Differing as widely as the poles with him in many things, we all the more gladly bespeak the district's obligations and gratitude with the most hearty unreserve. Both parties have uniformly voted for him as the best possible candidate that could be chosen for the trying and responsible duties of Probate judge. The angry disputes he has quelled among those once friends, the jealousies and heart-burnings among members of the same families he has removed, the expensive lawsuits and vexatious litigations he has prevented by his own free and sound advice,—all are matters of conspicuous local history. Of all the wills he has drawn, settlements and decisions he has made, not one has ever been upset or reversed. His records are models of clerkly beauty and neatness, and marvels of legal accuracy.

"We trust we shall not yet lose the wisdom of his ripe experience and counsels, or the light of his presence among us for many years to come. Though relieved from official responsibility and drudgeries, he

may yet serve his generation in many important ways, and he will not fail to do so.

"On the 31st of January, 1878, Judge Davenport reached his seventieth year, and was by legal limitation debarred from holding the office of judge of Probate."

Judge Davenport was married early in life to Miss Mary Sturges, of Wilton, Fairfield Co., Conn. Their children are Mary A., wife of Charles B. White, surgeon in the United States army; Julia A.; Benjamin, a graduate of the law school of the University of Georgetown, D. C., now practicing as an attorney and counselor-at-law in the city of Washington; Daniel, graduate of Yale, studied law in the office of Woodward & Perry, Norwalk, now attorney and counselor-at-law in Bridgeport, married Mary E. Jones; Timothy, graduate of Yale, and attended New Haven Law School; and Sarah.

ISAAC MOREHOUSE STURGES was born in Wilton, Fairfield Co., Conn., July 6, 1807, and died at his sister's residence in that town on the 30th day of October, 1877.

Admitted to the bar of Fairfield County in January, 1837, he at once commenced practice in Newtown, removing from that place to Bridgeport in 1848, where he soon obtained a large clientage and continued in the full discharge of his professional duties till the last. He had been engaged in the trial of a cause the day before his death, and left it unfinished at the close of the day, intending to continue the trial on the morrow, but died very suddenly from an attack of heart-disease before the morrow came.

His father, Erastus Sturges, a farmer living at Wilton, was a justice of the peace of the old school, fourteen times elected to the General Assembly, and a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1818; before him were tried many cases, and Betts, Bissell, and Sherwood, in their management of justice trials, furnished the student with examples of legal ability and models for emulation,—the only school of instruction open to him, for until his admission to the bar Mr. Sturges had never been present at a higher court.

Entering the profession somewhat late in life with limited educational advantages, being mainly those, aside from attendance at district schools in the winter months, derived from three years' instruction at the Wilton Academy, then under the charge of the late Mr. Hawley Olmstead, with his opportunity for literary culture circumscribed, he neglected nothing, but treasured everything of which he could avail himself, and brought to the chosen calling of his life a mind so matured and trained that he became not only an acknowledged leader of a bar where leadership carried with it deserved recognition of ability, but outside of professional studies he was one of the best read of our number,\* and kept himself abreast of all that was new in literature and science. He thought earn-

\* Prepared by the late Hon. Calvin G. Childs, of the Fairfield bar.



estly, talked well, and applied with discrimination the thoughts and opinions of others. His chief characteristic was thoroughness. In the technics of the profession he had hardly a superior; he elaborated every detail sometimes beyond apparent necessity, but he always had a precedent for every proposition suggested, and, with abiding faith in his own premises, he considered it his duty to force a recognition from the court by citing numerous authorities of the conclusions which he deemed established. He took nothing for granted in the court or in anything else, but developed his argument with syllogistic precision "*Ab ovo usque ad mala*." This minuteness of research characterized his professional life throughout. It was unsafe to disregard his law, for the motion in error was sure to follow, urged with dangerous persistency; it was unwise to be heedless of his facts, for each was claimed for a fixed and special purpose in the line of his argument; and as a result of such completeness few were employed in as many cases, none was more able as a practitioner, and so vigorous was he as an adversary that it was unsafe to meet him, with hope of success, having a single weak spot in armor, for his thrust was unerring with whatever weapon he went to battle, and he never asked nor gave quarter.

One eminent in our profession has called Judge Hosmer "a traveling index of the law." There was no safer digest for Fairfield County than Mr. Sturges, for his tenacious memory and diligent research enabled him to furnish information of some decision on almost every conceivable point,—information which he was always ready to impart.

Somewhat of a recluse in his habits, being unmarried, and living quite by himself in bachelor quarters till the last few years of his life, when he made his home with a sister in Wilton, going to his office at Bridgeport daily, he acquired a taste for a solitary life which at times made him appear unsocial; but his character when sought out and known was thoroughly cordial and kindly. He seemed to dread the first approach to companionship or intimacy, but after the friendship was formed he was loyal to it in word and deed. Possessed of a sensitiveness which at times almost mastered him, he seemed desirous to appear to the world as indifferent to criticism, censure, or praise. He aimed to be strictly just, but the equipoise of the scales which he prided himself in holding well balanced was not rarely disturbed by a genial kindness which he never admitted he possessed. Without being lavish in expenditure or in the least degree ostentatious, he showed in many ways, quietly and without publicity, a generosity which sprang from a large-hearted sympathy and thorough unselfishness. His ambition centred in his profession. He was, however, elected a representative from Wilton in 1837, from Newtown in 1844, and again from Wilton in 1876. He was judge of Probate of the district of Newtown in 1844, and judge of the City Court of Bridgeport in 1860-61.

"The annals of lawyers, like the annals of the poor, are brief and simple. No memorial can keep their memories from oblivion, even in the next generation, except the brief record of their forensic contests to be found in the Connecticut Reports." So wrote Mr. Sturges shortly before his death. Surely in that record, which shows to a certain extent what the lawyer is, few have a more prominent place.

And thus another passes from the brotherhood of the profession,—that brotherhood which amidst the contentions and emulation of forensic struggles admits a generous chivalry in its antagonisms and ends contests with the adjournment of court; which respects rivalry, buries animosity, and recognizes in the leadership earned by professional prominence the tribute due to patient effort in an honorable calling.

The present bar of Fairfield is as follows:

*Bridgeport*.—R. C. Ambler, Henry T. Blake, Stephen S. Blake, Morris B. Beardsley, A. B. Beers, John A. Boughton, Ebenezer Burr, Jr., Charles S. Canfield, J. C. Chamberlain, Daniel Davenport, R. E. De Forest, Charles A. Doten, Theo. W. Downs, V. R. C. Giddings, F. B. Hall, David F. Hollister, F. L. Holt, Francis Ives, J. A. Joyce, F. G. Lewis, D. B. Lockwood, Michael McGuinness, L. N. Middlebrook, Dwight Morris, William H. Noble, Frank P. Norman, W. E. Norton, Eugene B. Peck, John J. Phelan, J. W. Parrott, Henry S. Sanford, William K. Seeley, Morris W. Seymour, William R. Shelton, Charles Sherwood, Lucius M. Slade, William H. Stevenson, E. Stewart Sumner, Goodwin Stoddard, Samuel B. Sumner, A. L. Tallmadge, Amos S. Treat, Curtis Thompson, Morris Tuttle, George W. Warner, Levi Warner, Mark D. Wilbur, William C. Wildman.

*Danbury*.—Roger Averill, Arthur H. Averill, A. T. Bates, David B. Booth, Lyman D. Brewster, William Brooke, J. R. Farnum, B. A. Hough, Howard B. Scott, Howard W. Taylor, William F. Taylor, O. A. G. Todd, Samuel Tweedy.

*Brookfield*.—Samuel Sherman.

*Easton*.—Charles R. Dudley.

*Fairfield (Southport)*.—Charles H. Gilman and John H. Perry.

*Greenwich*.—H. W. R. Hoyt, Myron L. Mason, Frederick O. Hubbard, R. Jay Walsh.

*Newtown (Sandy Hook)*.—James A. Wilson.

*Norwalk*.—Alfred E. Austin, H. H. Barbour, Joseph F. Foote, J. B. Hurlbutt, John E. Keeler, John H. Perry, F. W. Perry, Albert Relyea, John S. Seymour, William R. Smith, Levi Warner, Asa B. Woodward, Joseph W. Wilson (South Norwalk), Nelson Taylor, Nelson Taylor, Jr.

*Stamford*.—Samuel H. Cohen, Julius B. Curtis, Joshua B. Ferris, Samuel Fessenden, Nathaniel R. Hart, Michael Kenealy, Edwin L. Scofield, William C. Strobridge, Jr.

*Stratford*.—V. R. C. Giddings.

*Trumbull*.—R. C. Hunter.

## WILLIAM F. TAYLOR.

WM. F. TAYLOR was born in Augusta, Ga., Oct. 27, 1823. His father, Francis C. Taylor, for many years a merchant of that city, was a direct descendant of Thomas Taylor, one of the first settlers and patentees of Danbury. His mother, Hannah N. Church Taylor, was a native of the city of Dublin, Ireland, from which place, at the age of one year, she emigrated to the city of Baltimore, Md., where resided her relatives, the Pattersons, one of which family afterwards married Jerome Bonaparte. Mrs. Taylor and her mother's family afterwards removed to the State of Georgia, where they owned large tracts of land granted to them by the English government.

William F. Taylor removed to Danbury at about the age of eight, where he attended school, pursuing all the English and classical studies, until about sixteen years old, when he began the study of law in the office of Fish & Bridgeman, in the city of New York. Returning to Danbury in the year 1841, he entered the sophomore class of Trinity, then Washington College, Hartford, from which he graduated, taking one of the first honors of his class.

On leaving college he read law in the office of the late Gov. Charles Hawley, at Stamford, for one year, leaving this office to enter that of the late Hon. S. H. Hickok, of Danbury, at the request of the latter-named gentleman. He remained here but a few months, being obliged to suspend his studies from prostration caused by severe hemorrhage of the lungs, afterwards finishing his preparation for the profession of the law under the instruction of the late Hon. Edward Taylor, then judge of Fairfield County. He was admitted to the bar in August, 1846.

Owing to the death of the late Hon. S. H. Hickok, which occurred about this time, Mr. Taylor, from his connection with him, succeeded to nearly the whole of his practice, jumping; as it were, immediately into *medias res*, and from that moment his law business has been very great, extending into various other and sometimes distant States, and from the most inferior courts to the Supreme Court of the United States.

In 1848, Mr. Taylor received the degree of Master of

Arts from Trinity College. In 1850 he was appointed State's attorney of Fairfield County, which office he held for a period of three years. In 1852 he was elected Democratic Presidential elector for the Fourth District of Connecticut, voting for Peirce and King. He was elected Democratic State senator for the Eleventh District of Connecticut, which was the only senatorial district that gave a majority for the Democracy at that election. In 1865 he received the Democratic nomination for Congress in the Fourth District, and, although defeated, ran some hundreds ahead of his ticket. Mr. Taylor has also been elected at various times treasurer of the town of Danbury, including school visitor, and for the past

four years has been president of the board of education of that town.

He has also at various times been engaged in different public enterprises, and to his efforts, almost solely, the Pahquioque National Bank owes its origin, and for the most of the time since its corporation he has been one of its directors and rendered it most valuable aid. He aided greatly in the creation of the Union Savings-Bank of Danbury, and is a charter member of the same.

On the 16th of September, 1856, Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Isabella Meeker, of Danbury. Their children are three in number, one son and two daughters. The son, a young man of much promise, is a

member of the bar of Fairfield County, and is practicing law with his father.

Mr. Taylor is an Episcopalian, but attends regularly with his wife and family, a portion of every Sunday, the Congregational church, of which she is a member.

He is of a strong vital temperament, like that of his father's family. His ancestor Thomas Taylor was the father of eight children whose aggregate ages amounted to eight hundred and fifty-eight, two or three of them attaining to over one hundred years each. From this family was descended the late Dr. Nathaniel Taylor of the Yale Theological School, the father of the wife of President Porter of Yale College, also President Seely of Amherst College. P. T. Barnum is also one of the descendants.



Photo by J. H. Folsom Danbury.

*W. F. Taylor*







*Westport.*—Edmund M. Lees, Edward J. Taylor (Green's Farm), Albert Relyea.

*Wilton.*—George A. Davenport (Cannon's Station), J. Belden Hurlbutt.

The senior members of the bar of this county have many of them made up their records; those still left are soon to follow, and the juniors are to assume their places at the bar and on the bench; to them will soon be committed these great responsible trusts. The perpetuity of our free institutions is committed to the guardianship and keeping of the bar and judiciary of our free country, for the history of the world teaches, and all free governments illustrate, this truth,—treat the subject lightly as you will,—that to the profession of the law civil government is indebted for all the safeguards and intrenchments with which the liberties of the people are protected; that legislation is shaped, constitutions enlarged, amended, and adopted by the enlightened administration of the statesmen, both of England and the United States, who have been in both, and are in all free governments, educated for the bar, and, ascending by the inherent force of their disciplined professional life, they become the directors of the destinies of states and nations.

Military chieftains may spring into power; tyrants may for the hour dazzle, with the glamour of military parade and the pomp of war, an oppressed and frenzied people; but they turn, as the cannonade dies away, to the statesmanship of the country, and call to the parliaments and congressional halls for final debate the arbitraments of the liberties of the people.

From the days of King John to the present hour the bar and the bench have furnished the statesmen who have erected the bulwarks of constitutional law, and extorted from tyrants the Magna Chartas which have secured to the oppressed the guarantees of free institutions.

Imbued with the historical traditions of their predecessors, and tracing the paths they have trod, emulating their good example, it should become more and more the resolute purpose of the Fairfield County bar to so walk in the light of their professional teachings that when they are called to follow them to that upper court, and file their judgment-roll of the great trial of life with that Supreme Judge from whose bar they can take no appeal,—

"Thou go not like the quarry-slave at night  
Scourged to his dungeon; but, sustained and soothed  
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave  
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

### CHAPTER III.

#### MEDICAL HISTORY.—THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

##### MEDICAL HISTORY.

THE records of the Fairfield County Medical Society, as they exist to-day, begin with the year 1825. No mention is made in them of any previous date, excepting that in 1826 it was "*Voted*, To pay the clerk for advertising medical notice for the last five years and a record-book for said society, amounting to six dollars and twenty-five cents." But the associations of the several counties in the State were formed at a much earlier period. The New Haven Medical Society was in existence in 1784 as "*The Associated Faculty of New Haven.*" The movement which ended in chartering the Connecticut Medical Society was initiated by the New Haven society. The New London County Medical Society was then in existence, for a reply from it on the granting of a charter for the State society bears date "*New London, April 20, 1784.*"

In Fairfield County, however, no medical society existed previous to the chartering of the Connecticut Medical Society. (See "*Historical Account of the Origin of the Connecticut Medical Society,*" by Henry Bronson, M. P., "*Proceedings Connecticut Medical Society,*" 1873, p. 199, and "*Blakeman's Address,*" 1853.)

To give importance to the movement and weight to the appeal for the charter of the Connecticut society, which met with opposition from the State Legislature, several distinguished and influential physicians from other counties were admitted to membership in the New Haven County Society. Among these were Amos Mead, of Greenwich, Joseph Trowbridge, of Danbury, and James Clark, of Stratford ("*Bronson's Address*"). The desired charter was obtained in 1792, and this year may be regarded as the first of the existence of the Fairfield County Medical Society.

Dr. Rufus Blakeman, of Greenfield, president of the Connecticut Medical Society in 1853, made the subject of his address "*The Early Physicians of Fairfield County.*" In this he states that the Fairfield County society united, with a commendable zeal, with those of the other counties in an application to the Legislature for the charter of the State society. Candor and consideration of all the statements found compel the assertion rather that several distinguished physicians of the county were among the petitioners, but not any organized society from this county. Dr. C. W. Chamberlain, of Hartford, secretary of the State Medical Society, has very kindly furnished a copy of the proceedings of the society for the year 1853, so that, fortunately, we are able to produce the interesting address of Dr. Blakeman in full.

\* Contributed by N. E. Wordin, M.D., of Bridgeport.

The purpose in forming these several societies (for they must in a measure be considered together) was "to adopt such measures for the future regulation of our salutary art as shall effectually support and countenance merit and discountenance ignorance and presumption," "the encouragement of an accurate study in the theory and practice of physic and surgery," "to collect and preserve useful papers relative to the practice of medicine." It was their purpose then, as it is ours now, to keep our great and sacred *ars medendi* above the plane of an ordinary business which advertises and solicits trade, to protect and help its own members, and, so far as possible, to educate the public and protect them from charlatanism. They recognized the benefits to be derived from association and discussion, the contact of mind with mind. Individual influence is like the tap of a tack-hammer; a united society deals the ponderous blow of a sledge. Everything tended to encourage their coming together. Consultations could not be very frequent; libraries were small; there was no medical college in the State. The first meeting of which we have the records was held at the house of Silas Camp, in Bridgeport, on the third Monday of April, 1825. I can find no trace of the previous records by inquiry of the former secretaries. The meetings at that time were held annually at different towns in the county indiscriminately,—sometimes at the houses of persons who were not members, sometimes at inns. For instance, in 1826 they met at the house of Levi Edwards, Esq., in Monroe; in 1827 at the house of Ephraim Knapp, in Bridgeport (Knapp's Inn); in 1836 at the house of Widow Huldah Gregory, in Trumbull. The eastern part of the county had the greatest number of meetings, and Levi Edwards seems to have been the most popular host. Between 1826 and 1834 they assembled four times with him. From 1825 to 1859 the following places were favored respectively with gatherings of these men: Bridgeport, 14; Monroe, 6; Greenfield, 4; Fairfield, 3; Weston, 2; Norwalk, 2; Danbury, Westport, Redding Ridge, and Trumbull, each 1. In 1859 it was decided that the places for meeting should be confined to Danbury, Bridgeport, and Norwalk in order. This plan continued until, in 1878, Danbury not being considered sufficiently accessible, her name was left out and Bridgeport and Norwalk now divide the honors.

No list of members appears until 1856. A change in the manner of choosing delegates or fellows to represent them at the State Medical Society rendered necessary the making of a list at that time. Hitherto these delegates had been chosen or elected by the society. In 1856, at the City Hotel, Bridgeport, "Dr. Blakeman moved the following: 'Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to arrange the names of members in such order as they may judge proper, and that hereafter the names of five present at a meeting who stand first in the list be considered nominees or fellows in the year 1857 and the five

subsequent for 1858; and so on, proceeding from year to year.'" Drs. Noyes, Blackman, and Hubbard were appointed, and they reported the names as here arranged: David H. Nash, John A. McLean, Joseph M. French, George Blackman, Samuel Sands, Lewis Hurlburt, S. P. V. R. Ten Broeck, Moses B. Pardee, Frederic Judson, W. B. Nash, Rufus Blakeman, George Dyer, N. D. Haight, E. P. Bennett, David S. Burr, Robert Hubbard, James Baldwin, H. L. W. Burritt, Ira Gregory, Noah A. Lacey, Samuel S. Noyes, H. N. Bennett, Elijah Middlebrook, Lewis Richards, Samuel Lynes, Justus Sherwood, Amos L. Williams. The same method of appointing fellows is still in vogue.

The by-laws of the Fairfield County Medical Society appear on the records as adopted April 17, 1826. As they indicate the sentiment of the men of that day, their purpose and their thought, it may be of interest to our readers to copy them entire. They are as follows:

"1st. That no person shall become a member of the Fairfield County Medical Society unless he receive two-thirds of the votes of the meeting before which he is proposed; except such as the law makes members, of course.

"2d. That the Moderator and Clerk be chosen by ballot; also the Delegates to the Convention.

"3d. That there shall be three members designated by vote to read dissertations at the succeeding meeting next after being appointed, and being so appointed, and having not declined, shall read a dissertation on penalty of one dollar to be forfeited to our Society and collected by the Clerk." (This was raised to five dollars in 1870, and in 1874 the by-law was repealed *in toto*.)

"4th. The first business after organizing shall be to hear a dissertation from one of the three appointed for that purpose.

"5th. No member of this Society shall (but by absolute necessity) meet with and consult a practitioner in medicine or surgery unless he is or has been a regular member of our Society and been honorably discharged; at any rate, in other respects being equal, a member of our Society shall always be preferred.

"6th. That a Standing Committee of three be appointed annually to report upon all crimes and misdemeanors that may be committed by any member of this Society against any article contained in their by-laws, and that the Society act upon it as they may deem expedient.

"7th. That any member shall have the liberty to file his accusation against another member to one or more of the Standing Committee, whose duty it shall be, if two of said Committee think it expedient, to summons the delinquent to appear and to notify the accused to meet the County Meeting, where the subject shall be tried and determined. A copy of said accusation and notification shall be left with the accused, or at his last usual place of abode, at least sixty days prior to the trial. The accuser shall also make, or cause to be made, service and return to the county of said accusation and notice.\*

"8th. That any person in our Society who pretends to or uses any nostrum or secret medicine, and refuses to give a receipt in full to any member of this Society when requested, shall be expelled.

"9th. That when a new Clerk of our Society is chosen, it shall be the duty of his predecessor to deliver over to him all the records and papers appertaining to said office.

"Voted, That the foregoing articles be adopted as a code of by-laws for this Society this 17th day of April, A.D. 1826.

"Attest:

"JOHN JUDSON, Chairman.

"ELIJAH MIDDLEBROOK, Clerk."

The society was in part for the protection of its own members. At the meeting in which the by-laws

\* "Violations of the by-laws of the Connecticut Medical Society, or of the rules and regulations passed by the county associations in conformity with the by-laws of the State society," are now tried according to rules of Sec. 7, ch. iv., by-laws of the Connecticut Medical Society.



were adopted, the following resolves were passed, which seem to have been for that purpose:

"Resolve first.—That any physician who undercharges his neighbor in his neighbor's vicinity with a view to supplant said neighbor or otherwise to interrupt his business justly deserves to be disrespected by every member of our Society.

"Resolve second.—That opinions on cases of disease shall, unless otherwise agreed in consultations, be considered as sacred, not to be divulged.

"Resolve third.—That an uniform rate of charging be desirable, to which when established by vote of our Society, every member shall adhere, on penalty of being adjudged by the Standing Committee as to them shall be deemed just and proper."

They preserved the discipline laid down, expelling such members as they considered unworthy.

Dr. Blakeman, in his address of 1853, spoke of a repugnance to taxation at that time as somewhat characteristic, and as having been a development of their professional progenitors. It gave dissatisfaction in 1793, it was the cause for expulsion of members in the middle of the century, it is a *magnum opprobrium* in 1880.

At the meeting in Greenfield, April 18, 1849, it was

"Voted, That members of the Fairfield County Medical Society who have refused, and persist in refusing, to pay their taxes and attendance on medical meetings are disregarding the true interests of the profession, are unworthy of membership, and this Society would instruct the Fellows to make application to the State Convention to be holden in Hartford in May next for their discharge from this Society.

"Resolved, That if such discharge is procured for any such delinquent members, the Clerk be directed to notify each one so discharged, stating the cause of expulsion, and also that the Clerk transmit to each defaulting member a copy of the above resolutions.

"SAMUEL BEACH, Clerk."

In 1851 a list of the names of ten "non-paying members" was presented, and they were expelled, some of them being prominent in the society.

Their opinion of a newer sect—those who had climbed up some other way—is tersely expressed, April 10, 1850:

"Voted, That Homœopathy be regarded as Quackery.

"Voted, That the Clerk publish proceedings in several papers of this County."

Some of the members strayed from the fold and went over to the opposition. At the same meeting in which the ten "unworthy" members were proposed for discharge (April 10, 1851) it was

"Voted, That Drs. Dennison, Ayres, and Northrop, reported to have practiced Homœopathy, if on investigation be so found to transgress the rules of the Medical Society by such irregular practice, be by the above committee [the Standing Committee] cited to appear at the next annual meeting of this Society and answer to said irregularity in practice."

At the next annual meeting the several cases were carefully considered. It was "unanimously voted that their names be, each of them, erased from the books of Fairfield County Medical Society and dismissed from the said Society."

At this meeting in 1851 there seems to have been much discipline to enforce. Besides non-payment of fines and irregular practice, there was undercharging. It was

"Voted, That whereas, complaint having been made of undercharges by physicians practicing in neighborhood of other physicians with the apparent design to supplant their neighbors, therefore

"Voted, That to the price commonly charged for a single visit to a sick person for each visit twelve and one-half cents per mile for travel for each mile traveled after the first mile."

But discipline was only a casual thing forced on them by neglect of the laws which governed the body.

What was done at the gatherings of these men? The following "Rules of Order" were adopted April 14, 1853, from report of the committee appointed for that purpose:

"1st. The Meeting shall be called to order by the Clerk, and immediately thereafter the Chairman shall be chosen by ballot.

"2d. Election of Clerk.

"3d. Reading the Minutes of the last Session.

"4th. Admission of New Members.

"5th. Election of Fellows to the State Convention.

"6th. Election of Delegates to the American Medical Association.

"7th. Appointment of Committees.

"8th. Reading of Dissertations.

"9th. Unfinished Business.

"10th. Reports of Committees, which shall be made in the Order of Appointment.

"11th. New Business.

"12th. Appointment of Dissertator.

"13th. Appointment designating the Place of Adjournment for next Meeting."

Dissertations had been required from an early period in the history of the society (see By-Laws, Sec. 3). At the first meeting of which any record is extant Dr. Elijah Middlebrook, of Trumbull, read "A Case of Tetanus which proceeded from a Wound of a Nail, which was successfully treated by Opium and Wine." Dr. L. Seeley, of Weston, read a dissertation on "Hemorrhage in Typhus Fever." And so at every meeting for years one or more essays were read, to the profit and entertainment of the members. The subjects were sometimes assigned, sometimes left to the option of the writer. At the first meeting it was

"Voted, That Drs. Parruck, Simons, and Goulding read Dissertations on any subject they choose.

"Voted, That Dr. Blakeman read a Dissertation on Constitutional Peculiarity."

But the sons gradually departed from the customs of their fathers. An exchange of good wishes all around, a general discussion of medical topics, the appointment of delegates and committees, the reading of papers voluntarily proffered, the discussion and disposal of questions of discipline, occupy now the hours, while a concluding dinner at the hotel sends each one home better acquainted with his neighboring brother and stronger for another year of service.

The fellows are the delegates sent to the State society as representatives. In Fairfield County these were at first chosen by ballot. In 1825 the men selected were Samuel Simons, of Bridgeport; William T. Shelton, of Stratford; Cyrenius H. Booth, of Newtown; and John Tomlinson, of Huntington. In 1792 they were James Potter, Thaddeus Betts, Hosea Hurlburt, James Clark, Amos Mead. A list of the fellows from Fairfield County from 1792 to our day may be found in the "Proceedings of the Connecticut Medical Society" for 1875, p. cxxxii.



In 1847 the county society sent a delegate to the American Medical Association, or, as the records have it, the National Convention. The choice fell upon Dr. Elijah Middlebrook, and the association met that year in Philadelphia in May. Appointments have been regularly made since. Delegates are appointed also to the society meetings of other States,—New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, five to the American Medical Association. The Connecticut Medical Society meets yearly, alternately in Hartford and New Haven.

The records of the society have always been well kept since the year 1825. In 1845 a vote was passed to publish the proceedings in the several papers printed in the county, but there is no evidence as to how long this custom was continued, or even whether it was ever in vogue.

A copy of the essays presented was always requested to be lodged with the clerk, to be placed on file. They would be interesting reading to-day, doubtless; but, unfortunately, not one of them can be found.

One is forced to smile at the absurdly small fees which these men received, and the nicety into which they divided the different departments of their business. Yet the table was one of their own making, and must have been in some degree satisfactory. It affords a pithy lesson of the progress of the times. At the annual meeting holden at the house of Levi Edwards, Esq., of Monroe, April 20, 1829, it was

"Voted, That the following services and medicines shall not be rendered nor furnished for less sums than are designated,—viz.: Bleeding, 20 cts.; Cathartic, 12 cts.; Emetic, 10 cts.; Visit, 17 cts.; Travel, per Mile, 17 cts.; Obstetric Case, \$2.50,—Instrumental, \$4.00; Extracting Tooth, 12 cts."

The society has now no fee-table, the difference in the size of the towns having rendered such a plan very impracticable.

In the cities the local societies, which are entirely independent of the county organization, adopt such lists of prices, and in the more rural districts every man is a law unto himself.

They denounced all irregularities in practice. On the temperance question they gave a no less certain sound. At the Washington Hotel, in Bridgeport, on April 21, 1828, it was

"Voted, That the following preamble and resolutions be adopted,—viz.:

"Whereas, in our opinion, intemperance is the most base, general, dangerous, and demoralizing evil in our country and its suppression the most to be desired; therefore,

"Resolved, 1st. That we highly approve of the active and humane exertions of the American Temperance Society, made and now making, to effect the same.

"Resolved, 2d. That in our opinion the use of ardent spirit does not prevent the imbibing contagious diseases, but generally the system more susceptible to their influence.

"Resolved, 3d. That in our opinion the use of ardent spirit does not invigorate the system and qualify it to endure hardship or resist the evils of the extremes of heat and cold, as is too generally believed.

"Resolved, 4th. That in our opinion the prescriptions of physicians containing bitters in ardent spirit is a fruitful source of intemperance,

seldom necessary in practice, and when not so should be studiously avoided.

"Resolved, 5th. That in our opinion water is the most natural and healthy drink for man, and always salutary when discreetly used.

"Resolved, 6th. That ardent spirit at all our future meetings be discontinued.

"Resolved, 7th. That the Clerk of this meeting be requested to transmit to the Secretary of the American Temperance Society the foregoing resolutions, with the assurance that we will cheerfully co-operate with him in the promotion of temperance."

Humanity and philanthropy combined in favoring the founding of a hospital in a neighboring county. In 1829 it was

"Voted, That we highly approve of the measure of establishing a general hospital at New Haven, and that we will use our best endeavors to promote the same by encouraging subscriptions in our respective neighborhoods."

Such was the Fairfield County Medical Society in its earlier days. The State society by degrees spread its hands out over it. The former became a tributary; it is simply a part of the Connecticut Medical Society. Without detailing the several steps of the change,—a process hardly called for in a sketch,—we may look at the county society as it stands to-day in its relation to the State Medical Society. This can be done by selections from the by-laws of the State society:

"CHAPTER I.—Section 1. This Society shall be known by the name of The Connecticut Medical Society, and it shall be composed of the members of the county associations and of honorary members.

"Sec. 2. The Connecticut Medical Society shall hold an annual convention on the Thursday following the fourth Wednesday in May. The annual convention shall assemble alternately at New Haven and Hartford. Ten members shall constitute a quorum.

"Sec. 3. The President and Fellows shall hold an annual meeting.

"Sec. 4. The county associations shall hold in their respective counties an annual meeting.

"CHAPTER II.—Section 1. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Committee on Matters of Professional Interest in the State, and the Presidents of the county associations, who shall be Vice-Presidents *ex-officio*.

"CHAPTER III.—Section 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the Presidents and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society on the day preceding the annual convention of the Society, and in the same city where the convention is to be held.

"CHAPTER IV.—Section 1. The members of the Connecticut Medical Society shall meet annually in their respective counties, and at such other times and places as have been or may hereafter be agreed upon by them. *Provided*, the annual meeting shall be at least four weeks before the fourth Wednesday in May. Each county association shall be known and called by the name of the county in which it exists, and shall choose from among themselves a President, Clerk, and such other officers as may be found necessary. At their annual meeting they shall elect by ballot, of their own number, in each county five—except in the county of Tolland, which shall elect three—Fellows, to have part in the superintendence and management of the Society.

"Sec. 2. The county associations, in their respective counties, shall have power to adjourn meetings and to call special meetings from time to time as they shall deem expedient; and they may adopt such by-laws and regulations for their own government, and for the promotion of medical science, as they may think proper, not contrary to the laws of the State or the by-laws of the Connecticut Medical Society.

"Sec. 3. Any person of good moral character, found to possess the qualifications prescribed by the charter and by-laws of this Society, may, by any county association, at any meeting legally holden, be admitted to membership by a major vote of the members present, by ballot. *Provided*, he is residing and practicing in said county, and makes application for that purpose.

"Sec. 4. All persons so elected shall, within one year after such election, subscribe the by-laws of the Society, or otherwise declare in writing their assent to the same, or such election shall be void.

"Sec. 5. Any county association may by a major vote dismiss from the

Society any member who shall remove from the State or who shall leave the profession for other pursuits.

"Sec. 6. Any county association may, if it is deemed expedient, recommend to the President and Fellows, for dismission from the Society, any member residing in that county who shall apply for such dismission by a written request to that effect, delivered to the Clerk of said county association at least ten days before the time of holding any legal county meeting, and also any member who shall refuse or neglect to pay taxes; and upon the approval of such recommendation by the President and Fellows in annual meeting the connection between such member and the Society shall be dissolved. *Provided*, that no member shall be honorably dismissed from the Society until all his taxes shall have been paid.

"Sec. 7. All violation of the by-laws of the Connecticut Medical Society or of the Medical Police adopted by the Society, or of the rules and regulations passed by the county associations in conformity with the by-laws of the State society, may be prosecuted and tried in the respective county associations, under the following regulations. . . . *Provided*, that no sentence of expulsion shall be valid until confirmed by the President and Fellows in annual meeting.

"CHAPTER V.—Section 2. All the members of the Connecticut Medical Society have the privilege of attending all meetings of the President and Fellows and performing all the duties of Fellows except voting.

"Sec. 5. No member of the Society shall hold professional consultation or intercourse with any other than licensed physicians and surgeons in regular standing.

"CHAPTER VII.—The Society adopts the Code of Ethics of the American Medical Association as a part of the Constitution and by-laws.

"On the day of the annual convention a dinner shall be provided at the expense of those members partaking of it."

The presidents (or moderator and chairman, as they were formerly called) and secretaries,—the only two offices held in the Fairfield County Society,—have been as follows:

- 1825.—Gabriel Baldwin, Chairman; Elijah Middlebrook, Clerk.
- 1826.—John Judson, Chairman; Elijah Middlebrook, Clerk.
- 1827–28.—William T. Shelton, Moderator; Samuel Simons, Clerk.
- 1829.—Elijah Middlebrook, Moderator; Samuel Simons, Clerk.
- 1830.—John Judson, Moderator; Samuel Simons, Clerk.
- 1831.—Lloyd Seeley, Moderator; John Tomlinson, Clerk.
- 1832–34.—Elijah Middlebrook, Moderator; John Tomlinson, Clerk.
- 1835.—William T. Shelton, Moderator; E. Beach Middlebrook, Clerk.
- 1836.—Samuel Simons, Moderator; Dr. Sturges Bulkley, Clerk.
- 1837.—Elijah Middlebrook, Moderator; Sturges Bulkley, Clerk.
- 1838.—Rufus Blakeman, Moderator; Sturges Bulkley, Clerk.
- 1839–40.—Elijah Middlebrook, Moderator; Sturges Bulkley, Clerk.
- 1841.—Daniel Comstock, Danbury, Moderator; Sturges Bulkley, Clerk.
- 1842.—Elijah Middlebrook, Moderator; S. P. V. R. Ten Broeck, Fairfield, Clerk.
- 1843.—Samuel Simons, Moderator; S. P. V. R. Ten Broeck, Fairfield, Clerk.
- 1844.—Elijah Middlebrook, Moderator; S. P. V. R. Ten Broeck, Fairfield, Clerk.

1845.—Elijah Middlebrook, Moderator; George Blackman, Clerk.

1846.—D. Comstock, Danbury, Moderator; Samuel Beach, Clerk.

1847.—Elijah Middlebrook, Chairman; Samuel Beach, Clerk.

1848.—Rufus Blakeman, Chairman; S. Beach, Clerk.

1849.—Elijah Middlebrook, Moderator; Samuel Beach, Clerk.

1850–51.—Elijah Middlebrook, Chairman; Samuel Beach, Clerk.

1852.—Samuel S. Noyes, Chairman; Samuel Beach, Clerk.

1853.—G. Blackman, Chairman; F. J. Judson, Clerk.

1854.—Elijah Middlebrook, Chairman; Justus Sherwood, Clerk.

1855.—Samuel S. Noyes, Chairman; Justus Sherwood, Clerk.

1856–57.—Elijah Middlebrook, Chairman; H. L. W. Burrit, Clerk.

1858.—G. Blackman, Chairman; M. B. Pardee, Clerk.

1859.—Samuel S. Noyes, Chairman; M. B. Pardee, Clerk.

1860.—E. P. Bennett, Chairman; D. S. Burr, Clerk.

1861.—George Blackman, Chairman; D. S. Burr, Clerk.

1862–63.—Wanting in record book.

1864.—Samuel Noyes, Chairman; O. S. Hickok, Clerk.

1865.—Samuel S. Noyes, Chairman; William H. Trowbridge, Clerk.

1866.—Samuel S. Noyes, New Canaan, Chairman; Samuel Sands, Clerk.

1867–70.—Samuel S. Noyes, New Canaan, Chairman; George L. Burs, Clerk.

1871–72.—Ira Gregory, Norwalk, Chairman; George L. Burs, Clerk.

1873.—Robert Hubbard, Chairman; George L. Burs, Clerk.

1874–75.—E. P. Bennett, Chairman; J. G. Gregory, Clerk.

1876.—W. G. Brownson, New Canaan, Chairman; J. G. Gregory, Clerk.

1877.—E. P. Bennett, Chairman; W. C. Burke, Jr., Clerk.

1878.—E. P. Bennett, Chairman; W. C. Burke, Jr., Clerk.

1879.—W. G. Brownson, Chairman; W. C. Burke, Jr., Clerk.

1880.—Curtis H. Bill, Chairman; F. M. Wilson, Clerk.

The present list of members, as given in the "Proceedings" for 1880, is as follows:

*President*.—C. H. Bill, of Bridgeport.

*Clerk*.—F. M. Wilson, Jr., of Bridgeport.

*Censors*.—W. A. Lockwood, C. H. Bill, James R. Cummings.

*County Reporter*.—W. A. Lockwood.

*Bridgeport*.—David H. Nash, Robert Hubbard,



Andrew J. Smith, Augustus H. Abernethy, George F. Lewis, James R. Cummings, George L. Porter, Robert Lauder, Francis J. Young, Curtis H. Bill, N. E. Wordin, G. M. Teeple, Charles W. Sheffrey, E. T. Ward, F. M. Wilson, T. F. Martin, W. H. Bunnell, F. B. Downs, B. W. Munson, Mary J. Rising, W. C. Bowers.

*Brookfield*.—A. L. Williams.

*Danbury*.—E. P. Bennett, James Baldwin, William C. Bennett, F. P. Clark, A. T. Classon.

*Darien*.—Samuel Sands, R. L. Bohannon.

*New Canaan*.—William G. Brownson.

*Bethel*.—A. D. Barber.

*Greenfield Hill*.—M. V. B. Dunham.

*Fairfield*.—S. M. Garlick.

*Norwalk*.—James G. Gregory, W. A. Lockwood, John C. Kendall, Robert Nolan, F. V. Buesch, E. C. Clarke, W. J. Wakeman, A. B. Gorham.

*South Norwalk*.—R. L. Higgins, John Hill, W. C. Burke, Jr.

*Ridgefield*.—O. S. Hickok, William S. Todd.

*Reading*.—M. H. Wakeman.

*Southport*.—C. H. Osborne.

*Stratford*.—Edwin D. Nooney, Almon S. Allen.

*Stamford*.—N. D. Haight, H. P. Geib.

*North Stamford*.—George W. Birch, W. H. Trowbridge.

*Weston*.—F. Gorham.

*Westport*.—George B. Bouton, F. Powers.

*Huntington*.—Gould A. Shelton.

*Sandy Hook*.—William C. Wyle.

*Wilton*.—A. E. Emery, L. H. Huntington.

Of these, Drs. D. H. Nash, of Bridgeport, A. L. Williams, of Brookfield, E. P. Bennett and James Baldwin, of Danbury, and N. D. Haight, of Stamford, are over sixty years of age. The records give no indication as to which is the oldest member of the society. The name of Dr. James Baldwin, however, appears earliest on the records. In the year 1833 he was appointed one of the delegates to attend the Medical Convention at Hartford. He must, therefore, have been a member for some years previous. He was the same year (1833) appointed, with Dr. A. L. Williams, "to read a dissertation at the next annual meeting." Their names appear frequently in the records of the society. In 1836, Dr. E. P. Bennett was appointed fellow of the State Medical Convention in New Haven, and to read a dissertation at the next annual meeting. In 1838, David H. Nash was appointed a fellow of the State Convention. In 1850 Nathaniel D. Haight was chosen one of the fellows for the ensuing year. It may be safe to estimate their respective ages as members from the above data.

Fairfield County has furnished from its members the following presidents for the State society: Elijah Middlebrook, 1841-42; Rufus Blakeman, 1851-52; Robert Hubbard, 1877.

So much time has been spent with the living that none is left for the virtues and memories of the dead

who strove to keep and to improve the society and themselves. They labored, and we have entered into their labors. Only recently has it become customary to publish obituaries of deceased members. In 1854 a motion was passed "that the clerk notice the death of the members of this Society with a concise biography." If this was ever done, no record of it remains. The records contain but one obituary, which, on account of its tenderness and of the source whence it comes, I am constrained to give in full. April, 1856,

"Dr. Blakeman, committee on obituary of members deceased, reported on Dr. R. B. Botsford, dec'd of Danbury, the following letter, which was ordered to be included in the minutes:

"Dr. Russel B. Botsford was born at Newtown, May 7, 1794, and commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Shepard, of Newtown, during two years of his medical course. In New Haven he was in Dr. Gilbert's office. He received his diploma September, 1816. In the spring of 1817 he commenced the practice of medicine in the village of Danbury. In 1820 he was married, and his general health was such that for thirty-six years he was (when at home) never prevented from sitting at the table and enjoying the regular meals of his family. Being of a very depressed temperament and dyspeptic habits, and from too intense application to study and a very laborious practice, in 1832 he was afflicted with a rush of blood to the head, which in a few years resulted in attacks of an epileptic character, which continued with more or less frequency and severity until, Dec. 26, 1855, they terminated his life at the age of sixty-two. His habits of industry and system were such that to the day before his death he attended to all his domestic duties, keeping everything about and in his premises with perfect neatness and order. Perhaps it does not become the hand of affection to pen his eulogy, but allow me to say that for purity of character, untiring devotion to his profession, hospitality, and kindness to his friends, he had not his superior.

"Very respectfully,

"ELIZA W. BOTSFORD."

A few facts seemingly of interest may be added regarding the study of medicine and the granting of licenses. Dr. Blakeman states in his address: "Previous to the formation of the county society it is believed that the time devoted to medical qualification, even of the regular practitioner, was optional with the candidate for public favor. His reliance for a successful practice was more upon the popular decision regarding his skill than upon certificates of qualification which he might derive from his medical teachers." Yet this great

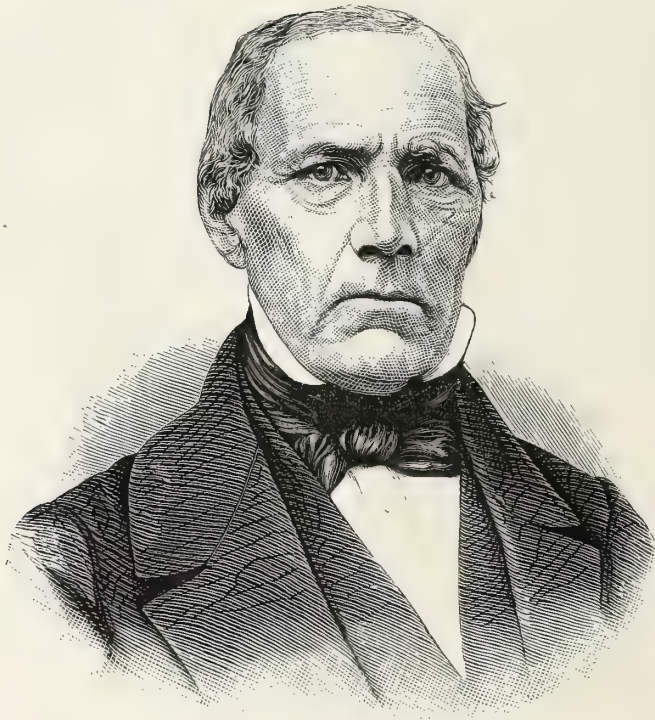
"art,  
Which doth mend Nature,"

must be handed over to Science or Knowledge for its highest, its complete attainment. "The grounds of every rule of art are to be found in the theorems of Science" (Mill's "Logic," vol. ii.), and the true physician (for there were many such in those earlier days) sought some place for the beginning of his medical career.

The sources for the acquisition of medical knowledge in the American colonies were few and scanty. A medical department was connected with King's—afterwards Columbia—College from 1767 to 1813. The Yale Medical School was not organized until 1813, and did not confer degrees until the following year. But very early in the century we learn of young men appealing for licenses to practice. Dr. George Sum-







DR. RUFUS BLAKEMAN.

ner, in an address on "The Early Physicians of Connecticut," in 1851, says John Copp, styled school-master, obtained the recommendation of the selectmen of Norwalk and applied for a license to practice medicine in 1705. Dr. Uriah Rogers\* studied with Dr. Jonathan Bull, of Hartford, and was licensed by the General Court in 1733. Dr. David Rogers,\* born in 1741, studied medicine with his father, obtained a license to practice medicine in New York, and located at Greenfield Hill, Fairfield. It was the custom for the student, after having qualified as was thought sufficiently by study with a preceptor, to make application and appear before the physicians of the county or a committee appointed by them for examination and license. Thus were most permits granted until the establishment of the Connecticut Medical Society in 1792. "Among the earliest and most important of the duties of the State Medical Society was examining candidates for the practice of medicine and surgery by a board annually appointed from its members, and legally empowered to issue licenses to practice to such as they deemed properly qualified. It also thus early in its history established a standard of qualifications, making, on the part of the candidate, the attainment of his majority, the evidence of a good moral character, and certificate of three years' study with some reputable physician or surgeon, save in the case of college graduates (when two years were accepted), as prerequisite to examination. This method of qualifying students was in vogue until the establishment of the Medical Institution of Yale College" (address of President C. M. Carleton, of Norwich, "Proceedings Connecticut Medical Society, 1878," p. 8).

In closing this sketch, cursory and imperfect as it is, I cannot do better than by going back to the beginning of the Fairfield County Medical Society.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M.D., was a lineal descendant of the fifth generation from Rev. Adam Blakeman, who was born in Staffordshire, England, in 1598, entered Cambridge College May 23, 1617, from which he was graduated. He was ordained an Episcopal clergyman, and preached in Leicester, Derbyshire, England, came to America about 1630 or 1635, and was the first clergyman of Stratford, Conn. He died in 1665. He had a family of six children, the eldest of whom was named John, who married Dorothy, daughter of Rev. Henry Smith, of Wethersfield, and died in 1663. He had three children, the second of whom was named Ebenezer, who was twice married, first to Patience, daughter of John Wilconen, of Stratford, Conn., second to Abigail Curtis, of Stratford, Conn. He had nine children, of whom the eighth, by his wife Abigail, was named Nathan, who was born Sept. 29, 1702, and married Sarah, daughter of Samuel Wills, in 1732, and had four children, of whom Ephraim was the second, born March 9, 1746, in Monroe,

Fairfield Co., Conn. He was a farmer in the town of Monroe, married, and had a family of eleven children, of whom Rufus, the subject of this sketch, was the ninth. He died April 13, 1811, aged sixty-five years. His wife, Sarah, died Sept. 19, 1828, aged seventy-four years. Rufus Blakeman was born in Monroe, Fairfield Co., Conn., Jan. 12, 1795. He was graduated from Union College in 1817, and from the Medical University of the city of New York in 1821, and immediately commenced the practice of medicine on Greenfield Hill, Fairfield Co., Conn., in the year 1822, and continued to practice until his death, Feb. 27, 1870. His ride was very extensive, reaching far into the adjoining towns. He was a member of the Medical Board of Examiners of the New Haven Medical School for many years, and at one time was president of the Connecticut Medical Association. Besides attending to the various duties of his profession he often contributed articles on various subjects pertaining to his profession to the medical journals. He also published a work entitled "Credulity and Superstition," which met with a ready sale. In politics he was a staunch Whig and Republican, and as such was a magistrate of the town of Fairfield for many years, judge of Probate for more than twenty-four years, and member of the State Legislature. He was not a member of any church, but was a regular attendant and liberal supporter of the Congregational Church of Greenfield Hill, of which Rev. Thomas B. Sturges was pastor. He married Mahala, daughter of Nathan N. Walker, of Long Hill, Conn., in 1819. They had two children,—viz., Catharine A. and Rufus (deceased). Mrs. Dr. Blakeman is now, 1880, residing on the old homestead with her daughter.

The following is the address of Dr. Blakeman, delivered before the State Medical Society in 1833:

#### ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT, RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M.D.

"GENTLEMEN,—It is known to you that my predecessor, Dr. Sumner, in his interesting address to this convention, furnished many interesting details relative to the early history of medicine in Connecticut, together with biographical sketches of some of the most eminent physicians who flourished in the early periods of its history. The address alluded to possesses great value, not only as affording data for noting the progress which our profession has made in the successive eras of its history, but likewise as a record for rescuing from progressing oblivion the names of individuals of worth and eminence to whose labors we are, in no small degree, indebted for the present advanced respectability which the medical profession in Connecticut sustains.

"There can be little doubt that in the early history of Connecticut, and probably that of our country generally, a large portion of medical practice was in its character empirical. For a considerable period subsequent to the first settlement of the several towns, far the largest part of medical prescription was dispensed by root and Indian doctors. Although the more considerable villages early possessed their so-called regular physicians, yet many of these did not blush boastfully to announce their paternity to nostrums and pretended specifics for particular or for all diseases, as interest might dictate; and this solely with a view of inciting public attention towards themselves and seducing patients from their professional neighbors.

"In such a condition of professional morals, it is little surprising that a state of hostility and antagonistic feeling should, generally, have existed, such as is well known to have characterized the medical society of former times. In the several counties of the State, however, exceptions were occasionally found of physicians of a more honorable and elevated

\* Blakeman's Address.



character, who not only labored to reform the moral habits of the profession, but also to advance its scientific respectability and usefulness.

"Although a retrospect into our early medical history will present physicians of this description but as 'Rari nantes in gurgite vasto' of popular empiricism then prevailing, yet fortunately such have existed, and many of these primary luminaries have been sufficiently fortunate to receive a notice from my predecessor in the address alluded to. Many others have flourished in the several counties, perhaps equal in professional talent and worth, though less known to general fame, whose names, by the demands of equal justice, ought to be rescued and registered with their co-laborers in support of legitimate medical science during the dark period of its history in the American colonies. In rendering such tribute of respect to the memories of our professional progenitors, we, who enjoy the fruits of their pioneer labors and difficulties, are not only discharging a debt of gratitude which is their due, but we are also furnishing for our successors data by which they may be enabled to trace past medical progress, and not improbably may incite them to the performance of a like homage to the memory of the professional benefactors of the present period. There is no doubt, as stated, that all the counties have furnished many physicians of the character alluded to. But as the limits of an address due from me would be inadequate for their general notice, even were the materials readily accessible, I design only to select as subjects those who passed their professional lives in Fairfield County, leaving those of other sections for individuals possessing a similar interest for the memories of their deceased brethren, who from vicinity of location enjoy better facilities for obtaining their biographical histories.

"Few are the recorded data for biography which ordinarily survive the life of the practitioner of medicine in country districts. The uniform and familiar character of his vocation affords but scanty material for the adornment of general history. Being more familiar with prescription than the pen, or the more brilliant exploits of war or legislation, his fame is lamentably prone to expire with the memories and lives of those who have enjoyed the benefit of his professional labors.

"Individual exceptions, however, are not wanting of members of our profession who have left recorded testimonials of their character and fame. The fortuitous circumstances which often enstamp individual reputation on the page of history have been the possession of some physicians. The indulgence of political ambition, a devoted professional philanthropy, as well as the endowment of transcendent intellect, are no less likely historically to note the physician than his co-equals in general society. Most of those in Connecticut who have attained such fortune have been presented to your notice by my predecessor. Accessible records have supplied him with facts, by which to delineate the character of his subjects in a manner far more interesting and satisfactory than can be expected for those derived from further gleanings in the past professional field.

"It is my design in the portion of these papers devoted to biographical notice to select those who, if less distinguished by general fame, were perhaps of equal usefulness in the dispensation of the simple duties of the medical profession.

"Of the early physicians of Fairfield County, I have succeeded in obtaining but scanty information. More, doubtless, might have been derived from the early records concerning individuals, were the modern titular appendage added to their names as a guide to the investigation. This omission, so general, is probably to be explained from the fact that its degradation by its indiscriminate application to all the pretenders of the period caused the name '*chirurgien*' to be considered an appellative more worthy the ambition of educated physicians.

"As stated, I have been able to derive but little, either from record or tradition, of the early physicians of Fairfield County. It is probable that few of note who made the practice of medicine an exclusive vocation left the larger central towns to locate in the inconsiderable villages of a border county. As in the State generally, many or most of the early clergy of the county united medical prescription with their clerical duties, and it is probable that most of the more regular prescription was in their hands. Of professional prescribers of the period may be enumerated the successive grades of root and Indian doctors; those who, originating in these, rose through rational observation, and the aid of attention to existing medical literature, to the station of respectable practitioners; and those who by previous qualification entered the profession with more or less knowledge of the medical science of the period.

"The earliest physician of the latter description in the county, of whom I have obtained a knowledge, was Peter Bulkley, son of Rev. Peter Bulkley, of Concord, and brother of Rev.—afterwards Dr.—Gershom

Bulkley, of Wethersfield. He resided and practiced in the town of Fairfield, but of his character as a physician I have been able to obtain no particular information. I infer from the probate of his will, contained on the probate records, dated March 25, 1691, that he died in that year. His age at the time of making his will, dated as above, he declares to be forty-nine years. After special devise of his principal estate, which appears to have been small, he adds, 'all the other estate I leave it wholly to my executor, whether physic or other household stuff, he knowing all ye concerns about it.' His 'medicines, simples and in composition,' are inventoried at twenty-five pounds. He constitutes his 'dearly beloved brother, Gershom Bulkley,' his executor, but he declined the trust.

"Isaac Hall was also a physician of Fairfield, who died in 1714, but regarding his reputation nothing special is to be obtained. In his nuncupative will on the probate record, he is styled Dr. Isaac Hall, but his inventory exhibits but a meagre amount of his professional remains, unless 'Culpepper's Last Legacy,' included in the list of his scanty miscellaneous library, may have been a repository of astrological mysteries, and therefore afford evidence that he was skilled in the science promulgated by the celebrated author of that name. Sylvester Judd, Esq., of Northampton, who is most conversant with the early records of Fairfield County, states regarding him 'he was a physician and especially a *chirurgien*. He was employed by the government in some warlike expedition, and my impression is, that he was somewhat distinguished.'

"James Laborie, according to such information as I have been able to obtain, was a French physician, a Huguenot, who emigrated to this country about the commencement of the last century. I am indebted to Rev. N. E. Cornwall's historical discourse on Trinity church, Fairfield, for the following: 'Doctor James Laborie, a French physician of eminence, who left his native country towards the close of the seventeenth century, and has been ordained by Mr. Kinglet *antistes* of the Canton of Zurich in Switzerland, taught and held service according to the usage of the Church of England in his own house in Fairfield.' In a letter preserved in the archives of the above-named church, the doctor informs that he 'came to this country as a teacher under the patronage of the Bishop of London, and, being disturbed by the Indians in the vicinity of Boston, came to the colony and county of Fairfield, and began by an introductory discourse to act as a missionary to the English and native inhabitants, but was interrupted immediately by one of the magistrates.' This announcement of his efforts in Connecticut was probably made at Stratford, where he seems to have resided from 1703 to 1717, but it appears from the records of Fairfield that he resided there as early as 1718. In forming an estimate of the doctor's character as a religious teacher, as shown above, in connection with the somewhat ludicrous notice which he has received as a physician, in the address of my predecessor, concerning his legal controversy with Mr. Lyron, of Milford, on the subject of his medical charges, a degree of embarrassment may possibly be encountered. For its removal, however, and in his justification in the latter capacity, it may perhaps be expedient to interpose the presumption that he had in a degree been indoctrinated in the Jesuitical principles recognized by the truly Catholic of his native France. Tenets thus imbibed may perhaps have prompted the doctor, in his evangelizing zeal, to devote his medical prerogative, so signally exercised upon Lyron's purse, as a subordinate to the promotion of the object of his Protestant mission among the heathen in the country of his adoption.

"His medical diploma, dated London, 1697, written in Latin, describing him as the son of a celebrated physician of France, was recorded by the clerk of Fairfield County Court in 1703. By his will on the Fairfield probate records of the date 1731, he devises to his son James, 'all my instruments of *chirurgie* and my French writings.' His death, according to the court proceedings, occurred about that period.

"Francis Forgue was also a French physician, who it is understood came to America as surgeon of the French forces engaged in the defense of Canada against the English, during the war which resulted in its conquest by the latter. The period at which he left the army, or the circumstances which led to such decision, are at present unknown. Instead, however, of returning to his native country, he located in Fairfield between the years 1755 and 1760, where he practiced as a physician of considerable distinction until his death. Tradition uniformly assigns to Dr. Forgue the character of a well-educated physician, possessing superior talents; of gentlemanly deportment, and in his social qualities affable and interesting. A friend who is remotely connected with the descendants of the doctor writes me that it is his 'impression that he was a skillful surgeon, and that he was employed in Washington's army as such. That he was polite, rather vague in his religious sentiments, perfectly



honest and liberal, despising any kind of fraud or equivocation, and careless of his pecuniary concerns so long as he and his wife had enough.' Numerous anecdotes current concerning him confirm the above character. The following would appear to exhibit his religious sentiments as coinciding with those of the French school of theologians. Being in company where an animated discussion arose regarding the merits and final prospects of the several religious sects, an appeal was at length made to the doctor (who had taken no part in the dispute) for his opinion on the controverted subject, who jocosely responded: 'By and by Monsieur A. (one of the disputants) die; he appear before the judge, who say, Monsieur A., of what sect are you? Monsieur A. say, I be Presbyterian. Say the judge, Monsieur A., you take that apartment. By and by Monsieur B. (another of the party) die, and go to the tribunal. Say the judge, Monsieur B., of what sect be you? Monsieur B. say, I be Episcopalian. Well, say the judge, Monsieur B., you take that apartment.' Thus disposing of the Methodist, Baptist, etc, the doctor adds: 'By and by Dr. Forgue he die, and make his appearance. Says the judge, Hah! doctor, you come, eh? Of what sect are you? I say, Oh, I be just nothing at all! Ah, very well, say the judge, you go where you please, doctor.'

"Another anecdote well illustrates the doctor's frank and nonequivocating qualities. He, with one Job Slocum and others, being arraigned before a magistrate for card-playing, for which he was passionately fond, and being asked their plea, his companions, as by legal parlance bound, plead *not guilty*! 'Bah!' says the more honest Frenchmen, 'you lie, Job! you be guilt, I be guilt, we all be guilt! you know you guilt! What the fine, Monsieur Justice?' On learning the amount, the doctor promptly proffered the magistrate double the sum, good-humoredly remarking, 'Me play out the balance next time, Monsieur Justice,' leaving the remaining perplexed offenders of the law to heal their breach by reluctantly following the *suit* so frankly proffered by their more honest Gallic partner. 'Doctor Forgue's men' is an appellation, at the present time, often applied to persons of free religious faith.

"It is said that he never acquired the fluent use of the English language, but ever kept his accounts and memorandums in his native dialect. His tombstone in Fairfield cemetery contains only the simple memorial of his name and time of his decease, with the further inscription that 'he was a respectable physician and useful citizen.' He died in 1783, aged fifty-four years.

"It appears from Dr. Sumner's address that John Copp, styled schoolmaster, obtained the recommendation of the selectmen of Norwalk, and applied for a license to practice medicine in 1705. Rev. Dr. Hall, who is familiar with the ancient records of that town, informs me 'that John Copp was a schoolmaster, surveyor, deacon, and town clerk, which last office he held from 1708 to 1740.' Dr. Hall adds, 'whether he practiced medicine I have no means of ascertaining.' He died May 16, 1754, aged seventy-eight years.

"Dr. — Thomas practiced medicine in Newtown, and died probably seventy or eighty years ago. He is said to have been a self-educated physician, and possessed of considerable ability. His widow married, I am told, Nehemiah Strong, formerly mathematical professor in Yale College.

"Dr. Uriah Rogers, according to information I have obtained, was born at Braintree, Mass., in 1710, and was a near descendant of Nathaniel Rogers, also a physician, who emigrated to this country from Apington, England, in 1630, and succeeded President Oaks in the presidency of Harvard College in 1683. Dr. Rogers studied with Dr. Jonathan Bull, of Hartford, and was licensed by the General Court in 1733. He soon after located in Norwalk, where he pursued the practice of medicine until his death. He was hospital surgeon in the British army in the French war, so called, in 1758. At the burning of Norwalk, in 1779, by the British, a period subsequent to his death, his late mansion was destroyed with its effects, including his books and papers. The only articles preserved were his silver-headed cane, a present from Governor Fitch, and his family coat-of-arms, which is said to be that of the descendants of John Rogers, the martyr.

"Dr. Rogers is represented as being a distinguished physician, of strong and vigorous mind, and enjoying an extensive practice. He is also represented as being eminent for his piety, of a dignified deportment, and much respected in the community where he resided. He died in 1773, aged sixty-three years. He left six sons, three of whom—Uriah, Hezekiah, and David—were physicians. Uriah succeeded his father in the practice of medicine in Norwalk, but died early in life, in 1776, aged thirty-eight years.

"Dr. David Rogers studied medicine with his father, obtained a license to practice medicine in New York, and located at Greenfield Hill, Fairfield, where he practiced medicine until age incapacitated him for the

active duties of his profession. He died at Norwich in 1820, aged eighty-eight years. He held a respectable rank in his profession, and is said to have been gentlemanly and dignified in his manner, and was active and efficient in the organization of the county society. He held a commission of surgeon in the army of the Revolution, and I am informed was by the side of Gen. Wooster when he fell at the battle of Ridgefield. This family stock appears to have been prolific in supplying branches of the medical profession; as of Dr. Rogers' five sons, three—viz., David, Charles, and Morris—studied and practiced medicine, and his only daughter married the late Professor Dewees, of Philadelphia. The son Dr. David Rogers, late of New York, was the father of Dr. David L. Rogers, of that city, and also of Dr. James Rogers. Whether acquisitions to the profession from the other branches have been as numerous, I am not informed.

"I am indebted to the politeness of William H. Holly, Esq., of Stamford, for the following notice of the elder physicians of that town, as well as of several of a more recent period, of whom my original design precludes a mention in these papers.

"Dr. Nathaniel Hubbard died in Stamford, in the year 1772, at an advanced age. For forty or fifty years he was the principal physician in the place, and particularly eminent in his profession.

"Dr. John Wilson commenced practice about the year 1760, and continued here until 1796, when he removed to the city of New York. He was a native of Stamford. He died about the year 1802, leaving four sons, all physicians,—viz., John (the father of Hon. John Q. Wilson, now of Albany, but for many years a resident of Westport, and judge of the County Court of Fairfield County), Stephen, James, and Henry. John and Stephen settled in the city of New York, James and Henry in the county of Westchester.

"Dr. Samuel Webb, born in Stamford, March 7, 1760, son of Col. Charles Webb, a distinguished officer of the Revolutionary war, was *cousin-in-law* of the above Dr. John Wilson. He graduated at Yale College about the year 1779, and immediately commenced the study and practice of medicine with Dr. Wilson, and continued in a successful practice up to the day of his death, Dec. 23, 1826. Dr. Webb ever enjoyed the esteem and confidence of the community to a remarkable degree, not only in his profession, but in his civil relations. On several occasions he represented the town in the Legislature of the State, and for many years filled the office of a justice of the peace. He died very suddenly of enlargement of the heart, in his sixty-seventh year, having previously enjoyed during life uninterrupted good health. It is a remarkable fact, shown from entries upon his day-book, that for fourteen years previous to his death not a day passed but he made professional visits.

"There were several physicians of the name of Tomlinson who formerly resided and practiced medicine in Stratford. Their respective names, as I learn, were Agur Tomlinson, William Agur Tomlinson, son of the above, Charles Tomlinson, nephew of Agur, and Hezekiah Tomlinson.

"I have been able to obtain but little of their biographies, other than that they were highly respectable as citizens, and two or three of the number were of considerable eminence as physicians. The first graduated at Yale College in 1744, and died in 1776, aged fifty-three years. Hezekiah also graduated at the same institution in 1765, and died in 1781, aged thirty-four years.

"Dr. William Agur Tomlinson is said to have been somewhat eminent in his profession. He, I am informed, espoused the cause of the king in the war of the Revolution, and retired with most of the American-English patriots to Nova Scotia at its close, where he resided for a period. He subsequently returned to Stratford and resumed professional duties. He is stated to have applied to the State Legislature for and obtained a special act granting a restoration of his sequestered estate, and also the privilege of collecting his medical bills, contracted previous to his expatriation. He is reported to have exercised this indulgence oppressively on many of his debtors. He died in 1759.

"Two gentlemen of the name of Clark, who were brothers,—viz., Joseph and James,—and also a physician by the name of Russel, practiced medicine at an early period in Stratford. The Clarks are reported as physicians of eminence for the period; but I am unable to state anything regarding Dr. Russel. Joseph Clark is reported as a physician of eminence, and much esteemed in his profession, a citizen of good principles, and a kind, affable, and gentlemanly man. He espoused the cause of the king during the Revolution, in consequence of which his family suffered much indignity from the zealous populace. He fled with his family to the British provinces, where he probably died.

"Before proceeding to a notice of the later physicians of Fairfield County, such as were connected with the organization of its medical society, I will briefly allude to the general condition of medicine and



medical literature in the county previous to its society organization, as far as accessible facts furnish information on the subject.

"Doubtless the medical history of this is similar to that of most other counties in this State; but as association, as well in medical as in civil relations, was more intimate between the population within the boundaries of each of these geographical sections, it is reasonable to suppose that influences would originate from such intercourse which would establish peculiarities not only in their ordinary domestic relations, but also in the sentiments and habits of practice among the physicians of each county.

"In the early periods of the settlement of the State intercourse among her physicians was circumscribed, and access to medical literature difficult. Medical morals therefore, as well as prescription, doubtless in a considerable degree, received modification from the character and qualification of individuals who were the administrators of the healing art. Hence it is probable that each county presented a medical character considerably deviating from that of its neighboring counties.

"Among the causes of sectional peculiarities in the State of the medical profession, not the least was an unequal numerical possession, by its several counties, of physicians of a more refined and exalted education.

"It may readily be conceived that the medical character of each county would be elevated or depressed in a ratio proportionate to the enjoyment or absence of the salutary influence which such must exert upon the sentiments of the community in which they resided. In counties numbering but a limited portion of physicians of this description, it is to be presumed that the public sentiment regarding medicine would be moulded by and made conformable to the inculcations of the empirical pretenders, while in sections enjoying the teachings of a greater portion of the honorable and educated, a more accurate and elevated estimate would be formed relative to the merits and claims of the various medical administrators within its precincts.

"In fields preoccupied by the quackish pretenders who had cautiously intrenched themselves in the favor of a marvel-seeking public, by exhibiting the mysteries with which they ever envelop their art, the honorable and scientific physician could hardly be expected to seek his fortune. To such fields, therefore, would the various species of pretender, who ever shrink from the light of science, retire with the object not only of reaping the pecuniary harvests which they presented, but with the view also of escaping the dangers of a detection of his devices. In common with other border counties of the State, Fairfield County originally enjoyed less the councils of the better educated physicians than counties more central and populous; consequently it experienced more and longer than those the evils of empiricism and quackery.

"Although its several larger and populous villages early possessed their so-called regular physicians, yet these were mostly derivations from the root and Indian doctors, whose professional habits had been formed in the schools whence they originated. A portion of the more rational of these sought association and gradually became assimilated in practical views with their systematically educated brethren; but while assuming such position they did not hesitate, from motives of enhancing their interests, to foster the popular notion shrewdly inculcated in their *Alma Mater*, that diseases of peculiar location were of special and indigenous character, and that their specific remedies existed principally in the forests and fields in which they originated. Many of these practitioners, however, who possessed greater honesty of character, connected with a native taste for the science which they professed, in the emergencies occurring in their practice resorted to some '*printed guide to health*,' and perchance to the works of Boerhave or Sydenham, which not unfrequently became their standard counselors in practice, and also their instructors in the leisure of their domestic retirement.

"By such discipline, aided by observation of the character of disease as well as by occasional consultations with better instructed physicians, many of this self-educated class became elevated to a respectable rank as practitioners and useful in the community where they resided. By means of such improvement in the qualification of its professors, the healing art advanced in respectability; the absurdities of the medical impostor were exposed to the judgment of the reflecting; and the popular sentiment, which had been trained in the belief of its marvelous results, was gradually led to contemplate medical science in the view of the ordinary sciences, which, like these, being based on sensible and rational principles, was to be acquired but through a patient and careful investigation.

"It has been remarked that the more considerable villages usually enjoyed the advantages of the services of regularly educated physicians. By reason, however, of the scanty means afforded for the acquirement of medical knowledge in the early periods of our State's history, the remark may not be deemed invidious, that far the larger portion of medical

practitioners, at the commencement of their practice, probably possessed less theoretical medical literature than that acquired by the diligent student of medicine at the present time after a pupilage of a few months in the office of the private practitioner, exclusive of the instruction which he receives from a course of lectures in a public medical institution.

"Occasionally might be found in the more populous districts physicians who had received their education in European schools. Such were generally versed in the medical science of the period, and of course were important accessions, not only to the community which enjoyed the benefit of their skill, but also to the medical profession by the influence which they exerted in the elevation of the standard of its character and general qualification.

"The early source of medical knowledge in the New England colonies was only that of the private practitioner, and as most of these were versed only in the more immediate practical branches, such as materia medica, theory and practice, etc., a passable familiarity of the student with these was deemed adequate qualification for the exercise of his skill as a public practitioner. Extensive attainments in midwifery and surgery were deemed of secondary importance to the medical practitioner, for the reason that, while cases of the former were commonly presided over by the professional '*gudewife*' of the neighborhood, the important cases of the latter, as at the present time, were submitted to the skill of the professional operator in that department.

"As far as I have been able to obtain information, calls upon the physician to perform obstetrical duties were rare prior to 1800, or perhaps, in some locations, a few years previous. In periods considerably earlier than the date mentioned, it is believed that in no cases were their services required except perhaps in a few rare instances which were attended with circumstances of a difficult or untoward character. Previous to the formation of the county society, it is believed that the time devoted to medical qualification, even of the regular practitioner, was optional with the candidate for public favor. His reliance for a successful practice was more upon the popular decision regarding his skill than upon certificates of qualification which he might derive from his medical teacher. However short may have been the term devoted to the acquirement of medical science, those adopting the system of the then recognized regular practice were readily acknowledged and received into the ranks of the professional fraternity, with the members of which mutual consultations were held over their respective patients.

"In a condition of medical literature like that of the period under consideration, it might be expected that a preponderating ratio of empiricism would necessarily become blended with its elements as well as in the practice of its professors. Indeed, such is the view of the practice of the period, as contemplated by the modern observer, that its character is necessarily represented as partaking more of a systematic empiricism or charlatany than of an elevated scientific profession. In extenuation, however, of such professional state, it ought to be taken into consideration that the sources for the acquisition of medical knowledge in the American colonies were few and scanty, and the means for its attainment abroad were accessible to but few. The emergencies of disease ever existing wherever there was population, the public, therefore, were necessarily impelled to the employment of such professors of the art of healing as were attainable in the vicinity of its occurrence, and that often without the option of a selection between the better qualified physician and the dispensers of nostrums or Indian specifics.

"With alternatives thus urgent to influence a public possessing few of the present facilities for scientific acquirement adequate to direct its decisions, or, indeed, in most instances, of even judging by comparison of the qualification of medical claimants on their favor, it may readily be conceived that a limited discrimination would be exercised in the selection of a medical adviser. Nor did it present a new problem in the science of human nature for solution, when it was discovered that abundant unscrupulous candidates for popular favor should be found as adventurers upon their fortune in the profession, with but a modicum of knowledge of the intricate sources of disease, or of the nature of the active agents of the *Materia Medica* adapted to their removal.

"As ignorance is the parent of quackery and empiricism, little else could be expected of the earlier professional character of the State than its history actually presents. But the fact that a considerable portion of society at the present period, enjoying the advantages of a general diffusion of education and scientific refinement, with the educated physician accessible to all, should with an eagerness and ready faith, worthy of former times, embrace such baseless and ephemeral novelties as the botanic, homeopathic, and hydropathic vagaries, as well as the flood of popular nostrums which deluge community (and that not merely by its more ignorant members, but also embracing many of the better educated



class), presents a psychological enigma of more difficult explanation. With such abounding credulity, thus manifested, relative to the healing art, we may cease to be surprised that in darker eras of our early history, embracing a marvel-loving public, and a medical profession whose members were irresponsible to codes, sanctioned by a majority of its constituents, the toils and pecuniary sacrifices incident to a competent medical education should be evaded for the more enticing embrace of the emoluments proffered by the immediate assumption of the office of physician.

"It certainly affords evidence that as conscientious rectitude and philanthropy are marked characteristics of the medical profession, since, with the fact so strikingly presented to the student of medicine that the quack will share with him his portion of public patronage, he, notwithstanding, submits to the sacrifice attendant upon the acquirement of such education as alone can qualify him for the office of a competent physician. With a medical profession imperfectly educated, like that of former times, and a public sentiment schooled and disciplined in the belief of its mysterious resources, it might reasonably be anticipated that knavish pretenders, as well as the dishonest of the profession, would seek the promotion of their interests through announcements of various specifics, assumed as marvelous revelations of indigenous agencies, which were particularly adapted to the prevalent diseases of the same location; or that the mysterious manifestations of the Indian character, associated with his marvelous traditions, would be made available for the purpose of exciting the imagination of the credulous, and thereby beguiling them to devote both their health and interests at the shrine of their unhallowed ambition.

"It is manifest that dishonorable arts and devices of this description, solely designed to inure to the profits of their inventors, especially when resorted to by members of the profession, could not fail to be prolific of discords among neighboring physicians, such as are too well known to have characterized and disgraced the medical society in Connecticut.

"In Fairfield, and probably in other counties, a melancholy disregard of professional etiquette characterized most of her physicians previous to the organization of her medical society; and I am compelled to add, that the confirmed habits of many practitioners protracted the evil for a considerable period subsequently, notwithstanding its salutary provisions of codes and by-laws, with the object of suppressing the evil. Friendly professional intercourse was rare among neighboring physicians. Many habitually visited and prescribed for patients in the absence of or without the knowledge of the regular attendant; and facts too clearly prove that often petty and dishonest devices were resorted to, with the object of supplanting an absent rival in the confidence of the patient or his friends. It was not uncommon, in such circumstances, for the recent attendant to denounce the treatment of his predecessor, and after a summary consignment of his medicines either to the fire or through the window, to substitute from his own stores those, most likely, of the same or of a similar character.

"It is deplorable to contemplate such utter prostration of honorable deportment by men professing to be members of an ostensibly learned and honorable profession; by those too who, there is reason to believe, were sufficiently observant of a gentlemanly demeanor in their intercourse with other members of the community.

"Such being the view of medical society presented by a retrospect into its past history, it would be interesting to investigate and portray the causes which have effected its present comparatively elevated and improved condition. It would be equally interesting to note the different phases of melioration through which the medical society in Connecticut has passed in its progress to the superior moral and scientific position which it holds at the present time. But the discussion would be incompatible with the present design, even did the circumscribed limits of an address on this occasion afford adequate space. It cannot, however, be matter of doubt that the improvement has been effected by the unremitted labors of a few of the master spirits of the profession who have lived in the different eras of our professional history. These, experiencing and deploring the existing evils and impressed with the conviction of the inadequacy of detached individual efforts for their correction, ultimately devised the remedy of society association, by means of which a concerted influence of the more respectable physicians of the State might more effectually be directed to the promotion and advancement of the interests as well as the respectability of the profession.

"No doubt much had been effected by individual assiduity previous to the establishment of medical associations. But such detached and limited efforts had been proved manifestly inadequate to effect a reform of an entire system, defective not only in its general scientific qualifications

but also depressed in its moral character by the long established unprofessional and unprofessional habits and practices of a large portion of its members. It is manifest that to remedy the former an elevated and uniform standard of education was required by which the qualifications of aspirants to membership were to be tested, and their claims decided by a competent tribunal delegated with adequate authority to deny admission to the incompetent; while to effect the latter, such codes and regulations, promulgated by a no less potent authority, were demanded as might prove restraints on the propensities of such of its members as were then, as at the present time, unfortunately endowed with a predominancy of the selfish impulses over their honorable sentiments.

"With the laudable object of effecting a professional reform and improvement, the physicians of several towns and counties embraced the plan of society association as the most effective means for its accomplishment. Experience soon manifested the happy effects of the system, and that its greatest possible good might be attained, the plan of a general State association was conceived and ultimately adopted by the various county societies. This received incorporation by act of Legislature in 1792.

"The design of organization was not simultaneously embraced by the various sections of the State, but each with zeal successively adopted a measure, the happy effects of which were plainly manifested upon the medical society of the sections which had experienced its benefits. The city of Norwich and Litchfield County appear to have taken the initiative in medical organization; the first in 1762 or 1763, the last in 1765. Windham and New Haven Counties, a few years later, followed the example set by the first mentioned, and instituted their societies. Fairfield County appears to have been more tardy in the formation of her society, which was organized in 1792, being a few months subsequent to the incorporation, by the Legislature, of the State Medical Society, which was granted in the spring of that year.

"Although Fairfield was later in the movement of organization than its sister counties, yet I am led to infer that a no less active sentiment for reform existed in the minds of her physicians than that already manifested in the other sections of the State. This is shown from the fact that the society records exhibit, appended to the original articles of the association, the names of forty of her most respectable contemporary physicians, being probably about the number of regular practitioners in the county at the period of its organization.

"In view of this ready concurrence and support obtained for her society from so large a portion of the physicians of the county, it is with regret that I am compelled to the admission, that subsequently, and even at the present time, a large number of respectable practitioners of the county question its utility and withhold their influence and the pecuniary aid requisite to sustain its action for the attainment of the greatest good for which it might be made susceptible. I am happy, however, in being able to state that most of its repudiators virtually admit the salutary influence which it has effected, by their practice of a professional deportment accordant with its police established for the regulation of professional intercourse between its members.

"I learn from its records that the Fairfield County Society united with a commendable zeal with those of the other counties in an application to the Legislature for the charter of the State Society. At its first meeting at Redding, March, 1792, the following vote appears,—'Voted, that Drs. James Potter, John Lester, and David Rogers, be delegates to meet delegates from other counties in the State, at Hartford, in May next, in order to form a plan of general incorporation, to lay before the Hon. General Assembly at their next session.' The first delegates (so termed) of the society to meet at convention in Middletown were appointed in September, 1792, and consisted of Drs. James Potter, Thaddeus Betts, Hosea Hurlbut, James Clark, and Amos Mead. That the office of fellow at that time was one remunerated by love and patriotism only, would appear from a vote of the society, preceding the appointment of the gentlemen above named, as follows:—'Voted, that this meeting will make no compensation to the delegates to the Middletown Convention.'

"It also appears that the somewhat characteristic repugnance to taxation, at present existing with a portion of the physicians of Fairfield County, instead of being an infection of recent origin, is but the development of a predisposition, derived from their professional progenitors; as appears from the following vote passed at the county meeting in May, 1793,—'Voted, that whereas the Hon. General Convention of the Fellows of the Medical Society of Connecticut, at their session at Middletown in October last, voted, that they have power to levy and collect taxes for their own support and expenses while in Convention; it is the opinion of this meeting that said Convention of Fellows have not said powers, agreeable to the act of incorporation of the Medical Society;



and that the delegates of this county give information of this vote to the adjourned convention to be held at Hartford on the 16th day of May.'

"A reflective *panacea*, however, seems speedily to have suppressed the tendency to a development of the affection in the minds of those originally affected, while that of inheritance has, in some cases, proved obdurate and irremediable. It would appear from the following vote that the above was dictated rather by a constructive view of the act of incorporation as regards taxation, than of hostility to the principle. At a meeting of the County Society in 1796, it was voted, 'That the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society in legal convention, shall have full power to levy taxes on themselves, not exceeding one dollar on each member per annum.' Also it was voted, 'That the President and Fellows of said Society, in convention, shall have ample power to impose such pecuniary penalties on the members of said society, for a transgression of their *By-Laws*, as may be deemed necessary for the well ordering of said society, not exceeding the sum of \$50.' It was also voted, 'That it is the wish of this meeting that the General Assembly be solicited by General Convention to absolve the members of the Medical Society of the State of Connecticut, from paying the moneys taxed for the support of the civil list; provided the like sum be yearly taxed, and collected, and appropriated for the sole purpose of diffusing medical knowledge,—voted, that the above vote be transmitted to the medical convention.' A vote similar to the above was repeated in 1798; but what action resulted, if any, does not appear.

"The following Preamble and Resolution, passed in 1794, exhibit a zeal in Fairfield County Society, for the cultivation and diffusion of medical knowledge, among its members, worthy of imitation by the present members of all medical societies,—viz., 'Whereas the material end, use, and design of the Medical Society of Connecticut was to diffuse and cultivate medical knowledge among the faculty; and as this noble purpose cannot be answered in any way so well as by the members mutually disclosing anything that occurs to their minds that may be in any way useful, either in the theory or practice of medicine—Resolved, that it shall be the duty of every member of this Medical Society to exhibit, at least once in two years, to the society, a dissertation on some medical subject, or relate an account of some cases in the course of his practice that may be marked with most peculiarities, together with his remarks thereon. Resolved, That if any member shall refuse to comply with the foregoing resolution, he shall be considered as guilty of neglect of duty to this society and to mankind in general.' Though the requirements of the above resolution were probably not realized to its full extent, yet the records of the society and present experience prove that, through written and oral communication, elicited by the association, much has been effected in the dissemination of individual experience and observation among its members.

"By means of adequate police regulations, originally adopted and occasionally modified to meet existing emergencies, a salutary reformation has been effected of the unsocial habits formerly characterizing professional intercourse. Indeed, at the present time, such is the degree of professional comity generally observed by the physicians of Fairfield County, that even private complaints are rarely heard of its breach in the ordinary intercourse of neighboring physicians.

"It will probably be claimed by repudiators of medical societies that the improved condition of medical science is a necessary sequence of the advanced state of general literature characterizing the period; and that the improved moral and social habits of the profession have been the natural result of the superior refinement of modern society compared with that of preceding eras. While it is conceded that the cultivation of science tends to refine the taste, and to strengthen the honorable feelings of the few who are its devotees, yet it may admit of question whether, as regards the '*utile in modo*,' in the present age of activity of the selfish passions and propensities, society can justly boast a marked superiority of the social and honorable accomplishments over those of the past century.

"But to what cause, it may pertinently be asked, has medical science and the social improvements of the profession been indebted, more than to the efforts of its members which have originated and been promulgated by the authority of the various associations of the period? It is futile to contend that the innate selfishness of some individuals in all professions can adequately be restrained, except by the force of a general public as well as professional sentiment, expressed by means of codes emanating from majorities of individuals in recognized association.

"It requires but a reference to the known tendencies of human nature to predict that should the existing system of medical association be abandoned, and the former comparatively secluded state of medical society be reintroduced, no existing refinements, whether social or scientific,

would prove adequate to sustain unharmed its present advanced position. There is reason to apprehend that our professional system, with its centric influences thus unhappily dissevered, and the affinities of interest remaining to assume their native sway over its detached and less responsible constituents, as in former periods, still contains a sufficient amount of discordant elements, not only essentially to derange its existing fraternity, but also greatly to endanger its scientific progress.

"It is therefore much to be desired that the repudiators of our medical organization, those who by their frequent interrogatory '*qui bono?*' manifestly depreciate its character and importance, both in view of the public and many of the junior members of the profession, should institute a comparison between the present and past social and scientific history of the medical profession in the State, and then decide to what causes its present improved condition is to be attributed.

"It is presumed that such candid investigation will furnish sufficient evidence to convince the most skeptical that it is through the emulation, stimulated by the fraternal intercourse of its members in the various public associations, that we have been enabled to realize the present improved moral and educational superiority of the profession over its past condition; and that it is through a continuance of the same agency that we may confidently hope for a progressive advancement of its respectability and importance in the estimation of the community far beyond its present position.

"It has been noticed that most of the respectable physicians of Fairfield County embraced with alacrity and zeal the plan of society organization. Also, the records of its society have been noticed to prove that their attention was early directed to professional improvement, by their adoption of measures for the diffusion of medical knowledge and experience among its members. A police system was also early established designed to remedy evils which had long interrupted the harmony and fraternity of the medical society in the county; an abuse indulged to such extent as not only to derogate the character and rank of the profession in the view of the community, but doubtless in many cases instead of its officiating as an agent of mercy it became rather a demon of evil to many a luckless subject whom disease had chanced to prostrate on the arena of conflict of his medical attendants.

"Indeed, such was the existing emergency that had been induced by the indulgence of empirical habits by some of its physicians, that professional contention was rendered proverbially illustrative of discords in society generally. Individual experience, whether real or assumed, was habitually vaunted with the object of beguiling the imagination of the credulous; and with many reputedly respectable physicians the art of abstracting the legitimate patients of neighboring rivals was paramount to that of healing their respective diseases. Indeed, self-interest, sought to be promoted by such dishonorable means, appeared as the object that swayed many practitioners, rather than the honorable and liberal efforts adapted to the advancement of medical science and the public health for which they professed a special regard.

"To effect a reform of this depressed state of professional character, and to advance the scientific interests of the profession, was the object of those patriots who originated and by assiduity effected the medical organization of Fairfield County. They successfully encountered the herculean task, and by the continued efforts of their successors the hydra evils so detrimental to the medical character have nearly disappeared from the field of their former influence. Those worthy pioneers now all rest from their labors, but their invaluable works remain, and it is their due that their names be held in grateful remembrance by those who have succeeded them in the same field of professional toil.

"The names of the original subscribers of Fairfield County Society, who were contemporary practitioners in the county, are the following,—viz., Asahel Fitch, Jonathan Knight, Preserve Wood, Gabriel Baldwin, Ezra Curtis, David Hull, James E. Beach, Stephen Rockwell, William Shelton, Joseph Trowbridge, James Clark, Thaddeus Betts, Thomas Davis, Elisha Belcher, James Potter, David Rogers, James Scofield, Hosea Hurlbut, Lewis Beers, Amos Mead, Jonathan Poor, Shadrach Mead, Gideon Shepard, Elijah Hawley, Oliver Bencroft, Amos Baker, Samuel Webb, John Lester, Bennett Perry, Eli Perry, Orange Benton, Benjamin Curtis, John Wood, Stephen Middlebrook, Augustin Merwin, John R. Gregory, Amos Botsford, William Beard, Daniel Beard, William Edson, Minor Higby, Gideon Beardsley.

"It would afford gratification, did the occasion admit, to bestow a particular notice of each individual whose names are appended to the foregoing list; but as this is denied, I shall select those only, who from their popular estimate as practitioners, or from their mental characteristics, enjoyed a more extensive reputation in the community in which they resided.



"As a tribute, however, due to those whom our limits forbid a more particular mention, I may generally state, that they were respectable and valued practitioners; many of their number possessing merit and qualification, as such, not inferior to others who, endowed with those fortunate characteristic traits which ever arrest popular attention, enjoyed a more extended and prominent reputation.

"Dr. James Potter resided and practiced in Sherman, originally a part of New Fairfield, a town in the northwest part of Fairfield County. According to the best information I have obtained, his native place was Southington in this State. I have not been able to learn where or how he was educated. Rev. M. Guelston, of Sherman, thinks that he most probably obtained his medical education under the instruction of his relative, Dr. Potter, formerly a physician of Wallingford. Dr. Potter appears early to have united and become a member of the New Haven County Society previous to the organization of that of his own county, and was the third president of the Connecticut Medical Society. He was probably the prime agent in the institution of that of his own county, as its records show that its first meeting was assembled by his notification. Its honors were more frequently bestowed on him than on any other individual member. As a practitioner, however, I do not learn that he possessed scientific or practical qualification superior to many of his brethren of the county. His zeal was ardent in the promotion of the interests of the profession, and to its exercise is undoubtedly to be attributed the ready acquiescence obtained from so large a portion of her physicians for the proposed county organization. The notice which Dr. Potter has obtained from my predecessor supersedes the necessity of an extended mention of his public character. Rev. M. Guelston writes regarding him, 'As a physician he was highly esteemed here and in a wide circle around. No intruder could have encroached upon his business. In the political, civil, and religious community his agency and influence was great, and his memory has been cherished by all who knew him. He was a popular teacher, and instructed many students in the science of his profession.'

"He is said to have been of social habits, and so passionately fond of angling as frequently to resort to the waters of Long Island Sound—a distance of twenty or thirty miles from his place of residence—to indulge his favorite recreation. Of his personal appearance a friend writes: 'He was of a grave and venerable appearance, being one of the last who wore the small-clothes and triangular (or Puritan) hat, dressing his tall figure with neatness and elegance. He was of a companionable temperament, and celebrated for telling anecdotes.' He died Feb. 10, 1804, aged sixty-seven years.

"Dr. Gideon Shepard was a practitioner and native of Newtown. I have learned that he studied medicine with Dr. Thomas, a professional predecessor in his native town, who is said to have been a reputable practitioner. I suspect that the early acquirements of Dr. Shepard were not extensive; but if such was the fact, he eminently compensated for the defect by an habitual devotion to the science of medicine and its observant application to the diseases which he treated. My early impressions of the doctor are, that he devoted greater attention to the occurring improvements in medical science than most of his contemporary brethren.

"Although not endowed with extraordinary intellectual powers, his talents were respectable and of a character calculated for usefulness rather than display or striking originality. If he did not attain eminence as a professional scholar, he was diligent in his efforts to acquire such portions of existing medical literature as were more immediately adapted to the emergencies of practice ordinarily presented to the notice of physicians. To his juniors in the profession, Dr. Shepard's deportment was ever urbane, and his counsels to them disinterested and parental. His professional coevals in neighboring towns generally conceded to him a precedence as a consulting physician. The following vote from the records of Fairfield Medical Society sufficiently evince the estimation in which he was held by his brethren:

"*Voted*, That Dr. Gideon Shepard receive the patronage of this society in consumption and chronic cases of disease, and that it be the duty of all members of this society to recommend him when counsel is deemed expedient, etc., and that it be his duty to report all cases of that description to which he may be called to attend, with their particular symptoms, the particular medicines, and the constitution of the several patients, together with the predispositions of their ancestry.'

"Although the existing generation of physicians may smile at such blending of professional opinion with popular belief regarding excellence of the skill of individuals in special classes of disease, yet the fact is undoubted that such were professional concessions as late as the close of the last and commencement of the present century. His mode of treatment of consumption, as I learn from his statement of cases left on the records

of the society, was not peculiar, being in general mildly antiphlogistic and similar to the present treatment of phthisis. To meet occurring symptoms, local bleeding, counter-irritants, with anodyne and demulcent expectorants, were his general prescriptions.

"Dr. Shepard was somewhat eccentric in character, but social, instructive, and agreeable in his intercourse with society. In his religious sentiments he was a zealous Sandemanian. He ever sustained a reputation of great moral purity; and while he was highly esteemed by his friends, his enemies or traducers were rarely found. What few physicians can boast, he was the father of seventeen children; thereby practically refuting the possible charge that, while enjoying the profits of a special branch of his profession as a prompt accessory in the accumulation of responsibilities on his friends, he was cautious in the assumption of similar burdens on himself.

"He is said to have been of an extremely charitable disposition and indulgent as to his pecuniary claims upon his poorer patients. This disposition, with the necessary demands for the support of his numerous family, ever kept him poor, though not indigent, as regarded a respectable living. Dr. Shepard was one of the most prominent of the originators and supporters of the Fairfield County Medical Society, and the records of this convention will show that he was one of its most frequent and active members. He died a few years since at Hunter, N. Y., where he resided with one of his daughters, when incapacitated from age for the practice of his profession, at the advanced period of eighty-nine years.

"Dr. Bennett Perry was a contemporary practitioner with Dr. Shepard in Newtown. He was a son of Dr. Nath. Perry, of Woodbury, a highly respectable physician of that town. The son probably acquired his profession with his father, when he located in Newtown, where he practiced medicine until his death, which occurred in 1821, aged sixty-six years. His reputation is that of a physician possessing superior talents, well developed by education, and an able, respectable, and highly accomplished practitioner and citizen.

"Dr. John Lester was, I have understood, a native of Massachusetts. He studied medicine with Dr. Nath. Perry, of Woodbury, who it would appear was among the most prominent medical teachers of the period. He commenced practice at the age of twenty-one, about 1789, at Huntington. Dr. Lester was one of the most respectable physicians of the county, and an active and efficient member of its medical society, in the organization of which he sustained a prominent part. His death occurred in 1802, aged about thirty-five years.

"Dr. William Shelton was a native of Huntington, a graduate of Yale College in 1788. He pursued his medical studies, I am informed, in part with Dr. Eneas Munson, and was for a time under the instruction of Dr. William Agur Tomlinson, of Stratford. He first located and practiced in Trumbull, but on the decease of Dr. Lester he removed to his native town, where he continued its principal physician until his death. Dr. Shelton was a talented, skillful, and most respected physician. He was an influential pioneer in the county society organization, and ever continued one of its principal supporters. He was the father of Drs. William Shelton, of Stratford, and James H. Shelton, of Huntington. He died in 1819, aged fifty-two years.

"Dr. David Hull was a native of the town of Derby. He was the son of — Hull, a resident of that town, and brother of Gen. Hull of Detroit notoriety. He was also uncle to Com. Isaac Hull of the navy. He graduated at Yale College in 1785, and studied medicine with Dr. Titus Hull, of Bethlehem, a proprietary of the celebrated 'Hull's Physic.' He located and practiced his profession in Fairfield, where he continued a highly respectable and respected physician until his death, a period of nearly half a century. He enjoyed an extensive practice not only in Fairfield, but, especially in cases of colic, in the adjacent towns, where he was often called as a consulting physician. Dr. Hull acquired from his preceptor, who I believe was a distant relative, a knowledge of the composition of 'Hull's Physic' in consideration of his name. The composition of this nostrum was a secret which its inventor allowed to be imparted but to those of his name, and to those but with the condition that such only as enjoyed the family cognomen were to be admitted as candidates for a reception of the concealed treasure. Such was the position of Dr. David Hull in relation to this celebrated nostrum, for which he encountered the censorious remarks of his medical brethren abroad and not unfrequently those of his own county, who were less familiar with the unostentatious mode in which he employed it.

"In justice to the professional memory of Dr. Hull, and in vindication of a friend whom I much esteemed, I am happy in being able to state, from personal knowledge, that without proclaiming the specific virtues of the pills in the cure of colic, on which disease its popularity was based, or in any degree adopting the mode of nostrum proprietors in an-



nouncing their bantlings for public attention, he unpretendingly employed them in his practice as a favorite laxative in that as well as various other diseases in which he deemed them appropriate, simply under the denomination of his *Aloetic pill*. He was from its origin and ever continued a member of the county society, notwithstanding the existence of its stringent *by-laws* and the known detestation of empiricism which actuated its most prominent members. The tolerance which Dr. Hull experienced from his contemporary brethren under such circumstances might be deemed adequate evidence of their estimate of his character as a respected and honorable member of the county society; but in addition the following vote on the society record exhibits positive proof that he was recognized as a valued and esteemed member, whose influence it was deemed desirable to secure and retain for the promotion of the object for which it was organized. Voted, 'that a committee be appointed to call on Dr. David Hull and inform him that by paying his taxes in arrears he will be considered an honorable member of this society without inquiry into the secret of the composition of *Hull's Physic*.' A committee of three of the most respectable members were, in accordance with the above vote, appointed, and Dr. Hull remained a most esteemed member of the society until his death, which occurred in 1834, aged sixty-eight years.

"I am indebted to the politeness of Professor Knight for the following notice of physicians who practiced in Norwalk, his native town.

"Dr. Knight, in reply to a communication on the subject, states, 'The oldest physician whom I knew and the only one of any distinction, when my father settled there, was Thaddeus Betts, M.D. He was, I believe, a native of the town, a graduate of Yale College in 1745, one of the original members of the Connecticut Medical Society, and received from it the degree of M.D. at an early period of its existence. He died in 1807. He was a man of great excellence of character, well informed in his profession, and a judicious practitioner. I think he made no pretensions to surgery. I recollect him as a cheerful, pleasant old gentleman, abounding in wit, and instructive in his conversation.

"My father, Dr. Jonathan Knight, was born in Lisbon, then a part of Norwich, Conn., Jan. 10, 1758. He studied medicine with Dr. Ladd, a physician of that neighborhood. In 1776 or 1777 he entered the army, and was surgeon's mate of the Connecticut Regiment, under the command of Col. Durkee or Durgee. He was with the troops under Gen. Washington at Valley Forge during that most dispiriting period of the war. He left the army in 1780, and settled in Norwalk in 1781-82. For many years he was actively and extensively engaged in practice, principally as a physician, in that and the neighboring towns. He continued in the performance of the active duties of his profession until they were diminished by advancing years and increasing infirmities. He died March, 1829, in the seventy-second year of his age.'

"I would add to the above statement of Dr. Knight that Dr. T. Betts was the grandfather of Hon. Thaddeus Betts, late of the United States Senate. Dr. Knight, besides the esteemed writer of the above, had another son, Dr. James Knight, who located and practiced in Stamford, but died in early life, about the period 1818. Drs. Betts and Knight were among the most prominent and influential members who aided in the establishment and were zealous supporters of the Fairfield County Medical Society.

"Among the most eminent physicians of Fairfield County was Dr. Hosea Hurlbut, of Greenfield Hill. He was a native of Berlin, Conn., and son of Samuel Hurlbut, of that town. He commenced the study of medicine with his celebrated and eccentric uncle, Dr. James Hurlbut, of Wethersfield. He was for a time a student in the office of Dr. Wolcott, of Litchfield, the elder Governor of that name. While there he numbered among his intimate associates Judge Reeve, Aaron Burr, John Allen, and Oliver Wolcott, Jr. Even among such intellectual associates he is said to have sustained a distinguished part, through the exercise of a marked original genius, a ready scintillating wit, and interesting conversational powers. He subsequently commenced practice in the upper part of Middletown, from which place, after a short residence, he removed to Greenfield, in the town of Fairfield, where he resided until his decease, distinguished alike as a physician and man of generally cultivated and rare genius.

"Dr. Hurlbut possessed a high sense of the dignity of his profession, and ever abhorred duplicity in all its forms. He despised alike the medical empiric, the legal pettifogger, and the small politician, who seldom failed to receive and sensibly to writhe under the castigation of his pungent shafts of witticism, by which, with acute aim, he rarely failed to mark his victim.

"In addition to his familiarity with the medical literature of the day, his attention was so far given to belles-lettres science that, with the aid of a remarkably retentive memory, many of the classic poets, as Milton,

Dryden, Pope, Young, and Johnson, he was accustomed to repeat nearly entire from memory.

"The doctor himself possessed a rare poetic genius, which, however, was more employed in aid of occasions inviting the exercise of his masculine satirical powers than in the ordinary gentle effusions of the Muses. He rarely permitted the publication of his poetic pieces. One, however, entitled 'The Quack,' directed against the charlatanism of a professional neighbor, he published anonymously, with scathful effect upon its unlucky victim.

"Such was the retentiveness of his memory, however, that most of his poetic compositions he could readily repeat. Several of these I have heard him recite, which in poetic gracefulness even surpassed, while the pungency of their satire was not inferior to, that of Peter Pindar or McFingal.

"Among the many anecdotes which might be adduced to show the doctor's instant wit and ready application of quotation, the following is pertinent. Being in a company of attorneys, one of the number, with the design to rally a repartee, asked the doctor why perpetual unbrotherly feuds were so characteristic of the members of the medical profession, at the same time boastingly remarking, 'Not so with us lawyers; we ever live in neighborly harmony, quarrels hardly being known to exist among us.' Says the doctor promptly, in the language of Milton,—

"Devil with devil damned,  
Firm concord holds. Men only disagree,  
Of creatures rational,' etc.

"As a physician, Dr. Hurlbut was doubtless far in advance of the generality of his contemporaries. His views of the treatment of diseases approximated more to modern practice than the overdrugging which characterized the era in which he practiced his profession. He was opposed to *polypharmacy*, and ever directed his treatment with a view to aid the salutary efforts of the economy in its struggles against diseased action, rather than embarrass them by the burdensome influences of a great variety and excess of prescription. The chief object which he ever kept in view was a diet and regimen adapted to the condition of his patient, and the exhibition of such medicines as existing symptoms appeared to indicate. It was his marked disapprobation of the contrary practice pursued by most of his neighboring brethren, in connection with the pointedly expressed disgust of the petty arts practiced for procuring patients, which drew upon him an excess of their hostility, and caused him to be frequently denounced by them, as a cynic inimical to the interests of the profession.

"Dr. Hurlbut possessed a remarkably fine personal appearance. His form was commanding, dignified, and graceful. In conversation, his language was chaste and select. Vulgarisms, whether in sentiment or expression, met his frowning rebuke; and all acts of a mean and dishonorable character, which were subjects of his observation, ever met the flaying force of his satirical lash. He was scrupulously neat in his person and temperate in his habits. He was a regular reader and admirer of the Bible, and a firm believer in the truths of Christianity. He died April 25, 1825, aged eighty years, leaving a reputation that will long survive him throughout the community in which he lived.

"Being a neighbor and friend to the doctor in the early period of my professional life, I had the fortune of attending him in his last illness. An anecdote occurred at that time well illustrative of his character and of the force of the ruling passion in death. The disease which terminated his life was a paroxysmal and extremely painful affection of the stomach, of an obscure nature. For several days he retained an unclouded intellect. During the intermissions of the painful attacks he was as usual social and communicative. Being sensible of his approaching end, and having been for a long period on unsocial terms with Dr. Hull, he expressed the commendable wish for an interview for the purpose of a reconciliation. Dr. Hull readily reciprocated the feeling, and an amicable adjustment was the result. During the interview, in the absence of his painful paroxysm, the doctor's favorite topic of medicine happened to be the subject of conversation; and '*Hull's Colic Pills*,' which the invalid ever held in sneering contempt, became the object of a jocose rally upon his recent friend. Dr. Hull, prudently judging that the reconciliation might be hazarded by attempting defense, suffered the pleasantry to proceed till the embarrassment of his situation elicited the response, 'Yes, doctor, those pills are a favorite hobby of mine'—'which thousands have rode to death!' was continuously supplied by the patient.

"Dr. Asahel Fitch was one of the early physicians of Redding, and is remembered in Fairfield County as a worthy man and one of its most respectable practitioners of medicine. He was among the principal pioneers in the formation of the County Society, but died soon after its or-



ganization. His death occurred in 1792, or about that period. I understand that he was the grandfather of Professor Knight, of Yale College.

"Among the physicians of Fairfield County who enjoyed a long and successful practice was Dr. Thomas Davis of Redding. He was a native of Washington, Litchfield Co. He commenced the study of medicine at the age of sixteen with Dr. Seth Hastings, of that town, a physician somewhat distinguished, I am informed, as a medical teacher. Dr. Davis, previous to the attainment of his majority, was admitted as a partner to the extensive practice of his preceptor. He subsequently removed and practiced medicine for a period in Sherman, in Fairfield County. In 1793, on the decease of Dr. Fitch, he removed to Redding, where he continued in the duties of his profession till his death, which occurred in 1831.

"Dr. Davis possesses the reputation of being among the first of the physicians of the county who assumed regularly obstetrical duties; and so successful were his labors that he became particularly eminent in that department. It is asserted of him that during the long period of his practice he never lost a parturient patient.

"The doctor being summoned as an important witness to appear before the court in Fairfield, and not appearing, the sheriff was sent to compel his attendance. Being absent, and learning on his return that the officer was awaiting at a public-house in the vicinity, he, without notice to the official, rode to Fairfield and appeared before the court. On the question occurring with the court regarding the costs attending the *capias*, he requested one or two of his legal friends to excuse his delinquency. The judge decided, notwithstanding, that the law must be observed and that the doctor must bear the expenses. Dr. Davis then requested a hearing in his own behalf, which being granted, remarked, 'May it please the court, I am a good citizen of the State, and since I was summoned to attend this court I have introduced three other good citizens into it.' The court replied that for so good a plea he would leave the parties to pay the expenses. The doctor received the congratulations of the bar for his successful defense.

"The following anecdote, as connected with another subject embraced in these biographical sketches, and also with a historical event occurring in this convention, I will take the liberty to relate:

"Dr. James Potter, of New Fairfield, when on his way to our annual convention, at which he was to deliver an address, called and spent a night with his friend Dr. Davis. The orator being elated with his anticipated exhibition, and several of his acquaintances, among whom was a County Court judge, calling on him in the evening, they united with his host in persuading him to rehearse before them his grandiloquent speech. After the family and domestics, including an African, had been summoned, with the view numerically to multiply the audience, the doctor, with oratorical pomp, mounted the rostrum (which being a large armed chair), and delighted himself and auditory by its rehearsal.

"The chair thus rendered memorable has been presented to a member of the medical society. Rev. Thomas F. Davis, one of our most respectable divines, is the only male descendant of Dr. Davis.

"The subject to which I have directed your attention has led to a retrospect into the darker eras of our professional history, when both physicians and the public enjoyed few of the advantages of mental culture that now exist. Credulity and ignorance, fostered by knavery, there appear as the prominent agents in misguiding the public mind in its estimate of medical science and the object and importance of its cultivation, as well as to lead it essentially to underestimate the character and object of the profession directing its legitimate administration.

"The undiminished influence which credulity still exerts over the public mind, in the present comparatively enlightened period, affords no small evidence in favor of the position, that it is an innate propensity, holding a no less important relation to the mind than that of one of its elementary constituents, which will probably manifest its activity in every condition of society, whatever may be the advantages enjoyed for its discipline and cultivation.

"In such view of the origin of credulity, it is true that the apprehension can but be indulged, that in some form of manifestation, it will long continue to counteract the teachings of reason and experience, and thus ever prove an obstacle that will be likely to obstruct our profession, in its efforts for the advancement of the sanative interests of the community.

"The hope, however, may be entertained, that among the many improvements of the age, such a system of culture for the mind will ultimately be devised, that its several faculties may be taught to act in their appropriate spheres, and a healthy rationality be substituted for the morbid excrecences of reason which impostors in science originate and cherish, with the object of accomplishing their detestable designs. It is

those who, at the present time, no less than formerly, distract the opinion which the public attempt to form regarding the value and importance of medical science, as well as that of theology and general spiritual agency.

"The professions of medicine and theology, as embracing within their confines a larger amount of perplexing and indefinite mysteries, the one of the organic, the other of the spiritual world, have ever been the prolific source whence impostors in science derive the aliment indispensable for the germination and growth of their baleful progeny of errors which distract and mislead public sentiment in its estimate of their respective merits. The professions of law and the common arts enjoy a comparative exemption for the reason that their principles are based upon sensible observation, and therefore are more readily comprehended and defined by the ordinary powers of sense and reason, which most persons possess. It is true that the offspring of evils which afflict the respective professions of medicine and theology are diversified in their forms, those of each being moulded by the varied aliment which they respectively supply; yet they are the product of an analogous germ of mental origin, and it is therefore undoubted that through the same remedy, a salutary inculcation of truth to the minds of the affected, the malady of each (if eradicable) is to be suppressed.

"It is manifest, therefore, that any efforts having reference to the suppression of evils flowing from credulity, that afflict the several professions, must be directed against the genus rather than the particular species or variety which each presents. The mental fountain must be clarified before the Protean errors which it emanates can be corrected. It is futile for the profession of medicine or theology, or even the political reformer, to attempt singly to combat the impostor or fanatic in the varied form which he assumes in their respective departments. He can alone successfully be encountered by the more rational of all the professions unitedly instructing the affected in a judicious exercise of their senses and reason, and the rejection of all such appeals made to their imagination, which are unsustained by evidence derived from these generally safe guides and faithful monitors.

"It would appear that evils thus identical in their character and origin ought to inspire a mutuality of interest in the suffering professions for their eradication. It is, however, a fact much to be regretted, that, whilst the influence of medical science, and generally the efforts of physicians, have been applied to counteract the common maladies originating from credulity, they have not received corresponding aid from the clerical profession, their joint sufferer from the evil. While the latter has been strenuous in its attempts to suppress the impostor and fanatic in religion, a large portion of its members have too frequently supplied their influence in aid of the quack in medicine, in his adventures for fortune upon the health and lives of the credulous in the community.

"It is a matter of regret that men of education and influence like these, who by their profession hold the exalted position of moral and religious instructors and conservators, should thus unintentionally be made instrumental in furtherance of the basely selfish designs of the knave and impostor in medicine. The explanation of the *phenomenon* may possibly be derived from the fact that their minds, through habits acquired in their investigation of the revealed mysteries of theology, and the habitual assent which they are accustomed to bestow, on evidence supplied by faith, upon the important truths which their profession requires them to teach, are more prone than others of equal mental discipline and understanding to yield their credence to the pretended marvelous revelations of the quack; especially when such are assumed as results of unwearying investigation into the mysteries embraced in the laws of organic structure, and its concomitant, the vital principle.

"I am gratified, however, in expressing my conviction, that far the larger portion of the more intelligent and influential of this most respectable and useful body of our fellow-citizens are in no degree chargeable with this error of judgment regarding the merits of the medical profession, of which we complain. These have ever bestowed their individual influence in sustaining the claims which it holds upon the community for a just appreciation of its labors in its behalf. Could their powerful influence be made available in their several public bodies, the hordes of empiricism would be weakened in their most important intrenchments, and the lesser positions to which they would be compelled to resort would curtail their ability of inflicting the evils in which they have too long and too successfully revelled.

"I would therefore close this address, already extended beyond the limits originally designed, by the suggestion for your consideration, whether, by instituting officially joint measures (could such be effected) between clerical and medical public associations in reference to the emergency arising from the evils through which both are sufferers, they



might not be essentially lessened, if not eradicated. Could such concerted action be effected, it is rational to hope, nay it is morally certain, that their united influence would effect much in the correction of public sentiment in its erroneous views of the obscurities which the science of each embraces. By a salutary discipline thus forcibly inculcated, there can be no doubt that the success of the impostor, both in religion and medicine, would be materially checked and his influence curtailed, if not eradicated.

"Although the views suggested may be deemed too Utopian for human nature with its existing structure, yet permit me to express the belief, that by judiciously directed concurrent efforts of the two professions, aided by the intelligent of all classes, the hydra would be effectually suppressed, and its influence, hitherto so detrimental to the advancement of useful science and the public welfare, would be enfeebled and powerless, by thus exhausting the aliment required to sustain its growth.

"In retiring from this presidential seat which you have successively assigned me, accept, gentlemen, my thanks for the honor you have conferred, and for your indulgence of the imperfect ability which I am conscious of having displayed in the discharge of its responsible duties. During the period of my occupancy of this station, and a long previous experience as a member of this convention, it has been my good fortune uniformly to witness a manifestation of a most harmonious and fraternal feeling among its members, amid all the discussions of the various subjects of legislation that have been submitted to its action. While in most deliberative bodies party or sectional interests are too prone to originate unsocial passion, and to excite angry debate, no such exhibition has here been indulged. On the contrary, a unity of purpose, directed solely to the advancement of the medical profession in respectability and usefulness, has ever signally appeared as the actuating principle governing each of its members.

"Permit me, gentlemen, to express the hope that the same benevolent object will ever direct the deliberations of all your future convocations; and also my convictions that a continuance of the same course of prudent legislation, that has characterized the past, will not fail progressively to elevate the character of the medical profession of Connecticut, to a position unsurpassed by that of its brethren of other communities, or of either of the learned professions, and where it may survey unconcerned the puny assaults of a reckless empiricism, which will, doubtless, long be sustained with the hope of inviting a novel-loving public to contribute aid for the promotion of its interest and aggrandizement.

"I cannot, gentlemen, in justice to my feelings, close without expressing the deep sense with which I am impressed by the recent event which has deprived the medical profession of several of its shining ornaments, as well as this society of two of its most active, respectable, and efficient members.

"I presume that, in common with myself, there are members of this body who anticipated a cordial and friendly greeting with our esteemed friends and colleagues, who have now retired from all earthly scenes, but whom a few days since we had apparent reason to believe little short of a grave providential dispensation would be likely to deprive us of their presence. Their visages in our hall of convocation have been, heretofore, nearly as familiar as its fixtures by which we are surrounded, and there are recollections thus made vivid, which are peculiarly calculated to add deeper poignancy to the event which we doubtless all in common deplore.

"From the one, Dr. Samuel Beach,\* selected at our last annual meeting as Dissertator, we had the apparent good reason to expect an interesting and instructive communication. But in this our hopes are annihilated, and it is becoming in us devoutly to submit to the act of superior wisdom which has interposed and frustrated our cherished expectations. Of the character of Dr. Beach as a citizen, a physician, and friend, I cannot refrain from the remark that, during a long experience of friendly and intimate intercourse, I have ever found him uniform in the exercise of the qualities of an honest man, a gentleman, and a philanthropist; while as a member of the Medical Society and profession, it is no disparagement to any of its members to say that in zeal for the promotion of their interests and prosperity he was surpassed by none.

"Of Dr. Archibald Welch, surrounded as I am by his friends and neighboring brethren, and in consequence of the position which he has long held in this Convention as a member, as having fulfilled various official duties in its connection, including those of the occupancy of the

chair, my attempt at his eulogy is rendered unnecessary. Personally, however, I am inclined to state that during an acquaintance of more than a quarter of a century, I have uniformly had occasion to admire his characteristic urbanity and gentlemanly deportment, and for a number of years, being officially associated with him in the discharge of public professional duties, I have experienced the benefits of his valuable friendship and more intimate social intercourse. Generally, I do not hesitate to add that as an example of zeal for the furtherance of the interests of the profession he has left no superior.

"But an afflictive Providence has interposed and the cherished hopes of future interviews with me, and with you, are thus abruptly terminated. It only remains therefore for us to emulate the worthy example which may be derived from the lives of the individuals whose career on earth has been so suddenly arrested.

"While, then, in common with their families and numerous circles of friends, we deplore the loss inflicted by the awful event, let us professionally improve the admonition, that the guardians of life are, alike with their charge, subject to the various forms of death which their vocation calls upon them to combat; and that on separating at the close of our annual convocations, no eye but that of an inscrutable Providence can designate those from our number, whose lineaments will cease to animate us in future assemblages, but in the reminiscence inspired by their virtues which survive them."

To Maj. L. N. Middlebrook, commissioner in bankruptcy for Fairfield County, the grandson of one of its "original subscribers" referred to by Dr. Blakeman, one whom it was his intention to memorialize in his address, I am indebted for the following sketches of three members of the Middlebrook family:

STEPHEN MIDDLEBROOK, M.D., a son of Stephen Middlebrook, a Revolutionary patriot and one of the Revolutionary Committee of Safety in Fairfield County, was born Dec. 8, 1755, in the parish of North Stratford, in the then town of Stratford, but now the village of Long Hill, town of Trumbull. He received his medical education, as was not unusually the custom in those days, through a due course of study and practice with other physicians of the county, being admitted to full practice on examination by, and a certificate of qualification from, a standing committee of reputable physicians constituted for that purpose, these being the only facilities available in Connecticut at that early day for instruction in and admission to the medical profession. His classical studies were pursued in part under the private tuition of the celebrated William Samuel Johnson, LL.D., of Stratford, and in part in the academical institutions of the county,—among others the academy at Easton. He established himself in his native town, and became one of the most successful practitioners of his day in this and the adjoining counties, accumulating therefrom what was regarded as a large fortune in those times. He manifested his love for the profession by training two of his three sons to the same honorable calling. He filled many positions of honor and trust in his town and county. He died Dec. 18, 1819, and is buried in the cemetery at Long Hill, Trumbull.

So great was his love for his chosen profession that he endeavored to have his three sons—Elijah, Stephen, and Robert—follow the path in which he had walked so long. He was only two-thirds successful, Robert rebelling and spending his life in farming. Elijah was one of those referred to by Dr. Blakeman in his address,—a master-spirit of the profession, by

\* Dr. Beach was a victim of the accident on the New York and New Haven Railroad disaster at the Norwalk Bridge. He practiced in Bridgeport.







Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*David H. Nash, M.D.*

whose unremitted labors in his era of professional history the improvements in the profession were effected.

ELIJAH MIDDLEBROOK, M.D., eldest son of Dr. Stephen Middlebrook and Amer Beach Middlebrook, daughter of Elijah Beach, of Trumbull, an officer of the Revolutionary army, was born at Long Hill, now in the town of Trumbull, Oct. 20, 1785. He pursued his medical studies with his father, and was licensed to practice medicine by the Connecticut Medical Society in 1811. He afterwards took a further two years' course of instruction in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City, and graduated from that institution in 1813. He thereupon entered active practice in his native town in company with his father, and was an active practitioner for forty-five years, meeting with great success. He died Jan. 2, 1859, and is buried in the cemetery at Long Hill. For fifty-four years he edited and published annually his celebrated "Middlebrook's New England Almanac,"—a period of editorial labor, as devoted by the same individual to the same publication, believed to be wellnigh without a parallel in the history of periodical literature. He was fitted for this special work under the private tuition of Prof. Nehemiah Strong, of Yale College. He was among the most genial of men and an enthusiast in his profession. He always strove to elevate and dignify his calling, and was an active and zealous laborer in the various national and State organizations instituted to that end, always being present at their meetings. His name appears oftener than any other on the records of the Fairfield County Medical Society. He filled many civil and political offices of honor and trust. He was elected president of the Connecticut Medical Society in 1841, re-elected in 1842, and resigned the office in 1843. He was the first representative of the Fairfield County Medical Society to the National Medical Society.

Some idea of the extent of his practice may be formed when we know that his powers of curing were considered as almost infallible. So much was he sought that he regularly employed two or three younger physicians to assist him, making them proxies. One of them asserts that the average business done by himself alone while thus employed averaged three hundred dollars per month.

The following relic is left of the business-like way of his dealings. It is a bill of Dr. Hulbert's, of Fairfield, one of the "original subscribers," and explains itself:

"Israel Hawley to Hosea Hulbert, Dr.

"(at the request of Dr. Middlebrooks).

"1801, Sept. To Visit and Consultation with sd Doctor for your Son.. \$1

"Recd the above Am<sup>t</sup> of Dr. Middlebrook.

"HOSEA HULBERT."

The many subscribers to "Middlebrook's New England Almanac" will be more interested in this receipt from Prof. Nehemiah Strong:

"Received of Elijah Middlebrooks nine shillings in Part of 36 Shillings Due to me for instructing him in Astronomy 12 weeks at 3s. per week.

"Received by me,

"NEHEMIAH STRONG.

"BRIDGEPORT, DECEMBER, 8th, 1804."

On the opposite side of the slip is the acknowledgment of the remainder:

"DEC<sup>r</sup>. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1804.

"Received twenty-seven shillings of Mr. Stephen Middle Brooks, which with the Nine Shillings I received on the other side is the whole of my demands for Teaching his Son in the Science of Astronomy.

"per me NEH. STRONG."

Professor Strong is buried in the old ground at Stratfield, near the entrance.

STEPHEN MIDDLEBROOK, M.D., another son of Dr. Stephen Middlebrook, first above named, was born in Long Hill, town of Trumbull, then in the town of Stratford. He was located by his father in the town of Monroe at Edwards' Four Corners, and there practiced medicine for about twenty-five years, and although a very skillful and popular physician, yet having a strong aversion to the discomforts necessarily incident to an active practice, he retired from the profession in middle life, and passed the remainder of his days in leisure, in his native village, where he died Oct. 18, 1850, aged fifty-four years, and was buried in the cemetery in Long Hill.

THE HOMŒOPATHY practice is also worthily represented in Fairfield County. The practitioners of this school are William B. Beebe, B. F. Bronson, L. H. Norton, Charles E. Sanford, and L. M. Benedict, Bridgeport; W. E. Bulkley, S. Penfield, and A. Griffin, Danbury; James H. Brush and L. P. Jones, Greenwich; Theodore Roberts and Eli Acker, New Canaan; G. S. Comstock and Dexter Hitchcock, Norwalk; Chauncey M. Ayres, George F. Foote, and J. F. Griffin, Stamford; G. W. Collard, of Stratford.

ECLECTIC PHYSICIANS, J. W. King, T. A. Shattuck, J. D. S. Smith, Joseph Fanyon, Bridgeport; E. A. Brown, Danbury; Cooke, C. C., New Canaan; Henry L. Malloy, Sherman; George W. Rubey, of Westport.

BOTANICAL, H. M. Richardson, Bridgeport.

INDIAN, G. C. Richards, of Danbury.

DAVID HULL NASH.—It is always a pleasure for the historian to place upon his pages passing incidents in the life of one who has devoted his life-study to the advancement of a noble profession and to the amelioration of the human race. Such a one is Dr. David Hull Nash, the subject of this sketch. He was born on Greenfield Hill, in this county, March 21, 1811, and is the son of Dr. W. B. Nash and Rutha M. Elliott, daughter of the sterling old patriot, Andrew Elliott, who was pastor of the Congregational Church of Fairfield when the town was burned by the British in 1779.\*

Dr. W. B. Nash was born in Westport, Conn., and

\* See History of Fairfield.



commenced practice in Greenfield, and from there removed to Fairfield and formed a copartnership with the late David Hull. Here he remained until 1825, when he came to Bridgeport, and continued in practice until his death, which occurred Dec. 9, 1872, in the eighty-seventh year of his age.

David H. was educated at the Fairfield Academy and in the schools of this city, and commenced the study of his profession in the office of his father, who was then in active practice. He subsequently continued his studies under the instruction of Eli and N. B. Ives, leading physicians in the city of New Haven. He also attended medical college at New Haven, from which he graduated in 1834. In the following year, 1835, he commenced practice with his father, under the firm-name of William B. Nash & Son, which partnership continued until July 1, 1853, when he associated with him Dr. Robert Hubbard. The firm of Nash & Hubbard existed until Jan. 1, 1871, since which time he has continued in the practice alone. Hence it will be seen that Dr. Nash has been in the active practice of his profession for nearly half a century.

He has always taken a lively interest in every measure tending to advance the interest of the profession generally, and is a member of the county, State, and United States medical societies.

Politically, Dr. Nash is a Republican, and an earnest advocate of the principles of that party. He was previously a Whig. Religiously, the doctor is a Congregationalist, and a member of the North Church, in this city.

Jan. 6, 1836, he united in marriage with Susan E., daughter of the late Jesse Sterling, and their family consists of Andrew Eliot and Jesse S., both of whom reside in Bridgeport. The eldest son, William S., is deceased.

Dr. Nash has a large and lucrative practice, and ranks among the leading physicians in the State. Although now nearly seventy years of age, he retains in a remarkable degree the vigor and elasticity of youth, and daily may be seen visiting his numerous patients, his interest never waning in that noble profession to which he has devoted a long and active career.

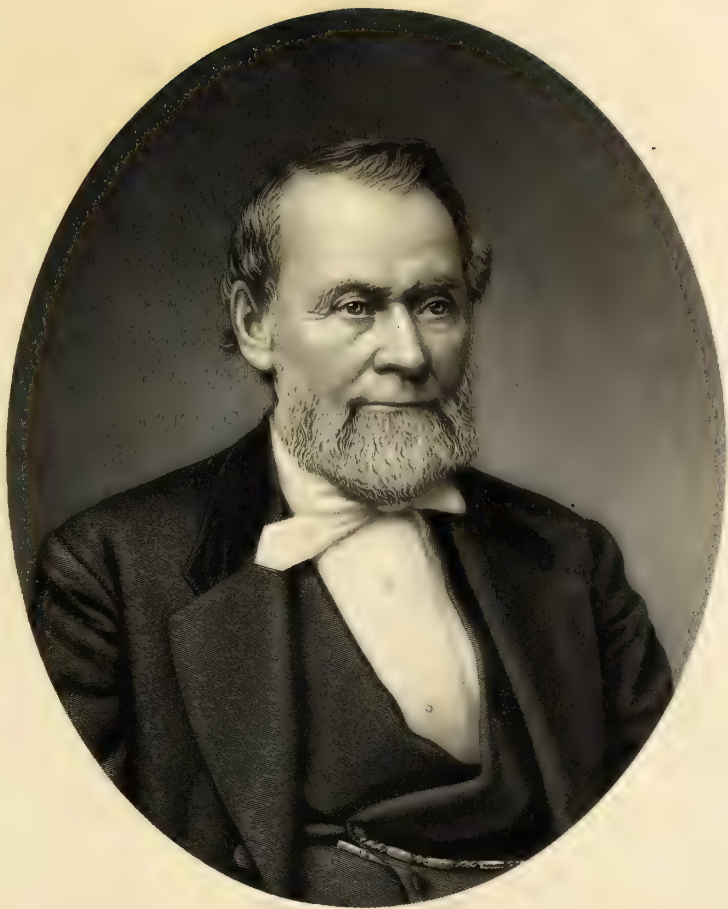
AMBROSE BEARDSLEY, M.D.—The subject of this sketch was born in the town of Monroe, Oct. 23, 1811. His father, Elihu Beardsley, a thrifty farmer of his native town, was a descendant of William Beardsley, one of the first settlers of Stratford, in Fairfield Co., Conn. The Beardsley family were for many years very numerous in Monroe, where they wielded a good deal of influence in the affairs of the town. Ambrose had three brothers; one of whom—to wit, the Rev. E. E. Beardsley, D.D., LL.D.—is an author of considerable eminence in matters of church history. Agar Beardsley is a farmer upon the homestead land, while Rufus, the fourth of the sons, is dead. There were also two girls in the family, both of whom are still living.

Ambrose, the subject of this sketch, "roughed it" on the farm until he was sixteen, when having, by an industrious economy of time and his naturally studious habits, fitted himself for school-teaching, he, at this early age, tried the hazardous experiment of playing the schoolmaster to his late companions in his native town, and with such success that he was engaged for several successive seasons in the neighboring town of Redding. When, at length, he decided to abandon the birch and the ferule, he had by odds and ends, in one way and another, managed to pick up a considerable knowledge of the classics (though with little or no instruction, for, in the days of our fathers, "book-larnin'" for farmers' sons was not held in high esteem), and becoming convinced that his pathway of life did not lie in the trail of the plow, he chose for his profession the study and the practice of medicine. Accordingly, after following a course of study under the eminent Dr. Willard Parker, now of New York, he entered the Pittsfield Medical College, where, in December, 1834, he graduated with the first honors of his class. Locating in Newtown, Conn., he practiced in his profession successfully until September, 1836, when he accepted an invitation to locate in the then infant village of Birmingham, in the town of Derby, where he has ever since devoted his time and his talents—of which he has many—to the sick and the suffering for many miles around, almost revered by many and greatly beloved by all. Courteous and affable in his manners, prepossessing in his personal presence, Dr. Beardsley has won for himself an enviable reputation as a physician and surgeon.

Not only has he been prominent in his profession, but our now venerable friend has filled many official positions in his adopted town. For twenty-five consecutive years he was the treasurer of the town of Derby; for four years president of the Derby Savings Bank; nine years warden of the borough of Birmingham; besides many other minor offices of profit and trust, all of which positions he has ever occupied with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the people, as is evidenced by the fact that when nominated for any office in the gift of the people "the old doctor" is never beaten.

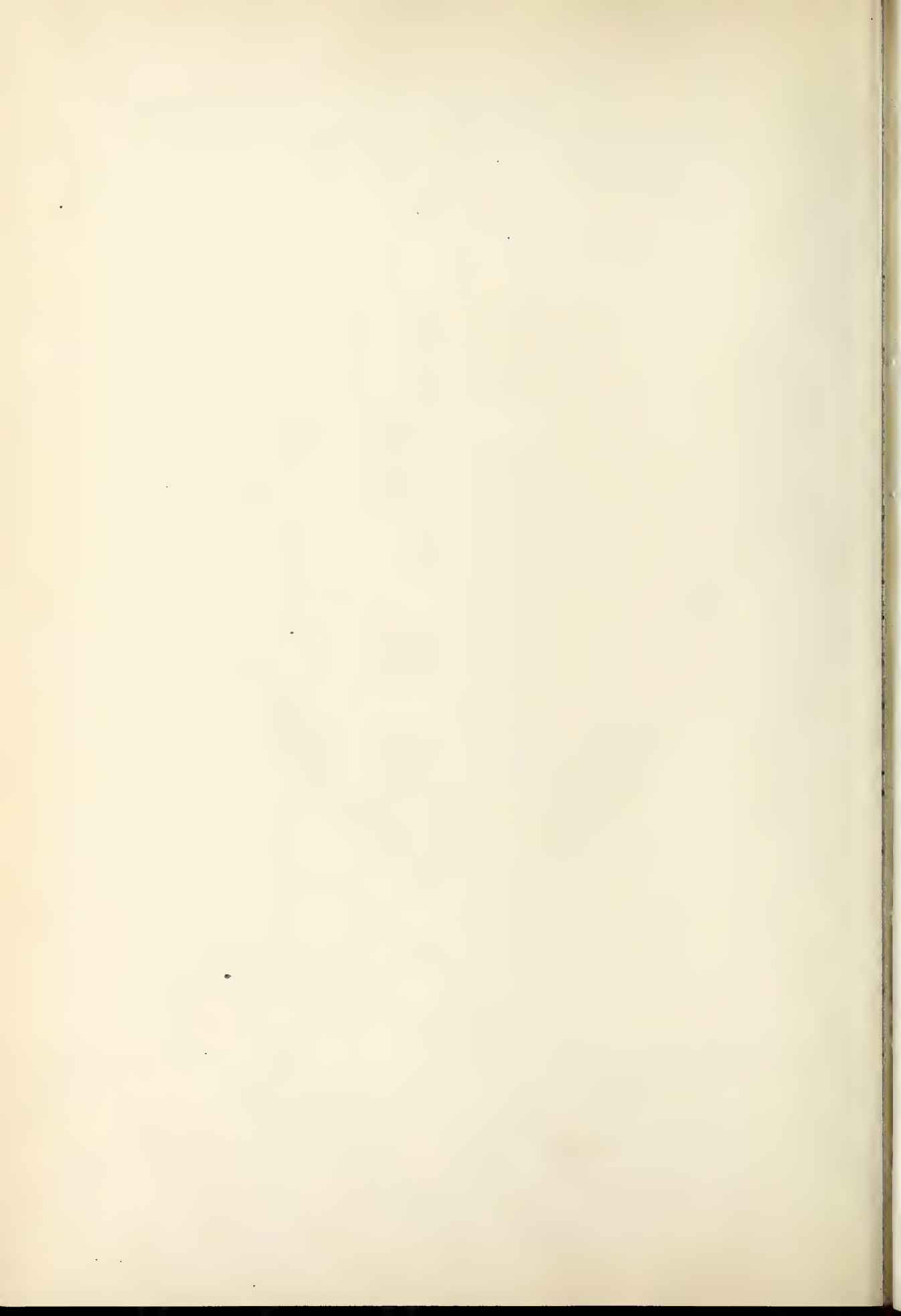
Dr. Beardsley, early in life, was fond of debate and controversy, and, being a young man of bright abilities, he was always foremost in lyceum debates, etc., and it is to this sort of training that he attributes his success as a fluent speaker, as he unquestionably is upon almost any topic that he chooses to take up. Upon almost every public occasion within the last forty-four years in Derby, Dr. Beardsley has been a conspicuous actor and speaker. Within the limits of the town there is no man living who has delivered so many orations, lectures, and impromptu addresses as he, and always to the acceptance and gratification of his audience.

Always too much in love with his profession and too faithful to his patients to engage in State politics,



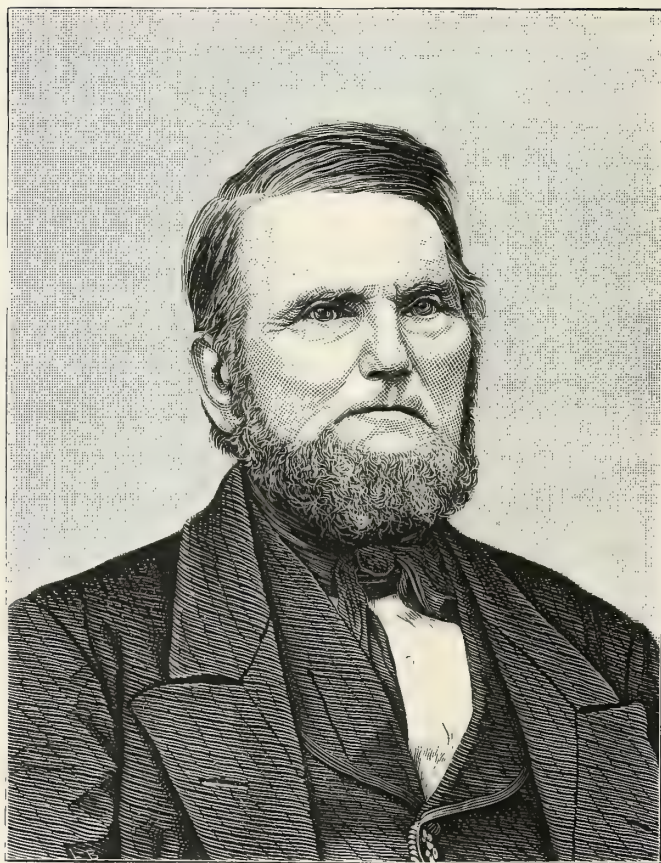
*Ambrose Pringle M.D.*











*E P Bennett*

he has yet at home been prominent as a Republican (though never a candidate for *outside* honors, which he might easily have obtained had he so desired), up to the nomination of Horace Greeley, when, with that noble philosopher and excellent American, he "went West," politically, from which journey and its effects he seems not to have sufficiently recovered to enable him to again take part, to any great extent, in local politics. During the late civil war Dr. Beardsley was ever an ardent Unionist, contributing often far above his means to the support of the soldiers in the field. In 18— he was married to Mary Bassett, the daughter of Samuel Bassett, Esq., late of Seymour, Conn., by whom he had two children, one of whom, Capt. A. E. Beardsley,—still living,—was a brave and a valuable soldier in the "Twentieth Connecticut." The other, Mary, wife of Dr. T. B. Jewett, is now deceased.

The doctor is a fluent and graceful writer, as is evidenced by the pages of the History of Derby, lately published, of which he was a co-editor and the leading writer, to whom the book is largely indebted for its spice, vivacity, and local historical interest. The History of Derby will doubtless be regarded through many coming years, by generations yet to come, with affectionate interest as the crowning sheaf in the life-work of a wise counselor, a skilled physician, a kind, affectionate husband and father, a friend of humanity, and an honest man. Judged by his works, it can truthfully be said of him that, while of worse men there are many, yet of better men there are few. As a physician his services were as accessible to the poor as to the rich, the question of probable reward never being considered to deter from or prompt to the most arduous service.

Public-spirited and upright in his daily walk and conversation, Dr. Beardsley has won for himself an enviable name in the community where nearly half a century ago he pitched his tent, and went forth to enjoy, in the words of Goldsmith, "the luxtry of doing good." A Fairfield County boy, he well deserves this place of honor in its history.

If to renown we give the soldier's name  
Who swings the sword for country or for fame,  
If he who saves, and not who doth destroy,  
Before his Maker bath the best employ,  
Then should we write our village doctor's name  
High on the scroll of that undying fame  
Which crumbles not within the burial-shroud  
Nor waits the fickle plaudit of the crowd.

With tender hand the fainting one to save,  
To starve the sexton, and to foil the grave;  
To lift the shadow from the palace-door,  
Or smooth the pillow of the dying poor;  
By pleasant word to cheer the heart of woe,  
Where Beardsley went but few are found to go.  
What matter, then, if lofty stone or low  
Shall lift above the ashes of his rest?  
When we no more the kindly face shall know,  
Its mem'ry still shall fill the grateful breast,  
And best who knew shall cherish it the best.

Courage, O youth! Though fortune thee disown,  
Like Beardsley, snatch the laurel and the crown

Of that great manhood which—tho' sometimes wrong—  
Ends at the last with this triumphant song:  
"He fought the fight, and ever, till he slept,  
'Twixt man and man the faith he kept."

J. W. S.

EZRA P. BENNETT, M.D., one of the oldest physicians in the State, and one of the most widely known in this portion of it, has been in active practice in Danbury nearly fifty-three years. Like many other men who have become eminent in various avocations, his early days, spent on a farm, gave no promise of his future career. He was born in Weston, Conn., Aug. 31, 1806, the fourth of a family of seven. His father, Ezra Bennett, was descended from a Scotch family of the name that settled in Connecticut several generations earlier. The ancestors of his mother, Esther Godfrey, came from England.

The opportunities for obtaining an education in his native town were very meagre, but such as they were he made diligent use of them. According to the customs of rural communities he attended school in the winter and worked on the farm in summer, and up to his fifteenth year he enjoyed no other educational privileges. Even the newspaper, which has become such a universal medium of instruction, was then hardly circulated outside of the larger towns.

After leaving the public school young Bennett was able to attend a private school for two winters under the charge of a college graduate, where he succeeded in slightly enlarging his knowledge of the common branches and picking up a smattering of Latin. Thus equipped, at the age of seventeen he taught school in Weston during a winter term and the following summer in Redding. However small the wages for this latter service may have been, he has had reason for congratulation for one of its results, for during that auspicious season he met her who afterwards became his wife, and has been his faithful coadjutor for more than half a century.

When he was fourteen an injury to the knee, sustained in wrestling, incapacitated him for efficient work on the farm, and obliged him to seek employment more in accordance with his tastes. He entered the office of Dr. Charles Gorham, of Redding, paying in part for the privilege by making himself useful in doing chores. In 1826 the young student spent eight months in the medical school at Pittsfield, Mass. The next year, after a term of the same length, he was graduated a doctor of medicine.

With a fair education gained under such adverse circumstances and an indomitable spirit he began at once, in January, 1828, to practice in Bethel, then a part of the town of Danbury, and entered upon a struggle that proved long and severe. His worldly goods and professional equipments consisted of what books he could conveniently carry under his arm, a pocket-case of surgical instruments, a horse and saddle, a meagre wardrobe, and ten dollars in cash. He had thus no abundance of means to support him while he built up a practice, nor had he influential friends



to open the way for him, but was entirely dependent on the knowledge and skill which increased with years, and on boldness and energy that have never failed him. During the ten years of his sojourn in Bethel he managed to lay aside about fifty dollars a year. The economy that secured this result was rigid, for in the early part of that period he added to his earthly possessions a wife, a dwelling, and barn. If the helpmeet did not come from his side, like the primeval woman from her husband, the real estate did come from his head and hands, the product of their cunning and industry.

June 24, 1829, he was married to Sarah Maria, daughter of Billy Comstock, Esq., of Redding.

Dr. Bennett's career in Bethel was as successful as its narrow sphere rendered possible, but when, in 1838, an opening encouraged him to remove to Danbury, he gladly improved the opportunity of entering on broader usefulness. He purchased the place on Deer Hill which has since been his home. Here his practice steadily increased, giving him all he could attend to even in ordinary circumstances. From the first he has been especially interested in surgery, and there he has won his fairest laurels. Beginning with the simple task of trephining he has performed operations worthy of the most eminent men in the profession. He was the pioneer in Connecticut in operating for ovarian tumor, vesico-vaginal fistula, and club-foot. He has performed lithotomy by the lateral method nine times successfully, save one, which was undertaken against overwhelming chances. Seven of his nine cases of ovariectomy have succeeded perfectly. His other capital operations have been numerous. He has tied the subclavian artery once and the femoral artery four times. The boldness and skill of his operations have given him a deserved place of honor in the minds of those who have been familiar with them, both in and out of the profession.

The necessity of rapid manipulation was a prerequisite to success before the discovery of anæsthetics, and the rapidity with which Dr. Bennett worked was perfectly wonderful. He once amputated a thigh in thirty seconds, according to the testimony of bystanders, who timed him accurately, his celerity in operating being due, doubtless, in a measure, to the fact that he is ambidextrous. In 1850 he made a trip to England, with his two boys, to consult Dr. Marshall Hall respecting the health of one of them. He was absent, however, but a few months.

In a sketch of this kind, necessarily brief, it is impossible to do justice to the personal and professional characteristics of a man like Dr. Bennett. Moulded largely by the circumstances of his early-life struggles, which developed boldness, independence, and obstinate determination, he has made firm friends, and by his intelligence and skill has won respect even from enemies. A man that has his own way to make in the world, and makes it successfully, naturally feels some degree of self-complacency, and cannot be

blamed for reviewing his career with considerable satisfaction. Dr. Bennett has done what he undertook, and done it well. How many have done less! In the course of his professional career he has met in consultation some of the most eminent physicians in the country, and they have invariably admired his talents and respected his opinions. He has always been remarkably quick and sure in his diagnosis, seeming at times to have an almost intuitive perception of disease, and his hand is still as steady in operating as it was fifty years ago, nor has he lost the zest of early ambition in his favorite department of surgery.

He has kept abreast the age in his profession, and his library, of a few books carried under the arm, has grown to contain all the works of authors of standing, and occupies two sides of a long room from floor to ceiling. June 24, 1879, the doctor celebrated his golden wedding. It was an enjoyable, impromptu affair, arranged during a ride the doctor was induced to take, at which many of the friends were present, and not the least pleasant feature of which was the presentation to him of a gold watch and chain, in a happy speech by Deacon E. T. Hoyt. The watch was inscribed as follows: "Dr. E. P. Bennett from his friends, in recognition of the faithfulness and skill with which, as surgeon and physician, he has long served them and honored his profession."

In 1875, Dr. Bennett was appointed one of the trustees of the State Lunatic Hospital for four years, and reappointed in 1879.

The doctor's children have been three: William Comstock and Andrew Comstock, twins, and Sarah L. One of the twins, Andrew, in the interest of whose health the trip to England was made, died on the return voyage. The surviving son, William, attended school at New Haven and Northampton, Mass., entered Yale College, and was graduated with the class of 1858. He received the degree of M.D. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in March, 1860; practiced medicine with his father until July, 1861, when he entered the army as assistant surgeon Fifth Connecticut Volunteers; afterwards surgeon of the regiment. Resigning this position, he received an appointment from the United States as surgeon of volunteers; was assigned to the Twentieth Army Corps as medical inspector, serving on the staffs of Slocum, Hooker, and Williams, successively. He was in the Army of the Shenandoah, Potomac, Cumberland, and Georgia, accompanying Sherman in his march to the sea. March, 1865, he was mustered out of service and returned to Danbury, where he has since practiced in company with his father.

The daughter, Sarah L., was married July 19, 1871, to Rev. John H. Lockwood, of Troy, N. Y., a descendant of several of the old families of Danbury. He was for two years after their marriage pastor of the Reformed Church of Canastota, N. Y. In 1873 he assumed the pastorate of the New England Con-



gregational Church of Brooklyn, where he remained six years; went thence to Westfield, Mass., as pastor of the First Congregational Church,—a position he still occupies. They have one child, William Andrew.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Fairfield County Agricultural Society purchased the grounds and held their fair on the present location in Norwalk, 1867, with the following officers: Jonathan Camp, President; Charles E. Plumb, Secretary.

The following is a list of the presidents and secretaries from 1868 to the present time:

1868-71.—Jonathan Camp, President; Charles E. Plumb, Secretary.

1872-73.—Dudley P. Ely, President; Charles E. Plumb, Secretary.

1874.—Dudley P. Ely, President; W. D. Gregory, Secretary.

1875-76.—John P. Beatty, President; W. D. Gregory, Secretary.

1877-80.—J. E. Wheeler, President; W. D. Gregory, Secretary.

In 1875 the society was reorganized under a charter from the Legislature as a joint-stock company, with a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars, divided into fifteen hundred shares of twenty dollars each.

The grounds of the society are beautifully located on the line of the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad, and contain about thirty acres, a good half-mile track, and a fine building containing about fifteen thousand square feet of floor-surface, capable of holding and affording perfect protection to all articles offered for competition or exhibition; also a large number of suitable stalls and yards for stock. The commodious permanent buildings erected on the grounds afford protection and provide unexcelled facilities for the proper classification of all articles sent for exhibition and competition.

## CHAPTER IV.

### MILITARY HISTORY.

First Regiment—The Third Regiment—The Fifth Regiment—The Sixth Regiment—The Seventh Regiment—The Eighth Regiment—The Ninth Regiment—The Tenth Regiment—The Twelfth Regiment—The Thirteenth Regiment—The Fourteenth Regiment—The Twenty-third Regiment—The Twenty-eighth Regiment—The Second Light Battery—The First Cavalry—The Seventeenth Regiment.

THE lightning had scarcely flashed the intelligence to the expectant North that Maj. Anderson and his gallant band had surrendered as prisoners of war to the Southern Confederacy ere the patriotic sons of Fairfield were rallying to the support of their imperiled country. Men and money were promptly raised, and the record of the county during the whole

struggle is one of which her citizens may justly feel a patriotic pride.

#### THE FIRST REGIMENT.

The first regiment which was raised in the State of Connecticut for the service of the United States in the late Rebellion was known as the First Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, and was recruited mainly from the volunteer militia, to serve three months. Company E was recruited from Danbury, and Company K from Bridgeport. Rifle Company B also had a number of men from Bridgeport.

The field- and staff-officers were as follows: Colonel, Daniel Tyler; lieutenant-colonel, George S. Burnham; major, John L. Chatfield; quartermaster, Justin Hodge; adjutant, Theodore C. Bacon; surgeon, Henry P. Stearns; surgeon's mate, F. L. Dibble; chaplain, George N. Webber; sergeant-major, John L. Spalding; quartermaster-sergeant, I. V. B. Williams; drum-major, William J. Skinner; hospital steward, Joseph Colton.

The officers of Company E, the Danbury company, were as follows: Captain, Eliakim E. Wildman; first lieutenant, Jesse D. Stevens; second lieutenant, John W. Bussing.

Company K, the Bridgeport company, was officered as follows: Captain, Richard Fitzgibbons; first lieutenant, Henry M. Hoyt; second lieutenant, William A. Lee.

The regiment was mustered into the service, seven hundred and eighty strong, April 24, 1861, and on the 9th of the following May left New Haven for the seat of war. It was armed with Sharp's rifles and Springfield muskets. It was the first regiment which ascended the Potomac. Upon arriving at the front it went into camp at Falls Church, where it remained until July 21st, when it was ordered to Bull Run, and participated in that disastrous and memorable struggle. Col. Tyler having been promoted to be a brigadier-general, the regiment, in this its baptism of fire, was commanded by Col. Burnham. During this contest, which resulted so disastrously to the Union forces, the regiment marched and countermarched until four o'clock P.M., being much of the time under severe fire. The First retreated to Centreville, having lost only eight wounded and nine captured. After a brief halt at Centreville it returned to camp, where it remained several days, and was then, its term of service having expired, sent North and mustered out at New Haven, July 3, 1861.

#### THE THIRD REGIMENT.

The Third Regiment was raised in Norwalk, Bridgeport, New Haven, Danbury, New Fairfield, Hartford, Meriden, Norwich, and Stamford. It embraced five rifle and four infantry companies, and was mustered into the service, seven hundred and fifty strong, May 14, 1861, for three months, with the following field- and staff-officers: Colonel, John Arnold; lieutenant-colonel, Allen G. Brady; major, Alexander Warner;

adjutant, Frederick J. Peck; quartermaster, Richard E. Holcomb; surgeon, John McGregor; assistant surgeon, Mathew C. Newton; sergeant-major, William E. Brady; quartermaster-sergeant, J. H. Alexander; drum-major, L. B. Farren; fife-major, William R. Miller; chaplain, Junius M. Willey (enlisted June 14th).

The line-officers were as follows:

*Company A.*—Captain, Douglass Fowler; first lieutenant, Gilbert Bogart; second lieutenant, Stephen D. Byxbee.

*Company B.*—Captain, Daniel Klein; first lieutenant, William K. Schmitt; second lieutenant, Charles Rose.

*Company C.*—Captain, James E. Moore; first lieutenant, Samuel G. Bailey; second lieutenant, Charles H. Hoyt.

*Company D.*—Captain, Frederick Frye; first lieutenant, S. H. Gray; second lieutenant, Elliot M. Curtis.

*Rifle Company A.*—Captain, George N. Lewis; first lieutenant, John Brennan; second lieutenant, L. S. Bolles.

*Rifle Company B.*—Captain, Jared R. Cook; first lieutenant, —; second lieutenant, A. S. Cowdry.

*Rifle Company C.*—Captain, S. J. Root; first lieutenant, L. C. Allen; second lieutenant, J. S. A. Baker.

*Rifle Company D.*—Captain, Edward Harland; first lieutenant, C. W. Spalding; second lieutenant, William W. Barnes.

*Rifle Company E.*—Captain, J. A. Nelson; first lieutenant, Henry Finnegan; second lieutenant, William Wright.

*Rifle Company F.*—Captain, Albert Stevens; first lieutenant, Wells Allis; second lieutenant, Isaac L. Hoyt.

Col. Arnold resigned before leaving the rendezvous in Hartford in consequence of ill health, and the command was given to John L. Chatfield, who enlisted May 31st, and became very popular with the regiment.

The Third left Hartford for the front May 19, 1861. Upon its arrival at Washington it went into camp at Camp Douglass, where it was put under vigorous drill until June 23d, when it was ordered to Camp Tyler, or Falls Church, where for several days it held this exposed position.

The regiment was first brigaded with the First and Second Connecticut and Eleventh Maine, July 15th, and placed under the command of Col. E. D. Keyes. On the following day Keyes' command moved forward, the Third in the advance. At Blackburn Ford they encountered Longstreet's division, and during two days the brigade held this advance post.

The Third participated in the memorable battle of Bull Run, Jan. 21, 1861, and their conduct in that disastrous field justly merited the many encomiums of praise bestowed by the commanding officers. Gen.

Keyes, in his official report, says, "The gallantry with which the Second Regiment of Maine and the Third of Connecticut Volunteers charged up the hill upon the enemy's artillery and infantry was never, in my opinion, surpassed." The Third was the last to leave the field, and it left it, not like the great mass of the Union army, in a rout, but in good order, protecting the retreating army from the victorious enemy.

Gen. Tyler said that it was these sons of Connecticut who "saved us not only a large amount of public property, but the mortification of having our standing camps fall into the hands of the enemy." In this battle Sergt. McGregor was captured, but released. The regiment had four killed, thirteen wounded, eighteen captured, and six missing. The muster out was at Hartford, Aug. 12, 1861.

#### THE FIFTH REGIMENT

was organized in the summer of 1861, and entered the service with Orris S. Ferry, of Norwalk, as colonel. He was subsequently United States senator. This regiment was originally recruited in Hartford as the First Connecticut Revolving Rifle Regiment, with Samuel Colt as colonel, but, some misunderstanding having occurred, Col. Colt's commission was revoked, and the regiment was reorganized as above.

There was only one company from Fairfield County in the regiment,—Company A,—commanded by Henry B. Stone, of Danbury, with James A. Betts as first lieutenant and William A. Daniels second lieutenant. William C. Bennett, M.D., of Danbury, was the first assistant surgeon.

The regiment participated in the following engagements: Winchester and Cedar Mountain, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Resaca, Dallas, Marietta, Peachtree Creek, Atlanta, Chesterfield Court-House, and Silver Run. Casualties: Killed, 93; died of wounds, 29; died of disease, 81. Several died in Andersonville prison. The regiment was mustered out July 19, 1865.

#### THE SIXTH REGIMENT.

The Sixth Regiment was organized in August, 1861, and in the following month was mustered into the United States service with the following field- and staff-officers: Colonel, John L. Chatfield; lieutenant-colonel, William G. Ely; major, John Speidel; adjutant, Redfield Duryee; quartermaster, I. V. B. Williams; surgeon, F. L. Dibble; first assistant surgeon, Edward Bulkley, Jr.; second assistant surgeon, R. E. Ensign; chaplain, Curtis T. Woodruff.

Fairfield County was represented in this regiment by two companies,—D, recruited in Stamford and Greenwich, and I, principally from Bridgeport, although other portions of the county were represented.

The officers of Company D were: Captain, Lorenzo Meeker; first lieutenant, Charles H. Nichols; second lieutenant, John Stottlar.

Company I was officered as follows: Captain,



Thomas Boudren; first lieutenant, Daniel J. West; second lieutenant, Stephen S. Stevens.

The regiment left New Haven September 17th, one thousand and eight strong, for the front. They remained in Washington until October 5th, when they went to Annapolis, from whence, October 25th, they embarked for South Carolina, having been assigned to the Department of the South. After the successful naval engagement of November 7th, when Forts Walker and Beauregard were captured, the honor was assigned to the Sixth and Seventh Connecticut Regiments of first landing on the enemy's soil.

In March, 1862, the regiment was sent over to Dawfuskie Island to assist in the capture of Fort Pulaski, and the following June found them in the battle of James' Island. They returned to Hilton Head, where they remained until October 21st, when the regiment joined the expedition to break up railroad communication between Charleston and Savannah, and on the following day participated in the sharp engagement at Pocotaligo, where both Col. Chatfield and Lieut.-Col. Speidel were severely wounded.

During the winter of 1862-63, the regiment remained in camp at Beaufort and Hilton Head, and March, 1863, found it in Florida, but soon returned to Hilton Head. It was soon transferred to Folly Island, and participated in the operations against Charleston and in the assault on Morris Island in July. In the second assault on Fort Wagner its gallant colonel, Chatfield, was wounded, and died in the following month. It was a gallant and well-directed assault, but the decimated ranks of the various regiments at the close of the contest told only too well of the severity of the charge.

"In the spring of 1864 the regiment went to Fortress Monroe, and May 6th proceeded into the interior, where it was engaged in reconnoissances, destruction of the enemy's railroads, and harassing their forces generally. The regiment was engaged in the charge upon and capture of the enemy's rifle-pits near Chester Station on the 20th, and in the various operations lost one hundred and fifty-seven men during the months of May and June. From this time until January, 1865, the regiment was in various operations in Southern Virginia, and took part in the several engagements before Petersburg and Richmond. It was then ordered to North Carolina, and had its last fighting at the capture of Fort Fisher. In August the regiment was mustered out at New Haven."

The regiment participated in the following engagements: James' Island, Secessionville, Pocotaligo, Jacksonville, Morris Island, Fort Wagner, Chester Station, Drury's Bluff, Deep Bottom, Bermuda Hundred, Deep Run, Deep Bottom, siege of Petersburg, Chapman's Farm, New Richmond, Newmarket Road, Darbytown Road, Charles City, Fort Fisher, and Northeast Branch of Cape Fear River.

The casualties were as follows: Killed, 42; died of

wounds, 46; died of disease, 119; missing, 23. The rolls of the regiment bore the names of 1813 men. In December, 1863, 205 re-enlisted as veterans. The regiment saw some service, and it is an honor to say, "I belonged to the Sixth Connecticut!"

#### THE SEVENTH REGIMENT

was organized in the fall of 1861, and was composed mainly of three months' men who had returned from the field during the summer. It went to the front with Alfred H. Terry as colonel and Joseph R. Hawley as lieutenant-colonel.

Fairfield County was represented by one company, —D,—commanded by Benjamin F. Skinner, of Danbury, with Joseph S. Dunning first lieutenant and Thomas Horton second lieutenant.

The regiment saw severe service, and participated in the following engagements: Fort Pulaski, James' Island, Pocotaligo, Morris Island, Fort Wagner, siege of Charleston, Olustee, Bermuda Hundred, Chester Station, Drury's Bluff, Deep Bottom, Deep Run, siege of Petersburg, Chapin's Farm, New Market Road, Darbytown Road, Charles City Road, Fort Fisher, and Wilmington. There were 1735 men in its ranks at various times. Casualties: Killed, 90; died of wounds, 44; of disease, 179; missing, 40.

#### THE EIGHTH REGIMENT.

This regiment was mustered into the service in September and October, 1861, under the command of Edward Harland, of Norwich. Fairfield County was represented by only one company,—H,—which was officered as follows: Captain, Douglass Fowler; first lieutenant, James L. Russell; second lieutenant, Thomas S. Weed; all of Norwalk. There were also a few men from this county in Company A. The first lieutenant of Company A was Henry M. Hoyt, who was subsequently promoted to captain, and at one time was in command of the regiment.\* The regiment left Connecticut Oct. 17, 1861, one thousand and twenty-seven strong, and at Annapolis, Md., was joined to Burnside's corps. "Its earliest services were in the battles of Newbern, N. C., March 14, 1862, and the siege of Fort Macon the following month. It accompanied Gen. Burnside when he was ordered to join the Army of the Potomac, and subsequently went with the corps into Maryland. At Antietam, in September, 1862, the regiment lost: Killed, one officer—Lieut. Mason Wait, of Norwich—and 33 men; wounded, 10 officers and 129 men; missing, 21 men; total, 194.

"In December the Eighth was engaged at Fredericksburg, but suffered slightly, and in February, 1863, was sent to Southeastern Virginia. In April the regiment was in the fight at Fort Hagar, Va., and remained in Virginia until January, 1864. It then

\* Maj. H. M. Hoyt is the present editor and proprietor of the Bridgeport *Morning News*.

returned to Connecticut on veteran furlough, three hundred and ten men having re-enlisted as veterans. In March it returned to its old camp near Portsmouth, Va., and after outpost- and picket-duty at Deep Creek and vicinity was in the battle at Walthall Junction, May 9th, and lost eighty men. Col. Harland having been promoted to be a brigadier-general, the regiment was at this time in command of Col. John E. Ward, who was severely wounded by a shell at the battle named. A week later the regiment participated in the engagement at Fort Darling, and on the night of the 16th returned within the fortification, the men worn out with eight days' constant warfare. In this short time the Eighth lost one-third of its fighting strength. Early in June it was engaged with the enemy at Cold Harbor, and from June 16th to August 27th in skirmishes and siege-work around Petersburg, losing heavily. The following four weeks were spent on the James River, picketing the Bermuda Hundred post, and September 27th the regiment lost seventy-three men in the storming of Battery Harrison. This was the last general engagement of the regiment, which was mustered out Dec. 12, 1865."

The regiment saw severe service, and participated in the following engagements: Newbern, Fort Macon, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Fort Hagar, Walthall Junction, Fort Darling, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Fort Harrison. There were killed, 72; died of wounds, 40; died of disease, 132; missing, 11.

#### THE NINTH REGIMENT

was mustered into the service in the fall of 1861 as the "Irish Regiment," under the command of Thomas W. Cahill, of Hartford, with Richard Fitzgibbons, of Bridgeport, lieutenant-colonel. It had one company from Bridgeport, mainly commanded by Thomas C. Coats, with R. A. Clancy first lieutenant and G. W. Morehouse second lieutenant.

Its principal engagements were Baton Rouge, Chackaloo Station, Deep Bottom, and Cedar Creek. Mustered out Aug. 3, 1865.

#### THE TENTH REGIMENT

was recruited in the fall of 1861, and mustered into the service during September and October of that year, with Charles L. Russell, of Derby, as colonel, and A. W. Drake, of Hartford, as lieutenant-colonel.

There were two companies from this county,—G, from Stamford, New Canaan, Darien, Bridgeport, Wilton, and Norwalk, and I, from Greenwich. Company G was commanded by Isaac L. Hoyt, captain, George W. Smith, first lieutenant, and Thomas Miller, second lieutenant. The officers of Company I were,—Captain, Daniel M. Mead; first lieutenant, Isaac O. Close; second lieutenant, Thomas R. Mead.

The regiment left for the seat of war in October, and was assigned to Gen. Burnside's command. The

Tenth received its baptism of fire at the battle of Roanoke Island, where it fought nobly, and its gallant colonel, Russell, was killed while leading the charge.

"A month later the regiment lost twenty-three killed and wounded in the battle of Newbern, and then had rest from close warfare until the 14th of December. It then participated in the sanguinary battle of Kingston, N. C., and lost one hundred and six officers and men, and only two days later was in another fight at Whitehall. March 28, 1863, after a winter's rest, the Tenth was in the battle of Sea-brook Island, S. C., and spent the spring, summer, and fall before Charleston. December found the regiment in Florida, where twenty-two men were lost in a fight at St. Augustine.

"In the spring of 1864 the regiment went to Virginia, and suffered the loss of all the garrison and camp equipage and regimental and company records by the sinking at Norfolk of the transport on which they were stored. Its first fight in the Virginia campaign was at Whitehall Junction, May 7th, and from this time the history of the organization shows battle after battle clear through to the surrender of Appomattox, the Tenth being 'in at the death' " (*Battle Flag Day*).

A total of 2124 was credited to the organization during its existence, embracing the original 996; recruits, 848; re-enlisted veterans, 280. Casualties: Killed in action, 57; died of wounds, 59; died of disease, 152.

The regiment sustained a very heavy loss of officers by death and otherwise. It had four colonels during its first eighteen months of service.

The Tenth participated in the following engagements: Roanoke Island, siege of Charleston and St. Augustine, Walthall Junction, Drury's Bluff, Bermuda Hundred, Strawberry Plains, Deep Bottom, Deep Run, siege of Petersburg, Laurel Hill Church, New Market Road, Darbytown Road, Johnson's Plantation, Hatcher's Run, Fort Gregg, and Appomattox Court-House.

#### THE TWELFTH REGIMENT

was organized and mustered into the service in the winter of 1861-62, with Henry C. Deming as colonel and Ledyard Colburn as lieutenant-colonel. One company was from this county, raised principally in Norwalk, Brookfield, New Canaan, Westport, Ridgeport, Danbury, Weston, and Newtown. Stephen D. Byxbee was captain, Gilbert Bogart first lieutenant, and E. H. Nearing second lieutenant.

The regiment saw severe service, and in consequence of its heavy losses, which had nearly decimated the regiment, it was reorganized in October, 1863, as the Twelfth Battalion, under command of Lieut.-Col. Lewis. Casualties: Killed, 50; died of wounds, 16; of disease, 188.

It was in the following battles: Georgia Landing, Pattersonville, Berwick, Port Hudson, Winchester,



Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek. Mustered out Aug. 12, 1865.

#### THE THIRTEENTH REGIMENT

was organized in November, 1861, and mustered into the service with Henry W. Birge as colonel, and Alexander Warner as lieutenant-colonel.

One company was enlisted from this county, of which Apollos Comstock was captain, William E. Bradley first lieutenant, and William C. Beecher second lieutenant.

The regiment enjoys the distinction of having been in the service longer than any other Connecticut organization. In January, 1864, the Thirteenth almost to a man re-enlisted. In the following December it was consolidated into five companies, called "The Veteran Battalion Thirteenth Connecticut Volunteers."

During the regiment's long service it participated in numerous hard-fought battles, a few of which are here enumerated: Georgia Landing, Irish Bend, siege of Port Hudson, Cane River, Mansura, Opequan, Winchester, and Fisher's Hill. It was mustered out April 25, 1866, and paid off May 5th following, having been in the service four years and six months.

#### THE FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.\*

The Fourteenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers, the first response of the State to President Lincoln's call for three hundred thousand more troops, was mustered into the service of the United States at Camp Foote, Hartford, Aug. 23, 1862, and two days later, with ranks one thousand and fifteen strong, under command of Col. Dwight Morris, marched through the streets of Hartford and embarked for the seat of war. All the way out its journey was a kind of triumphal progress. At each landing upon the river flags fluttered from every house, and the regiment was greeted as it passed with waving handkerchiefs, cheers, and booming of guns; upon the Sound each passing steamer or tug-boat screamed a salutation, responded to by the cheers of the troops, and in passing through New Jersey and Pennsylvania every farmer would wave his hat and hurrah as the train shot by, while the houses were gay with bunting, and at the depots men and women crowded up to shake hands with the Union volunteers.

In marching across the city at Baltimore the regiment was reviewed by Gen. Wool, of the regular army, who spoke in high terms of the soldierly bearing of the command, and sent it forward at once to the front, instead of retaining it for drill and instruction, as had been originally intended.

After remaining for a few days near Washington the Fourteenth joined the Army of the Potomac, then under command of Gen. McClellan, near Rockville, Md., Sept. 10, 1862. It marched up through

Maryland, arriving upon the battle-field at South Mountain just too late to participate in the engagement, and on Sept. 17, 1862, took part in the bloody battle of Antietam, in which the rebel forces were driven from the State. The loss of the regiment in this the first of its long series of engagements was one hundred and twenty-seven killed and wounded, and its behavior under trying circumstances was very creditable.

Three months of campaigning ensued, and then came the sanguinary battle of Fredericksburg,—a criminal waste of life upon the part of the commander of the Union army,—in which one hundred and twenty-one members of the Fourteenth were rendered *hors du combat*. The next great battle in which the regiment participated was at Chancellorsville, in May, 1863, and this was followed by the forced march through Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, and in July, 1863, by the glorious victory at Gettysburg. On the morning of the third day of this battle the Fourteenth, by a spirited charge, captured a house and barn in the enemy's front, driving out a number of rebel sharpshooters, and after setting the building on fire returned to its original line. Later in the day, in common with the rest of the Second Corps, it endured a tremendous cannonade from over a hundred rebel guns, after which followed that wonderful charge of the enemy which is thus described by a member of the regiment who was an eye-witness:

"We rose from the ground, where we had been lying, stretched our cramped limbs, and at first thought that the battle was over. But Maj. Ellis was wiser than we. 'Now,' said he, 'they mean to charge with all their infantry. Fall in, Fourteenth!' and with a little delay the men took their places in line. 'Forward, guide right!' and in another moment we were in the place left vacant by the withdrawal of the battery. Exclusive of the men deployed as skirmishers in our front, we had only about a hundred muskets; so that we were obliged, in order to fill the vacant space, to extend the line until it consisted of but a single rank. Belts were now loosened, packages of cartridges taken out and laid upon the low stone wall in front of us, so that no time might be lost in reloading, when suddenly there was a hush for a moment, and every eye was turned to the front, where we could see the rebel infantry emerging from the woods about a mile away. It took good eyesight to discover them at first, but presently they are plainly visible advancing towards us. They come nearer and nearer, and we can see their three splendid lines of battle stretching away as far as the eye can reach and advancing in unbroken order across the open plain. Skirmishers are in their front and a few officers ride in the rear, though most have dismounted, knowing that there is hot work before them. Away down upon the left a solitary battery plays upon their advancing column, and an occasional gun is fired from our ex-

\* Contributed by Maj. William B. Hincks.

treble right, but, with this exception, our batteries are silent, and their march is unopposed.

"Presently the crack of rifles is heard, and little puffs of smoke rising from the grassy field in our front show that their advance has come within range of our skirmishers. Their skirmish-line noisily replies, and still their lines of battle move steadily forward, the men carrying their guns at right shoulder shift, and the red battle-flags floating above their heads. There is no haste, no appearance of disorder, no swaying of the lines, and they give the spectator the sense of wonderful power kept in check by discipline: their advance seems as resistless as the incoming of the tide. In a few minutes our skirmishers clamber over the wall and join us. Townsend, the captain in command, had wished to collect his detachment and march it back in a compact body, but this the men did not see fit to do, so they came singly in open order, firing as they fell back.

"I thought of Bunker Hill and how our fathers repulsed the British, and wondered what would be our fortune this day. I felt no terror at all (a touch of which I had previously experienced when lying down exposed to the fire of all that artillery), only a kind of serious expectation and an anxiety for the enemy to move faster, so as to come within range of our weapons. None of our officers were at all wanting in their duty, but we were all officers this day, and passed low words of encouragement from one to another down the line. I remember telling those near me to reserve their fire, so as not to waste a shot, and to aim low, and asking them to pass the message along.

"The rebels had now approached very close; still, hardly a head could have been visible to them as we crouched behind the low stone wall. At a point about twenty rods from us their line was somewhat broken by the remaining portions of two fences that had bounded a narrow lane or farm-road which extended along our front. As they rose over the top of the first fence and sprang down into the lane, and again rose upon the top of the second, they were altogether too tempting a mark to be resisted, and, so far as I heard, without a word of command being given, a sheet of flame burst from our line. My own wish would have been to reserve our fire until they had come even nearer, but perhaps I was wrong. They still pressed on, however, for some distance, when they wavered and halted. Several of their color-bearers now advanced swiftly, apparently in obedience to previous orders, and, attended by their color-guards, planted their battle-flags in the ground, one in particular directly in front of the centre of our regiment and not ten rods away. Finding our fire too hot to be endured, these brave men threw themselves upon the ground around their flags, waiting for their comrades to advance and rally round them.

"On our part, we loaded and fired incessantly. It may seem extravagant, but it is the simple truth, that the enemy's line broke and commenced to fall back

in front of the Fourteenth sooner than anywhere else, for the reason that most of us were armed with breech-loading guns, which could be loaded and fired with great rapidity, and which did terrible execution.

"Remembering their own tactics, we no sooner saw them commence to waver than we gave a tremendous yell,—not a hurrah, but a wild, fierce cry that was taken up all down our line. We now turned our aim with fearful effect upon their second line, already disordered by the retreating fragments of the first. Ammunition coming short, we begged, borrowed, and almost fought with each other for cartridges. We continued to yell and fire simultaneously. The rebel officers vainly strove to rally their men; their ranks were soon broken; all semblance of order ceased, and what had advanced as an army began falling back as a mob. Not all at once, or rapidly, however. They still turned and fired as they retreated, and here and there made a brief stand.

"We now became conscious of the voice of Maj. Ellis crying for us to fire 'left oblique,' and turned our aim in that direction; and indeed it was time, for the regiment upon our left had been hard pressed, and had almost given way. The rebels had advanced closer to them than at any other point, and had nearly pierced their line. Just as we turned a daring Southerner leaped lightly upon one of the guns which had been left behind when the battery retired for want of horses to remove it, and waved his hat or his hand for his comrades to follow him. He did not remain there a single instant, but fell riddled through, and, owing to our cross-fire, the rebels at this point also were soon in full retreat."

In this engagement the Fourteenth captured five rebel colors belonging to the following regiments,—First Tennessee, Fourteenth Tennessee, Sixteenth North Carolina, Fifty-second North Carolina, and the Fourth Virginia. Besides these trophies, it also captured more than its own number of rebel prisoners. Its loss in the action was sixty-six out of a force of about one hundred and sixty.

Not a few excellent men—among them Captains Hawley, Doten, Goddard, and Fiske—were taken from this regiment by generals of brigade and division in the Second Corps to serve as staff-officers, but comrades of theirs equally brave remained with the command.

However culpable in its temerity, it warms one's heart to remember the exploit of Lieut.-Col. Moore, when, upon a certain occasion, as "officer of the day," he inspected the division picket-line. In full regimentals, with crimson sash crossing his breast, he stepped boldly over the parapet of "Fort Hell," before Petersburg, and, disdaining the shelter of intrenchments, walked erect down to the picket-line and began his rounds, owing his life solely to the admiration of the scores of rebel sharpshooters not two hundred yards away.

Better worthy of admiration, though, is the quiet



heroism of gallant Maj. Broatch, who, at Morton's Ford, when his right hand was shattered by a bullet, caught up his sword with his left and continued to pursue the retreating enemy, or are some of the instances given by Capt. Goddard in his graceful "Memorial of the Deceased Officers of the Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers."

Nor were such examples of courage found only among the commissioned officers. Time would fail to speak of instances like that of Sergt. Russell Glenn, thrice wounded, the last time just in the act of entering the enemy's works; or of Edwin Stroud, who amputated a part of his own shattered foot with his pocket-knife; or of the gallant fellows who, at Gettysburg and upon other fields, at the risk of their lives, ventured out under fire to relieve the sufferings of their wounded opponents.

It is impossible, also, to speak in detail here of the weary marches of the Fourteenth, or of each of its numerous engagements. Let two quotations conclude this very imperfect sketch,—the first an extract from the final official report of Col. Theodore G. Ellis, and the concluding one from a history of the regimental colors, published in connection with the exercises on "Battle-Flag Day," Sept. 17, 1879.

#### EXTRACT FROM OFFICIAL REPORT.

"It is worthy of note that this regiment, during the three years that it was in active service, was never taken away from the front. It participated in all the great battles fought by the Army of the Potomac after it went into the field in the latter part of August, 1862, until the fall of Richmond and the surrender of Lee. It has taken part in thirty-three (33) battles and skirmishes. The regiment has captured five colors and four guns from the enemy in fair fight, and more prisoners than the original number of the regiment, and at Reams' Station drew off part of McKnight's and part of the Third New Jersey Batteries, which had been left to the enemy. The actual loss in killed and wounded has been upwards of eight hundred, besides the many, counted as missing, who occupy unknown graves in the Wilderness and around Petersburg.

"In repeated instances the regimental commanders have earned and received commendation from their superior officers, but, from a feeling of modesty, have not recorded it. The character and standing of the regiment in the field was considered of the greatest importance, and little was done for reputation at home. A high state of discipline was always maintained; so that the regiment was called 'the Fourteenth Regulars,' and which obtained for it a reputation unsurpassed by any other. While under my command the regiment never, even under the hottest fire, gave way or fell back without orders, and often held its position with fixed bayonets after the ammunition was exhausted. The regimental band, which was second to none in the army, took its share of praise."

#### MEMORANDA RESPECTING THE COLORS OF THE FOURTEENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

"*Battle of Antietam.*—The staff of the United States color was shot in two by a bullet, and the eagle's head knocked off by a piece of shell. The color-bearer, Sergt. Thomas J. Mills, of New London, who had been a lieutenant in the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, was mortally wounded, when Sergt. George Augustus Foote, of Guilford, volunteered to take his place, and carried the flag the remainder of the day. Another member of the color-guard is said to have been killed in this engagement, but his name is unknown to the writer.

"*Battle of Fredericksburg.*—The regiment was badly cut up in the charge upon Marye's Heights, and Sergt. Charles E. Dart, of Rockville, who carried the State flag, was mortally wounded. Sergt. George Augustus Foote attempted to fill his place, but was shot in the leg and fell. His biographer, Capt. Goddard, says, 'After lying on the field a short time he tried to rise, but was instantly fired upon again by the rebels, wounding him slightly in the head and in the hip. All the rest of that awful day he lay still where he had fallen. Three times our men charged over him, of course trampling on his wounded leg, while he, half delirious, begged them to kill him to end his sufferings. But no one had time then to attend to one poor wounded fellow. That night he managed to crawl off to a little hut near the field, where some other wounded men had hung out a yellow flag. Here they lay with a little hard-tack, and still less water, till the third day after the fight, when they were visited by a rebel officer with a few men. He spoke roughly to them, asking what they were here for, and two or three began whining and saying they did not want to fight the South, but were drafted and obliged to come, when Foote coolly lifted his head and said, 'I came to fight rebels, and I have fought them; and if ever I get well I will come back and fight them again.' 'Bully for you,' said the officer; 'you are a boy that I like,' and at once gave him some water out of his own canteen, sent one of his men for more water, washed his leg and foot and bound it up as well as he could, paroled him, and helped him across the river to the Lacy House hospital. In fact, he and his men gave him a blanket and cheered him as the wagon drove off.'

"The State flag was picked up, not far from the famous sunken road held by the rebel infantry, by William B. Hincks and Frederick B. Doten, of Bridgeport. It remained in their keeping during the day, and they brought it safely from the field at the close of the engagement. Sergt. Dart died at St. Mary's Hospital, Washington, D. C., Jan. 6, 1863. The constitution of Sergt. (afterwards Lieut.) Foote was impaired by his wound, which was eventually the cause of his death.

"*Battle of Chancellorsville.*—Sergt. Samuel Webster, of Sprague, who carried the United States flag, was

wounded in the arm, and was afterwards transferred to the Invalid Corps.

*"Battle of Morton's Ford.*—Sergt. Amory Allen, of Hartford, bearer of the United States flag, and Corp. Robert A. Chadwick, of East Lyme, one of the color-guard, were killed in charging upon the enemy. Corp. John Hirst, of Rockville, took the flag after Sergt. Allen fell, and carried it during the remainder of the engagement.

*"Battle of Hatcher's Run.*—Corp. Henry Hospodsky, of Rockville, was wounded while acting as color-guard.

*"Battle of the Wilderness.*—On the morning of the second day's fight the brigade to which the Fourteenth belonged drove back the rebel outposts for upwards of half a mile. The enemy was then heavily reinforced, and poured in upon us perhaps the most destructive fire we ever experienced. After a severe conflict the brigade, as an organization, including the general commanding and his staff, fell back nearly or quite to the cross-roads from whence we started in the morning. The colors of the Fourteenth, however, did not fall back more than about a hundred yards, and were the only ones which were not swept away by the deadly hail. It being almost impossible to hear an order in the horrible din, the adjutant took the color-bearer by the shoulder, and, pointing to the trunk of a fallen tree, shouted for him to kneel by it. Many officers and men of the Fourteenth then rallied around the colors, together with a handful from other regiments. Other members of the Fourteenth extended the line by deploying as skirmishers and fighting from behind trees, Indian fashion. They completely checked the rebel line of battle and caused it to fall back in disorder, and 'held the fort' for several hours, until relieved by fresh troops. Corp. Charles W. Norton, of Berlin, was severely wounded at this time while guarding the flag. Later in the day, during an attack by Longstreet's corps, Corp. Henry K. Lyon, of New Haven, a brave recruit who carried the United States color, was mortally wounded. Handing the flag to Lieut.-Col. Moore, he said, 'Take it, colonel; I have done my best.' Col. Moore gave it to John Hirst, of Rockville. The regiment at this time was almost surrounded and in danger of being captured, but Sergt. Hirst brought the flag safely from the field, and carried it from that time through every battle until he safely deposited it in Hartford after the regiment was mustered out. The State color had also a narrow escape from capture at this time, its bearer having planted it in the ground while attending to his wounded comrade, Corp. Lyon; but it was saved by the promptness and courage of Sergt. Thompson. Corp. Robert Wolfe, of Waterbury, a member of the color-guard, was wounded in this engagement, and subsequently at the battle of Reams' Station.

*"Battle of Spottsylvania Court-House.*—Following is an extract from Col. Ellis' official report:

"We captured a great number of prisoners, whom

we sent to the rear in charge of Capt. Nickels. We pursued the flying enemy for about a quarter of a mile, when I found our men becoming scattered, our colors in advance of any other troops, and the fire from the enemy's second line of works becoming serious. I therefore ordered our men to fall back to the first line of works. In this line were the enemy's cannon, which were all captured. Many of these guns were turned on the enemy. Two of them were worked by men of the Fourteenth, under direction of Lieut.-Col. Moore and Lieut. Morgan. These guns were all drawn off by our men.

"The first State flag of the Fourteenth Regiment, becoming unfit for further use by reason of hard service, was sent home to Hartford in August, 1863, and its place supplied by another furnished by the State of Connecticut. This in turn, together with its companion, the United States flag, became at length very dilapidated, so that during the latter part of the war they were but seldom unfurled. Sergt. (afterwards Lieut.) Joseph F. Thompson, of Hartford, who carried the State color on many hard-fought fields, and always with credit to himself and regiment, had the good fortune to escape unwounded. Sergt. John Geatly, of Bridgeport, Corps. George C. Boomer, of Hartford, Fred. W. Beardsley, of Orange, Andrew Flood, of Chatham, and Eugene Hart, of Hartford, were among their brave defenders, with others whose names the writer regrets that he cannot now remember. From the foregoing incidents, and by reference to the official reports, it will be seen that these colors passed through not only numerous minor actions, but also some of the severest battles of the war, such as Antietam, Fredericksburg, the Wilderness, etc. They were also present at Gettysburg, when five rebel colors were captured by the Fourteenth. When the enemy had burned the bridge over the Potomac at Harper's Ferry, the men of the Fourteenth forded the river and marched up through the city with flying colors, passing the ruins of the arsenal and the engine-house where Old John Brown had stood at bay against the State of Virginia. As they marched the band played and the battalion joined in the chorus,—

"John Brown's body lies mouldering in the grave,  
His soul goes marching on!"

"The colors of the Fourteenth also witnessed the fall of Petersburg and the final surrender of Gen. Lee's army, and floated proudly upon the breeze on a certain memorable day in May, 1865, when the regiment, at the head of the Second Army Corps, marched through the city of Richmond in triumph, passing on the route Libby Prison, Castle Thunder, and Belle Island, where not a few of our men had been confined. A Union woman, rushing from the crowd, begged the color-sergeant for one of the tattered fragments of the United States flag as a relic. They were also unfurled at the grand review at Washington in



1865, and more recently on Battle-Flag Day at Hartford, Sept. 17, 1879. Many other incidents connected with their history might be narrated, and it is to be regretted that the names of some of those who fell in their immediate defense have escaped the memory of the writer. Perhaps the spirit which animated these men has never been better expressed than in the following lines by an anonymous writer in the *Atlantic Monthly*:

" "At dawn," he said, "I bid them all farewell,  
To go where bugles call and rifles gleam;"  
And with this latest thought he fell asleep  
And glided into dream.

"Before him lay a broad hot plain,  
Through it a level river slowly drawn:  
He moved with a vast host, and at its head  
Streamed banners like the dawn.

"There came a blinding flash, a deafening roar,  
And dissonant cries of terror and dismay;  
Blood trickled down the river's reedy shore,  
And with the dead he lay.

\* \* \* \* \*

"The morn broke in upon his solemn dream,  
Yet still with kindling eye,  
"Where bugles call," he said, "and rifles gleam,  
I follow though I die!"

"Wise youth! by few is glory's wreath obtained,  
But death or soon or late awaiteth all;  
To fight in freedom's cause is something gained,  
And nothing lost to fall."

#### TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.\*

The Twenty-third Regiment was recruited mainly from Bridgeport, Danbury, Waterbury, Newtown, Fairfield, Georgetown, Bethel, Naugatuck, Ansonia, Trumbull, and Watertown, during the months of August, September, and October, 1862. It was designed as a nine-months' regiment, though every man served a year, and some two years before being mustered out of service.

The companies rendezvoused at Camp Terry, Oyster Point, New Haven, early in September, where they commenced the drill, and did guard duty until the 16th of November, when they embarked on the Sound steamer "Elm City" for "Camp Buckingham," at Centreville Race Course, near Jamaica, L. I.

This regiment was under the command of Col. Charles E. L. Holmes, of Waterbury, with Charles W. Wordin, of Bridgeport, for lieutenant-colonel, and David H. Miller, of Georgetown, as major.

Camp Buckingham was a mud-hole of the worst possible description, and the Twenty-third pitched tents in a rain-storm that lasted a week.

November 30th the regiment marched twelve miles to the foot of Atlantic Street, Brooklyn, thence on board the "Che Kiang," a river steamer, totally unfit for "outside" weather; and because of being over-

loaded, after three days, Companies H and I of the Twenty-third, with one company of the Twenty-eighth and another of the Twenty-fifth Connecticut Volunteers, were transferred to the barracks at Pier 1, New York. All but these companies left New York City for the Gulf of Mexico, on the "Che Kiang," Dec. 3, 1862. The steamer was nearly swamped in a terrific storm on the night of December 5th, and the suffering on board for several days was very great. They arrived at Ship Island on the 11th.

The portion of the regiment left in barracks at New York received orders, December 12th, to go on board the ship "Windermere," while the balance were dispatched on the ship "Planter," an old hulk that was wrecked off Florida Keys. A few stragglers reached Louisiana on the ship "Alice Counce."

These divisions arrived at New Orleans at long intervals apart, and when once there were assigned to guard duty along the eighty miles of the New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad, and kept at such duty almost continuously till their term of service had expired, though they repeatedly asked that they might be relieved and sent to the front. The Twenty-third was never brigaded, but left to itself, shunned by paymasters for many months, kept a year instead of nine months in service, and its officers, most of them, confined nearly fourteen months in rebel prison-pens.

June 20, 1863, the rebels under Gen. Dick Taylor captured Terre Bonne, and on the 21st drove in the pickets of the Twenty-third at Lafourche Crossing. The same night the rebels made several attempts to capture Lafourche, but were repulsed with three hundred and seventy killed and wounded. Federal loss, thirty wounded and nine killed.

The rebels shelled Brashear City on the 23d, which being defended almost solely by convalescents was at last forced to surrender. The officers captured by Taylor were all marched to Tyler, Smith Co., Texas (Camp Ford), and held nearly fourteen months, while the men were paroled, and Aug. 9, 1863 (Sunday), at one o'clock P.M., left New Orleans on a Mississippi River steamboat, "homeward bound." They arrived at New Haven, Conn., at six A.M. August 24th, and were welcomed with military and civic honors.

#### THE TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT.

This regiment was organized Oct. 11, 1862, at New Haven, and was mustered into the United States service November 15th, with the following officers: Colonel, Samuel P. Ferris; lieutenant-colonel, Wheelock T. Batcheller; major, William B. Wescome; adjutant, Charles H. Brown; quartermaster, Milton Bradley, Jr.; chaplain, Richard Wheatley; sergeant-major, William A. Bailey; quartermaster-sergeant, Wilfred H. Mattson; commissary-sergeant, N. B. Bennett; hospital steward, William E. Bissell; surgeon, Ransom P. Lyon; first assistant surgeon, Levi S. Pease; second assistant surgeon, Henry Rockwell.

\* Contributed by Capt. Wm. H. May.

## LINE-OFFICERS.

*Company A.*—Captain, Francis R. Leeds; first lieutenant, Philip Lever; second lieutenant, F. R. Warner.

*Company B.*—Captain, Cyrus D. Jones; first lieutenant, Charles Durand; second lieutenant, Henry L. Wilmot.

*Company C.*—Captain, L. R. McDonough; first lieutenant, William M. Whitney; second lieutenant, J. C. Taylor.

*Company D.*—Captain, David D. Hoag; first lieutenant, Charles M. Booth; second lieutenant, Levi Hungerford.

*Company E.*—Captain, Charles B. Landon; first lieutenant, Joseph Bostwick; second lieutenant, Warren C. Dailey.

*Company F.*—Captain, L. B. Wheelock; first lieutenant, C. P. Newman; second lieutenant, Jabez Alford.

*Company G.*—Captain, T. L. Beckwith; first lieutenant, William Mitchell; second lieutenant, Henry Ayres.

*Company H.*—Captain, George W. Middleton; first lieutenant, James Kiley; second lieutenant, Thomas G. Bennett.

The regiment left New Haven November 18th, and proceeded to Camp Buckingham, L. I. Here it remained until the 28th, when, having been assigned to the Department of the South, it embarked on the "Che Kiang" for a Southern clime. The Twenty-third Connecticut also embarked in the same steamer, thus crowding fourteen hundred men in quarters which would comfortably accommodate about eight hundred.

The steamer weighed anchor at ten A.M., December 3d, with sealed orders, which finally assigned the regiments to Ship Island, La. During the voyage a storm arose, and for twelve hours the heavily-laden steamer battled with the angry waves which lashed in fury about it, seeming every moment to swallow it up in the awful abyss. During the night, while the storm was on, an officer sent the intelligence, "We shall never see another sunrise; the vessel cannot stand it much longer." The vessel, however, rode safely on, and the voyage was completed in safety.

December 12th the regiment disembarked on Ship Island. On the 17th it re-embarked for New Orleans, and after stopping a few hours in the city started for Camp Parapet, some seven miles up the river, where it landed and pitched tents, but was immediately ordered to re-embark for Pensacola, Fla. By eleven that night it was on board again and ready for starting. It reached Pensacola Monday morning, and stacked its arms on the Grand Plaza. On the 20th it was ordered to evacuate Pensacola and go to the Barrancas Navy-Yard, where it remained until May 20th, when it was ordered to take the steamer "Crescent" and proceed to Brashear City, La. On the 25th it was ordered to Port Hudson, and

at noon reached Springfield Landing, having now come within hearing distance of the strife of arms. Marching twelve miles towards the scene of conflict, it found itself now, by some oversight of the movement, right between the two contending armies. It fairly ran the gauntlet, escaping unharmed, and, the next day, after a march of about thirty miles, when four might have sufficed, it reached Grover's division, to which it had been assigned. Until June 3d it here suffered, as soldiers often do, for want of rest and food, when it was ordered to the front. At this time Col. Ferris was acting brigadier, with Maj. Wescome in charge of the regiment.

The regiment was now called upon to test the music of whistling balls, and there was for the present to be no more rest for it. June 4th it was ordered to be ready to go into the rifle-pits. In spite of blundering movements, Company A in advance, it at length reached the pits, where it spent the night. The next day until eight in the evening the men did their best, "firing fast and well" to harm the enemy, when they were ordered back to camp. This move was executed without loss, and the regiment next did good service in the trenches.

The regiment participated in the second assault on Port Hudson, when it lost fifty-nine killed, wounded, and missing. Among the killed were Capt. Hoag, of New Milford, and Lieut. Durand, of Stamford. This was one of the most desperate charges made during the Rebellion, but in that holocaust of fire not a man in that noble legion shrank from his duty.

After the surrender of the place the Twenty-eighth did garrison duty until the expiration of its term of service. The regiment lost,—killed, 9; died of wounds, 9; died of disease, 65. It was mustered out at New Haven, Aug. 28, 1863.

## COMPANY D, FIRST REGIMENT OF CONNECTICUT CAVALRY.\*

The First Connecticut Cavalry was first organized as a battalion of two squadrons of two companies each, the companies consisting each of three officers and seventy-six rank and file. There were also ten field and staff-officers. It was ordered by the then Governor of Connecticut, His Excellency William A. Buckingham, to be recruited, one company from each of the four congressional districts of the State. He authorized L. N. Middlebrook, Esq., of Bridgeport, then lately a major of the Connecticut militia, to recruit the company for the congressional district comprising Fairfield and Litchfield Counties, he having volunteered his services for this purpose. The recruiting of this company, afterwards designated as Company D, was commenced by Maj. Middlebrook, Oct. 4, 1861, in the city of Bridgeport, and completed Oct. 22, 1861, Mr. Middlebrook having enlisted as a private with the

\* Contributed by L. N. Middlebrook.



other recruits, and borne all the expenses of recruiting the company from his private resources.

On the last-named date he took the company into camp at Meriden, Conn., where a cavalry camp of instruction was formed under the command of Maj. Boardman, of the First Governor's Horse-Guards, of Hartford. Maj. Middlebrook was appointed captain of Company D by Governor Buckingham, his commission dating from Oct. 18, 1861; William E. Morris, of Roxbury, Conn., and Richard R. Crawford, of Bridgeport, Conn., being at the same time appointed first and second lieutenants respectively.

Upon the retirement of Maj. Boardman from command of the camp, which occurred soon after, the command of the battalion was tendered to Capt. Middlebrook, who declined to accept that position, preferring to remain with his company. On Dec. 17, 1861, Judson M. Lyon, Esq., of Woodstock, Conn., was appointed by the Governor major of the battalion, and Capt. Middlebrook was designated first captain of the First Squadron, composed of Companies B and D.

The battalion remained in camp at Meriden until Feb. 20, 1862, when it took the field in the Department of West Virginia, then under the command of Maj.-Gen. W. S. Rosecrans. The battalion, under Maj. Lyon, was soon employed in active military operations in the mountain regions of this department, among which were leading the advance of Gen. Schenck's forced march from Moorefield to the relief of Gen. Milroy, at McDowell, West Va., and the consequent battles of McDowell, May 8, and of Franklin, May 11 and 12, 1862. It was also assigned the honorable post of rear-guard in the two days' retreat upon Franklin of Gen. Schenck's and Gen. Milroy's forces before Stonewall Jackson's pursuing army.

When Gen. J. C. Fremont assumed command of the Mountain Department the battalion became thereby a part of his forces, and under Maj. Lyon was assigned the post of advance-guard of his army during the principal part of his celebrated seven days' forced march through the mountains into the Shenandoah Valley to the relief of Gen. N. P. Banks, Capt. Middlebrook commanding his own squadron and a detachment from Gen. Fremont's body-guard, and being the first to encounter the enemy, at daylight, May 28th, charging and routing their cavalry posted at Wardensville, Va., at which point the Union army was seeking to deploy from the mountain-passes into the Shenandoah Valley.

In the eight days' retreat of Stonewall Jackson up the Shenandoah Valley, which immediately succeeded, the battalion, including Company D, was daily engaged, participating, under Capt. Middlebrook, acting as its major, among other engagements, in the desperate cavalry fight at Harrisonburg, Va., June 6th, in which the Confederate cavalry general Ashby was killed, and the battles of Cross-Keys, June 8, and Port Republic, June 9, 1862.

Upon the resignation of the command of this de-

partment by Gen. Fremont, the battalion, with Company D, became a part of the forces of Maj.-Gen. Franz Sigel, commanding the First Army Corps of the Army of Virginia, under Gen. John Pope. Under this general this company, as a part of the battalion commanded by Capt. Middlebrook, acting major, participated in all the operations of the Army of Virginia in 1862, under Gen. Pope, including, among others, the battles of Cedar Mountain, Rappahannock Station, Groveton, Second Manassas, and Chantilly.

Soon after the close of the campaign under Pope, the battalion, including Company D, was relieved from active duty in the field, and assigned to duty as provost-guard, being stationed at the city of Baltimore, in the Middle Department. There it remained until Feb. 3, 1863, when it was attached to the Army of the Potomac and took the field again, having in the mean time been raised to a full regiment of twelve companies. Company D, as a part thereof, henceforth took part in all the operations of the Army of the Potomac, until Aug. 8, 1864, when it was transferred with the remainder of the regiment to the Army of the Shenandoah, under Gen. Phil Sheridan, and subsequently served under Gen. Sheridan in all the closing operations of the war, previous to and after the fall of Richmond, and was mustered out with its regiment, at Washington, D. C., Aug. 2, 1865.

This company was in many respects a remarkable company of men. With a single exception they were all of American nativity and of superior intelligence and education. As an evidence of this, it is sufficient to state that no less than seventeen commissioned officers were taken from its original ranks. Fifty-eight of its original number were enlisted from Fairfield County, of which number Bridgeport furnished thirty-one, Trumbull six, Fairfield six, Wilton five, Newtown four, Huntington three, Danbury two, and Stamford one. Of the remaining twenty-one, seven were enlisted from Litchfield County, and the balance from various places throughout the State. All of the original company but one were citizens and residents of Connecticut. The company received during its service in the field ninety-three recruits, all of whom were citizens of Connecticut, ten of them from Fairfield County, and the balance from different places throughout the State.

Among the engagements in which this company participated, in addition to those mentioned, were the battles of Spottsylvania Court-House, Hanover Court-House, Ashland, Winchester, Cedar Creek, Waynesboro', Five Forks, Harper's Farm, and very many other lesser battles, all in West Virginia and Virginia.

#### THE SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

This battery was organized in August, 1862, when the glamour of military pomp had passed away and grim-visaged war in all its horrors stood out in awful vision before the people of this country. It was com-

posed of two Bridgeport militia organizations, and was officered as follows: Captain, John W. Sterling; first lieutenants, Walter S. Hotchkiss and Philip B. Segee; second lieutenants, George Munger and Philo B. Sherman; quartermaster-sergeant, Frank H. Whiting (promoted to second lieutenant, April 1, 1864).

The battery left for the front Oct. 15, 1862, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. It was soon after assigned to the "Artillery Reserve," under Gen. R. O. Tyler, and participated in the memorable contest at Gettysburg, having three men wounded. After wearily traversing Maryland for a month the battery camped on Meridian Hill, near Washington. In August it was sent to New York during the draft troubles, and returned to Washington during December. February, 1864, found it transferred to the Department of the Gulf and stationed at Brashear City, and subsequently at Algiers, La., at Dauphin Island, Mobile Harbor. August 6th the battery took an active part in the engagement at Fort Gaines, and on the 19th in the reduction of Fort Morgan. September 8th it returned to Louisiana, and served until the following February. Then it was sent to Florida, served at Pensacola and elsewhere, and early in April was engaged with the enemy near Blakely, Ala., the 9th of the month witnessing the carrying of their works by assault. The battery soon after returned to Connecticut, and was mustered out at New Haven, Aug. 9, 1865. It lost one killed,—J. S. Mills, of Bridgeport; one died of wounds, and eighteen of disease.

#### THE FIRST REGIMENT HEAVY ARTILLERY.

This regiment was organized in the spring of 1861 as the Fourth Infantry, and after six months' service was changed to an artillery regiment of twelve companies, of one hundred and fifty men each. It was commanded by Levi Woodhouse, of Hartford, colonel, and Nelson L. White, of Danbury, lieutenant-colonel. Company M was recruited in this county, principally in Bridgeport. Uriah Wallace was captain, William H. Brown first lieutenant, and Charles W. Gleason second lieutenant.

The regiment remained in the fortifications around Washington for a short time, when, Col. Woodhouse having resigned, it was placed under the command of Gen. R. O. Tyler and entered the Peninsular campaign. This regiment had seventy-one guns in the siege-train. In November, 1862, Col. Tyler was promoted to be brigadier-general, and Capt. Henry L. Abbott was made colonel.

The regiment saw active service and participated in the following engagements: Siege of Yorktown, Hanover Court-House, Gaines' Mills, Malvern Hill, siege of Fredericksburg, before Fredericksburg (December, 1862), before Fredericksburg (April 28 to June 13, 1863), Kelley's Ford, Orange Court-House, siege of Petersburg, siege of Richmond, Fort Fisher. Casualties: Killed, 26; died of wounds, 23; died of disease, 161. It was mustered out in September, 1865.

## CHAPTER V.

### MILITARY HISTORY (Continued).

#### THE SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.\*

THE Seventeenth Regiment of Connecticut Volunteers was organized in an hour of national gloom and disaster: from the commission of its colonel to its departure for the front no bright sky rifted the war-cloud; yet the youth who filled its ranks, and the people of the county who backed them, neither quailed nor halted.

The Seventeenth was the first localized regiment of the State. It was from the start known as the Fairfield County Regiment. With few exceptions, its ranks were filled by her sons. The people of the county made it their pride and the outlet of their affection and patriotic effort.

Our War-Governor, Buckingham, at first doubted whether Fairfield County alone could put a regiment into the field as rapidly as the greed for troops at the front demanded. It was a most trying hour. The soul of the whole North, unflinching before disheartening reverses, aroused to mightier effort.

The leading men of the county, who had asked the appointment of Col. Noble, and that the regiment might be made up of her sons, quieted the Governor's doubts; they at once turned all their energies to fill its ranks at the earliest moment. Towns and individuals devoted to this their time and resources. Their liberality and energy kept full abreast of their faith in the cause of the Union.

On July 23, 1862, William H. Noble, of Bridgeport, was commissioned as the colonel of the Seventeenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers. In less than thirty days therefrom, the regiment could have marched a thousand men to the front.

Their camp was on that lovely ground now forming the larger part of the Bridgeport Seaside Park. No more healthful or readily reached ground could have been found. Sea-bathing, fresh breezes, easy access from every point, vicinity, and town, and the railroad whose lines stretched through the county and State,—all made its choice a wise forethought. Its charming position, thus so widely made known, doubtless won its choice for a park.

#### NOTICES OF INDIVIDUAL OFFICERS.

In the formation of the Seventeenth all the towns of the county were represented, though some furnished only a few members. It was officered as follows:

Colonel, William H. Noble, of Bridgeport, commanding; brevetted brigadier-general on recommendation of Gen. Grant.

Lieutenant-colonel, Charles Walter, of Bridgeport. Born in Denmark; came to America when young;

\* Contributed by Gen. William H. Noble.



private in Capt. Speidel's Company of the First Connecticut; promoted to be first lieutenant and made aide-de-camp on Gen. Tyler's staff at the battle of Bull Run, where he was captured and spent a year afterwards in the rebel prisons; on his return was made lieutenant-colonel of the Seventeenth, and was killed at Chancellorsville, May 2, 1863. He was a man of high education, civil and military, and a speaker of several languages, a fine musician, and an accomplished artist.

Major, Allen G. Brady, who had seen service as lieutenant-colonel in the three months' regiments; enlisted and brought Company B to the regiment, and was made its major; was wounded at Gettysburg and transferred to the Veteran Reserves.

Adjutant, A. H. Wilcoxson, of Norwalk, who was in the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, where he distinguished himself by coolness and daring. He was promoted to be captain of Company I, and afterwards to be lieutenant-colonel of the regiment; was mortally wounded at Dunn's Lake, Fla., and died afterwards at Tallahassee while a prisoner.

First surgeon, Dr. Robert Hubbard, then and still a distinguished physician and surgeon of Bridgeport, who was soon promoted to be acting medical director of the Eleventh Corps, which distinguished position he held till failing health compelled his resignation.

First assistant surgeon, Dr. Robert D. McEwen, of Stratford, who remained with the regiment until he resigned, on Folly Island, S. C., November, 1863.

Second assistant surgeon, Dr. Elijah Gregory, of Bridgeport, who remained with the regiment till its muster out; since deceased.

Quartermaster, First Lieut. Hanford N. Hayes, of Bridgeport, who resigned his position, July 18, 1863.

Sergeant-major, Theodore Gray, of Bridgeport; afterwards promoted to be captain of Company K.

Quartermaster-sergeant, John S. Ward, of Bridgeport; afterwards promoted to be quartermaster, and mustered out with the regiment.

Commissary-sergeant, Josiah L. Day, of Danbury; discharged for disability, March 6, 1863; succeeded by Edwin D. Hurd, of Fairfield.

Hospital steward, Jesse S. Nash, of Bridgeport; discharged for disability, Dec. 29, 1862.

Assistant adjutant, Henry W. Chatfield, of Bridgeport; afterwards promoted to be sergeant-major, and for gallant conduct at Chancellorsville, in rallying and re-forming the regiment, promoted to be adjutant, serving with distinguished gallantry at Gettysburg, and killed in action at Dunn's Lake, Fla.

Captain of Company A, Douglas Fowler, of Norwalk; a captain in the three months' service, afterwards captain in the Eighth Connecticut; promoted to be lieutenant-colonel for gallantry at Chancellorsville, and killed in first day's battle at Gettysburg.

Captain of Company B, Charles A. Hobbie, of Darien, who was wounded at Chancellorsville, captured in Florida, and imprisoned at Andersonville.

Captain of Company C, James E. Moore; a soldier of the Mexican war, and a captain in the three months' service. A faithful officer, serving with distinguished gallantry at Chancellorsville, and killed in the first day's fight at Gettysburg.

Captain of Company D, William H. Lacy, of Bridgeport; wounded at Chancellorsville, and resigned in May, 1863. He was succeeded by Lieut. William L. Hubbell, of Bridgeport, who was successively promoted to be adjutant, captain of Company D, and major of the regiment.

Captain of Company E, Henry P. Burr, of Westport; served with distinguished gallantry at Chancellorsville (where he was taken for a short time prisoner) and afterwards at Gettysburg, where, at the close of the battle, he was in command of the regiment.

Captain of Company F, Enoch Ward, of Norwalk, who raised his company in three days from nothing to one hundred and two men; resigned in March, 1863, on account of ill health. He was succeeded by Lieut. Henry Allen, of Norwalk; afterwards promoted to be major and lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, which position he held at the close of the war, his three predecessors having been killed or mortally wounded in action.

Captain of Company G, James E. Dunham, of Bridgeport; in the winter of 1862 and 1863, promoted to be provost-marshal on the staff of Gen. Devens, First Division, Eleventh Corps; badly maimed at Chancellorsville by the fall of his horse, and unable to march as captain; resigned to accept the position of captain and provost-marshal of the Fourth District of Connecticut. He was succeeded by Lieut. Wilson French, of Stratford, who was on picket at Chancellorsville with his company, and met the first onslaught of Stonewall Jackson's assault; also wounded at Gettysburg, and for a short time a prisoner; afterwards provost-marshal of the Eastern District of Florida, and then captured and taken prisoner to Andersonville.

Captain of Company H, Enos Kellogg, of New Canaan; a gallant officer; in the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, and in the trenches on Morris Island. At Volusia, Fla., with only fifty men, seventy-five miles from any other Union force, he so fortified his position, aided by Lieut. Ruggles of Company K, that he frightened off the rebel captain Dickenson with his artillery and two hundred mounted riflemen.

Captain of Company I, D. O. Benson, of Greenwich, who died early in his service at Baltimore, and was succeeded by Adjt. Wilcoxson, afterwards lieutenant-colonel.

Captain of Company K, J. J. McCarthy, of Fairfield; a very gallant officer; marked for his behavior as such at the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, and in the trenches on Morris Island; was specially selected to head any dangerous or difficult post

on picket- or skirmish-line; a bold and fearless officer; resigned at Folly Island in the winter of 1864.

The regiment had no chaplain at its organization, but the Rev. Alexander R. Thomson, D.D., of the Second Congregational Church of Bridgeport, while the regiment was in camp, filled the place of two or three chaplains, procured them a chapel tent and a library of five hundred volumes, and was most active in every work to promote the interests, spiritual and temporal, of the regiment. He would have gone out with the regiment as its chaplain could he have obtained leave of absence from his congregation; he afterwards visited them at Baltimore, and held there their first divine service and a grand temperance-meeting. The regiment, from its colonel down, reveres and loves him.

He was succeeded by the Rev. — Hall, who joined at Antioch Church, November, 1862, and continued with the regiment through the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg and until November, 1863.

#### THE REGIMENT IN THE SERVICE.

Aug. 28, 1862, the regiment was mustered into the United States service. On September 3d following it took rail for the front. A short time previous, Maj.-Gen. Franz Sigel, through Capt. Lyon, one of his staff, had asked consent of the regiment to join his Eleventh Corps. He was eager to swell his force, which then was without a Connecticut regiment. The officers of the Seventeenth gave their unanimous consent to be so assigned. When it broke camp at Seaside Park the members of the whole regiment felt, in the words of the refrain, that they should soon "fight mit Sigel."

The date of departure had been made known to the homes of the county; the friends and kindred of the regiment turned out a vast throng of anxious hearts and patriotic sympathy to say farewell. Outside of Bridgeport, whose citizens crowded *en masse*, there came thousands by rail and country road to bid adieu to brothers, fathers, and friends; there were many sad and many cheerful partings. As a whole, the soldiers were elated and hopeful. Youth, pride in such a service, and the novel duties and scenes in which they were soon to act gave the "enchantment of distance" to a life filled with hardship, danger, and death.

The regiment moved (except from New York to Amboy) from Bridgeport to Baltimore by rail, with orders to report to Gen. Wool, there commanding. It arrived in Baltimore on the next day, September 4th, about dark, and marched to the extensive railroad depot and store-shed of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, of which the colonel took possession for shelter, and refused to move until ordered by Gen. Wool.

On reporting to Gen. Wool late the night of arrival, the colonel was ordered to hold his command in readiness for orders from Washington. In the mean time

the Union men of Baltimore, anxious for their city in the face of the disasters beyond, were fearful of some sudden raids of the enemy in force. They had looked over this regiment, so conspicuously quartered in the centre of their city, and expressed flattering admiration for its make-up and bearing. They soon hinted and "guessed" that we should not be allowed to go farther, and that they wanted such a regiment there as much as anywhere. They had evidently interviewed Gen. Wool in force or visited Washington. A few days afterwards he sent down orders to the regiment to shift quarters to Fort Marshall, a temporary earthwork on high ground east of the city, commanding the city, harbor, and surrounding country. It was to act as a reserve and supporting force to a New York artillery regiment, which formed its garrison.

Our position there was in every respect irksome and distasteful. The garrison was made up of very different material from the regiment. It had been recruited in New York and Brooklyn, and was held with a very lax rein of discipline. The association was bad. Besides, Col. Belger, the post quartermaster, refused the regiment the shelter which at a post and as a reserve to garrison they had a right to demand. He paid no heed to the remonstrances of the regimental quartermaster, Lieut. Hayes, or to those of the colonel. Every military man knows that regiments in the field and in active service can stand hardships and exposures which will sicken and thin out a force in the position of ours at Fort Marshall. Men make light of all sorts of things on forced marches or in action which tell heavily upon them in the quiet camp.

Under this state of things the colonel of the regiment, out of the regular channels of communication, wrote what he intended as a private letter to Gen. Sigel, stating the annoyances suffered and the insulting rebuffs of Col. Belger, reminding him of our original purpose to join his command, and asking his aid to effect that end. It was supposed that in some way, without following the lines of red tape and those regular channels, he would find means to cut the tape and get us into the field. Nothing was heard from him or about the matter for a month.

In this state of things, about Oct. 15, 1862, Col. Noble called upon Gen. Wool to lay before him the grievances of the regiment in regard to its camp equipage and Col. Belger's neglect of our military rights. He found that venerable officer very irate. He confronted the colonel with the letter to Gen. Sigel, which had just arrived in its travels through the regular channels, with due and ample "respectful reference." Nothing that Col. Noble could say at all cooled the general's wrath. He did not exhibit to the colonel his letter or its indorsements, one of which doubtless was for the regiment to report at Washington. At any rate, he immediately ordered the colonel to take his regiment by rail to Washington, and to



leave Baltimore before the next day at noon. This was late at night, and in those days of ample apparel, equipage, and transportation it was not an easy task to land a thousand men and all their belongings early in the morning. The order was filled, however. By eleven o'clock next day everything was on board ready to move to Washington, and before twelve the regiment had moved from the city of Baltimore. But so crowded were the rails by army travel and transportation that the regiment only reached its destination about dusk. On application next morning at headquarters it was ordered to march through the city to Tenallytown and encamp at Fort Kearney, in the defenses of Washington.

At this post the regiment was immediately put to work in intrenchments. It expected to have been sent along to Sigel, and did not like the delay. It very likely worked with less will at its task of digging than it would have done except in face of its disappointment. At any rate, after several reports of its not being good diggers had been made, orders came for the regiment to embark at Georgetown on Nov. 5, 1862, and to proceed by the way of Alexandria and the Manassas Railroad, and to report to Gen. Sigel at Gainesville.

It reached this place on the third evening after its departure from Fort Kearney after dark. It first struck upon Gen. McLean's brigade. That gallant officer at once desired to take it into his command, and seemed very happy over the chance. It was made up of Ohio men, all but one regiment of whom were Americans, the One Hundred and Seventh Ohio of the brigade being mostly German. The Seventeenth now seemed well pleased with its fortune and at home; no more grumbling at any lot in its military life was ever afterwards heard from the command. But of its hardships in extent and variety the regiment had as large a share as falls to the lot of any command. Soon after we joined his corps Gen. Sigel rode into our camp with his staff, and accompanied by the beautiful wife of Prince Salm-Salm, to thank us for our persistence in joining his command.

The Eleventh Corps was at this time the reserve of the Army of the Potomac. The brigade and division in which the Seventeenth was were guarding Thoroughfare Gap, in the Bull Run Mountains. After a stay at Gainesville of about two weeks, an order came at midnight—as such things usually came—to be ready to move at daylight in the morning. Our march was northward to Hopewell Gap and Antioch Church on same range. After some days here, like midnight orders were sent in to move in the morning. Our march that day was from Antioch Church towards Chantilly. Our first night was spent in the splendid winter quarters of the rebel force, and our destination was Chantilly. There, in the midst of wide plains and a very rich and fruitful country, the regiment held its camp with its brigade and corps,

till orders again came to send to hospital all disabled, to be ready in the morning for march. This was the beginning of our seven days' march as reserve of Burnside's movement on Fredericksburg.

The regiment had by this time become pretty well seasoned to military duty in the field. The knapsacks, stuffed at first with photographs, writing material, and all sorts of home-traps, had wonderfully shrunk. On the previous marches the Ohio boys had shown them some pretty long legs, but on this seven days' march the Seventeenth made them stretch theirs, with interest added. As is known to most, the regiments alternate front and rear every day, the regiment at the front always having the brightest outlook and, somehow or another, marching the easiest; that in the rear seems to drag along with tiresome step, and often lags when at the front they make good time.

At Bacon's Race-Course Church, about two days' march from Falmouth, the terrible cannonade of the conflict of Fredericksburg was distinctly heard, and on the next day, at noon, the news of Burnside's repulse was announced to the regiments. The corps, however, kept on to Falmouth, after a night's rest at which place they were ordered back to camp at Stafford Court-House. This was the place where the Seventeenth, which had saved its rations in going down, gave a supper to an Ohio regiment, which had eaten up all its own. This brotherly act was never forgotten by the Ohio boys.

At Stafford Court-House, passed on our march to Falmouth, the regiment arrived back about December 16th and made camp in the woods. It was one of the most picturesque winter-camps that could be imagined. On each side of a street, running up a gentle slope of pine-forest, the regiment built huts, with camp-fires in front. The sight of their cheerful blaze step by step up that ascent was at night cheering and lovely.

About the 20th of February an order came to break camp and march to Belle Plain. This was again in reserve to Burnside's army, on what is known as the mud-march. Our movement was ordered to follow up a contemplated second attack on Fredericksburg, but which purpose the storm and the miry state of the roads thwarted.

At Belle Plain the regiment and division were ordered to occupy the huts of the force which had moved towards Fredericksburg. These were constructed, with great neatness and much ingenious architecture, along brinks and declivities of ravines. But such good quarters were only our lot for a very few days. The return of their former occupants from their unsuccessful move required our evacuation of their quarters. The regiment soon returned to Brooks' Station, near its old camp at Stafford Court-House, and huddled for the winter.

Our camp was ordered into a forest of oak and beech and all the woods of Virginia. The ground

was covered with snow, but axes were plenty, and the regiment soon sheltered itself in fine style. Here the time passed quietly in drill and camp-duties till, on the 26th of April, 1863, orders were issued to take in haversack seven days' rations, put everything in light marching order, and be in readiness for movement the next morning at daybreak. On that day the regiment marched westward to near Hartwood Church, and encamped for the night. This route was that of the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps. Early the next morning movement was made towards Barrett's Ford, on the Rappahannock. This river was then crossed on a pontoon-bridge by night, and the regiment bivouacked for a few hours' rest some mile or so beyond, in the adjacent woods. Here the Twelfth Corps passed it early in the morning, and all moved on towards Gerinania Ford of the Rapidan.

Some of the forces ahead of us had not so good luck as the Eleventh Corps, and many were forced to ford the river in a high state of the flood, which was strong and up to their necks. The Seventeenth, however, and most of the Eleventh Corps, passed on a temporary bridge, and bivouacked for the rest of the night some mile or two beyond. Early the next day the movement was resumed, and about five o'clock in the afternoon the battle-ground of Chancellorsville was reached, near the Hatch house, which was made the headquarters of our brigade and division. This was the home of a man formerly from Milford, Conn., but as arrant a rebel as if a native Virginian. Our camp for the night was at the west of this Hatch house.

The next morning the regiment was put in line along the Culpeper road to receive Gen. Hooker. The whole corps were placed in similar positions. About eleven o'clock the general, with a brilliant staff, rode down the lines in review.

In the afternoon of that day the commander of our brigade, Gen. McLean, ordered the right wing of the regiment to be posted around the west and south borders of the Hatch house garden, which was in rear of the Hatch house and south of the Culpeper road. This was to be under the immediate command of Lieut.-Col. Walter. The left wing of the regiment, under the immediate command of Maj. Brady, was ordered into position along the Culpeper road in support of Dykeman's Battery, which was stationed south of the road, and facing south. Col. Noble was ordered to take his position between the two wings, which were some rods apart, and to have oversight of the action and conduct of each.

The whole theory of the expected battle seemed to look for an attack from the south, and all the troops of the brigade and corps in sight of our position were aligned under that idea. Col. Noble was the next day, May 2d, appointed officer of the day for the division, and as such had inspection of the picket-lines thrown forward to the south of our position and to the west of the Hatch house, in the wilderness.

When on his rounds, a cavalry vidette rode up from the front, with information of heavy forces of the enemy passing along our front towards the rear. He was told to ride in to headquarters and give the information at the Hatch house, which was pointed out to him. Afterwards, during the day, another horseman rode up to our position with like information, and was again directed to report at the adjacent headquarters to Gen. Devens and Gen. McLean. He rode up to the front of the house, where they were seated.

At this time two companies of the regiment—Company G and Company I—were on picket in dense woods at our right, on the border of the wilderness. About five o'clock in the afternoon of May 2d sharp firing of some light cannon was heard on our right. It seemed to be light field-pieces, and was supposed to be what is called a jackass-battery. All was quiet for a while, and then came sharp, nervous firing on our right announcing an attack of the enemy driving in our pickets; this was the skirmish-line of Jackson's force. Large masses of the enemy soon poured down upon our flank, and the air seemed full of missiles. The shell fell among the horses of Dykeman's Battery and killed one; others screamed and burst fast over the battle-ground.

As, at this time, Col. Noble rode past Lieut.-Col. Walter to the front of the garden, where the right wing lay on their arms, as ordered, to inspect the coming in of his two companies on picket, Col. Walter, who, like the left wing, lay down at his proper position in the rear of his wing, rose as if to watch the progress of the action or perhaps out of respect to his commanding officer. As Col. Noble, having hailed those companies and directed them to our position, turned to take his position between the two wings as ordered, Col. Walter again, as was supposed, resumed his recumbent posture. But he was undoubtedly at this time shot, as the ball which killed him struck him in the forehead. When the colonel returned to his position, he found that Dykeman's Battery had limbered up and fled down the Culpeper road, and on looking farther to the front supposed he saw Maj. Brady with the left wing holding a corn-house at the north of the Hatch house and off the Culpeper road, firing at the enemy, but he was mistaken. Maj. Brady had retreated with the left wing soon after the battery which he supported had fled.

At this time the right wing of the regiment still held its position around the Hatch house garden. It continued to hold it till all the regiments and Union force at the right had passed to the rear, and towards our left.

The crushing force of Stonewall Jackson's attack was in such irresistible mass, with such steady and unabating fire, that the air seemed full of whizzing rifle-balls. Their advancing light artillery threw a storm of shells down the lines of retreat. At this time the right wing of the Seventeenth retreated



from its position around the Hatch house, and met Col. Noble, who had been looking for his left wing, with the news of Col. Walter's death. The right and the two companies who were out on picket passed with him to the first lines of the Schurz division, of which the Ninety-fourth New York had changed its position from parallel to a right angle with the Culpeper road and facing the attack of the enemy. Whilst Col. Noble, with the aid of his adjutant, Lieut. Chatfield, and the captains of the right wing, was reforming this line in rear of said regiment, its colonel was shot dead, and his regiment, under a terrific fire, broke and threw the whole force in inevitable retreat. In fact, lingering any longer in such an unequal contest would have been madness, all troops to the right having long passed to the rear.

The Seventeenth moved along down the Culpeper road deliberately. While thus proceeding its colonel was shot through his left arm, severing the main artery, and, bleeding to exhaustion, he was guided and kept on his horse by two of his soldiers, after having given them his watch and money, and made ready to surrender himself, as he was unable to go on alone. They led him to a field-hospital in the rear of the Chancellorsville House. Here his horse, which had been wounded near the Hatch house and borne him so far, died.

The regiment after this fell under the command of Maj. Brady, and was the next day moved from the right to the left of the army's position.

In Greeley's "American Conflict," where he speaks of that "grand burst of Stonewall Jackson with twenty-five thousand men upon the exposed flank of the Eleventh Corps," the Seventeenth Connecticut is the only regiment specially noted and commended for its action. At page 357 of his second volume the tremendous result of that attack is thus noted: "In a moment the First Division, Gen. Devens, was overwhelmed, its commander being among the wounded, and one-third of his force, including every general and colonel, either disabled or captured. Driven back in wild rout down the Chancellorsville road, upon the position of Gen. Schurz, it was found that his division had already retreated, and an attempt made to rally and form here proved abortive. The Seventeenth Connecticut, which bore a resolute part in the effort, had its lieutenant-colonel killed and its colonel severely wounded."

The Seventeenth had a list of one hundred and twenty killed, wounded, and missing in this fight. That night it made a brave stand near headquarters, at Chancellorsville House, and remained there all night supporting a battery, while the Third Corps was flung into the gap. The regiment was not again in action during that battle. Col. Noble was sent home by Dr. Hubbard, the acting medical director of the corps, and was unable to leave home for thirty-four days.

The regiment, after the council of war had decided

upon the transfer of our forces to the north side of the Rappahannock, was ordered into camp not far from its old quarters at Bowles Station. Here it remained till June, when, on Lee's invasion, the regiment followed the Army of the Potomac on parallel lines to the march of the enemy till their movements culminated in the battle of Gettysburg.

The regiment was in the midst of that first day's fight, on the other side of the town, and west of its final battle-ground. Lieut.-Col. Fowler, commanding regiment, and Capt. Moore, were instantly killed; Lieut. Chatfield, who was beside Col. Fowler, had his knapsack and uniform riddled, and his sword—a relic of Revolutionary history—broken in splinters, yet received not a scar. On that day, too, Capt. French was wounded in his right arm while gallantly commanding his company. Maj. Brady received a shell contusion upon his shoulder, which caused a disability, resulting in his transfer to the Veteran Reserve Corps. Capt. Allen was also slightly wounded; of the other officers it is needless to say more than that they conducted themselves with gallantry and without reproach. Gen. Ames, who then commanded the brigade, uttered to the colonel, when he rode upon the battle-field, on the third day, no word but of commendation of the conduct of the whole regiment.

The colonel, who had been at home recovering from his wound, was, when he reached Washington, unable to find first where the regiment was and then how to reach them. When a route was directed the crowded state of the one railroad which conducted all the army-supplies, and a forty-mile horseback-ride only enabled him to reach the battle-field on the afternoon of the third day. He found the regiment stationed at the north of the Cemetery Hill along a stone wall,—a position which it had held, under orders, since the first day's fight. By death and capture it had been reduced to a handful; not two hundred men could be put in line. The next morning the colonel found himself in command of the brigade, Gen. Ames having assumed command of the division, whose commander, Gen. Francis C. Barlow, had been severely wounded in the action.

It was very evident, on the morning of the 4th, that the enemy were in full retreat. The whole force of the division moved into Gettysburg and well out to the right, finding no indications of the enemy, except an occasional shot on the picket-line, which showed that they were feigning presence in force.

On the morning of the 5th the wagons of the enemy could be distinctly seen moving rapidly to the rear and southward. Everything betokened that they had left a strong picket-line in front only to make a show of resistance and to protect their retreat.

On the morning of the 6th the Eleventh Corps moved with the rest of the army in pursuit of Lee. The marches were not very rapid, and till we reached Hagerstown no portions of the enemy were encountered by our part of the Union army. At Hagers-

town, Md., our division was within gunshot of the rebels' lines. It was evidently a weak sham. The earnest appeal of Col. Von Gilsa, who commanded a brigade of the division, to be allowed to attack their flimsy front, is well remembered. Permission was not accorded. All seemed hesitation and timidity as to any forward movement upon the retreating enemy, who were evidently penned up between the Potomac and our lines. After spending two days in the vicinity of the rebel outposts, and near the battle-field of Antietam, a march was made upon the enemy's lines, only to find him escaped across the Potomac.

On the march from Gettysburg down a large portion of the regiment was without shoes, the whole of it in a very sad and tattered condition, the result of continuous marching and constant exposure to the weather and rough soldiering.

But of its conduct throughout all this campaign too much cannot be said in praise. Fairfield County may be proud of her sons. Their conduct in the first day's fight at Gettysburg in striving to repel the onslaught of the enemy, and during the rest of the battle holding their post at foot of Cemetery Hill, was all that could be expected of any troops. Gen. Gordon, late senator from Georgia, who was in command of the enemy's troops which charged upon the lines of the regiment at Gettysburg, meeting Lieut.-Col. Allen during his late seat in the Senate, learning that the colonel was of the Seventeenth Connecticut, said to him that of all the trouble he ever had to force a retreat from any troops, he had the hardest work with the Seventeenth Connecticut at Gettysburg; that it didn't seem to know how to get away from its position, however strong the force attacking.

After the pursuit of Lee had ceased on his retreat from Gettysburg, and while the forces were marshaling for a new conflict, a sudden order came for the Ames and Von Gilsa brigades to take rail to Alexandria and embark for Fortress Monroe. After arrival there the brigades again took transport, and were landed about August 21st on Folly Island, S. C. They had hardly got into camp when a detail of a thousand men was ordered, under Col. Noble, into the siege-trenches on Morris Island, approaching Fort Wagner. This was a reserve force, and in protection of the artillerymen and of the siege-works. On this duty the regiment lay for forty-eight hours close under the fire of Wagner, and under shell showered from Forts James and Moultrie.

The brigade was afterwards quartered a short distance below the siege-works of Wagner. For about a fortnight on that island they were most of the time under fire from the enemy's batteries. While there they saw the first gun fired upon Sumter from the great siege-works guns of Gen. Gillmore, and remained there until the ruins of that fort looked like a sand-bank or the debris of some great brick edifice. Several of the regiment were killed and several others

badly wounded by the bursting of shell and the breaking of solid shot down through the splinter-proofs. Lying under these cannon-ball and shell protections, without the excitement of attack and real conflict, was about the most trying work the regiment ever did.

Before we left the island, Gen. Ames took the officers of his brigade up into the high tower of the lighthouse, a short distance below Fort Wagner, where a good view was obtained, through a telescope, of the condition and ruins of Sumter. He then said to them that it had been proposed that his brigade should organize for a night-attack upon said fort, and asked us if he should ask for us the duty. The officers unanimously desired Gen. Ames to solicit the place for us. But such was not to be our task. The navy claimed it as their prize, and made an abortive attempt to capture the fort. Although in ruins as to its walls, it was found to have been made stronger than ever by sand-bags and fallen masonry. The attack had been delayed too long; the right time was when we volunteered for the duty.

After the fall of Wagner till February only one military event deserving notice occurred to the regiment. About the middle of October there came by night an urgent order from Gen. Vodges, commanding the forces on Morris Island, saying that the enemy were about to make an attack in great force on its northern and western side by floats down from Secessionville, and ordering out the division to resist the attack. On this occasion the Seventeenth was under arms and in line of march twenty minutes before any other regiment reported. This was noted by Gen. Ames to the colonel of the regiment as highly complimentary to his command. But the alarm proved entirely false: no attack was made.

The remainder of the fall and winter was spent by the Seventeenth upon the island under drill and on a brief expedition under Gen. Schimmelpfennig to John's Island as a diversion to hold in check the removal of the troops of the enemy farther north to meet and resist some movement of our own forces. There was only a small skirmish on our approach to John's Island, in which several of the regiment were wounded slightly. During a part of the winter Gen. Ames' absence at the North threw the command of the brigade upon Gen. Noble, whose principal task was drilling its six regiments in field-movements.

At Christmas and New Year's the Seventeenth received a heavy consignment from the people of Bridgeport and Fairfield County, who sent boxes to individuals and general stores for the hospital and for the good of the regiment. There came a large and varied supply, under the care of Lieut. Hayes, their former quartermaster, and Dr. L. H. Norton. It was welcome Christmas cheer to gladden the hearts of the soldiers.

On the 22d of February, 1864, orders came to strike our tents and make everything ready for Florida.



The next morning we took transport for Jacksonville. The repulse of Gen. Seymour's advance into Florida, at the battle of Olustee, where the Sharps' rifles of Hawley's regiment alone saved us from a terrible reverse, had called for this reinforcement of our brigade to Florida. On our arrival at Jacksonville general orders were issued creating two divisions, of which Gen. Ames and the forces under him constituted one, Gen. Noble commanding Ames' brigade. The forces advanced outside to the north and west of the town and intrenched. An attack from the enemy was felt to be possible from any quarter of that traversible country, and the forces were for a month aroused at three in the morning to prepare for an attack.

About April 15th the whole force at Jacksonville was broken up. Gen. Ames was ordered North to the Army of the Potomac, and his brigade left in Florida. The Seventeenth was ordered to relieve the Tenth Connecticut at St. Augustine, and took transport immediately for that ancient city. It seemed as if the regiment was to be laid up in lavender for the rest of its service in that lovely, quaint, old place. But the seeming did not prove the reality; the mass of the regiment never had harder or more taxing service than in Florida. The climate in the summer and fall is not particularly healthful. One of the companies of the regiment garrisoned the old Spanish Fort San Marco, the others were quartered in the old government barracks.

We had hardly got well settled in our quarters when an order came from Gen. Birney, then commanding in Florida, for Col. Noble to go with all his regiment, except one company, to Volusia, Fla. The regiment moved on the morning of the 25th of April, and made Volusia after a three days' march. Volusia is but a hamlet of a few houses on the St. John's River. After a few days the post was visited by Gen. Birney, who had proceeded up the St. John's River and disembarked near Pilatka with several regiments, and thus reached our post. At this place Gen. Birney ordered a company of the Seventeenth to be stationed in guard of the crossings of St. John's River at Welaka and Sanders. They had hardly been posted a week before all were gobbled up by the enemy, who crossed the river in strong force. They might just as easily have captured the fifty men left at Volusia, but were frightened away by the intrenchments made there under Capt. Kellogg and the track of an army-wagon, which they mistook for that of artillery.

Just after this Gen. Birney was relieved, and Gen. George H. Gordon placed in command of Florida. Under him Col. Noble was invested with the command of all the country east and south of the St. John's River, and of the forces within that area. These consisted of two colored regiments, the Seventy-fifth Ohio, and his own regiment.

About the 10th of June the Seventeenth, together with other regiments in Gen. Gordon's command, numbering about two thousand men, was organized

at Jacksonville for a raid and flank march upon McGilet's Creek. The expedition started at midnight on transports under conduct of the navy gunboats, and landing was made about three in the morning and march commenced. During all that day, which was one of the hottest of the season, the regiments marched along the close roads of Florida, and late in the afternoon, after a very fatiguing flank march, the force under Gen. Noble joined that of Gen. Gordon, who had marched straight out from Jacksonville. The enemy's works were found to be of no great consequence, and, having destroyed its barracks and stores, the regiment moved, with the rest of the forces, back to Jacksonville, and thence to St. Augustine. Lieut.-Col. Wilcoxson commanded the regiment.

No sooner had we arrived at Jacksonville than an order came reversing things. Gen. Gordon was ordered to the Army of the Potomac, and Gen. Birney replaced in command of Florida.

About the 29th of July, Gen. Birney, still in command of Florida, ordered another raid on the enemy's unseen and insignificant works. Col. Noble was ordered with the Seventeenth, and all the force under his command, and all the horses in St. Augustine, and all the loyal Floridians, to rendezvous a Picolata, on the St. John's, there to take steamer and connect with Gen. Birney at a point upon the Black River. The force was gathered and the connection made, and proceeded with Gen. Birney to Baldwin, on the Cedar Keys Railroad. Col. Noble was at this time placed in command of Baldwin, and, having under his command a battery of Rhode Island artillery, two regiments of colored troops, and other forces, was ordered by Gen. Birney to hold and garrison that place and build a log fort. But Gen. Birney had hardly completed these orders and returned from Jacksonville to see our condition before news came that he was succeeded by Gen. Hatch.

Gen. Hatch withdrew the Seventeenth from Baldwin, and established it in post at Magnolia, to hold which post and construct a fort it was then ordered, Capt. Kellogg being in command of the portion of the Seventeenth Regiment at that place. But Col. Noble was ordered by him the next day to burn the few buildings and to make a raid with some cavalry, artillery, and three regiments, making a four days' march, and coming in at Magnolia, where he had established a post garrisoned by the Seventeenth, and awaited the arrival of the expedition. This was accomplished, and the Seventeenth relieved from duty at Magnolia and returned to St. Augustine.

Soon after, Gen. Hatch took command of Florida. While Col. Noble was at Magnolia he ascertained that heavy effort was being made in Lower and Middle Florida, east of St. John's, to recruit companies for the enemy. Orders were given to Col. Noble to detail part of his own regiment and the Seventy-fifth Mounted Rifles to proceed up the St. John's along its

eastern bank, while Col. Noble, with artillery and several regiments and a detachment of Massachusetts cavalry, proceeded by steamer up the St. John's and Dunn's Lake, to follow up the expedition of said regiments. After landing on said lake on a day's march the Seventy-fifth was met returning to St. Augustine, having captured a captain and about twenty of his enrolled men, who were afterwards imprisoned in the fort at St. Augustine.

Soon after this Gen. Hatch was succeeded in command by Gen. Scammon, and all raids abandoned except a miserable one which resulted most disastrously to the regiment. Gen. Scammon had learned of a lot of cotton stored on the borders of Dunn's Lake, and directed Col. Wilcoxson, with teams and a sufficient force, to gather it in. The order was obeyed and the cotton gathered. The force was about starting on its return home when it was attacked by about two hundred of Dixon's Mounted Rifles. The attack was sudden and unexpected. They are easily made so in Florida, which is pretty much all one pine wood. A summons to surrender was unheeded by Col. Wilcoxson, and fire opened. Seeing no hope of escape, Lieut.-Col. Wilcoxson and Adj. Chatfield attempted to cut their way through the enemy. Adj. Chatfield was instantly killed, and Col. Wilcoxson shot through the shoulder, of which wound he afterwards died at Tallahassee. The regiment in these officers lost two gallant and able men. Two captains and about fifty men were captured and sent to Andersonville.

Prior to this, Col. Noble, the day before Christmas, 1864, while crossing from Jacksonville to St. Augustine, in company with two officers of other commands, was captured by the enemy's scouts about half-way betwixt these places. He was taken across the St. John's River to Tallahassee, to Macon, Ga., and finally to Andersonville. While there the force of the 17th that had been captured at Dunn's Lake, and in a subsequent raid of the enemy in the rear of St. Augustine, was brought into that prison. The officers were Capt. French, Company G; Capt. Betts, Company F; Lieut. Ruggles, Company K; Capt. Quien, Company C.

After this cotton expedition and the captures, the regiment passed a quiet and uneventful winter and spring. About the 1st of June, 1865, it was ordered by Gen. Vodge, then commanding Florida, to Jacksonville. While there it was sent out on provost-duty in various places, and was employed in reconstructing the Baldwin and Jacksonville Railroad.

About the 1st of July it was ordered to take transports for Hilton Head, to be mustered out of the service, and at that post, on the 19th of July, 1865, ended its duties as part of the army of the republic during its great struggle.

On no occasion had the people of the county had reason to regret the exertions they had made to put it in the field. Its gallant service had been an honor to

them and to the State; no charge ever was or could be made upon them of flinching from any truly military duty. In post at St. Augustine or in the field, it never failed to win the respect and affection of all with whom it came in contact. In this the Seventeenth stands alongside of the glorious record of all the Connecticut troops in the war.

The regiment, leaving unnamed the towns which contributed in small numbers, received its quota from the following sources:

Company A, all from Norwalk, excepting eighteen men from Wilton; Company B, all enlisted from Stamford and Darien; Company C received fifty-eight from Danbury, from Bethel sixteen, from Ridgefield twelve; Company D, forty-four from Bridgeport, seventeen from Monroe, from Huntington nine; Company E received fifty-one from Westport, twenty-five from Newtown, fourteen from Bridgeport, ten from Weston; Company F, almost all from Norwalk, except fourteen from Wilton; Company G, Ridgefield fifty-three, Bridgeport twenty-three, Redding twenty; Company H, mostly from New Canaan; Company I, mostly from Greenwich; Company K, thirty-five from Bridgeport, Fairfield thirty-five. In all these companies there were members from other towns, making up the quota of the regiment,—a thousand and one men.

There were individuals in every town most active in promoting the enlistment of this regiment whose services should not be forgotten. The distinguished inventor of the sewing-machine, Elias Howe, Jr., was very active in this service, himself enlisted as a private in its ranks, and on one occasion, by permission of the Secretary of War, advanced the pay due the regiment, about fourteen thousand dollars, on their march towards Fredericksburg.

The *matériel* of this regiment was of a character among the privates fit to have officered a dozen regiments. Wherever stationed they were commended for their *morale* and soldierly characteristics.

WILLIAM HENRY NOBLE, son of Rev. Birdsey G. Noble (Yale class of 17-1), was born in Newtown, Conn., Aug. 16, 1813. He lived at Middletown, Conn., with parents till fifteen years old; spent the last four years, from eleven to fifteen, at Partridge's Military School, Middletown, Conn.; thence to Trinity (then Washington) College, Hartford, 1828 to 1830; 1830 to 1832, Yale; graduated; taught a school one year and a half at Stamford, Conn. He then removed to Bridgeport, where he studied law, and in 1836 was admitted to the bar of Fairfield County; was for many years clerk of court and State's attorney for said county. In 1839 married Harriet J. Brooks, daughter of Benjamin Brooks, Esq., of Bridgeport; ran for Congress in 1850, and was defeated. In 1851 he laid out East Bridgeport, and in 1852 reorganized the operation with P. T. Barnum on a larger scale; built bridges, houses, factories, giving to Bridgeport the foundation of a great city. In 1860



helped organize the Union movement in Connecticut which spread through the country, and in July, 1862, was commissioned by Governor Buckingham colonel of the Seventeenth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers; went out September 3d, destined to Eleventh Corps, Army of the Potomac; stopped by General Wool at Baltimore; stationed at Fort Marshall a month and a half; sent thence to defenses of Washington, Fort Kearney, and Tennallytown; thence to Eleventh Corps at Gainesville; with Eleventh Corps in reserve moved on Fredericksburg at Burnside's attack; Stafford Court-House and Brook's Station, Va., winter of 1862 and 1863. At battle of Chancellorsville, under Howard (see "Greeley's Conflict," vol. ii., chap. xvi., page 350: only regiment named); wounded in left arm by minie-ball, severing main artery; ordered home by Surgeon Hubbard, medical director of the Eleventh Corps; forty days' leave; left to reach advance towards Gettysburg; at Gettysburg, Cemetery Hill, third day; fourth day, command of brigade; moved in pursuit of Lee; at Hagerstown, Md., in front of the rebel line when preparing to cross the Potomac; continued the march into Virginia; thence was sent with Ames' brigade, Eleventh Corps, to South Carolina; on Morris and Folly Islands about six months; at siege of Sumter and Wagner for a month; daily under fire; saw first gun fired on Sumter; walls powdered and Wagner surrendered; in trenches at Wagner, in command of reserves, and supporting force with and without regiment many days. In February, 1864, went with Ames' brigade to Jacksonville, Fla.; there put in command of brigade; at Jacksonville about a month and a half; assigned in April, 1864, to command of St. Augustine; placed in command of brigade and all the country east of the St. John's River; commanded brigade at capture and destruction of Baldwin, Fla.; sent in command of cavalry, artillery, and five regiments South to Sand Lakes, and to cripple Cedar Keys Railroad; returned to Magnolia, on St. John's; in command of Fort Construction and post at Magnolia, and force there, and of the posts and forces east of the St. John's, including St. Augustine, August and September, 1864; sent during September, 1864, with cavalry, infantry, and artillery, per land and steamer, up the St. John's River and Duns Lake, Fla., to break up Confederate recruiting-station, cap-

turing a company and many disloyal Floridians; December 24th captured by enemy's scouts while returning across country from court-martial as a witness, between Jacksonville and St. Augustine; taken to Baldwin; thence to Tallahassee, to Chattahoochee River, to Columbus, to Macon; at Macon under parole a month and a half at Camp Oglethorpe; thence to Andersonville for a month and a half; thence for exchange per rail and march across Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi to Vicksburg; thence to St. Louis, in command of Eastern paroled Union men; thence to Annapolis, May, 1865, in command of one thousand Union soldiers from rebel prisons to be mustered out; returned home and has suffered for many years from the malaria born of exposure in all weathers and climates. Since the war he has devoted himself to the law, real estate, etc.; was brevetted brigadier-general, by recommendation of Gen. Grant, in June, 1865.—EDITOR.

Our military history is closed. We have faithfully traced the history of the various regiments, and it has been our honest endeavor to place before the people of Fairfield County a truthful record of her gallant sons who risked their lives in the defense of their country. We have sought to deal justly with all and give deserving credit to each and every regiment.

While the history is a record of many of the severest battles of the war, it is not in any particular overdrawn: it is a "plain, unvarnished tale." It has been impossible to sketch many individual acts of heroism, but these were not wanting.

Fairfield County may justly feel proud of the record of her soldiery, as no section of our country acted a more prominent or honorable *rôle* in the great tragedy.

Fifteen years have now elapsed since the close of the Rebellion, and we find our country a united and prosperous people. Sectional strife is rapidly passing away, and the same hand strews flowers alike on the graves of the Blue and the Gray.

"No more shall the war-cry sever,  
Or the winding rivers be red;  
They banish our anger forever  
When they laurel the graves of our dead!  
Under the sod and the dew,  
Waiting the judgment-day;  
Love and tears for the Blue,  
Tears and love for the Gray."

CHAPTER VI.  
POPULATION AND SCHOOL STATISTICS.  
POPULATION.

TOWNS.	1756.		1774.		1782.		1790.	1800.	1810.	1820.	1830.	1840.	1850.	1860.	1870.	1880.
	Whites.	Negroes.	Whites.	Blacks.	Whites.	Indians and Negroes.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.
Bridgeport.....											2,800	4,570	7,560	13,299	19,835	29,153
Danbury.....	1,509	18	2,473	53	2,967	50	3,031	3,180	3,606	3,873	4,311	4,504	5,964	7,234	8,753	11,619
Bethel.....															1,711	2,311
Brookfield.....							1,018	1,010	1,037	1,159	1,255	1,255	1,359	1,224	1,193	1,151
Darien.....										1,126	1,212	1,080	1,454	1,705	1,808	1,902
Easton.....													1,432	1,350	1,288	1,145
Fairfield.....	4,195	260	4,544	319	5,003	273	4,009	3,735	4,125	4,151	4,226	3,654	3,614	4,379	5,645	13,748
Greenwich.....	2,021		2,654	122	2,530	93	*	3,047	3,533	3,790	3,921	5,036	6,522	7,644	7,956	
Huntington.....							2,742	2,792	2,770	2,805	1,371	1,326	1,301	1,477	1,527	2,504
Monroe.....											1,522	1,351	1,442	1,382	1,226	1,157
New Canaan.....									1,599	1,689	1,830	2,217	2,600	2,771	2,497	2,674
New Fairfield.....	713		1,288	20	1,429	12	1,573	1,665	772	788	939	956	927	915	870	791
Newtown.....	1,230	23	2,168	61	2,354	50	2,764	2,903	2,834	2,879	3,096	3,189	3,338	3,578	3,681	4,013
Norwalk.....	2,956	94	4,243	145	3,919	132	5,146	2,983	2,983	3,004	3,792	3,863	4,651	7,582	12,119	13,960
Redding.....			1,189	45	1,257	53	1,503	1,632	1,717	1,678	1,686	1,674	1,754	1,652	1,624	1,540
Ridgefield.....	1,069	46	1,673	35	1,672	25	1,947	2,025	2,103	2,301	2,305	2,474	2,237	2,213	1,919	2,028
Stamford.....	2,648	120	3,503	60	3,756	78	*	4,352	4,440	3,284	3,707	3,516	5,000	7,185	9,714	11,417
Sherman.....									949	957	947	938	984	911	846	828
Stratford.....	3,508	150	5,201	354	5,105	368	3,241	2,650	2,895	3,438	1,814	1,808	2,040	2,294	3,032	4,251
Trumbull.....								1,291	1,241	1,232	1,242	1,204	1,309	1,474	1,335	1,323
Weston.....							2,469	2,680	2,618	2,767	2,997	2,561	1,056	1,117	1,054	918
Westport.....												1,803	2,651	3,293	3,361	3,477
Wilton.....									1,728	1,818	2,097	2,053	2,066	2,208	1,994	1,864
Totals.....	19,849	711	28,936	1,214	29,722	1,134	36,239	38,108	40,950	42,739	46,950	49,917	59,775	77,476	95,276	112,155

PRESENT CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

TOWNS.	Grand List, 1878.	SCHOLARS.										TEACHERS.										Contin. Employed.
		No. of Districts.	No. of Schools.	Departments.	Average Length.	Enum. Jan. 1879.	Registered.			Diff't Schol. Reg.	Priv. Schools.	In no School.	Av. Attend.		Male.		Fe-male.		Wages, Month.			
							W.	S.	Over 16.				W.	S.	W.	S.	W.	S.	Male.	Fe-male.		
Bridgeport.....	\$11,979,850	1	13	66	204.00	6,362	4,145	4,101	107	4,840	250	1,379	3,501	3,331	3	3	77	78	\$146.66	\$47.49	79	4
Danbury.....	5,190,376	12	16	41	198.66	2,545	1,880	1,853	41	2,192	72	322	1,501	1,531	5	5	37	37	70.16	37.40	38	7
Bethel.....	876,493	6	6	11	195.45	606	509	528	17	558	15	54	359	336	3	3	8	8	57.35	32.64	9	0
Brookfield.....	601,155	8	8	8	180.88	235	200	175	2	229	5	14	134	117	3	1	5	7	32.00	26.00	4	0
Darien.....	1,766,099	5	5	7	205.14	391	325	310	19	352	32	26	210	201	3	3	5	5	53.33	33.00	6	0
Easton.....	458,948	8	8	8	178.75	207	191	165	8	207	6	5	120	101	6	3	2	5	22.39	20.05	6	2
Fairfield.....	2,177,978	14	14	18	199.50	856	704	618	29	800	50	65	463	389	9	6	9	12	56.62	38.21	17	0
Greenwich.....	3,693,761	19	19	25	200.00	1,901	1,325	1,087	40	1,535	169	262	858	740	6	6	21	21	51.25	36.78	27	0
Huntington.....	919,480	12	12	15	184.00	519	442	404	18	514	6	17	305	283	4	2	11	13	42.56	28.77	13	1
Monroe.....	527,022	7	7	7	193.57	249	198	181	10	238	13	8	128	107	3	1	4	6	27.25	22.60	4	4
New Canaan.....	1,279,981	11	11	14	201.14	620	541	524	33	594	25	36	334	313	5	4	10	11	38.78	26.67	13	3
New Fairfield.....	427,187	7	7	7	173.14	178	165	140	21	191	0	13	100	75	5	1	2	6	32.04	23.93	3	2
Newtown.....	1,813,529	21	21	24	200.00	1,094	914	884	13	1,002	81	46	565	458	12	6	12	18	31.16	26.18	21	3
Norwalk.....	6,034,499	11	12	43	202.65	3,141	2,262	1,920	55	2,575	139	502	1,723	1,445	8	8	40	40	77.25	41.77	46	2
Redding.....	890,753	10	10	10	194.00	376	254	202	4	285	16	7	151	113	5	4	5	6	27.00	25.09	5	1
Ridgefield.....	1,066,904	14	13	13	190.54	442	368	319	14	410	10	41	236	231	2	3	11	10	26.15	28.85	6	1
Sherman.....	361,885	6	6	6	155.00	144	138	111	21	164	0	5	72	58	3	0	3	6	27.67	22.38	2	1
Stamford.....	6,575,436	1	17	29	200.00	2,627	1,383	1,278	102	1,605	613	547	1,030	987	8	8	24	24	77.63	41.28	32	4
Stratford.....	1,709,385	9	9	15	199.33	854	628	581	19	763	44	69	457	417	4	4	11	11	68.75	29.45	15	0
Trumbull.....	663,468	6	6	6	200.00	272	220	218	9	242	18	23	139	130	2	0	4	6	32.00	31.78	2	1
Weston.....	429,519	6	6	6	180.33	197	163	139	7	193	0	15	98	81	5	2	1	4	21.96	18.61	1	3
Westport.....	2,165,940	10	11	11	200.99	844	527	452	42	647	122	117	361	276	8	7	4	5	51.04	26.61	11	2
Wilton.....	728,725	10	10	10	197.00	428	334	350	6	415	5	22	225	206	4	3	6	7	25.57	23.62	4	0
23 Towns.....	\$52,338,375	214	247	400	197.30	25,088	17,816	16,540	637	20,551	1,691	3,595	13,070	11,926	116	83	312	346	\$50.72	\$36.86	364	41

\* The population of Greenwich, Norwalk, and Stamford in 1790, in the aggregate, was 11,942. They are not given separately.

† In 1870 a part of Fairfield, containing a population of about 1900, was annexed to Bridgeport.

There was a census taken by order of the General Assembly in October, 1761, to be completed at or before Jan. 1, 1762. According to that census the population of the colony was,—white, 141,000; blacks, 4590. The only details relative to Fairfield County which I can give are that the population of Greenwich was 2021 whites, 52 blacks,—that of Stamford 2746 whites, 86 blacks.

CHAS. G. HOADLEY.



TOWNS.	RECEIPTS.					EXPENSES.						Districts Taxing.
	School Fund, etc.	Town Deposit.	Local Funds.	Town Tax.	District Tax.	Total.	Teachers' Wages.	Fuel, etc.	Repairs.	Other Objects.	Total.	
Bridgeport.....	\$15,268.80	\$431.49	\$168.00	\$41,952.95		\$58,141.24	\$41,594.62	\$6,182.94	\$2,369.14	\$2,846.69	*\$53,166.51	0
Danbury.....	6,108.00	526.04	405.46	15,106.42	\$337.70	23,262.06	17,596.90	2,465.82	842.63	3,142.94	*24,194.29	3
Bethel.....	1,454.40	185.03	12.54	3,025.88	204.61	5,002.63	4,186.07	495.12	228.45	134.50	*5,170.21	2
Brookfield.....	564.00	193.37	28.18	1,358.93		2,154.48	1,941.55	163.31		50.00	2,154.86	0
Darien.....	938.40	148.00		2,022.44	201.97	3,360.81	2,756.34	270.00	251.97	82.50	*3,360.81	1
Easton.....	496.80	139.38		1,277.27		1,925.45	1,741.14	127.50		57.00	1,925.70	0
Fairfield.....	2,054.40	504.00	270.72	6,323.32	237.27	9,413.36	7,560.90	1,024.18	361.01	462.27	*9,408.36	1
Greenwich.....	4,562.40	516.61	54.60	6,714.12	3,329.25	15,447.19	10,990.00	768.71	1,055.07	533.41	*15,447.19	3
Huntington.....	1,245.60	211.27		2,784.74	3,312.42	7,585.63	4,433.95	247.51	131.00	515.71	*7,653.00	2
Munroe.....	597.60	300.00		883.01		1,780.61	1,602.11	126.50		52.00	1,780.61	0
New Canaan.....	1,488.00	310.98	20.31	3,151.83		5,119.97	4,459.08	439.71		14.49	5,093.28	0
New Fairfield.....	427.20	144.00		1,300.73		1,871.93	1,680.35	116.72		98.00	1,895.07	0
Newtown.....	2,625.60	526.12	90.00	4,198.17		7,439.89	6,759.90	501.99		200.00	7,461.89	0
Norwalk.....	7,538.40	472.62	212.00	18,191.53	3,367.23	31,194.01	23,028.94	1,979.84	1,042.88	4,436.41	*30,556.84	3
Redding.....	902.40	259.81	20.01	1,936.01		3,118.23	2,791.68	206.55		120.00	3,118.23	0
Ridgefield.....	1,060.80	350.00		2,147.06		3,691.17	3,268.13	302.87		84.00	*3,691.50	0
Sherman.....	345.60	144.00		723.63		1,213.23	1,102.38	78.85		32.00	1,213.23	0
Stamford.....	6,304.80	567.27	190.19	12,863.72		19,925.98	16,425.72	2,133.71	565.15	801.40	19,925.98	0
Stratford.....	2,049.60	279.55	140.00	4,186.95	2,380.18	9,003.28	5,990.27	480.18	106.52	1,406.56	*8,006.53	2
Trumbull.....	652.80	191.39	39.10	1,258.21		2,215.88	1,959.90	147.40	169.43	40.00	2,316.73	0
Weston.....	472.80	179.92	95.97	491.26		1,239.95	1,120.59	80.86		38.50	1,239.95	0
Westport.....	2,025.60	336.00		3,126.00	200.00	5,687.60	4,996.03	318.88	419.38	150.00	5,884.29	1
Wilton.....	1,027.20	323.15		1,374.05	423.88	3,289.28	2,406.50	259.51	19.27	140.14	*3,125.42	1
23 Towns.....	\$60,211.20	\$7,240.00	\$1,747.08	\$136,401.23	\$13,994.51	\$223,163.86	\$170,393.05	\$18,918.72	\$7,561.90	\$15,617.52	*\$217,700.58	19

## CHAPTER VII.

## BRIDGEPORT †

Preface—The Paugusset or Golden Hill Indians—Destruction of the Pequots—Indian Agriculture—Orders of the General Court—Religious Instruction—Precautions against Surprise during King Philip's War—Golden Hill set off as an Indian Reservation—Value of Real Estate in 1659—The Shepherd of Stratford severely Handled—Shillings and Chops acquitted of the Charge of Murder—Elder Sherwood's Wrestling-Match—Sale of part of Indian Reservation to Samuel Hawley—Deeds of Land on Golden Hill in 1700 and 1701—Encroachments by the Whites, and Sale of the remainder of Reservation—Extortion by an Indian Agent redressed by the General Court—List of Official Guardians of the Indians—Purchase of Turkey Hill Meadow—An Indian sold into Slavery—Survivors of the Tribe in 1880—Financial Statement.

## PREFACE.

THE following paper upon the history of Bridgeport has been compiled after a careful study of original documents, such as church and society records, contemporary newspapers and pamphlets, petitions, deeds, wills, etc. It undoubtedly contains some errors, but it is hoped that they will not be very numerous, and a number of mistakes made by me in previous publications are here corrected. Thanks are due to Mr. R. B. Lacey, from whose excellent "Municipal Register" I have made frequent quotations, to the *Standard Association* for the use of their files, and to all others who have kindly assisted me. If the article is found to be of service to the community, I shall feel well repaid for the time spent in its preparation.

WILLIAM B. HINCKS.

BRIDGEPORT, Oct. 1, 1880.

\* Including money for new school-houses, and for libraries and apparatus.

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## THE PAUGUSSET OR GOLDEN HILL INDIANS.

The Indians found in this vicinity by the first white settlers called themselves the Paugussets. Their neighbors upon the east were the Quinnipiacs, of New Haven; on the west the Uncawas, of Fairfield; and upon the north the Potatucks, of Newtown and Woodbury. Their acquaintance with the English began in the summer of 1637, when the latter, under command of Capt. Mason and Lieut. Davenport, surrounded Sasco Swamp, in Fairfield, and killed or captured the remnant of the fierce Pequot tribe who had taken refuge there. From passages in the early records of the colony, it would appear that a fine or tribute was imposed upon the Indians of this vicinity for having harbored the Pequots.

In 1639 settlements were begun by the English at Stratford and at Fairfield. So far as known, the planters in every case purchased the land from the Indians, and upon the records of these two towns may still be seen particulars of many such transactions. The terms "old field," and "old Indian field," frequently occurring in these records, are believed to refer to land which had been cleared by the Indians for cultivation before the arrival of the whites. These tracts were large,—a fact that would indicate that the Indians depended to a greater extent upon agriculture for their support than has generally been supposed.

The relations between the English and their wild neighbors at this early day are clearly shown by the orders passed by the General Court. It was forbidden to sell to an Indian, arms, ammunition, or liquor of any kind, or horses, or boats. Sachems were made answerable for the conduct of their tribes. Indians were forbidden by law to enter the houses of the set-

tlers, or to handle their fire-arms or other weapons, under penalty of a fine for disobedience, or retaliation in kind if any loss of life or limb was occasioned by their carelessness. It was not allowable for more than two or three Indians to come into a settlement together, and, in any case, they were to leave their weapons behind them; and if found prowling around the dwellings of the settlers after dark, it was lawful to shoot them.

At the same time they were treated, in the main, fairly. Injuries to them in person or property were severely punished, and some attempts to Christianize them were made. The General Court passed resolutions instructing the Governor and other magistrates to endeavor to convey through suitable interpreters some knowledge of God and his word to "those poore lost, naked sonnes of Adam," and ordered that at least twice in every year a teaching elder and an interpreter should go among them and "endeavor to make known to them the counsels of the Lord." John Blackleach, Sr., who kept the ferry over the Housatonic River between Stratford and Milford, deserves honorable mention in this connection. In 1669 he petitioned to be allowed to make known to the Indians, as he should have opportunity, "something of the knowledge of God." The General Court granted his request, and expressed the hope that the divine blessing might accompany his labors. That at least a portion of them were in the habit of attending church is evident from a vote passed at an early date in Stratford forbidding the Indians to enter the meeting-house during the prevalence of a contagious disease,—perhaps the smallpox, then raging among them.

The colonial records clearly show, however, that they were always regarded by the whites as dangerous neighbors. It was early enacted that, to prevent sudden attacks upon the Sabbath or lecture days, one from each household should come to meeting fully armed and equipped,—a custom which had not entirely fallen into disuse in 1695, when the First Church of this city was gathered.

During the prolonged contest with the Eastern Indians known as Philip's War, great anxiety was felt throughout the colony. The Governor and Assistants, in session at Hartford, July 1, 1675, caused orders to be sent to all the western plantations to put themselves in a state of defense, and a little later, "from a deep sense of the eminent danger" impending, instructed them to provide places of refuge to which the women and children and other non-combatants might repair in case of assault. It was also ordered that strong guards be stationed in each town from twilight to sunrise, and that all males between the ages of sixteen and seventy, excepting magistrates, ministers, millers, physicians, and schoolmasters, should do their share of guard and other military duty. Patrols were to be sent out every day to keep open communication between the towns, and exposed

frontier settlements were broken up for the time and their inhabitants counseled to return to places of greater security. All persons working in the fields were to go and come in companies of not less than six, especially if necessity called them to go more than half a mile from the settlement. In Stratford a vote was passed to prevent false alarms and needless waste of ammunition. It is dated Aug. 8, 1675, and reads as follows: "Voted: That there shall be no gun shot off in the town-plot, or within the field, or upon the common road to Fairfield, upon any occasion whatsoever, except upon defense or occasion against the enemy, under penalty of five shillings for every gun. This order to stand during the present trouble with the Indians." A similar order was issued by the colonial government Sept. 3, 1675.

In the same year Richard Hubbell, Sr., of Stratfield, being indebted to the town of Fairfield to the amount of sixteen pounds, the balance due for a tract of land purchased from the town, was ordered, in lieu of the cash, to turn into the public "magazine" eight hundredweight of lead, to be used in casting bullets.

The whole colony was, in fact, placed for a time under martial law; but, happily, the precautions taken were so successful that even if an outbreak was meditated by the Connecticut Indians, none took place, nor were any of the frontier settlements sacked by the enemy.

In 1659, twenty years after the first settlement, the General Court granted the request of the Indians that Golden Hill might be set apart for them as a permanent dwelling-place, and instructed Mr. Canfield, Mr. Fitch, Richard Olmstead, and Nathaniel Ely, of Norwalk, to lay out eighty acres for them upon said Golden Hill, "beginning at y<sup>e</sup> foot of y<sup>e</sup> hill where y<sup>e</sup> Wigwams stood, and so to run upward on the hill." As part of the Indians who were removed to the reservation were from Fairfield, and as the reservation was wholly in Stratford limits, the committee awarded damages to the latter place as follows: "Fairfield men shall pay to Stratford, for the 80 acres of land that the Indians do possess at Pequannock, twenty pounds, to be paid in beef, pork, wheat, and peas; 2 barrels of beef, 2 barrels of pork, good and merchantable, which we value at £12, and £8 to be paid in wheat and peas: wheat 4s. 6d. the bushel, peas 3s. 6d. the bushel.

"May 2, 1660."\*

Although at present real estate is not very active, eighty acres upon Golden Hill would be considered a bargain at the price specified in this appraisal. The Indians also agreed with Stratford to keep up a fence, so that the swine of either party might not "damnifye" the growing crops of the other.

After the year 1659, when their land was set off to them, these Indians were commonly known as the Golden Hill tribe, from the name of their reservation.

\* Conn. Rec., i. 335, 348; Stratford Rec., i. 249, 250.



In the summer of 1725 the shepherd of the town flock in Stratford was set upon by a number of Indians engaged in a drunken carousal, his face painted, his body stamped upon until he was breathless, when he was "buried as dead." The manner in which the charge is made, however, implies his subsequent resuscitation, and it is probable that Newtown and New Milford Indians, and not those living upon Golden Hill, were guilty of the outrage. About the same time David Lane, infant son of Alexander Lane, of Stratford, was thought to have been murdered, and two Indians, bearing the euphonious names of Shillings and Chops, were tried for the crime before the Superior Court at Fairfield, Aug. 30, 1726, but were acquitted. An entry upon the Stratford records shows that it was finally determined that the child was accidentally drowned.

A few years later occurred an incident which the late Deacon David Sherwood was fond of relating as illustrating the uncommon physical strength of his grandfather, John Sherwood, captain of the train-band and the founder and first elder of the Stratfield Baptist Church. On a certain training-day, among the spectators present was a party of Indians from the reservation on Golden Hill, who had been behaving rather insolently, and one of them, a burly, athletic fellow, finally challenged the whites to choose their best man and he would defeat him in a wrestling-match. None of the spectators, sturdy farmers though they were, felt able to cope with the Indian athlete, whose muscular frame plainly showed him to be a very formidable antagonist; yet all felt it to be important that his challenge should be accepted, and that he should be defeated, for the sake of the effect upon the other savages. After some deliberation it was decided that Capt. Sherwood was the only man capable of vanquishing him, but doubts were expressed whether he would be willing to engage in a wrestling-match now that he had become so active in religious matters. A deputation came to him as he was drilling his men upon the parade-ground, and after hearing their story he briefly answered that his present duty was to drill his company, but that afterwards he would attend to the matter. Accordingly, when the parade was over and he had laid aside his regimentals, he approached the Indian champion, who was naked to the waist and shining with grease, so that it would have been difficult for another man to lay hold of him. But, bringing his right hand down upon the shoulder of the astonished savage, Elder Sherwood crumpled it up in his vise-like grasp, and then, throwing his left arm around him, he gave him such a hug and mighty fall as to leave him almost senseless upon the field, while the air rang with the plaudits of the spectators.

At some date unknown, but probably about the year 1700, the Golden Hill Indians sold half their reservation to Samuel Hawley, of Stratford. Mr. Hawley subsequently conveyed one-half his purchase to Rich-

ard Blackleach, the phraseology of the deed, omitting legal verbiage, being as follows:

"Know all men By thes presents that I Sam<sup>l</sup> Haley, of Stratford In the countey of fairfield and colony of Connecticut, have sold, alienated & confirmed, and Do by thes presents sell alienate set over and confirme unto Mr Richard Blackledge of Stratford aforesaid his heirs &c the Juste & Equal halfe of a tract of Land which I have Bought of the Endens [Indian] proprietors.

"Lying and Beeing on a place comonly caled golding hill; the whole quantety Beeing fortye acres Bee it more or less: Bounded north with the Inden fence; westerly with Land of Jacob waclen (Wakeley); Southerly with land of Jacob waclen, Capt Bardsley, and Sumers his land; Easterly with a Springing medo & highway: I say I have for a valuable Consideration to mee In hand Recdd. sold alienated and confirmed the equall halfe of the sd. tract of Land to Mr Richard Blackledge of Stratford his heirs & assigns &c. for ever. . . . Witness my hand and seall this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 1706

Seal.

"SAM<sup>l</sup> HALLEY Senr. □"

This deed was witnessed by Jacob Walker, and was duly acknowledged before Justice Matthew Sherwood, but was not recorded until May 3, 1710. The amount of the valuable consideration paid for forty acres of land on Golden Hill is not stated, but, ten months afterwards, Mr. Blackleach sold sixteen acres in the same locality to Benjamin Fayerweather for the sum of thirty-two pounds in provisions at market rates. The essential portions of the deed, abbreviating as before, are as follows:

"Know all men pr. thes presents that I Richard Blackledg Sr. for a valuable consideration to mee in hand already contented & paid pr, Benj fayerweather of fayerfield Do pr these presents sell alinate, set over & confirme to the sd Benja. fayerweather his heirs &c. for ever; sixteen acres of land, bee it more or less, situate within the limits of Stratford on Golding hill, commonly soo caled; & is the one halfe of a parcell of Land that Sam<sup>l</sup> Haley Bought of the Indens Belonging to said golding hill, except a small parcell that Lies on the south side of the high way that runs across sd Hill now In the occupation of Elizer fayerchild containing about three acres. The sd. land I have sold to said fayerweather Is Bounded Southerly with the Land of henery Sumers & John Sumers; westerly with the Land of Jacob Waclen; northerly with the Land of sd Indens, or thomas Haley's Land which he now improves in right of above sd Sam<sup>l</sup> Haley his father, Beeing the Remainder of his above sd. purches: easterly with sd. Indens land or the highway. southeasterly with the highway and so ranging tell you com to Henery Sumerses Land as the highway Runs. . . .

"Witness my hand & seal this first day of Aprel 1701. The valuable consideration above was thirty two pounds In pay. Seal.

"RICHARD BLACKLACH □"

This deed was witnessed by Samuel Hubbell and John Edwards and acknowledged before Justice James Bennett, and was put on record May 15, 1710.

About the year 1760, the Golden Hill Indians having become much reduced in numbers by death and by removal, the neighboring white proprietors began to encroach upon their reservation and to tear down the unoccupied wigwams. Three of the Indians, named respectively John, Eunice, and Sarah Shoran or Sherman, petitioned the Legislature for redress. The matter was investigated, and became the subject of litigation, which resulted, in 1765, in an order for the parties who had encroached upon the Indians to vacate the premises and restore the land they had unlawfully occupied. A compromise was, however, finally effected, by which the Indians gave up all right and title to their Golden Hill prop-

erty, receiving in exchange twelve acres of land on the west bank of the Pequonnock River, eight acres of woodland on Rocky Hill, thirty bushels of corn, and three pounds' worth of blankets. The tract upon the river to which they removed was afterwards known as the "Indian Lot," and was upon the eastern side of Main Street, not far from the junction of Washington Avenue. Within the recollection of men now living an Indian wigwam stood upon this lot. A clear spring of water in the same vicinity was also known as the "Indian Spring." The Rocky Hill tract was north of the present reservoir.

In the manuscript records of the proceedings of the General Assembly at Hartford are a preamble and resolution showing, like the incident just mentioned, that, however unjustly the Indians may have been treated by unworthy individuals among the whites, the Legislature of Connecticut was ready to redress their wrongs. Following is the text of the preamble and act referred to:

"Upon complaint of Aaron Hawley, of Hartford, relative to certain abuses and injuries done to Tom and Eunice and other Indians of Golden Hill, in said Stratford, a committee were appointed by the Assembly to examine into the subject-matter of said complaint and report make; which said committee having reported to this Assembly,

"*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the accounts of Daniel Morris, of said Stratford, late guardian of said Indians, have been overcharged, as exhibited annually to the judge of Probate, and that the credits for the use of their land fall much short of their real value; and for a full settlement of all affairs of said Indians, said guardian, Daniel Morris, do pay and satisfy to said Indians the sum of £36 15s. lawful money and the costs of the suit, and that execution issue accordingly.

"Costs taxed and allowed at £25 6s. 3½d.

"Execution granted Oct. 31, 1783."

The successors of Daniel Morris as guardians of the Golden Hill Indians have all been men of high standing in the community, who have taken an interest in their welfare and carefully managed their affairs. The record does not show the date of their appointment, but their names, beginning with the century and coming down to the present time, are as follows: Josiah Lacey, Elijah Burritt, Smith Tweedy, Daniel O. Wheeler, Dwight Morris, Russell Tomlinson.

In 1802 the General Assembly in session at New Haven, upon petition of Thomas Sherman, Eunice Sherman, and others, called Golden Hill Indians, setting forth that their land was yielding but little income, directed their agent, Josiah Lacey, to sell both of the above-named tracts at public auction or otherwise, which was accordingly done, and the proceeds invested for their support.

In 1841, Ruby Mansfield and Nancy Sharp, *alias* Nancy Pease, petitioned the Legislature, alleging that they were the sole survivors of the tribe, and

asking that a portion of the money in care of their agent, Smith Tweedy, be used to purchase a dwelling-house and sufficient land for their use and benefit. The Legislature by vote authorized Mr. Tweedy, with the advice and consent of the judge of Probate for the District of Bridgeport, to expend a sum not exceeding six hundred dollars for this object, and in November he purchased from Samuel Edwards about twenty acres of land, with a small house upon it, situated in Trumbull, at a place called Turkey Hill Meadow, where Ruby and Nancy took up their abode. Their statement, however, that they were the sole survivors of the tribe was not strictly accurate.

John Chops, who died in North Bridgeport in 1818, and whose name is perpetuated by the appellation of a hill upon which his wigwam stood, and William Sharp, a seafaring man, who is believed to have been sold into slavery at a South American port by his rascally captain, probably left no issue, but at the present writing (1880) there are still several families of these Indians remaining. William Sherman, the most intelligent of their number, lives in the town of Trumbull. He has for many years been in the employ of the Ambler family, by whom he is held in very high esteem for his many good qualities. His wife is a negro woman, and they have three or four children. Henry Pease, a nephew of William Sherman, is also a resident of Trumbull; he lost his hand a year or two since by the accidental discharge of a gun. There is also a family named Jackson, whose home is in North Stratford. So far as known to the writer, these are all the survivors of the Golden Hill branch of the once numerous Paugusset tribe.

At the present time their funds amount to about two thousand dollars, divided as follows:

Amount paid over to town of Trumbull for support of	
Henry Pease, per Act of Legislature.....	\$900
Lent William Sherman to build a house.....	800
Balance in City Savings Bank, Bridgeport.....	321
Total.....	\$2021

## CHAPTER VIII.

### BRIDGEPORT (Continued).

#### PEQUONNOCK OR STRATFIELD, FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT BY THE WHITES TO THE BEGINNING OF THE REVOLUTION.

Names and Boundaries of the Plantation—Petitions for School and Church Privileges—The first Meeting-House built, in 1693—Sketches of Rev. Charles Chauncey and Rev. Samuel Cooke—Items from Inventory of Samuel Hubbell's Estate in 1714—Quaint and Curious Extracts from the Parish Records—Erection of the second Church edifice, in 1717—Educational Matters—School Districts formed—The Episcopal Church in Stratfield—Sketches of the early Missionaries, Messrs. Caner, Lamson, and Sayre—St. John's Church built in 1748—Religious Toleration in Connecticut—Stratfield Baptist Church organized in 1751—Extracts from the church records.

FAIRFIELD and Stratford, as related elsewhere in this volume, were settled by the English in 1639.



Dr. Trumbull, in his "History of Connecticut," says that another settlement was begun the same year at Pequonnock, in the western part of Stratford, near the boundary between the two plantations, and in this statement several passages in the colonial records would at first view seem to sustain him. Yet, upon further consideration, the question arises whether the word "Pequonnock" in these passages is not loosely used as another name for Cupheag, or Stratford, and whether a number of years did not actually elapse before the fertile plains near the dividing-line between Fairfield and Stratford tempted a few families to locate upon them. Certainly it would be very strange if the first planters within our limits really waited for nearly forty years before setting up a school of their own, and for a much longer period before establishing public worship, considering the importance which we know that they attached to these institutions; yet this must have been the case if a settlement was begun here in 1639.

About the year 1653 a grist-mill is believed to have been built at the foot of what is now called Moody's Pond, near Mountain Grove Cemetery. Either Henry Jackson, of Fairfield, who had just sold the mill erected by him in 1648, or his son, Moses Jackson, was the builder.

In 1670 the land for some three-quarters of a mile west of the street now called Park Avenue was owned by ten families, who perhaps have as good a claim as any to be considered the original settlers.

Following is a list of their names, No. 1 being the one whose property was the farthest east, No. 2 coming next, and so on:

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1, THE WIDOW WHEELER. | 6, ISAAC WHEELER.    |
| 2, GOODMAN HALL.      | 7, JAMES BENNETT.    |
| 3, JOSEPH WHELPLEY.   | 8, MATTHEW SHERWOOD. |
| 4, JOHN ODELL.        | 9, RICHARD HUBBELL.  |
| 5, SAMUEL TREADWELL.  | 10, HENRY JACKSON.   |

These people were the proprietors of "long lots,"—narrow strips of woodland only a few rods in width, but extending back into the forest for some six or eight miles. Even the front line or southern extremity of these lots we should now consider a long way back into the country, as it was about as far north as the present Stratfield Baptist Church. Where the houses of the owners stood cannot now be certainly determined, except in two or three instances. Most of them probably had their homes much farther southward than the locality mentioned, and perhaps some of them, though owning land here, never lived in Pequonnock at all.

The word "Pequonnock"—the name applied to the territory near where Park and North Avenues now intersect—is of Indian origin; it signifies "place of slaughter" or "place of destruction," and was perhaps given to the locality on account of some long-forgotten tragedy occurring among the aborigines. It still survives in the name of a street, in the title of one of our banks, and in that of the river upon which the city is built. In a petition dated May, 1694, the

inhabitants asked that, as the place was upon the boundary-line of the towns of Fairfield and Stratford, belonging partly to each, the Indian name Pequonnock might be changed to Fairford,—a word whose composition is at a glance apparent. The General Court preferred that it should be called Fairfield Village, and so ordered; but in the following year the people changed this appellation to Stratfield, though the change was not legalized until 1701. The following order was passed by the Assembly at the May session in that year:

"This Assembly, having heard and considered the petition of the inhabitants of Fairfield village, presented to them by Lieut James Bennett desiring that the Court would state and settle for them a line for the west boundarye to their plantation, &c., doe order and enact: That the line to be the west boundarye of the said plantation shall run so as that it may take in and include within their bounds, one Moses Jackson, miller, his housings and lands and run on the west side of old Jackson's lots (viz<sup>t</sup>), pasture, building lott, and long lott, upwards or northwards to the upward or northern end of the bounds of the town of Fairfield, and that all such person or persons as have built or that shall build and inhabit on the east side of the abovesaid line, and on the west side of Poquanock River, shall pay to all publick charges that shall arise in the said plantation his rateable part thereof.

"Provided alwayes: That this act shall in no wise hinder or abridge the inhabitants of the said plantation of using and holding the privilege of feeding sheep to the westward of the abovesaid line, as it was granted to them formerly by the inhabitants of the town of Fairfield.

"And further it is enacted by the authoritye aforesaid: That the said plantation (formerly called Poquanock and Fairfield village) shall for the future be called by the name of Stratfield."

These limits were afterwards enlarged by an act passed by the General Assembly at New Haven in October, 1752.

The code of laws drawn up for Connecticut Colony by Roger Ludlow, the first settler of Fairfield, and deputy-governor of the colony, which was adopted by the General Court in the year 1650, contains this passage:

"It being one chief project of that old deluder Sathan, to keepe men from the knowledg of the Scriptures, as in former times keeping them in an unknown tongue, so in these latter times by perswading them from the vse of Tongues, so that at least the true sence and meaning of the originall might bee clouded with false glosses of saint seeming deceivers; and that Learning may not bee buried in the Grave of our Forefathers in Church and Commonwealth, the Lord assisting our indeavors. It is therefore ordered that every Towneship within this Jurisdiction after the Lord hath increased them to the number of fifty householders, shall then forthwith appoint one within their Towne to teach all such children as shall resort to him, to write and read, whose wages shall be paid either by the parents or masters of such children, or by the inhabitants in generall. . . . And it is further ordered, that where any Towne shall increase to the number of one hundred families or householders they shall set up a Grammar Schoole, the masters thereof being able to instruct youths so farr as they may be fitted for the University."

There is abundant evidence to show that this law was not suffered to remain a dead letter upon the statute-book, and that the projects of the "old deluder" met with considerable opposition.

As early as 1650 it was voted by the inhabitants of Stratford in public meeting to pay the schoolmaster thirty-six pounds per annum,—a large sum considering the small size of the place and the greater relative value of money at that day,—the town to bear one-half the expense, and the parents of the children the balance.

So, also, the oldest document signed by the inhabitants of the plantation of Stratfield, as such, that I have been able to find, is a petition for a school, addressed to the General Court, dated May, 1678, and subscribed by Isaac Wheeler, John Odell, Sr., and Matthew Sherwood, in behalf of the people of the place. The distance of nearly four miles that separates them from Fairfield Centre is too great, they say, to be easily traversed by the children, especially the younger ones, and therefore they had set up a school of their own and employed an experienced teacher. Forty-seven children were already in attendance. The expense of the school they propose to bear themselves, but ask to be freed from taxation for the benefit of the one in Fairfield. Rev. Samuel Wakeman, minister at Fairfield, added a favorable indorsement to the petition, though most of his parishioners were opposed to granting it. The General Court referred the matter to the Fairfield County Court, with power to act, and recommended that body to make an allowance to the petitioners from the county revenues equal to or greater than their annual school-tax.

Ten years after the commencement of this school a young graduate of Harvard College, Charles Chauncey by name, son of Rev. Israel Chauncey, of Stratford, began to hold religious meetings in Pequonnock. These meetings were begun in the year 1688, as shown by a receipt or acquittance bearing Mr. Chauncey's signature, which may be seen upon the parish record-book, and they must have been held either in the school-house or in private dwellings, for no church had then been built. Though but twenty years of age, the preaching of the young divinity-student found favor, and in May, 1690, forty-six persons, the greater part of them residents of Pequonnock, petitioned the General Court to free them from paying taxes for the support of pulpit and school in Fairfield or in Stratford, as they purposed to maintain their own. Their petition, although acquiesced in by Stratford, was opposed by Fairfield, and the Court did not grant it.

Further petitioning followed, met by continued opposition on the part of Fairfield, whose representatives submitted a remonstrance containing twenty-four rather ill-natured "reasons why those of pequonnock should not be discharged from paying anny of our town dewes," but in the spring of 1694 liberty was finally obtained to embody as a separate parish. A formal call was immediately extended to Mr. Chauncey and accepted by him, and an annual salary of sixty pounds, payable in provisions at market rates, was voted him "for his encouragement in the work of the ministry."

The first meeting-house was a small building erected and roofed in, as we learn from one of the petitions to the General Court, in the summer of 1693. It stood upon a hill on the west side of Park Avenue, just south of Clark Street,—a site commanding a fine view in every direction and not easily surprised

by the Indians. The worshipers carried arms and were summoned to their devotions by a drummer,—a practice common in the colony, and alluded to in the following lines:

"New England's Sabbath-day  
Is heaven-like, still, and pure;  
Then Israel walks the way  
Up to the temple door.  
The time we tell  
When there to come,  
By beat of drum  
Or sounding shell."

The church was formally organized and Mr. Chauncey was ordained, June 13, 1695. This is the same body which is now known as the First Congregational or North Church of Bridgeport. Upon the early records, however, it is not designated by any denominational title, but simply as "The Church of Christ in Stratfield." The original members were nine in number, all males,—viz., Richard Hubbell, Sr., Isaac Wheeler, Sr., James Bennett, Sr., Samuel Beardsley, Samuel Gregory, Sr., Matthew Sherman, Richard Hubbell, Jr., David Sherman, John Odell, Jr. Four weeks afterwards fifteen females were admitted to membership by letter,—nine from the church in Fairfield, and six from that in Stratford.

David Sherman was the first deacon. He was a farmer, and his home was on the summit of Toilsome Hill. Besides being gifted in prayer and taking the lead in religious services acceptably in the absence of the pastor, he was a good singer and acted as chorister, as shown by the following vote, passed Feb. 16, 1707-8: "*Voted*: That Thomas Hawley should second Ensigne Sherman in seting y<sup>e</sup> psalm in publick." From another vote, passed in 1755, it appears that the collection of psalmody in use down to that time was the old "New England" or "Bay Psalm Book," copies of which are now very rare and command an enormous price. There is no mention in the records of the practice of lining out the psalm; but, as it was usual throughout New England, it may have prevailed here. The custom had its origin in the scarcity of books. Originally but one line was given out at a time for the congregation to sing, but it was found that coming to a full stop at the end of each line did not always improve the sense; as, for instance, in the following couplet:

"The Lord will come; and he will not  
Keep silence, but speak out."

Hence the practice of reading two lines at a time was introduced, and continued down to about the period of the Revolution.

Charles Chauncey, son of Rev. Israel, of Stratford, and grandson of President Chauncey, of Harvard College, was born at Stratford, Sept. 3, 1668; was graduated at Harvard in 1686, and commenced his labors in Pequonnock, as already mentioned, in 1688. March 18, 1689-90, he was made a freeman at Fairfield. He married, June 29, 1692, Sarah, daughter of



Col. John Burr, of Pequonnock, and in December of the same year the town of Fairfield granted him three acres of land, on the north side of his home lot, to descend to his heirs "if he dy in the ministry at Po-quannock," but otherwise to revert to the town. The facts respecting his ordination have already been given. Mr. Chauncey's homestead was upon the street afterwards called Cooke's Lane and Grove Street, not very far from the present terminus of the horse-railroad in Fairfield Avenue. His first wife died in 1697. His second wife, Sarah, daughter of Henry Wolcott, and sister of Roger Wolcott, Governor of Connecticut, died Jan. 5, 1703-4, and on March 14, 1710, he married Elizabeth Sherwood, who outlived him. Mr. Chauncey died Dec. 31, 1714, "aged 48 years," says his tombstone, which may still be seen near the southwest corner of the old Stratfield burying-ground. Following is an extract from his will:

"To my wife, Elizabeth, £10 yearly from my estate at Lambeth, England; which estate came to me from my father, Israel. To my son Israel the balance of the estate at Lambeth, he paying the said £10. To my son John the homestead at Stratford. To my sons Robert and Ichabod Wolcott all my estate in Stratfield, slaves, etc. To my daughter Abiah, now wife of Rev. Timothy Cutler, of Stratford, successor of Israel my father, £40."

The number of children baptized by Mr. Chauncey in his own parish from June, 1695, until his death, in December, 1714, was four hundred and forty-four. During the same time ninety-seven adults were admitted to full communion, besides many others received under "the half-way covenant." No register of deaths appears upon the church records, and the list of marriages is incomplete. Commodore Isaac Chauncey, born at Black Rock in 1772, a distinguished naval commander in the war of 1812, was his great-grandson.

One of Mr. Chauncey's parishioners was Samuel Hubbell, the recorder, who died in 1714, leaving a large estate. The inventory of his effects upon the Fairfield Probate records is a voluminous document, well worth reading, but hardly of sufficient importance to copy in full here. A few extracts from it, however, will show what articles composed the wearing-apparel, weapons of war, and library of a wealthy man at that day:

#### Wearing Apparel.

	Appraised value.		
	£.	s.	d.
1 worsted Camblet Coat.....	2		
1 broad cloth coat.....	2		
1 Serge do .....		10	
1 loose do .....		6	
1 deffels do .....		15	
1 Serge vest.....	1		
1 holland do .....		5	
1 old serge do .....		3	
1 flannell do .....		2	
1 pr leather briches.....		8	
1 " Serge " .....		10	
1 " Druggit " .....		2	
1 " Striped leather briches.....		6	
1 " Cherry derry " .....		3	
1 " checked linen " .....		1	6
1 Castor.....	14		
1 old hat.....	4		
1 gaelick shirt.....	8		
2 do .....	10		

	£.	s.	d.
2 paire worsted stockens.....	2		
2 " homespun do .....	8		
1 " shoes.....	3		
4 neck cloths.....	12		
pocket handkerchiefs.....	4	6	

#### Arms.

1 Buckaneer gun.....	2		
1 gun 8 square barrell.....	1	3	
1 gun with a Brass sencer.....	1	10	
1 short gun.....	1		
1 Case of pistols and holsters.....	3	14	
1 Simmiter and belt.....	1		
1 baggenet and belt.....		2	
1 two edged Rieper [rapier].....		12	
1 brass hilt rieper and belt.....		10	
1 broken rieper.....		5	
1 old back sword.....		5	
70 lbs. powder @ 2s.....	7		
Shot and bullets.....		5	
140 lbs. lead @ 3½d.....	2	0	10
2 bullet pouches.....		1	

#### Miscellaneous.

1 looking glass.....		14	
10 m. 8 penny nails @ 10s. per m.....	5		
19 " 6 " " " 7s. " ".....	6	13	
1 Cart and wheels [the only vehicle].....		16	
1 Iron lamp.....		3	
3 Candlesticks.....		3	
2 wooden bottles.....		3	
1 doz. ½ trenchers.....		1	6
2 bear Casks.....		3	
Brueing tubb.....		5	
Churn.....		3	

#### Books.

A great bible.....	17		
old psalm book.....	1		
Mr Allen concerning heart work.....	2		
ditto upon the Covenant.....	1		
3 favels works.....	3		
Pilgrims progress.....	1		
the young man's guide.....		8	
Mr Williams captivity.....	1		
A token for children.....	1		
A preparation for y <sup>e</sup> Sacrement.....		8	
Mr. Mathers works.....	1		
Spelling book.....		8	
John Vernons works.....	1	6	
Secretarys guide.....	1		
boon's military book.....		8	
life of Mr Henry Gearnig.....	1		
Lucanes book.....	1		

All local affairs were settled in parish meetings, usually held in the school-house at the hour of sun-down. The legal way of warning meetings was by posting three notices,—one at or near the meeting-house, one at Deacon David Sherman's corner, on Toilsome Hill, and a third upon an old white-oak tree which used to stand upon the boundary-line between Fairfield and Stratford. The officers appointed at these meetings were selectmen, school committee, sheep-masters, collectors, a treasurer, a constable, and a recorder. The selectmen laid the tax, the collectors gathered it, and the treasurer paid it out for the support of pulpit and school. The sheep-masters had charge of the town flock, concerning which more presently. The constable's duty, besides "putting forth pursuits or Hue and cries, after thieves, burglars, profane swearers, and Sabbath-breakers," was "to warn those that frequented taverns and spent their time idly there," and to look after the boys in time of public worship. The recorder, or society's clerk, was one of the most important officers in the parish. Samuel Hubbell filled the place until his death, in 1714, when he was succeeded by John Burr, who was followed in 1720 by Deacon Lemuel Sherwood, at whose decease, in 1732, Daniel Hubbell took the office.

The original record-book, though much dilapidated, is still in existence, and perhaps in no way can so good an idea of life in Stratfield at that early day be obtained as by making some extracts from its pages, and, with the exception of a few words of explanation, suffering them to tell their own story:

#### EXTRACTS FROM PARISH RECORDS.

"The Records of the Accts of fairfeild vilag, Beegun in the yer 1693-4.

"It was then voted per the sd. Sosity that Mr. Charles Chauncey, for his Incurgement In the ministrey shall Have Sixtey pounds in good provisions for the yr. Insueing, to bee paid Him By way of Rate, Each man according to the Liste of his Estate given In."

Mr. Chauncey's salary was afterwards raised to eighty pounds, and was paid in provisions at market rates, which were about as follows: Wheat, 5s. per bushel; Indian corn and rye, 3s. per bushel; pork, 3½d. per pound. He was also annually supplied with fifty or sixty loads of firewood, worth about ten pounds more, one-fourth of it being of good hickory, the remainder oak.

The votes which follow relate to the custom of calling the people to church by beat of drum, of which mention has already been made. It will be seen that the drummer marched around the meeting-house so as to give the settlers on every side the full benefit of the summons:

1699, September: "Voted to give James Benit His rate to Mr. Chauncey for beating the drume on publick days."

1710, Dec. 22: "Voted that the Select men shall agree with a man to Swepe the meeting house & Beeat the Drume on Sabath days, but not to give above 40 s. pr. yer."

1715, July, 17: "Voted that the Drum shall bee batten round the meting hous on Sabath Days."

About seven years after the meeting-house was built, an effort was made to render it more comfortable. New seats, and iron window-casements with panes of glass, were among the improvements made. Before that time it is possible that oiled paper had been used in the windows as a substitute for glass. Following are some of the votes in relation to the matter:

1699, Oct. 30: "Voted that the Sosity wold bee at the Charg of new seating the meating house.

"Voted to pay a Rate of one penny in the pound towards the Seating of said Meeting house and other Charges."

1700, April 3: "Voted that the Sosity wold have the meeting house Seated with wainscut work."

1701, April 28: "It was then voted by this Sosity that the same Comunity which was apoynted to hier a man to make the seats for the meeting house shall have the same power to hier workemen to make Iron Casements for the meeting house and glaze them as is needful."

The iron casements must have rattled, and the teeth of the worshipers chattered, when the January blasts swept over the hilltop upon which the meeting-house stood, for fires were a luxury unknown in the early Puritan meeting-houses. The zeal of the hearer and his interest in the sermon were supposed to be sufficient to make him oblivious to trifling discomforts.

How the boys were cared for in time of service is

shown by entries like the following. The constable, with his staff of office, must have been an awe-inspiring personage, but less so than his successor, Noah Morehouse, who was the village gravedigger, and used to receive three shillings for digging large, or two shillings and sixpence for small, graves. An unfortunate boy in his grasp must have experienced about the same sensations that Ichabod Crane did when pursued by the headless horseman of Sleepy Hollow:

1699 (month illegible): "Voted that the Constabell shall have the Charge of the boys on Sabath day, to keep them in order."

1712, Oct. 8: "Noah Morehouse Is Chosen to whip boys on Sabath days."

1723, Sept. 17: "Voted that Thomas Chambers shall seet In y<sup>e</sup> West Gallery to look after y<sup>e</sup> boyes on Sabath dayes to keep them in Good order. Also voted that John Hubble shall seet in y<sup>e</sup> front Gallery to look after y<sup>e</sup> boyes on y<sup>e</sup> Sabath dayes to keep them in good order for the year In suing."

1725, Dec. 19: "Voted that Nathaniel Wackle should be the man to look after y<sup>e</sup> boyes a Saboth dayes in time of Exercise, that they play not."

But, however strict the discipline of the boys may have been, there is nothing to show that attendance upon public worship was ever made compulsory in Stratfield, nor do the records contain any instances of fine or imprisonment for non-attendance, as in some other places in New England.

As the reader will observe, the Stratfield records include a variety of matter, genealogical and commercial as well as ecclesiastical. Some of the former class are recorded with great minuteness. Witness the following:

"Benjamin (?) fayrewether was married unto Sarah Wheeler (date illegible).

"Their daughter Katherine born wensday morning, March 3, 1693-94.

"Hannah, born munday Evening December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1696.

"Andrew, born (illegible) february 15, 1698-9.

"Jedediah, born Saturday evening, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1700.

"John, born thusday, sunsat, December 28, 1703.

"penlope, born Munday, febur. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1705-6.

"Joseph, born tursday, 11 o'clock att night, Nov. 4, 1707.

"thommas, born monday morning, october 17, 1709.

"wolter, born monday nit, 11 clock, Decem<sup>r</sup> 17, 1711.

"Sarah, born tusday morning, fore Clock, Sept. 22, 1713.

"mary, born friday nit, 11 clock, Januar. 13, 1715-16.

"Benj. was born october the first, about 9 att night on tuesday, 1717.

and his brother born the Same time: they were twines but y<sup>e</sup> last died instantly in ½ an hour.

"walter died December y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup>, 1717.

"James was born thirsday night about 11 a clock, 1721, august the 24<sup>th</sup>, and died the 29<sup>th</sup> Instant.

"Brought To record the Marriage of Samuel Hall and y<sup>e</sup> birth of his Children on the eighth day of February 1730-31, and the accou<sup>t</sup> thereof is as followeth:

"Namly Samuel Hall and Sarah Silliman entered Into a marriage state July the 29<sup>th</sup> day, in y<sup>e</sup> year 1714.

"his son David Hall was born July y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> day, 1715 on Tusday, about break of day.

"His daughter Martha Hall was born April y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> day 1717, on tusday about y<sup>e</sup> middel of y<sup>e</sup> after noon.

"His son Samuel Hall was born Decem<sup>br</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> day 1718, on tusday night.

"His son Nathaniell Hall was born Novem<sup>br</sup> y<sup>e</sup> third day 1720, Thirsday.

"His son Ebenezer Hall was born March y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> day 1723 on tusday.



"His Daughter Sarah Hall was born february y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> day 1724 on Saturday.

"His son David Hall departed this life february y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> day 1725-26 on tuesday.

"His daughter Mary Hall was born Septem<sup>br</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> day 1726, on Sabbath day.

"His son david Hall was born June y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> day 1728 on thursday.

"His son abel Hall was born July y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> day 1730, on Sabbath day."

Not less minute than this list of births is the record of deaths upon the church register, in the beautifully clear handwriting of Rev. Samuel Cooke, Mr. Chauncey's successor, a few extracts from which are annexed :

"1731-32, March 20, Died Josiah Cooke, one of my twin Sons, in 2 hours after its birth.

"1731-32, March 21, Died Eliasaph Cooke, y<sup>e</sup> other of my twin Sons, in 26 hours after its birth.

"1732, May 26, Died my Dear wife Elizabeth, in y<sup>e</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> year of her Age of an Apoplexy.

"1732, September 2, Died Deacon Lemuel Sherwood in y<sup>e</sup> — year of his Age: of a Dropsie.

"1732, September 3, Died Joseph Fayerweather at Boston, in y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> year of his Age; of a Bloody flux.

"1732, November 10, Died Capt. Sam<sup>l</sup>. Sherwood in y<sup>e</sup> — year of his Age, of a malignant Fear [fever?].

"1732, November 21, Died at Fairfield Sam<sup>l</sup>. Morehouse, of a malignant Fever, Aged about — years.

"1732, December 23, Died Serg<sup>t</sup> Samuel French of the Dry belly ach, aged about — years.

"1732-33, Feb. 26, Died Hannah the infant Posthumous Daughter of Deacon Sherwood.

"1733, October 20, Died Eunice, the Daughter of Benj<sup>s</sup> Beardsle of y<sup>e</sup> Bladder, aged 1 year.

"1733, October 30, Died Edward, the Son of Stephen Burrows, of the Bladder, aged 1 year.

"1733, November 17, Died Isaac Wheeler by bleeding of a Wound in his leg w<sup>ch</sup> seemed almost cured.

"1733-34, Jan<sup>y</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> in the morning, Died Moses' Jackson's Wife, of a Lethergie.

"1734-35, Feb. 8, Dorcas, the Negro Girl of Major John Burr, of a feaver.

"1734-35, Feb. 26, Francis Hall Jun<sup>r</sup>, Died of a malignant pleurisie.

"1734-35, March 7, David, the untimely infant of Obadiah Beardslee."

Sheep-raising was an industry of some importance in Stratfield. The sheep were of the old long-legged breed, and were pastured on land owned in common, or upon the highway, and at night folded together by a man hired by the town for that purpose: Madam Knight in her "Journey from Boston to New York in 1704" alludes to this practice. Rev. Samuel Cooke, besides being the spiritual shepherd of Stratfield, was at one time one of the owners of the town-flock.

"1706, Februry. At a meeting of the proprietors of the Sheepe in Stratfield it was then voted that the Sheepe shall bee Lett at Sharmon's corner or near there about. Voted that Saml. Hubbell, Richard Hubbell & Sam<sup>l</sup> Sumers Bee Sheepe masters to order the prudentials of the flock for the yer Insuing. Voted that the Sheepe masters shall Have power to hier men to clear the Comons for the advantage of the flock & to pay the Charges from the Sheepe money."

1709, March 28: "James Hubbell agrees with the sheeplemasters to keep the flock from March 29<sup>th</sup> until the time of taking up the sheep at Mickelmas for 3s. per day in provision pay, or 2s. 6d. if he has a boy to help him."

1723, Dec. 24: "Voted that the Sheep Shall bee Lett at the School Hous for the year Insuing. Voted that they that doo not bring in the number of their Sheep by y<sup>e</sup> middle of Jeneary shall loose their money."

Horses were branded not only upon the shoulder, but upon the ear, every owner having his own private mark, which was registered as carefully as trade-marks are at the present day.

Several pages upon the record-book are filled with the particulars of sales and exchanges like the following:

1701, August: "Sam<sup>l</sup>. whelers marke is a smale forke on the ner er and a nick under it, and a halfe peny under the off er."

1703: "francis Hall sold to John the frenchman at Milford one horse, Darke browne marked with 3 halfpennys under the off er, slit in the ner ear, Branded on the ner sholder: sd horse was sold to said french man for —."

The price paid by John the Frenchman for his horse is destined apparently to remain, like the authorship of Junius' Letters or the identity of the Man with the Iron Mask, one of the unsolved problems of history, the concluding words of the paragraph having become, through age and much handling, wholly illegible.

1702, Dec. 18: "Daniell Bardsley sold Joseph Benit a Dun horse, with a Large Star In the forehead, Branded X on the ner Shoulder, and two half-pennys on the under side of the near ear."

1702, Dec. 18. "Joseph Benit Sold Daniell Bardsly one hors; Dark Browne with a bald face and foure white feet with a forke on the ner ear and a halfe peny on the off ear on the under side: about 7 yers old."

April 5, 1703: "Sam<sup>l</sup> french sold James Hubbell one horse, black with Abell Bingham's eare mark, 2 yr old, for the some of 3 sheep and 2 Lam."

Jan. 2, 1705: "Jonathan Taylor exchanged a roneish mare y<sup>t</sup> was formerly Edward Lacy<sup>s</sup> having a blaze down y<sup>e</sup> face, marked with a slit down ye near eare & half penny on y<sup>e</sup> foreside of y<sup>e</sup> off eare, and branded with F on y<sup>e</sup> near shoulder with Benj. Fayerweather for a Bay mare with a blaze down y<sup>e</sup> face, a wall eye two white feete behind.

"Present at y<sup>e</sup> exchange Jno. Sealy, Math. Sharwood Jun<sup>r</sup>."

"The under ritten being Desired to apprise a black mare that was tacken up in the Woods above fairfield by Sam<sup>l</sup>. hall, being about ten yer old, hath a Star in the forad, marked with a half penny under the ner Ere, with Colchester brand & M. R. on the ner buttock: wee Doo apprise the sd. mare to be worth fifty shiling in mony. witness our hands August 16, 1714.

"BENJ. GRIGORY  
"SAML. ODELL."

Here is an entry which seems to indicate the existence of something like a guild or trade union among the storekeepers of the place,—hardly very numerous I imagine, though "majority of merchants in Stratfield" certainly has an imposing sound. The votes which follow show that keeping tavern without a license was not permitted:

1706-7 March (?) 21<sup>st</sup>: "Mr Jo<sup>s</sup> Bennitt of Stratfield haveing payd full satisfaction to the Majority of Merchants in Stratfield for his tradeing in said place as a Merchant, the said Society acknowledges the same & allow him to enter on y<sup>e</sup> records of Stratfield Joseph Bennitt Merchant.

"SAM<sup>l</sup> HUBBELL Recorder."

1713, Sept. 23: "Voted that the widow hubbell shall be tavern ceper for this yer."

1715, July 17: "Mr. Ben fairwether alsow cosen [chosen] tarven ceper for the yer in suing."

After the death of Mr. Chauncey, Stratfield Society extended a call to Rev. Samuel Cooke to become their pastor. Mr. Cooke accepted, promising to serve them in the ministry for life if they would cheerfully and unanimously agree to pay him one hundred pounds per annum in current money, or in provisions at the following rates: Indian corn, 2s.; rye, 2s. 8d.; wheat, 4s. per bushel; pork, 20d. per hundred.

A vote had previously been passed to repair the meeting-house, but nothing had been done. Imme-

diately after Mr. Cooke's acceptance of the call vigorous measures were taken in this direction :

1715, July 17: " John Burr, Benj. fairwother then added a Comtee unto Capt. John Barsley, Mr. Jaems Benitt, & Richard hubbell to git the galerey finched and to sue Sam<sup>l</sup> franch for not performin of his obligation which he gaive to finch the galerey."

1715, December: " Richard hubbell, thomas hally, Jaems Sely chosen Comtee to Consult some Cafendurs for the In Largment of the meting hous."

The " Cafendurs" seem to have given it up as a hopeless case, and a new meeting-house, near what is now the northwest corner of Park and North Avenues, was decided upon :

1716, November: " Voted that the plas for the sating of a new meting hous, if they shall afterward agree to bild one, shall be nere the Corner of Joseph Trobige's orchard Lot, Deceased, on the norwest sid the road, between that and the widow Sharmans, Deceased.

" Also voted, same meting, that thay will bild a nue meting hous of the folowing dimenchuns: 22 feet between joynts, 48 feet long, 38 feet wide, a long roof. Cost not to exceed £250."

1716-17, March 11: " Voted that thair shall be sow much Rume Laft in the Nue meting hous for pues as the Comtee shall judge best. Also Agreed that the Comtee is impoured to lay out the bove sd. pues, and say hoe shall have them."

Col. John Burr and the family of Rev. Mr. Cooke were the first to occupy pews. The remainder of the congregation were assigned seats annually, according to the social position of each, by a committee chosen for the purpose,—an unchristian custom long prevalent in Connecticut.

1717, Dec. 30: " Voted that the Nue meting hous shall be sated by Dignety Adge and a State [Estate] by the presant List.

" Also Voted that David Sharmen, Richard hubbell, John odell, Sam<sup>l</sup> Sharword, John Burr, shall be a Comtee to Sate y<sup>e</sup> meting hous, and have pouer to Sate from time to time as thay see reason."

1723, Dec. 24: " Voted that Mr. Edwards shall Have Liberty to build a little House somewhere near y<sup>e</sup> meeting house."

This must have been one of the Sabbath-day houses, common throughout the colony,—small buildings divided into two apartments, one for either sex, with ample fireplaces, around which those members of the congregation who came from a distance gathered during intermission and partook of refreshments, discussing the while theology, or sometimes perhaps more worldly topics.

1725-26, March 17: " Voted that they will have a bell for the meating House att the Charge of the Society. Also voted that Sear. Samuel Gregory, John Hall, And David Sherman Jun<sup>r</sup> shall be a Committee to agree with Mr. Lucas for said bell."

Apparently, the committee and Mr. Lucas failed to agree, and no bell was purchased at this time.

In 1770 a tall steeple was built at the west end of the church, paid for partly by subscription, partly by tax. In March, 1774, another committee was appointed to take up subscriptions for a bell, and on September 12th of the same year, the bell having been hung, it was voted to ring it not only on Sundays, but at noon and nine o'clock P.M., on other days.

It seems likely that the bell was speedily cracked, whether by ordinary use or by excess of patriotic zeal,

for on Nov. 1, 1775, it was voted to have it taken down and run over.\*

Brief mention has already been made of the Rev. Samuel Cooke, who succeeded Mr. Chauncey as pastor of the Stratfield Church. Mr. Cooke was born in Guilford, Nov. 22, 1687, and was graduated at Yale in 1705. He married, Nov. 30, 1708, Miss Anne Trowbridge, of New Haven. In October, 1712, and for three years following, he was elected deputy or representative from New Haven, and by the Assembly at each session was chosen clerk. His pastorate in Stratfield began in June, 1715, and continued until his death, Dec. 2, 1747,—a period of thirty-two years.

Mr. Cooke was a man of much dignity, and in public always appeared in full ministerial costume,—a heavy curled wig, black coat and small-clothes, shoes fastened with silver buckles, and over all a large cloak or gown. His homestead fronted upon the street long called by his name,—Cooke's Lane, more recently Grove Street, not far from the Roman Catholic cemetery. It was three times invaded by death. His second wife was Widow Esther Sloss, *née* Burr; his third, Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Platt; and his fourth, Abigail, widow of Rev. Joseph Moss, of Derby.

There is a certain pathos in the entry in which he excuses his failure to attend to the church records for a long period: " Whoever shall succeed me in the ministry here, let him not neglect the records of baptism, etc., as through multiplied troubles and sorrows I have done for many years past, of which I can only say that I suppose all the white children belonging to this place, born from the beginning of the year 1719 to July, 1731, were baptized, excepting David Jackson's. A particular account I hope will follow afterwards."

Mr. Cooke in his later years suffered also from the depreciation of the currency in which his salary was paid, old-tenor bills, worth hardly one-fifth of their face. His executors brought suit against the parish and recovered heavy damages, which the Legislature confirmed. His successor in the ministry here was Rev. Lyman Hall, some account of whom will be found in the next chapter.

Mr. Hall was in turn followed by the Rev. Robert Ross, who became pastor of the Stratfield Church Nov. 28, 1753, and remained over it for more than forty-two years. A remarkable occurrence took place during his ministry. The people had assembled for worship on the morning of Sunday, July 28, 1771. A thunder-shower was gathering, but the services went on as usual, until the congregation rose and remained standing while the minister led them in prayer. The room grew darker and darker as the heavy clouds rolled up, while the distant muttering

\* This bell, after having been recast, was brought to Bridgeport in 1808, and placed in the steeple of the old North Church, where it remained until destroyed by fire in 1851.



of the thunder showed that a fearful storm was impending. The form of the pastor at length became almost invisible in the deepening gloom, but still he prayed on. Suddenly a dazzling glare of light filled the room, revealing in its swift passage the pale faces of the startled worshipers. The crashing peal of thunder which followed drowned the voice of the speaker, and he paused breathless. When the last echo of the thunder had died away, and the people were again left in darkness, there was an interval of awful expectancy. At length a solemn voice from the pulpit broke the stillness with the words, "*Are we all here?*" For a moment no one could answer, but as the congregation moved out and left the church, it was found that two of the most respected citizens had been taken in an instant from the house of God below, into the nobler house not made with hands, above. They were two of the best men in the little congregation,—Lieut. David Sherman and Capt. John Burr,—both of them in full health and in the prime of life. The former lived on Park Avenue, half a mile above North Avenue; the latter upon the corner of North and Clinton Avenues. The society voted to repair the damage done to the steeple by the lightning, and to put up a lightning-rod, then a new invention.

No particulars respecting the first school-house or its teachers have been preserved. A second one was built in 1703, as shown by the following vote:

Sept. 20, 1703: "Pr. the inhabitants of Stratfield then voted that Stratfield wold bee at the Charge of buildingd a Schoolhous sixteen foot Wide and 21 feet Long. Voted that the Schoolehous should bee sett near the whit oak boundre, between that and the run of water that comes out of Capt. Sharwod's paster."

Where Capt. Sherwood's pasture was, the present writer does not know. The white-oak tree referred to was on the boundary-line between Stratford and Fairfield, and was used as a public sign-post. Probably the schoolhouse stood near the junction of Park Avenue and Pequonnock Street, not far from the site of the present one in "Old South" district.

In 1710, William Rogers was the schoolmaster, and his agreement with the school committee, Samuel Hubbell and Benjamin Fayerweather, is still extant:

"The said William Rogers, Schoolmaster of the said Plantation, is to keep a Reading and writing School in the said Plantation, to teach the children & Youth to Read, write, & cypher, the terme and time of Six months, commencing on the first day of the Instant Jan<sup>y</sup> (1710). And if said Rogers shall be wanting in said six months, he is to keep a night school,—viz., five nights every week (unto) the Tenth day of March next, and the said Plantation is to pay to (said) Rogers the sum of Nineteen pounds as Provision pay, and the remaynder as hath been paid to other Schoolmasters, to be judged by the Treasurer of the place, at or before the first day of April next."

John Wheeler, born March, 1709–10, died Sept. 26, 1790, taught school for many years. His compensation for teaching a summer school, in the year 1736, was sixty-three pounds, but the currency was then depreciated. "Master" Wheeler, as he was always called, was held in universal esteem. He was the son of Dr. John Wheeler, the village physician, and mar-

ried Dorothy, one of the nine daughters of Deacon David Sherman, and after the death of his father-in-law resided in the house built by the latter upon the top of Toilsome Hill. This was "a large two-story edifice built in the best style of the day, with long sloping roof, high porch in front, and windows of diamond glass set in lead sashes. The children of Master Wheeler were three, all daughters,—viz., Dolly, Eunice, and Drusilla, the latter the wife of Abijah Beardsley, a Revolutionary soldier."

The time when the school in Toilsome District was established, is fixed by an entry on the society's record-book dated Dec. 20, 1738:

"Voted that this Society will have two schools: one where it has been formerly kept and the other at Toilsome hill."

A third school was established in 1754 "at or near the upper end of Sport Hill, so called;" but this must have been discontinued, for in 1766 the following votes were passed. The spelling would seem to indicate that additional school privileges were not unnecessary:

1766, Dec. 12: "Voted that the Society will have a thurd School in the Society this year. Voted that the thurd School Shall be Keapt at the Little house in the first Croass highway, near Nathaniel Seeley's."

1766, Dec. 29: "Voted that the Society will Divid themselves in to proper and necessary Distreets for Keeping theire Schools. Voted that Sam<sup>l</sup> Sherwood, Benja<sup>n</sup> Wheler, and Sam<sup>l</sup> Sherwood the 3d, be a com<sup>tee</sup> for that purpus."

The committee reported a fortnight later, advising the formation of three districts, the boundary between the lower and middle ones to be "the highway southward of Elnathan Sherman's house,"—perhaps the one now known as Lincoln Avenue, a little above Beach's Woods. All the territory below this line was to be the South District,—a fact which explains the reason why the district in our present city limits extending farthest northward is known by the name of "Old South." The boundaries of these districts were afterwards slightly changed.

As early as the year 1707 services according to the form of the Protestant Episcopal Church were held in the parish of Stratfield. They were conducted by Rev. George Muirson, an agent of the English "Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts," stationed at Rye, N. Y., but at this time upon a missionary tour through western Connecticut. These services were held in a private house, as there was at that time no Episcopal church edifice in the colony. A few persons, mostly adults, were baptized.

The first missionary of this society settled in Fairfield County was the Rev. George Pigot, who in 1723 became stated pastor of the churches in Fairfield and Stratford, but in 1727 was transferred to Providence, R. I. He was succeeded by the Rev. Henry Caner, who was graduated at Yale College in 1724; studied theology with Dr. Samuel Johnson at Stratford; was ordained in England, and in 1727 appointed missionary at Fairfield. Mr. Caner preached in most of the towns in Fairfield County and founded the Epis-

copal Churches in Norwalk and Stamford. He also read the service occasionally in Stratfield in a private house. The University of Oxford conferred the degree of M.A. upon him in 1735, and in 1766 the additional title of D.D. After twenty years of faithful service in Fairfield and vicinity he was appointed, in 1747, rector of King's Chapel, Boston.

Mr. Caner's successor in Fairfield was the Rev. Joseph Lamson, a native of Stratford and a graduate of Yale College, who in 1744 sailed for Europe for ordination, but was taken prisoner by the French. His ministry in this vicinity lasted from 1747 until his death, in 1773. He usually preached in Stratfield every fourth Sunday.

In 1748 a church was erected here by his advice, the principal subscribers towards building it being Col. John Burr, John Holburton, Timothy Wheeler, Joseph Seeley, John Nichols, Richard Hall, and Samuel Beardsley. It was called St. John's church, and was located upon a common of about half an acre in extent upon the east side of "Church Lane," a little north of the old "King's Highway," and about a quarter of a mile west of the Congregational church, or, as we should now say, upon Wood Avenue, just above North Avenue. It is described as being a small wooden structure without a steeple or bell. "It had a pulpit, but no reading-desk; it was furnished with high-backed pews on either side, the body of the church being filled with slips. Seats were also provided for the colored people apart by themselves." Another account speaks of a steeple surmounted by a gilt weathercock, perhaps added afterwards. This church continued to be used until 1801, when it was torn down, and the congregation removed to a more commodious edifice on the site now occupied by the First Baptist church of Bridgeport.

A romantic story is told concerning the Rev. Mr. Lamson. Before entering the ministry, perhaps while still in college, he became engaged to Miss Abigail Ramsey, of Fairfield, a beautiful young girl of good family, only sixteen years of age. While on a visit to friends in Stratford, she was suddenly taken very ill, and it soon became evident that there was no hope of her recovery. Mr. Lamson was summoned to her bedside to bid her farewell, and before her death she directed that her gold beads—ornaments greatly prized at that day—should be taken from her neck and given to her lover. It is said that he wore them around his neck for many years afterwards. The remains of the young lady repose in the burying-ground at Stratford, and the stone above her grave bears this epitaph:

"Wasting sickness spoiled thy beauteous form,  
And death consigned thee to thy kindred worm.  
The day advances when the same shall rise  
With sparkling glory, and ascend the skies."

Mr. Lamson afterwards married a Miss Wetmore, daughter of the Episcopal clergyman at Rye, N. Y.

His successor in the ministry at Fairfield and as

missionary of the Gospel Propagation Society was the Rev. John Sayre, who had previously been stationed at Newburg, N. Y. Mr. Sayre was a Royalist during the Revolution, and as such encountered considerable hostility. He was stationed in Fairfield from 1773 until 1779, and in the latter year, after having vainly endeavored to prevent the wanton destruction of Fairfield by British troops, he took the ill-advised step of embarking with them for New York, and never returned to the colony.

Respecting the persecutions said to have been inflicted upon the early churchmen by the Congregationalists in this vicinity, it may be proper to say here that statements of this kind, if not wholly without foundation, are certainly much exaggerated. By the colonial as well as by the English law every person was required to pay according to his ability for the support of public worship, and in default of payment was proceeded against in the same manner as for any other species of debt, but the principle of religious toleration was distinctly laid down by the General Court as early as 1669, and reaffirmed in 1708.\*

At the May session, 1727, it was enacted that in every parish throughout the colony where worship according to the order of the Church of England was maintained by a resident clergyman, the entire tax collected from members of that denomination should be paid over to the Episcopal clergyman for his support. The members of the denomination were also allowed to tax themselves such further sum as they might elect. In Stratford and Fairfield the law went into immediate effect.

In Stratfield, there being no resident clergyman, the churchmen appear to have paid rates for the support of the established order down to the close of the year 1752. After that date their share of the tax was always paid over to them, as shown by numerous receipts like the following:

"STRATFIELD, May 8, 1755.

"Then Rec<sup>d</sup> of Mr. Daniel Sumers, Collector of the parish of Stratfield, the sum of fifteen pounds thirteen shillings, old Tenor, in full of all my Demands for Rats from sd. parish, for the year 1753. I say Rec<sup>d</sup> pr. me,

"JOS. LAMSON, Miss<sup>y</sup>."

"FAIRFIELD, Octobr. 30th, 1773.

"then Rec<sup>d</sup> of Benjamin Lacey, Collector for the Church of England in Stratfield, the sum of ten pounds fifteen shillings & 4d., Lawfull money, in full for the Rates Due from Stratfield parish to my Father Joseph Lamson, Des<sup>t</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> year 1773. I say Rec<sup>d</sup> pr. me,

"WILLIAM LAMSON, Exec<sup>t</sup>."

"This is to certify whom it may concern that Mr. Stephen Somers, Collector for the Minister's Rates of the Church of England in the Parish of Stratfield, on the List for the year 1778, hath made me a full satisfaction for the same, and this is his sufficient discharge for eighteen pounds, seventeen shillings, and three pence, the amount of it.

"JOHN SAYRE, Rector of sd Parish.

"Fairfield, June 21, 1779.

"£18, 17, 3."

This was written less than a month before Fairfield was laid in ashes by British troops.

\* See the published Colonial Records of Connecticut, ii. 109; v. 50, 87; and, in particular, vii. 106, 107, etc.



How Mr. Sayre's place was filled, is shown by the receipt which follows:

"STRATFIELD SOCIETY, 16th of April, 1781.

"Whereas there is no Missionary to Officiate in the District to which we belong of the Profession of the Church of England, We Ozias Burr, Elijah Burritt, and Jonathan Smith, a Committee appointed by the Professors of the Church of England, agreeable to a vote of sd Society, and Philo Shelton, of Stratford, offisiator in the Church in said Society have Rec<sup>d</sup> of Benjamin Lacy, Collector of the Church of England, Forty three Pounds 11s. 5¼d. Currant Money of Bills immetted by the state of Connecticut, it being in full of Sallery Due to the said Church Ministerial Rate for the year 1780.

"Rec<sup>d</sup> pr Us

"OZIAS BURR,	} Comety."
"ELIJAH BURRITT,	
"JONATHAN SMITH,	

Mr. Shelton was ordained in 1785 by Bishop Seabury, and is believed to have been the first clergyman to receive episcopal ordination upon this side of the ocean. He continued to officiate as rector of St. John's Church until his resignation, at Easter, 1824. He died Feb. 27, 1825, in the seventy-first year of his age.

The third church organized in Stratfield was of the Baptist order, and was gathered in October, 1751. Most of the original members—ten in number—had been connected with the Congregational Church, but withdrew, I am inclined to think, on account of the troubles connected with the dismissal of Rev. Lyman Hall in June of the same year. It was "upon the second Sabbath of October, at the house of John Sherwood, of Stratfield,"—the same Capt. Sherwood whose encounter with the Indian has already been related,—that Elder Joshua Morse, of New London, at the close of the usual service, "proceeded and went on in the ordinance of baptism by plunging under water each particular person" composing the church,—viz., Zachariah Mead, Nathaniel Seeley, Elihu Marsh, John Sherwood, Ebenezer Sanford, Samuel Beardsley, Elizabeth Seeley, Mary Sherwood, Sarah Beardsley, and Martha Jennings. Previous to baptism each of the candidates came forward and "in the presence of a large assembly gave out a particular relation of the work of God upon his soul." After baptism they united in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Passages in their church covenant are very impressive. It commenced thus:

"O most dreadful God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God in three Persons, I give up myself, soul, body, and all that I have and am, to be Thine, and forever Thine, in everlasting covenant never to be forgotten. I entirely and unreservedly dedicate myself to Thee and Thy service, and, seeing no other way of reconciliation with the Father but in and through the Son, I come on the bended knees of my soul unto the Lord Jesus Christ for justification, sanctification, and eternal redemption. . . .

"And now, O Sacred Majesty, omniscient and omnipresent God, in Thine awful presence and in the presence of angels and men I dedicate myself as thy dutiful servant and child (and by Thy grace in Jesus Christ I am Thy covenant child). And may what is done here upon earth this day be ratified in heaven. Amen."

The record goes on to state that at another meeting the members of the church "gave in their testimony concerning a minister, from which it evidently ap-

peared that Brother John Sherwood was called to be a witness in the Gospel of Jesus Christ," and that upon the third Tuesday of December he was ordained and set apart to the work of the ministry by solemn prayer and fasting, elders and messengers from the baptized churches of New London and Groton being present by invitation.

Elder Sherwood is described as a man of large stature, of superior physical strength, and of no small degree of energy and firmness in carrying out his views of right and duty. His wife is said to have possessed remarkable gifts, both in exhortation and in prayer, so that frequently the people desired to hear her preach instead of her husband. At her death, in 1767, he resigned his office, and was succeeded by Rev. Benjamin Coles.

Elder Sherwood died Sept. 18, 1779, aged nearly seventy-four years.

## CHAPTER IX.

### BRIDGEPORT (Continued).

#### BRIDGEPORT AND VICINITY IN THE REVOLUTION.

The Village of Stratfield one hundred Years ago—Military Companies—Petition for a Harbor Guard in 1777—The Guard established—Departure of Volunteers—Horror of Smallpox—Fairfield pillaged and burned by the British—Abduction of Gen. Silliman, and Capture of Judge Jones—Naval Services of Capt. David Hawley—Escape of David Matthews, the Tory Mayor of New York—Rev. Lyman Hall, a Signer of the Declaration of Independence—Partial List of Revolutionary Soldiers—Epitaphs from the old Cemeteries—Anecdotes of Gen. Washington.

It may seem rather presumptuous to speak of Bridgeport in connection with the Revolution, when, strictly speaking, one hundred years ago to-day there was no such place as Bridgeport in existence. This beautiful city, the third in the State in size, and, as we believe, second to none in many respects that make it desirable as a dwelling-place, was then not only unknown to fame, but the ground now occupied by the busiest streets and most stately warehouses was either overflowed by the rising tide or was, at best, but a dense morass; while Golden Hill, now crowned by so many spacious mansions, was only a craggy eminence surmounted by nothing more palatial than a few Indian wigwams. Fairfield and Stratford were indeed places of some importance, especially the former, which was a business centre, and for more than a hundred years had been the county and court town; but Bridgeport was as yet represented only by Stratfield, a plantation upon the western border of our present township, embracing some one hundred and fifty houses and a population of perhaps a thousand persons.

Let us for a few moments dismiss the present from our thoughts, and try to call up before us this settlement of Stratfield as it existed a hundred years ago. We find it rather a farming community than a com-

pect village, and the houses are somewhat widely scattered, though most of them either front upon the old Boston stage road, now known as North Avenue, or else extend along Park Avenue to a point far up the slopes of Toilsome Hill. The houses themselves were of that antique type of which a few specimens yet remain,—unpainted and covered with clapboards of riven oak, with sloping roofs descending nearly to the ground in the rear, and windows of diamond glass set in leaden frames and swinging upon hinges. Frequently the upper story of the house overhung the lower, and in every case the only means for securing warmth and ventilation, especially the latter, was the immense fireplace in the great stone chimney, sometimes twelve feet square, which occupied the centre of the building.

As elsewhere throughout the colony, the people of this vicinity were almost entirely of English descent. The occupation of the men was either agriculture or seafaring, for, with the exception of the miller, the blacksmith, and the tanner,—important personages in every new community,—manufacturers and mechanics were almost unknown, everything required for use being either produced on the homestead or brought by exchange from foreign countries. Sheep-raising was a much more important branch of industry than at present, and broad fields of flax waved upon every farm. The spinning-wheel and the loom were indispensable articles of furniture, and with these the women of each family produced all the clothing and linen needed for the household. Negro slavery was common. Almost every family of means held one or more slaves, who were in general kindly treated, and were sometimes members of the same church with their owners.

Besides the churches and the school-house, which have already been described, the only other public building in Stratfield was the tavern kept by John Nichols, where, on week-days and in the evening, when the work of the day was done, the men used to assemble to talk politics or discuss the news of the day as obtained from some passing traveler, or read aloud from the columns of the *Connecticut Journal and Post-Boy*, a weekly newspaper published in New Haven. This tavern may still be seen on the western side of the parade-ground, not far from the cemetery. It is a building of antique style, but in such good repair that it can hardly look a day older than when Washington was entertained within its walls; and if preserved from fire and from the spirit of modern improvement, it bids fair to withstand the storms of still another century.

Political debate used sometimes to run high within its walls; as, for instance, on a certain evening, when among the company present were Rev. Mr. Ross, pastor of the Congregational church, and the village blacksmith, Nathan Bangs, whose two sons, Nathan and Heman, afterwards rose to such eminence in the Methodist denomination. Some doubts having been

expressed as to whether the people of New England were prepared to make the sacrifices necessary to insure their country's independence, the sturdy blacksmith arose, and with flashing eye and a glowing countenance proclaimed that for his part he would not only be willing to shed his blood, but to endure the pains of perdition eternally, if by such a sacrifice he could set America free.

"It is a good thing to be zealous, Brother Bangs, but not *too* zealous," replied Parson Ross, who was perhaps a little scandalized at the vehemence of his parishioner; and, calling for his hat, the reverend gentleman took his departure.

It should not be inferred from this incident that Mr. Ross was indifferent to the issue of the contest. On the contrary, he was a strong Whig, and throughout the Revolution in his public services never failed to pray for the success of the cause of independence. A sermon of his, preached about the commencement of the war, and afterwards printed, from the text, "For the divisions of Reuben there were great searchings of heart," had reference to the painful state of uncertainty in which many found themselves in regard to their future political action, and endeavored to remove it.

Stratfield possessed at this time one military company, the Stratfield Train-Band, which for nearly eighty years before the Revolution used to drill on the village parade-ground, a tract of common, still uninclosed, a short distance east of Mountain Grove Cemetery. It was organized in the year 1697, in obedience to the following order of the General Court:

"Ordered by this Court, that the souldiers inhabiting within the bounds of Stratford on the west side of Pequonnack River, and those inhabiting within the bounds of Fairfield Village westward, be united together and exercised in one band and company, and Lieut<sup>t</sup> John Beersley to be their Lieut, and Ensign Isaac Wheeler to be their Ensign, and to be commissioned respectively."

Besides the Stratfield Train-Band, several other military companies and detachments were raised here during the Revolution. One of these was a company called the Householders, made up entirely of elderly men and designed for home defense. It was organized Aug. 13, 1776, with the following officers: Captain, Hezekiah Hubbell; lieutenants, James Hamilton and Stephen Burroughs; clerk, Joseph Strong. It was not disbanded until the close of the war.

Another company was the guard of about twenty-five men stationed on Stephen Burroughs' wharf at the foot of State Street. At that time Burroughs' wharf was the only landing-place for shipping in this harbor below the present Berkshire Bridge. Above the site of this bridge the depth of water used to be much greater than at present,—so much so that vessels designed for the foreign trade were built and launched where now a skiff could scarcely float. The design of this guard was to break up contraband traffic with the enemy, to hinder the Tories of Newtown and vicinity from communicating freely with their brethren.



ren on Long Island, and to protect the place from sudden attacks by marauding-parties from over the Sound.

Following is a copy of the petition for this guard, signed by fifty-seven patriotic individuals living near Newfield (now Bridgeport) Harbor. For convenience of reference the signatures are arranged alphabetically:

PETITION FOR HARBOR GUARD.

"The memorial of the people living near Newfield Harbor, in the township of Stratford, in Fairfield County humbly sheweth: That Newfield Harbor is distant from Stratford between three and four miles, and there are a few inhabitants settled near the water, and this harbor is convenient for and almost the whole navigation of the town is carried on from this harbor; and though there has been occasion enough given by our Tory enemies, yet no effectual measures have been taken to secure this harbor, although there has within a few months past been taken and carried away out of this harbor in the night season nine vessels and boats by our Tory enemies from among ourselves, who have gone off to the enemy. The last was a sloop of about twenty tons, taken off and carried away in the night to the enemy, about eight days ago, by forty-four Tories; and there is great reason to believe that Mr. Matthews, Mayor of New York, and several other prisoners have made their escape from this harbor in some of the boats and vessels that have been taken away, together with our Tory enemies; that there are so many persons living but a little way from this harbor that are unfriendly to their country; that these enemies of their country always be secreted until a favorable night arrives for them to steal a vessel and go off; and there is no possible way to prevent further mischief of this kind but by a constant guard being kept at the harbor. Unless this is done we have reason to believe that what has been done by the Tories is but the beginning of the mischiefs that are to be apprehended from these deserters of their country's cause. The friends of the deserters will sometimes threaten that those who have gone off in this way will soon return in circumstances to make themselves respected and feared, and that it will not be long before new laws will be established here that will prevent people being oppressed, etc.

"This harbor has already been the place for Newtown, so famous for Tories, to resort to in all their trade and traffic, and it is now the capital place of resort for all our Tory enemies to go out. We have great reason to believe that great numbers more are now watching a convenient opportunity to get out and go off with Maj. French, who is lurking about not far off we have reason to believe: and there are ships every day hovering about, and at night oftentimes comes to within a few miles of this harbor; and we have reason to believe that as soon as the weather moderates, those Tories, with the aid of our other enemies, will return again into this harbor and destroy the lives and property of the friends of our own government.

"We are therefore humbly of opinion that the safety of the people requires that there should be a guard of twenty-five men constantly stationed at this harbor, with two small cannon, mounted on traveling carriages, to protect the people and harbor; and earnestly entreat that your Honor and Council (or Assembly if sitting), will be pleased to give orders for it.

"For the particular state of facts we beg leave to refer your Honor to the bearers, Messrs David and Aaron Hawley, Abraham Hubbell, and William Wordin, who live at and near the harbor.

"We humbly pray your Honor's attention to these matters, for they are important; and we as in duty bound shall ever pray.

"Dated in Stratford this 14th day of January, A.D. 1777.

Jabez Beach,	Abel Lewis,
Andrew Beardsley,	Gilbert McKenzie,
Squire Beardsley,	John Nichols,
Thaddeus Bennett, Jr.,	John Odell,
Samuel Cable,	Samuel Odell,
Elnathan Edwards,	Zechariah Sanford,
Ebenezer Gregory,	Nathan Seeley,
John Hall,	Abijah Sherman,
Elijah Hawley,	David Sherman,
Ephraim Hawley,	Ebenezer Sherman,
Ephraim Hawley, Jr.,	Elnathan Sherman,
Ezra Hawley,	Elnathan Somers,
Samuel Hawley,	Jabez Somers,
Thomas Hawley,	Lewis Sturgis,
William Hawley,	Stephen Starlin,

Wolcot Hawley,  
Benjamin Hubbell,  
Gideon Hubbell,  
Hezekiah Hubbell,  
John Hubbell,  
Richard Hubbell, Jr.,  
Walter Hubbell,  
William Hubbell,  
N. Peet Jackson,  
James Knapp,  
Joseph Knapp,  
Benjamin Lacey,  
Josiah Lacey,

Joseph Strong,  
David Treadwell,  
Zechariah Treadwell,  
Josiah Treadwell,  
Lemuel Treadwell, Jr.,  
Abel Wakeley,  
David Wakeley,  
Samuel Wakeley,  
Jedediah Wells,  
Benjamin Wheeler,  
Timothy Wheeler,  
Ezra Winton,  
Samuel Wordin,

William Wordin."

The prayer of the petitioners was granted, and the command of the guard was given to Lieut. Aaron Hawley, of Newfield. An order was also given him on the foundry at Salisbury for two small cannon, fifty round-shot, and a hundredweight of grape-shot. The company was stationed in Stephen Burroughs' store, a small wooden building, upon the only wharf at that time in the place, near what is now the foot of State Street. Several sentinels were posted upon this wharf, with orders not to permit any boat to pass out of the harbor if unprovided with a proper clearance. If the boat did not stop when challenged, it was to be fired upon.

In May, 1778, Amos Hubbell and other residents of Newfield petitioned the Legislature to have this guard dismissed, claiming that it was stationed in a place poorly calculated to discover the approach or to resist an attack of the enemy, and that great uneasiness had been caused, in consequence, among the people of the place. It was therefore requested that this company might be disbanded, and a small guard posted upon the shore of the Sound near the boundary-line between Stratford and Fairfield. This request was granted, and Lieut. Hawley ordered to dismiss his men and turn over the public property in his charge to the colonel of the Fourth Regiment of State troops, who was directed to detail twelve soldiers and station them on the site of the present Seaside Park.

Probably this arrangement failed to inspire complete satisfaction, for the old guard was afterwards revived, under command of Lieut. William Hall, and again took up its quarters on Burroughs' wharf. They captured many boats attempting to run out of the harbor, which, with their contents, became the property of the soldiers.

One of these captures is said to have been attended with loss of life. It occurred at two o'clock on the morning of the 28th of July, 1782. A boat attempting to run the guard was hailed by one of the sentinels, and, refusing to stop, was fired upon. Two men, named Stoddard and Judson, were killed by the shots. A third man, named Phineas Baker, was grazed by a bullet, but escaped uninjured. He was captured, with the boat, and after the war was over resided in Newfield. Gideon Hawley is said to have been the sentinel who fired the fatal shot.

There were also during the war several detachments enlisted in Stratfield for service at a distance. One

of these took part in Arnold's expedition against Canada, and before its departure for the scene of action was mustered in the door-yard of Rev. Mr. Ross, where all knelt down while the clergyman invoked the divine blessing upon them and their enterprise.

In August, 1776, the Stratfield Train-Band joined Washington's army in New York for a brief term of service. It was attached to Silliman's Connecticut Brigade, and was officered by Capt. Thaddeus Bennett and Lieuts. Edward Burroughs and Josiah Lacey. The company suffered much from sickness, from the effects of which Lieut. Burroughs and Private Ichabod French died, and sundry others were obliged to be discharged as unfit for service. Two of these, David Sherman and Stephen Sterling, were unable to make their way home until Abijah Sterling went down to their relief. He found them in a barn near Harlem, unable to move, and brought them home in his chaise, going on foot himself and leading his horse all the way. Both were eventually restored to health.

The Stratfield Train-Band narrowly escaped capture with its brigade when New York was evacuated by Washington, the order for retreat not having been received in time. It took part in the battle of White Plains, and soon afterwards was mustered out, its term of enlistment having expired. A few months after the discharge Josiah Lacey raised a company for the Continental army, and was commissioned as its captain. Its term of service was three years, and it formed a part of Col. Philip Bradley's regiment, in Huntington's brigade.

With the exception of parties called out hastily in sudden emergencies, and as speedily disbanded when the danger was over, the foregoing were probably all the military companies recruited in Stratfield during the Revolution.

In the early part of the year 1777 great suffering was caused in Stratfield by the terrible scourge of smallpox, introduced by a party of exchanged prisoners who had been landed at Stratford Point under a flag of truce. The horror of this complaint can be but faintly conceived by us at the present day. Vaccination was unknown, and those who had contracted the disease were shunned even by their friends and nearest neighbors. People were afraid to travel upon the highway past the dwellings where the red flag showed the presence of the dreaded infection. The guard at the harbor forsook their posts, business was suspended, and yet, in spite of all precautions, the number sick at one time in Stratford township was estimated at six hundred persons.

In May, 1777, Timothy Wheeler and twelve other residents of Stratfield petitioned the Legislature for relief, and a few weeks later another petition was signed by Rev. Robert Ross and twenty-one others. In this it was stated that the condition of affairs had become insupportable; that the people were desperate, and even threatened to pull down the infected

houses and shoot the sufferers if the plague could be stayed in no other way.

By direction of the Legislature, Gen. Silliman, of Fairfield, took the matter in hand, and by the use of vigorous sanitary measures (though hardly such extreme ones as the petitioners threatened) the ravages of the disease were finally checked.

During the whole war the people of this place, in common with those of other towns along the coast, were exposed to constant alarms, occasioned by real or anticipated attempts of the enemy to land and burn their dwellings and plunder their property. The British fleet having control of Long Island Sound, and many of the able-bodied men being absent in the Continental army, every strange sail approaching the shore was viewed with apprehension and its movements carefully watched. The first attempt of the kind was unsuccessful. In March, 1777, seven British vessels anchored off Mill River (now Southport), and twelve or fourteen boat-loads of men tried to effect a landing, but were repulsed by the militia on shore, among whom was a company from Stratfield, commanded by Capt. Abijah Sterling and Lieut. Nathan Seeley.

Six weeks later, April 25, 1777, a fleet of twenty-six sail appeared at Compo Point and landed a force of two thousand men, commanded by the infamous Tryon, the Tory Governor of New York. Their destination was Danbury, where there was a depot of military stores belonging to the Continental army. At Redding Ridge, on the following morning, Tryon's light-horse wounded and captured a young American, Lambert Lockwood by name, who was bearer of a letter from Col. Cook, the officer in command at Danbury, to Gen. Silliman, of Fairfield. The messenger perhaps owed his life to the fact that he was recognized by Tryon, to whom he had rendered some assistance several years before, when the Governor's carriage had broken down in passing through Norwalk. After the Revolution, Mr. Lockwood removed to Bridgeport and lived here for many years, a successful merchant, a leading member of the Congregational Church, and a prominent man in local affairs generally.

The story of the raid upon Danbury, the burning of the town by the invaders, and their disastrous retreat, will be found in another part of this volume.

Two years later, in the month of July, 1779, Tryon made another descent upon the defenseless towns of the Connecticut coast. With an imposing force of forty-eight vessels and about three thousand soldiers, he first pillaged New Haven and then set sail for Fairfield. The weather was foggy, so that the approach of the fleet was not perceived on shore until it came to anchor off the town. Then, of course, an alarm was raised, bells were rung, guns fired, and expresses despatched to Stratfield, Stratford, Milford, and all the neighboring towns for such aid as could be afforded. The British column disembarked on the



western shore of the town, at a place called Kenzie's Point, and marched up the beach until opposite the court-house, severely galled the while by the artillery-fire from a little fort on Grover's Hill, overlooking Black Rock Harbor, which was held that day by Lieut. Isaac Jarvis with a force of only twenty-three men. Meanwhile, the village militia company had formed on the green, and by a lively musketry-fire and several charges of round-shot and grape kept the invaders in check for a short time, when they were forced to retreat to Holland Heights, leaving the town in full possession of the British. During the next twenty-four hours every house in the village, whether the property of Whig or Tory, was plundered from cellar to roof-tree, and everything that could not be carried off was broken or destroyed. Several inoffensive citizens were killed, and the handful of women and children who remained in the place, though not treated with actual violence, were exposed to indignity and insult. The few protections granted by Tryon were disregarded by his men, and when shown were rudely snatched away and torn in pieces. Towards nightfall the town was set on fire by Tryon's orders. Rev. Dr. Dwight, afterwards a resident of Greenfield Hill, thus describes the scene:

"While the town was in flames a thunder-storm overspread the heavens just as night came on. The conflagration of near two hundred houses illumined the earth, the skirts of the clouds, and the waves of the Sound with a union of gloom and grandeur at once awful and magnificent. At intervals the lightning blazed with a livid and awful splendor. The thunder rolled above; beneath, the roaring of the fires filled up the interval with a deep and hollow sound. Add to this the sharp sound of muskets occasionally discharged, the groans here and there of the wounded and dying, and the shouts of triumph, then place before your eyes crowds of the miserable sufferers, mingled with bodies of the militia, taking from the neighboring hills a farewell prospect of their property and their dwellings, their happiness and their hopes, and you will form a just but imperfect picture of the burning of Fairfield."

Among those most active in carrying the torch were a number of Tory refugees, who had accompanied Tryon upon this expedition. Besides dwelling-houses, stores, etc., the court-house, jail, school-house, and two churches were destroyed, Mr. Sayre, the Episcopal missionary for Fairfield and Stratfield, pleading in vain with Tryon to spare any portion of the town. Mindful of former experiences, Tryon did not attempt any movement inland upon this occasion, but re-embarked before a sufficient force of Americans could be collected to offer him battle.

Throughout the whole Revolution the people of our shore-towns had to suffer not only from actual invasion and the destruction of their property by organized bodies of troops, but also from marauding attacks by small parties of Tories and refugees from Long Isl-

and. On one occasion a whole congregation was surprised at Darien while engaged in worship upon the Sabbath, and, after being plundered of every article of value, the Rev. Moses Mather, D.D., with his deacons and the male members of his church, fifty in number, went that Sunday on a sailing-party to Long Island, from whence they were all subsequently transferred to a British prison in New York. Sometimes the attack was made at night, as was the case in May, 1779, when Gen. Silliman's house on Holland Heights was broken into by a party guided by one Glover, a Newtown Tory, who had been employed as carpenter by the general, and was consequently familiar with the premises. Gen. Silliman's gun missed fire, and he and his eldest son were both seized, hurried to the water's edge, and forced to embark for Long Island. This successful raid of the Tories of course occasioned some excitement here, and, as the Americans held no officer of rank who could be exchanged for Gen. Silliman, it was decided to attempt to kidnap Judge Thomas Jones, of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, a leading Tory, whose residence was at Fort Neck, on Hempstead Plain, L. I. For this purpose a party of twenty-five volunteers, commanded by Capt. David Hawley, set out from this harbor one evening in November, 1779. Landing at Stony Brook, they concealed their boats in the bushes, and after a toilsome night-march over by-roads and through the woods reached their destination just forty-eight hours from the time they started.

There was a ball at the residence of Judge Jones that evening, and no one will wonder that the old gentleman was reluctant to leave the festive scene, with its music and pleasant company; for a fifty-mile tramp on a frosty night through woods and swamps, with the prospect of a prison at the end of the route, but his visitors would take no denial. On their way back, the party passing near the camp of a royal regiment, the judge coughed loudly to attract the attention of the sentinels, nor would he be silent until Capt. Hawley threatened him with instant death. The march was a severe one, and several members of the party straggled, through fatigue, and were captured by the enemy's light-horse; but the main body reached their boats and crossed in safety to Black Rock with their prisoner. Invited to dine with Mrs. Silliman, Judge Jones did not display the urbanity which under other circumstances he might have manifested, but is said to have been reserved and sullen in his demeanor. He was ordered to Middletown for confinement, but after a few months was exchanged for Gen. Silliman.

Our record of Revolutionary incidents would be incomplete without further reference to the services of the gallant naval officer already mentioned, Capt. David Hawley, of Stratfield.

Early in the war Capt. Hawley sailed to the West Indies for a cargo of gunpowder, which upon his return was divided between the towns of Stratford and

Fairfield, a part of it being stored for a time in Nichols' tavern, on North Avenue. In March, 1776, he sailed again from Stratford in command of a privateer sloop, but was captured when four days out by the British man-of-war "Bellona." Large inducements were offered him by his captors to change his allegiance and act as pilot to the British fleet, but these were firmly declined. He was taken to Halifax, but after a captivity of only two weeks made his escape with eight companions in a small boat, and at length found his way back to Connecticut. In August, 1776, Capt. Hawley was commissioned by the Legislature to raise a naval detachment for service upon Lake Champlain, and a few months later he took part in the disastrous action fought upon this lake between the British and American flotillas. After this affair Long Island Sound was his cruising-ground, and, besides capturing Judge Jones, we find him in May, 1777, and again in August of the same year, bringing a number of prizes into Black Rock Harbor. After the war Capt. Hawley resided in Bridgeport until his death, in 1807. He built on the corner of Water and Gilbert Streets the first brick house erected within the city limits.

One of his neighbors was Stephen Hull, who was one of the party that conducted the unfortunate Maj. André from the place where he was apprehended, to Washington's headquarters. After the war Mr. Hull settled in Bridgeport, where he built a house on the corner of Main and Wall Streets, on the site of the building now owned and occupied by the Connecticut National Bank.

Another neighbor was Major Benjamin Muirson Woolsey, whose home was on the east side of Main Street, a little north of the Bridgeport National Bank. He was a Tory from Long Island, served during the war as an officer in the cavalry regiment called the Queen's Rangers, and was one of the pursuers of Gen. Putnam, when the latter made his famous ride down the stone steps at Greenwich. At the close of the war he went to New Brunswick, where he held the rank of major in the militia, but subsequently returned and settled in Bridgeport,—or Newfield, as it was then called,—and engaged in the dry-goods and milling business. Major Woolsey received a pension—said to have been a crown a day—from the British government for his services. He died in 1813, aged about fifty-six years.

Another royalist of note, referred to in the petition copied above, was David Mathews, the Tory mayor of New York, who in June, 1776, was arrested for complicity in a plot for the assassination of Gen. Washington. More than a hundred and fifty Tories, many of them persons of wealth and good social position, were concerned in this villainous scheme, which was originated by Governor Tryon, then a refugee upon the British man-of-war "Asia." Washington once disposed of, in the opinion of the conspirators the dream of independence indulged in by the colonial

leaders would be at an end. The royalists of the province would rise in a body, blow up the magazines, take possession of the fortifications around New York, and welcome the royal forces with open arms, while the colonial troops, confused, disheartened, and without a leader, would either disband and return to their homes or fall an easy prey to their powerful and well-disciplined enemy. Thus in course of a few weeks the rebellion would be crushed, the king would have his own again, royalists like Tryon would be recompensed for all their trials from the confiscated estates of enemies of the Crown, while noted rebels like Hancock, Samuel Adams, and others would be either compelled to flee the country, or else reap the just reward of their treason. Such were the dreams of the conspirators, nor did they omit to take measures to carry them into action. Mayor Mathews, whose country-seat was at Flatbush, near the anchorage of the "Asia," was the messenger through whom Tryon communicated with the Tories in New York, while two of the soldiers at Washington's headquarters had been corrupted, and had agreed to abduct or murder their distinguished leader as might be most convenient.

Just as the plot was ripe for execution it was discovered, and all the principal parties concerned in it save Tryon were arrested and tried before a military commission. Thomas Hickey, a member of Washington's body-guard, was found guilty, and on the 28th day of June, 1776, was hung in the presence of several thousand spectators. It was the first military execution of the Revolution, and the place where the gallows was erected was a field in what were then the suburbs of New York, adjoining the camp of the brigade of Col. Huntington, of Connecticut. Mayor Mathews and twelve others were sent for safe keeping to Litchfield, Conn. Notwithstanding the serious nature of the accusation against him, his parole was taken, and he was allowed to reside in the family of Major Moses Seymour, great-grandfather of Messrs. Edward W. and Morris W. Seymour, of this city. In the course of a few months Mathews violated his parole and escaped to the British lines on Long Island, crossing the Sound by night, probably in a small boat putting out from this harbor. His escape led to the stationing of a guard at the harbor's mouth, as already noted.

The statement is sometimes made that Rev. Dr. Witherspoon, of New Jersey, was the only clergyman whose name was affixed to the Declaration of Independence, but as residents of Bridgeport we ought to know that a member of the Continental Congress and a signer of that instrument was in early life settled here in the work of the gospel ministry. Lyman Hall, born at Wallingford, in this State, in 1724, and a graduate of Yale College in 1747, was on Sept. 27, 1749, ordained in Stratfield, and settled over the church in that place, now the First Congregational Church of Bridgeport. The old



meeting-house on North Avenue often re-echoed the sound of his voice, and upon the church records may be seen his autograph,—an exact *fac-simile* of that appended to the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Hall remained in Stratfield a little less than two years. He was dismissed June 18, 1751, and probably removed to Fairfield where, on the 20th of May following, he married Abigail, daughter of Thaddeus Burr, Esq. Mrs. Hall died July 8, 1753. Following is a copy of her epitaph :

"Here lies buried the Body of  
Mrs. Abigail Hall,  
wife of Lyman Hall, M.A.,  
Daughter of Thaddeus Burr, Esq.,  
died July 8th, 1753, aged 24 years.

Modest, yet free, with Innocence adorn'd,  
To please and win by Art and Nature join'd,  
Benevolent and wise, in virtue firm,  
Constant in Friendship, in Religion warm,  
A Partner tender, unaffected kind,  
A lovely form with a more lovely mind.  
The Scene of Life, tho' short, sh' improved so well,  
No charmers in human form could more excell.  
Christ's Life her copy, His pure law her Guide,  
Each part she acted, perfected, and dy'd."

Mr. Hall must have remained in Fairfield for some years after her death, judging from several entries upon the town records,—viz. :

"Amos, a negro male child under care of Lyman Hall, born June 7, 1755. Died December 8, 1756."

"Primus, a negro child under care of Lyman Hall, &c., born June 7, 1757."

The records of the County Court also show that Lyman Hall, of Fairfield, as one of the executors of Thaddeus Burr, deceased, appeared as plaintiff in a lawsuit, Feb. 6, 1758.

Mr. Hall had many noble traits of character, and the hope expressed by the council in dismissing him from the ministry at Stratfield—that "a door of usefulness might be opened to him elsewhere"—was signally fulfilled. He emigrated to Georgia, and commenced the practice of medicine in that remarkable New England colony which settled the parish of St. Johns.

Early in the year 1775, impatient at the attitude of Georgia, which had for six months been hesitating and vacillating whether to join the other colonies in the contest for liberty or to stand aloof, and had even refused to send representatives to the Continental Congress, the parish of St. Johns elected Dr. Lyman Hall as a delegate on its own account. He presented his credentials and took his seat upon the 13th of May, so that "on that day Congress was composed of the representatives of the twelve united colonies and Dr. Hall, the deputy for the parish of St. Johns."

The patriotic spirit of this little community had a salutary effect upon its neighbors, and in a short time there were four representatives in Congress from Georgia, of whom Dr. Hall was one, and in this capacity in the following year he subscribed his name

to the Declaration of Independence, in connection with which it will go down to posterity.

His subsequent career can be summed up in a few words. A representative in Congress until 1780, his property was confiscated by the British when they occupied Georgia in 1782, and in the following year he was chosen Governor of the State. He died in October, 1790, aged about sixty-six, leaving a good estate to his widow, his only son having died some time before. A few years ago the State of Georgia erected a monument to his memory, and gave the handsome stone that had been placed over his grave soon after his decease, by his widow, to the town of Wallingford, Conn., where it now stands. It bears the following inscription :

"Beneath this stone  
rest the remains of  
THE HONBLE LYMAN HALL,  
Formerly Governor of this State,  
Who departed this life the 19th of October, 1790,  
In the 67th year of his age.  
To thee, so mourned in death, so loved in life,  
The childless parent and the widowed wife  
With tears inscribes this monumental stone  
That holds his ashes and expects her own."

It is much to be regretted that a complete list of all the Revolutionary soldiers from this place was not made at an earlier date, for the omission can now never be supplied. Below are mentioned what few names I have met with :

#### FROM RECORDS OF FIRST CHURCH.

Bennett, Thaddeus, captain, died Jan. 21, 1777.

Burroughs, Edward, lieutenant, died Sept. 14, 1776, æt. 42.

Fayerweather, Nathaniel, "died of smallpox in the army," December, 1778.

French, Ichabod, died "in camp at New York," September, 1776.

Hawley, Maj. Aaron, died July 23, 1803.

Lemon, George, "killed on Long Island," July, 1781.

Odell, Isaac, sergeant, died Feb. 22, 1826.

Seeley, Nathan, lieutenant, died Sept. 29, 1777.

Sherwood, David, died Aug. 31, 1826, æt. 72.

Wells, David, "died in Continental army," October, 1777.

#### MUSTER-ROLL OF HARBOR GUARD.

This company was stationed upon Burroughs' wharf, at the foot of State Street, as already noted. Following is a copy of its muster-roll in the year 1781 :

*Officers.*—Lieutenant, William Hall; sergeant, Isaac Patchin; corporal, Joel Parish; clerk, Samuel French.

*Enlisted Men.*—Ichabod Beardsley, Josiah Burritt, Sherman Burritt, Seth Bulkley, Thomas Cooke, James Crawford, Ebenezer Gregory, James Gregory, Wildman Hall, Joseph Hawes, Ebenezer Hawley, William Hubbell, Lyman Knapp, John McKenzie, Salmon Patchen, John Porter, Denton Seeley, Gideon Wells, Zechariah Wheeler.

Another account mentions two additional members of this guard,—viz., Gideon Hawley and Elijah Peet. It is not likely that all of those who were members of the guard resided here except during their term of service. Some of them were undoubtedly from other towns.

#### ADDITIONAL LIST.

Most of the following are referred to incidentally in the valuable series of historical articles by the late Isaac Sherman, published in the *Bridgeport Standard* in April, 1866. The names of some of the members of the "Householders," or home-guard, are included, though it is not likely that they saw much service:

Beardsley, Abijah, ensign.

Brothwell, Joseph, lieutenant in Householders.

Burroughs, Stephen, captain in Householders.

Fairchild, Nathan. His widow was a pensioner.

Gregory, Ezra, was a pensioner.

Hamilton, James, lieutenant in Householders.

Hawley, David, captain of privateer.

Hubbell, Hezekiah, captain in Householders.

Hubbell, Salmon, lieutenant; was at the battle of Stony Point, etc.

Lacey, Daniel, captain of coast-guards.

Lacey, Josiah, captain in Continental army.

Seeley, Nathan, lieutenant in Householders.

Sherman, Isaac, died in the army, aged eighteen.

Sherman, David, member of Stratfield Train-Band.

Sterling, Abijah, captain in Householders.

Sterling, Stephen, member of Stratfield Train-Band.

Strong, Joseph, clerk of Householders.

Wordin, William, captain in Householders.

#### EPITAPHS.

(From the cemetery on Park Avenue, since removed to Mountain Grove Cemetery.)

"Salmon Hubbell.

Lieutenant 5th Continental Regiment,  
served through the whole Revolution.  
He died March 11, 1830, in his 76th year."

"Justin Smith.

Born, Springfield, Mass., June 21, 1755.  
Died at Bridgeport March 22, 1835, in  
the 80th year of his age.

He was one of the few that periled all  
in the cause of his country, through the  
dark times at Valley Forge to the peace  
of 1783, when he was honorably discharged."

"Asa Benjamin.

Died Aug. 17, 1833,  
in the 70th year of his age.  
A soldier of the American Revolution."

"James Wakelee.

A Revolutionary pensioner.  
Served 7 years and 6 mos.  
for the liberty of his country.  
Died June 3, 1829, æt. 74."

"In memory of

Benjamin Muirson Woolsey,\*  
who died on the 17th day of January, 1813,  
aged 55 yrs. and 11 mos."

"Dr. James Eaton Beach.

Born in Cheshire, Ct., A.D. 1762.

Died Feb. 21, 1838, æt. 76.

In his youth he took an active part in the  
Revolutionary contest. A friend to education,  
and for more than 30 years Deacon in the  
1st Congregational Church."

(From the old Stratfield Cemetery, on North Avenue.)

"In memory of

Mr. Edward Burroughs,  
who departed this life

Sept. 14, 1776, in the 42d year of his age.  
Glory with all her lamps shall burn  
And watch the warrior's sleeping clay.  
Rest his dear sword beneath his head:  
Round him his faithful arms shall stand  
The guards and honours of our land."

"Major Aaron Hawley

in his turn received the shaft of death

July 21st, 1803,

in the 63d year of his age,

and was here deposited in hopes of a glorious resurrection.

Man wants but little, nor that little long:

How soon must he resign his very dust,

Which frugal nature lent him for an hour!"

#### ANECDOTES OF GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Reference has already been made to the fact that Gen. Washington several times passed through Stratfield by the old stage road, now North Avenue. One of these occasions was in 1775, when on his way to Boston after having been appointed commander-in-chief of the American army. Rev. Dr. Ripley, pastor of the Congregational Church in Green's Farms, mounted his horse and joined the cavalcade. "They stopped at Bulkley's Inn, in Fairfield, and I think dined there. After passing from the house, and while standing in front of it, waiting for their horses, Washington, continuing his conversation on public affairs, passed his finger through the button-hole of the doctor's coat, and said that if the Americans could prolong the contest for one year they would ultimately succeed, because by that time arms and ammunition could be obtained and they would be invincible. Dr. Ripley was a man of commanding presence,—of tall, athletic, and dignified frame. His fine countenance beamed with intelligence and kindness, and yet there was something in his look which gave assurance of unyielding firmness. I think it would be difficult to find two men who would be a finer subject for a painter than those two patriots communing together under such interesting circumstances. The doctor accompanied Gen. Washington to Stratford Ferry."†

It may have been upon this occasion, as has been said, that Washington, accompanied by Maj.-Gen. Lee, Major Thomas Mifflin, and Samuel Griffin, aides-de-camp, halted at Nichols' tavern, in Stratfield, for refreshment, occupying the southeast corner room as their parlor. Another version of the incident, perhaps the correct one, is that Washington stopped in Stratfield in March, 1781, when on his way to meet Count Rochambeau at Newport.

\* A royalist officer: see pages 82 and 88.

† Sprague's Annals of American Pulpit.



Still another interesting anecdote connected with Washington's progress through this part of the country used to be related by a daughter of George Benjamin, Mrs. Alice Thompson, of Stratford, who died in May, 1862, aged nearly ninety-eight years. She was eleven years of age in 1775, and may have been about thirteen or fourteen when she saw Washington. On that occasion she with other girls was picking berries on the banks of the Housatonic, near the ferry, when suddenly a cry was heard that soldiers were crossing the river, and presently an officer with a number of others landed and asked the ferryman to direct them to the tavern. He replied, "Yonder is the tavern-keeper's daughter," and, calling Alice, bade her show Gen. Lafayette the way to her father's house. She walked beside his horse on their way to the village, Lafayette talking to her in his charming broken English, telling her of his children, and asking her if she would not like to go to France with him to see them. On reaching home she found that Gen. Washington had arrived by the western road. Her mother, thus unexpectedly called upon to provide dinner for two such distinguished guests, would have apologized for her fare, but was reassured by Washington, who told her that all he wanted was simple food, and that what was good enough for her family was good enough for him. Mrs. Benjamin happened to have some potatoes,—then a great rarity,—and Alice obtained leave to place them upon the table. In doing this she stepped between Washington and Lafayette, when the former, placing his hand on her head and turning her face towards him, asked her name, and after some other questions told her to be a good girl and gave her his blessing. It may easily be believed that she never forgot the circumstance.

On a tour made by President Washington through New England after the war, in October, 1789, he is said to have halted and asked for a drink from the well of the old Seeley house, which is still standing on North Avenue, a short distance from Island Brook Bridge. At that time Capt. Alison Benjamin was living in West Stratford, in a house which may still be seen, about half-way down the western slope of Old Mill Hill. This Capt. Benjamin built a sloop of forty-five tons burthen, called the "Hunter, of Berkshire," in a field south of the road, just opposite his own door, although no water was in sight. It was nearly completed when Washington passed, and, surprised at the sight, he alighted, went over to the place, and questioned the workmen as to how they expected to get the vessel to the water. In reply they told him that strong ways were to be built beneath the craft to serve as a sled, upon which, when winter came, it could glide down hill to the creek (a branch of Yellow Mill stream, fully a quarter of a mile away), and with the spring it would settle through the ice into the water,—a plan which was subsequently carried into effect.

## CHAPTER X.

## BRIDGEPORT (Continued).

Newfield Stores in 1760—Newfield Ferry chartered, and Main and State Streets widened, 1787—Act establishing Lottery Bridge, 1791—Stratford Avenue laid out, and the first Newspaper established in 1795—Curious Advertisements from the *American Telegrapher*—Tragical Fate of Wilson Hubbell—Incorporation of the Borough of Bridgeport, 1800—Copy of the Petition and List of Signatures—St. John's and the Congregational Churches removed to Bridgeport—Founding of the first Methodist Church in New England—The Bridgeport Bank incorporated—Description of the Borough in 1810—Incidents of the War of 1812—Reception of Gen. Lafayette—The Town of Bridgeport set off, 1821, and the City incorporated, May, 1836.

ZACHARIAH LACEY, a Revolutionary veteran and grandfather of Mr. R. B. Lacey, used to say that he well remembered the time in his boyhood when there was not a single dwelling-house on either side of the river within that part of Bridgeport now occupied for business purposes.\* There were, however, two shanties on the shore, near the present intersection of State and Water Streets, one of them owned by Capt. Stephen Burroughs, Sr., and the other by Aaron Hawley. There was no wharf, vessels being laden and unladen in the stream by boats or by teams driven out into the water. This was between the years 1760 and 1765. It is evident, however, from the petition for a harbor-guard in the preceding chapter, that Newfield, as the place was called, had begun to increase a little in size before the Revolution, and after the close of the war it developed rapidly in importance. There was then no bridge across the Pequonnock below the head of tide-water, which was where the old stage road, now called North Avenue, crosses the river. Near this bridge was the store of Philip Nichols, established before the Revolution.

In May, 1787, the following resolution was passed by the Connecticut Legislature:

"Upon report of a committee appointed in May last, which is now accepted and approved, resolved by this Assembly that the town of Stratford be and they are hereby Impowered and allowed to keep and maintain a public Ferry in said town, across the Creek or Harbour called New Field Harbour, from the point of land called New Pasture Point, below Toby's Ware, to the opposite shore of said harbour or creek, to and on the land of Aaron Hawley, about ten rods south of said Hawley's dwelling-house, and that two sufficient Boats shall be constantly kept, one on each side of said Creek, plying from shore to shore as occasion may require, at the places aforesaid, during the pleasure of this Assembly, all subject to the same regulations that other Ferries in this State are by Law subjected to."

The western terminus was near the present foot of Union Street and the following were the legal rates of fare:

Each man, horse, and load.....	4 cents and 2 mills.
Each footman.....	2 cents and 1 mill.
Each led horse.....	2 cents and 8 mills.
Each ox or other neat-kine.....	5 cents and 5 mills.
Each sheep, swine, or goat.....	1 cent.

With such a tariff it must have sometimes been a difficult matter to make change.

Whether Benjamin's Bridge—now called Yellow Mill Bridge—had been built at this time, the writer

\* Municipal Register for 1877, p. 308.

does not certainly know. He has been told that it had not, and that passengers by this ferry, if bound to Stratford, were obliged to take boat again across the eastern arm of the harbor; but of this there is no mention in the act.

#### PETITION FOR A BRIDGE.

It is obvious that this mode of travel must have been very inconvenient, and in May, 1791, Robert Walker, of Stratford, and others petitioned the Legislature for authority to establish a lottery to raise the funds necessary to build a bridge across Newfield Harbor. At that time this was a favorite method of raising money for public improvements. Nor was the purchase or the sale of lottery tickets even at a later period regarded as disreputable by the best people in the commonwealth.

In response to the petition the Assembly appointed Messrs. James Davenport, John Chandler, and Jonathan Ingersoll a committee, with the following instructions: "To view the place where the petitioners propose to build a bridge, and make an estimate of the expense, and to determine what kind of bridge it will be proper to build, and report to this Assembly."

The committee reported favorably, and in October, 1791, the following resolution was passed. The original may be found at Hartford in one of the ponderous manuscript volumes containing the public acts:

#### ACT ESTABLISHING LOTTERY BRIDGE.

"Upon petition of Robert Walker and other inhabitants of the town of Stratford, and Jonathan Sturges, Thaddeus Burr, Andrew Rowland, and other inhabitants of the town of Fairfield, in Fairfield County, showing to this Assembly that the road from the town of Stratford to the town of Fairfield through a village called Old Mill is about nine miles, and by reason of the rocks, hills, and other bad quarters of said road, the same is extremely inconvenient to traveling in general, and particularly to the public stage, and that another road leading from said Stratford to said Fairfield through a place called New Field is three miles shorter and capable of being an extremely good and pleasant road and very commodious to the public, but that by reason of the intervention of an arm of the sea across said road at Newfield the same cannot be rendered convenient without a bridge at said New Field across said arm of the sea, and that the said town of Stratford, to which said village of Newfield belongs, is unable to erect said bridge at their own expense; praying for liberty to raise a sum of money to build said bridge by Lottery, as per petition on file, etc.,—

"Resolved by this Assembly, that liberty be and the same is hereby granted to the petitioners for the setting up a lottery for the purpose of raising a sum of fifteen hundred pounds lawful money; and that the moneys so to be raised shall be appropriated to the purpose of building said bridge; which said bridge shall contain therein a draw or draw-bridge over the most convenient place in the channel, of twenty-four feet in width, and shall be completed in every respect and commodious for the public; and that John Benjamin, Amos Hubbell, John Thompson, Josiah Lacey, David Burr, and Daniel Salmon (?), or any of them not less than four, be and they hereby are appointed managers of said lottery, and fully authorized to establish a scheme or schemes of said lottery, to consist of one or more class or classes, make sale of the tickets and collect the money arising therefrom.

"Provided they do within three months after the rising of this Assembly lodge with the treasurer of this State a bond payable to said treasurer or his successors in said office, with one or more sureties, to be approved of by said treasurer in the penal sum of three thousand pounds lawful money, conditioned for the faithful management of said lottery, payment of the proceeds, and that the money so raised be faithfully applied to the building said bridge, and that the said bridge be erected and completed by the 1st day of December, 1793, and that the sale of said tickets shall not commence before the first day of July next."

The eastern extremity of Lottery Bridge was that of the present lower bridge, but on the west it extended nearly to what is now the foot of Wall Street, and some traces of the abutments which supported it could until recently be seen there under the dock at low tide. It had a draw, parting in the middle and raised by pulleys on either side, but must have been very poorly built, as within three years' time it needed repairing. About the year 1804, while undergoing further repairs, the whole structure gave way, and, tipping over to the southward, fell into the water, where it remained, a melancholy ruin, for a number of years.

Benjamin Hall, of Stratford, and afterwards Abel Hall, Jr., and Elijah Burritt, were given permission to repair it by the Legislature, but failed to improve the grant, and in 1807 Salmon Hubbell and others rebuilt the bridge, or rather built a new one,—the present Bridgeport or lower bridge,—with western terminus farther up stream, at the foot of Fairfield Avenue.

In January, 1787, Josiah Lacey, of Newfield, Nathan Seeley, of Danbury, and David Burr, of Fairfield, were appointed a committee by the Fairfield County Court to lay out and widen the highways now known as Main Street and State Street. The former is designated in the committee's report, dated April 13, 1787, as "the road at the foot of Golden Hill," and the latter as "the road from the dwelling-house of the Widow Eunice Hubbell, near the stores at Newfield, to the town-line between Stratford and Fairfield." The following persons are stated by the report to have sustained damages by the alterations made:

	£	s.	d.
Aaron Hawley.....	20	2	9
The Indians, or natives at Golden Hill.....	1	4	0
Rev. Robert Ross.....	1	2	0
James Hoyt.....	6	5	0
Philip Nichols.....	3	10	0
Ebenezer Whitney.....	15	0	0
Amos Hubbell.....	19	6	0
William Peet.....	10	0	0
John Hubbell.....	7	5	0
Widow Eunice Hubbell.....	12	0	0
Nathan Odell.....	15	15	0
William Wordin.....	3	14	4
Benjamin Hubbell.....	9	0	0
Benjamin Wheeler.....	8	0	0
William Hubbell.....	12	0	0
	63	3	7

The report in full, with notes explanatory by R. B. Lacey, Esq., may be found on page 228 of the "Municipal Register" of Bridgeport for 1874.

In October, 1795, William Herron and Eli Mygatt were appointed by the General Assembly a committee, with instructions "to view the great road leading from Dragon Bridge, between East Haven and New Haven, through New Haven, Milford, Stratford, Fairfield, Norwalk, Stamford, and Greenwich, to Byram River, and to make and lay out any necessary alterations in said road." Following is an extract from their report, dated Oct. 20, 1796, on file at the State-house, in Hartford. The paragraph relates to the first opening of the street now known as Stratford Avenue, in East Bridgeport. Previous to this time the stage road had



followed the shore around the extreme end of the point,—a route sometimes impassable at high water:

"The alterations between Newfield Bridge and Benjamin's Bridge are grounded on the necessity of avoiding or shunning the road now traveled, under the bank where the tide flows, which renders it at times impassable, to the detriment of travelers; being likewise very crooked, which is now remedied by a straight line on good ground through Asa Benjamin's rope-walk. Twenty rods of the south part thereof must be taken up and shifted to the north end, together with his wheel-house, which is thirty feet in length, and subjects him to the necessity of purchasing a lot of land of about seven acres at an extravagant price, beside the expense of taking up the rope-walk."

The committee recommended that three hundred and thirty dollars damages should be paid to Asa Benjamin by the town of Stratford.

Their report was accepted by the Assembly, and a resolution passed making the road, as recommended, "an open public highway." Liberty was also given to Stratford to set up a toll-gate at Lottery Bridge, in Newfield, for the support of that and of Benjamin's Bridge, which was accordingly done in 1799, John Thompson, Amos Hubbell, and Thaddeus Benedict being the commissioners.

In October, 1797, an act was passed by the Legislature authorizing the inhabitants of Newfield to meet annually at the school-house on the first Monday in December to choose for firemen twenty-five men living within the limits of Newfield. Power was also given the village to make regulations for better protection against fire, and to impose penalties not exceeding ten dollars in case of their violation. A fire-engine and a number of fire-buckets had already been purchased by subscription.

In the following year another resolution of similar tenor was passed by the Assembly, which is interesting because it defines the limits of Newfield Village. These were briefly as follows: Beginning at Welles Tongue, and following the river to the northeast corner of the Indian Lot, a short distance above the present horse-railroad bridge; thence crossing to Main Street and following the line of Washington Avenue over Golden Hill to a stone bridge across Cedar Creek, not very far from where St. John's church now stands; thence southeastwardly through the fields to the starting-point.

The first newspaper published in Newfield or Bridgeport was the *American Telegraphe and Fairfield County Gazette*, which was commenced in 1795 and issued weekly by Lazarus Beach, who came here from Redding and carried on the business of printer, bookseller, and stationer on the corner of Wall and Water Streets, opposite the old Washington Hotel. It was printed upon what would now be called fair wrapping-paper and circulated about eight hundred copies, which were distributed by means of post-riders throughout the whole of Fairfield County. The subscription price was one dollar and a half per annum, and it continued to be issued by Mr. Beach and his successor, Samuel Mallory, for nearly ten years.

The art of reporting is quite a modern one, and the

news and editorial columns of the *Telegraphe* contain very little that is interesting at the present day. The advertisements, on the contrary, are often very entertaining, and I have thought it worth while to copy quite a number of them as illustrating, much better than could be done in any other way, the customs and the business of the place at the beginning of the present century:

#### ADVERTISEMENTS FROM THE "TELEGRAPHE."

##### FOR SALE.

A healthy NEGRO GIRL, 14 years of age.

Enquire of the Printer.

Newfield, Sept. 6, 1796.

Newfield, May 18, 1796.

De Forest's

CASH STORE, Replenished.

*This day received a very large supply of Fashionable goods, suitable to the season, among which are*

A VERY handsome assortment of the most fashionable, superfine Broad Cloths.—Cassimeres of a variety of colours.—Nankeens, clouded, plain and striped.—Calicoes and Chintzes, as cheap as ever before known; notwithstanding the almost universal cry of "goods are dear this spring."—A large assortment of Silks, such as black and coloured lutefting, taffety, mode, perfiar, fatten, &c. &c. as cheap at retail, as in New York or Boston; *Those ladies who can with convenience ride to Newfield, will oftener be pleased in choosing for themselves, than in leaving it to the choice of some tasteless captain of a packet boat.*—Vest Patterns of the newest and most approved fashions.—Ribbands a great variety.—Nankeens, six yard pieces, by the bundle or less quantity.—Long and short white kid Gloves.—Men's Silk, Cotton and Plated Hosiery.—Ladies white cotton do.—Dimities—Janes—Fustians—Furniture Calico.—Shawls—White Fringe—Laces & edgings—Jaconet and book Muffins—Shirting do.—Bandanoes by the piece or fingle—Ladies and Gentlemen's Hats.

A very handsome assortment of Jewelry such as Beads, Ear-rings, Breast-pins, Watch-chains, Watch-keys, Dead watches, &c.—Bergamot—Lavender—Hair-Powder—Tooth-Powder, &c.

LOOKING GLASSES.

HARDWARE and CUTLERY of all kinds—SPADES—STEEL. CROCKERY, a general assortment.

PATENT LAMPS by the dozen or fingle, very low indeed.—Tea boards & fervers—Bread Baskets.

RUM and WINES by the barrel or less quantity—BRANDY.

Cherry RUM, a cheap good liquor for taverns.

Loaf, Lump and Brown SUGARS, at New-York prices.—Chocolate & Coffee.—Hyfon, Suchong and Bohea Teas.—Raifins—Pepper—Alspice—Ginger—Nutmegs by the quarter pound or fingle.

MOLASSES—PLUG and PAPER TOBACCO, wholesale and retail.

Flotong and Carolina INDIGO.

Ladies and Gentlemen who are in want of dry goods, may depend on having at all times a large assortment to pick out of, and on the most reasonable terms, at the store of their obedient fervant,

David C. De Forest.

More GOODS!!

LAMBERT LOCKWOOD,

Pleased with the effects of the Motto,

"Cheap Cash STORE,"

WISHES also to come forward with his mite, *pro bono publico*—Should any one scruple his sincerity in the cause, he humbly invites such to give him an opportunity of convincing them by ocular demonstration—and should they then find his old prices sufficiently reduced, and the packages now before him, and to be displayed for their inspection; to consist of *seasonable, fresh and good* GOODS, and selected with as much "taste and passionate attention" as any whatever; why then, he also may hope in the establishment of a CASH STORE.—His articles and qualities in the different branches of country merchandize

now opening, are many and varying. An *inventory* of which, would be too voluminous for a Newspaper already so crowded, that with difficulty this curtailed piece is promised admision.

Newfield, May 18, 1796.

### WILLIAM EATON,

**I**S under the necessity of calling on all Persons indebted to him, to oblige him by making payment, previous to the first day of July next; as he wishes to carry on bufiness in a different line after that time, and will then be much in want of money.

HE HAS FOR SALE,

ROCK SALT, COD FISH,

GURRIE for tanners and curriers, and a supply of new Superfine and common FLOUR. Also, West India, Hardware and Dry GOODS as usual.

N. B. He will pay Cash for 500 bushels of OATS, if delivered within ten days. Newfield, May 18, 1796.

**The Sloop ELIZA**, John Curtis, Master, will fail for Albany, and other places on the North River, on Saturday next—for freight or passage apply to Hull and Lyon, or the master on board.

**L**OST on the 27th of April, a lightish coloured GREAT COAT, no buttons on it except three on the cape. Enquire of the Printers.

*To be Sold, Cheap for Cash,*  
An elegant New  
Chaife, and Harnefs,  
Compleat. Enquire at this office.

FOR SALE,  
*A very good Saddle and Carriage*  
H O R S E.  
Enquire of the Printers.

### RICHARD HUBBELL & SON,

Have for sale 500 bushels first quality Anguilla Salt, which they will exchange for all kinds of Country produce at the highest market.

R. HUBBELL & SON.

Newfield, Dec. 20, 1796.

**M**OLASSES, Salt and Chocolate for sale by  
J. & D. FAYERWEATHER.  
Newfield, Dec. 14, '96.

### JOURNEYMEN

and Apprentices wanted at the rope-making business by  
DAVID OSBORNE.  
Newfield, Nov. 30, 1796.

### CURTIS & RUSS,

Cabinet makers, have taken the room south of the Telegraphe printing office, and over the store of Mr. Charles Nichols; where ladies and gentlemen may be supplied with all kinds of Cabinet work on the shortest notice and most reasonable terms. Wanted, Journeymen and apprentices at the above business.

CURTIS & RUSS.

Newfield, Dec. 7, '96.

### WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

A few loads of Hogshead and Barrel hoop poles. For good barrel poles eight shillings per hundred will be paid by

ROBERT LINUS.

Newfield, Dec. 7, '96.

CASH paid for RAGS, at the Telegraphe Office.

**R**AN away from the subscriber sometime last month, a Negro slave, named Sampson. All persons are forbid harboring or trusting him, and all masters of vessels are forbid carrying him away on penalty of the law.

JAMES DUNNING.

Huntingdon, Oct. 21, 1798.

### WANTED.

A few tons good English Hay, for which cash will be paid on delivery. Enquire of the Printer.

*Just published, and for sale at the store of Salmon Hubbell, at Newfield;*

### A SCHOOL DICTIONARY,

Being a Compendium of the latest and most Improved

### DICTIONARIES.

Comprising an Easy and Concise Method of teaching Children the true meaning and pronunciation of the most useful words in the

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

Webster's spelling-books,  
By the dozen or single,  
For sale at this office.

### TAKE NOTICE.

Ran away from the subscriber on the 3rd instant a Negro Woman named Candace, about 20 years of age. She is slim built, yellowish complexion, middle size, slim face; carried with her a light chintz gown, brown flannel short gown, black skirt, and had on when went away a black beaver hat, and a light chintz shawl. It is supposed she is under convoy of some negro man.

Whoever will secure her and give information, or return her shall have Five dollars reward and charges paid by

PHILO NORTON.

Newtown, Nov. 5, 1798.

**R**an away from the subscribers two apprentice boys, one named Wakeman Holberton, about seventeen years of age, an apprentice to the Houfe joiners bufiness. The other named Benjamin Curtis, about the same age, an apprentice to the shoemaking bufiness. The abovementioned boys were seen yesterday morning steering westward and it is supposed they have gone to New-York. Whoever will apprehend said boys and return them to their masters shall receive six cents for each, but no charges paid. All persons are forbid harboring or trusting said boys, on penalty of the law.

NATHANIEL ELLS,  
JOSEPH BOOTH.

Newfield, June 10, 1800.

### Wanted to Purchase

**A** Quantity of good FLOUR BARRELS, for which Cash will be paid, as usual, at the Yellow Mill, by  
BENJAMIN M. WOOLSEY.

Who wishes to take two smart, active Lads as apprentices to the flouring bufiness.

Newfield, May 9, 1800.

### WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

**A** Journeyman Cabinet-Maker, one who is a first rate workman, will find good wages by applying to

Wm. H. PEABODY.

### FOR SALE,

**T**HAT beautiful situation, late the property of Thaddeus Benedict, Esq., dec'd, situate at Newfield landing, near the bridge, and adjoining the public house lately kept by Isaac Hinman, containing fifty five rods of ground under the finest improvement and cultivation as a garden, with a large and elegant dwelling house and out houses standing thereon; all in excellent order. The writer will not attempt a description of its beauties and conveniences in an advertisement—he will only observe, that for pleasantness of situation, and convenience to transact bufiness of any kind, it has not its superior in the village of Newfield. An indisputable title will be given (by William Benedict and Deborah Benedict) and possession given immediately if required.

WILLIAM BENEDICT.

Newfield, June 28, 1800.

N. B. The dwelling house has excellent accomodations for a store or tavern.



Victory Wetmore,  
*Has just received a fresh supply of*  
Patent Medicine.

amongst which (in addition to his former assortment) are:

**D**OCTOR Solomon's celebrated BALM of GILEAD,  
Doctor Church's Tincture for cure of the Tooth ach.  
Doctor Wheaton's Jaundice Bitters, which is highly recommended  
in all Jaundice and Billious complaints.  
Ditto's Itch Ointment, which is warranted to cure the Itch, and to  
contain neither Brimstone or Mercury in the composition.  
Doctor Church's Extract of Mustard for the cure of the Rheumatism.  
Patent Sago, &c. &c.  
Stratford, Dec. 21, 1861. [caw.]

Lyman Smith,

CLOCK AND WATCH MAKER, SILVER SMITH, AND JEWELER.

**R**ESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public, that he has  
taken the shop lately occupied by NATHANIEL WADE, where he  
makes most articles usual in his line of business; such as Gold diamond  
top'd ear-rings, Gold Beads, Lockets, Finger Rings of every descrip-  
tion; Tea and Table spoons, Soup ladles, &c., &c. Clocks and  
Watches repaired. Those who will favor him with their custom, may  
depend on punctuality and dispatch.

Bridgeport, March 23, 1862.

(12 t. f.)

Stop the Thief.

**A** Negro man of a small size, called Henry Jackson, brought up in  
New York; may be known by a scar across his left eyebrow;  
very meanly dressed, short blue jacket and pantaloons; no pack. He  
has lately been in New Haven goal for theft; makes it his practice to  
hire out, then steal and run away, as he has done from me, although  
I procured his release from prison, and was bound to me for two years.  
He left me on Fast day the 16th instant. Whoever will take up the  
Negro and secure him in any goal and give speedy notice, or deliver  
him to the subscriber in Woodbury, shall be handsomely rewarded and  
all necessary charges paid by

SAMUEL WALKER.

Woodbury, April 19, 1862.

*The following articles are wanted, for which Cash will be  
paid, at the Printing-Office, Bridgeport.*

Potatoes, parsnips, Dried Apples, and Cheese.  
Bridgeport, April 6, 1862.

Garden Seeds

FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.

Bridgeport, April 6.

NEW GOODS.

CHEAP FOR READY PAY.

**T**HE Subscriber offers for sale the following: Blue, black, Corbo, and  
cinamon superfine Broad cloths—second quality, do.—blue, brown,  
and mixed low priced do.—Black, blue, mixt, striped and plain Carsey-  
mears;—Red, black, green, and white Flannels;—Fringes;—black and  
olive Fancy Cords; Swansdowns and Satin Vest patterns—Brown Hol-  
land, Buttons, Silk, Twift, &c.

The Tailoring business carried on as usual—and every favour thank-  
fully acknowledged. Those who are indebted to the subscriber for  
Goods, whose accounts are due by agreement, are requested to make  
immediate pay to prevent cost, and oblige their Humble Servt.

SAMUEL BURR.

Bridgeport, Nov. 30, 1863.

NEW GOODS.

**T**HE subscriber has just received from New-York and for sale, a very  
handsome assortment of Summer GOODS, which he will sell very  
low for Cash or short approved credit.—Likewise, a few Hhds. of Rum  
and Molasses.

ENOCH FOOT.

N. B. All persons indebted to said Foot whose accounts are due by  
agreement, are requested to call and settle the same without delay.

JESSE STERLING,

**H**AS just received a general assortment of GROCERIES, viz.  
BRANDY, of the first and second quality—RUM and GENEVA.  
MADEIRA, PORT, SHERRY, and MALAGA WINES. Hyson, Young  
Hyson, Souchong and Bohea Teas. Loaf, Lump, and Brown SUGARS.  
Spanish Indigo—Copperas—Allum, Poland Starch, Mackoboy and  
Scotch SNUFF; Paper, hand, and Roll Tobacco. Rice; Cotton; Bar  
& shaving soap. Likewise Powder & Shot.

Together with a new and fashionable assortment of CLOTHS, suit-  
able for the season, consisting of Superfine black, blue, mixt & drab  
Broadcloths, Combo, do. Black, blue, and white Caffameers. London  
brown, Mixt and Snuff coloured Coatings: Flannels, of all colours and  
descriptions. Chintzes, of a new and elegant figure. Cheap Calicoes,  
Humhums, Cotton and Linnen Checks. Durants, Callimancoes; Bum-  
bazett; Camel-hair fawls, of a superior quality, Chintz and Cotton, do.  
Bandannas, silk and pocket handkerchiefs. Ribbons; Ladies Silk and  
Kid Gloves. Gentlemen's Silk and worsted Hose. Cambric Muslins;  
Dimities, &c. &c.

ALSO a general assortment of CABINET FURNITURE and CUT-  
LERY, where Carpenters and Joiners can be supplied with any tools  
whatever, in the line of their business. The above articles will be sold at  
a low price, for cash, credit, or country produce.

Bridgeport, Nov. 23, 1863.

FOR THE PUBLIC.

**T**O BE LET at Public Vendue on the 31st day of inst. December, at 4  
o'clock, afternoon, at the House of Benjamin Boftwick, in Bridge-  
port, the Toll or Lottery Bridge, so called for the term of one year,  
commencing on the 1st day of January, 1864, and ending on the last  
day of Dec. 1864. Conditions on which said Bridge is to be let will be  
made known at the aforesaid time and place.

JOSIAH LACEY  
SALMON HUBBELL } Comm'rs.  
JOHN THOMPSON }

Bridgeport, December 12, 1863.

HUMHUMS,

**B**Y the PIECE or YARD,—a large supply now opening;—also a gen-  
eral assortment of seasonable GOODS, for sale by  
BURRITT & SHERMAN.

Bridgeport, Nov. 26, 1863.

LOST

**S**OMEWHERE in Bridgeport on Sunday last, a Ten Dollar Bank  
Note, of the United State's Bank—Whoever may have found  
said note, and will leave it with the Printer hereof, shall be suitably re-  
warded for their honesty.

Bridgeport, Nov. 23, 1863.

**T**AKE NOTICE all who justly owe,  
*Curtiss & Glover, late in Co.*

Close your accounts without delay

Either by Notes or ready pay:

For if by negligence you tarry

Beyond the first of February,

Our books will all be put in suit,

And Cost and trouble be the fruit.

BENJAMIN CURTISS, jun.

EZRA GLOVER.

Newtown, Jan. 12, 1864.

CLEMENT BECHER,

GOLD AND SILVER SMITH.

**H**AS for sale, Elegant eight day Clocks, which he will warrant to per-  
form well—Brafs and Iron Andirons—Second hand Muskets—  
Candlesticks—Tobacco and Snuff Boxes—Watch criftals—Chains and  
keys—Silver Tea Spoons, &c. &c.

Gold and Silver work, watch repairing, &c. done with neatness and  
dispatch.

~~For~~ Cash paid for old Silver.

Bridgeport, Jan. 10, 1864.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

Bridgeport, Jan. 24th, 1804.

For sale at Vendue a certain piece of land lying near Bridgeport at a place called Lewes's point containing about twenty acres: about two thirds clear and good for improvement, the rest wood land. Said vendue is to be holden at Mr. Benjamin Boftwick's tavern, on Saturday the 11th of February next at 3 o'clock p.m.

AGUR T. LEWIS.

## MRS. GEARY'S SCHOOL,

Is now open for the reception of young ladies, who will be taught Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar and Geography and all kinds of Needlework, making of Laces and Edgings, Tamboring on muffin or filk, Embroidering, Drawing, Painting, &c. &c.

Board and Lodging for fix or eight will be furnished at a reasonale rate.

Bridgeport, 9th of May, 1804.

## FOR SALE.

A convenient dwelling house and an acre of excellent land, situated in Berkfhire, so called, about a mile from Bridgeport. If the above house and land is not sold by the 1st of April next it will then be let for one year. For further particulars apply to the subfciber, living on the premises.

ABRAHAM PARROT.

Bridgeport, Feb. 1804.

## NOTICE

is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Bridgeport and Newtown Turnpike Company will be held at the Inn of Caleb Baldwin, Jun., Newtown, on the 27th day of inf. March at 10 a.m.

by order of the directors

SAMUEL C. BLACKMAN, Clerk.

Bridgeport, March 3, 1804.

N. B. the first quarterly dividind is made out and the treafurer is ready to pay the fame to the severall stockholders.

## ONE CENT REWARD.

Ran away from the subfciber on the night of the 6th instant a boy by the name of John Jones, an indented apprentice. Said boy is very stout, pale face, light hair and light eyes, with a pair of large feet: talks very flow: whoever will take up said boy and return him to the subfciber fhall receive the above reward and One cent charges from me.

ASA BENJAMIN.

Bridgeport, March 12, 1804.

(From the *Republican Farmer*, Jan. 1, 1817.)

## A FORTUNE FOR ONLY SIX DOLLARS!

The Wafhington Bridge Lottery commenced drawing Dec. 27th 1816. The public are cautioned not to delay any longer the purchase of Tickets, and thereby forego the opportunity of placing themselves out of reach of what they call **HARD TIMES**. Times are hard to be sure, but why not spare a little of your cash when there is a chance of reaping a thousand fold? Tickets may now be had at the Post Office at Bridgeport, and those who have been so unfortunate as to draw low prizes may have an opportunity of exchanging them for Tickets warrantd undrawn. Call soon; the price of Tickets will rife shortly.

J. STERLING.

Bridgeport, Jan. 1, 1817.

The foregoing advertisements, and many others which we have not room to copy, plainly show that, though Newfield or Bridgeport was small in size, its people possessed a good deal of business enterprise. Almost every firm owned a coasting sloop or schooner, while there were a number of brigs and other large vessels engaged in the foreign trade.

While homeward bound from the West Indies in the year 1799, young Wilson Hubbell, son of Amos

Hubbell, perhaps the most prominent man in Newfield, lost his life in a manner that never fails to excite sympathy even at this distant day. He was captured by a French privateer, who, taking out several of his seamen, replaced them with a prize crew, with orders to bring the sloop into some French port. While the prize-master was enjoying his noon-day nap Capt. Hubbell turned the tables upon him by locking him into the cabin and overpowering and securing his men. At length, upon promise of good behavior and surrender of his weapons, the Frenchman was allowed to come out from the cabin, and the two sat down upon the quarter-rail to smoke a cigar together. The Frenchman dropped his cigar, and, stooping as if to pick it up, caught Capt. Hubbell by the feet and hurled him overboard. The sea was calm, and the young man swam after the vessel, begging to be taken on board, but in vain. His enemy would not listen to his cries, and his gold, which he had secured in a belt about his body, weighed him down, so that he soon sunk beneath the waves to rise no more. A tablet in the old Stratfield burying-ground commemorates his fate, and refers with not unnatural warmth to "the unprincipled officer of a French privateer, who, deaf to the claims of justice and the cries of humanity, plunged the sufferer into the ocean and left him to perish in the waves."

In the year 1800, on petition of Amos Hubbell and forty-nine others, the village heretofore known as Newfield was incorporated under the name of the Borough of Bridgeport, and granted most of the privileges usually conferred upon cities except representation in the General Assembly and the right of voting at town and State elections, for which purpose the inhabitants of the borough were still obliged to go to Stratford. Careful search in the archives of the State, at Hartford, has brought to light the original petition, which is now published for the first time. The document is in the handwriting of Joseph Backus, attorney, who originated the idea and drew the charter, the first of the kind in the State:

## COPY OF PETITION.

"To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Connecticut to be holden at New Haven in said State on the second Thursday of October next.

"The Petition of Amos Hubbell, Josiah Lacey, John S. Cannon, Salmon Hubbell, and others, whose names are hereunto subscribed, inhabitants of Newfield, in the town of Stratford and County of Fairfield, Humbly sheweth:

"That said Newfield is a Sea Port, compactly settled, rapidly increasing in population, navigation, commerce, both foreign and domestic, and various other kinds of business; and that your petitioners have for a considerable time suffered great inconvenience from a want of power to regulate the internal police, and to make and carry into execution such by-laws as are necessary for their prosperity and convenience.

"Whereupon your Petitioners would humbly pray your Honors, That all the Freemen of this State, inhabitants of said town of Stratford, dwelling within the following bounds,—viz., Beginning at the Sea or Sound, thence running Northwardly on the line dividing the towns of Stratford and Fairfield, until it comes to the South end of the Line Road, so called; thence East to the East side of said Line Road; thence Northwardly, on the East side of said Line Road, to the South west end of Golden Hill Road; thence North Eastwardly, on the South East side of



said Golden Hill Road, to the North East end of the same, at the Newtown Road; thence East across said Newtown Road to the Western boundary of Indian Lot, so called; thence Northwardly, on the line dividing said Newtown Road from said Indian Lot to the Northwest corner of said Indian Lot; thence Eastwardly on the Northern line of said Indian Lot to the West side of said Newfield Harbour; thence Southwardly to an Island, or dry Knowl, in said Harbour, opposite said Indian Lot; Thence Southwardly, to the middle of Newfield or Lottery Bridge, so called; thence Southwardly to the Easternmost point of Welles Tongue at low water mark; thence Southwardly on the edge of the Bank at low water mark, till it comes to the first mentioned bounds, at the Line dividing the said towns of Stratford and Fairfield,—may by an Act of the Legislature be ordained and instituted a body corporate by the name of the Warden, Burgesses, & Freemen of the Borough of Bridgeport; with the power of succession, suing and being sued, & purchasing, holding, & conveying estate, both real & personal; of annually choosing a Warden, six Burgesses, Bailiff, Treasurer, Clerk, Collector, and inspectors of Produce, &c.; of laying out and altering Highways, of Levying Taxes, of making Bye laws relative to Markets and Commerce within the limit of said Borough; relative to preserving said Borough from injury by fire;

“Relative to burial of the dead; Relative to Nuisances within said Borough; relative to streets & Highways of said Borough; relative to wharves, channels, anchoring, and mooring of Vessels; relative to trees planted for shade, ornament, convenience, or use, public or private; relative to the fruit of such trees; relative to trespasses committed in gardens; relative to walks and buildings, public or private; relative to the warning and holding meetings of said Borough; relative to the mode of taxation, as to taxes to be levied in said Borough; relative to the form of oath to be taken by the Treasurer of said Borough; relative to the penalties to be incurred by those who being chosen to Offices in said Borough refuse to serve; relative to a borough watch; relative to public lights and lamps of said Borough; relative to restraining horses, cattle, sheep, swine, and geese from going at large in said Borough, and to inflicting penalties for the breach of said Bye laws; and that said Borough by their proper officers may have power to lay out, alter, and change Highways, streets, and public walks in said Borough, and to erect & keep in repair a legal sign post in said Borough; and that said Borough may have power to admit to the freedom thereof any of the Freemen of this State belonging to either of the towns of Stratford or Fairfield, holding real estate or doing regular business in said Borough.

“And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

“Dated at Newfield the 22d Day of September, A.D. 1800.

Amos Hubbell.	Wm Sheffield.
Salmon Hubbell.	William De Forest.
John S. Cannon.	George Hayt.
Lambert Lockwood.	Thad. Hubbell.
Josiah Lacey.	Daniel Young & Son.
Robert Linus.	Ezra Gregory.
David Minot.	David Sherwood.
Joseph Backus.	Daniel S. Messer.
Stephen Summers, Junr.	David Lacey.
Isaac Hinman.	Stephen Burroughs, Jr.
William Benedict.	David Sterling.
Lazarus Beach.	Isaac Burroughs.
Wm H. Peabody.	Daniel Fayerweather.
Reuben Tweedy.	Ezra Hubbell.
Thomas Gouge, Junr.	Eli Smith.
Stephen Hull.	James Allen.
Amos B. Fairman.	Samel Burr.
Silas Sherman.	Asabel Dunning.
William Peet.	Thomas Woodward.
Asa Hubbell.	Jesse Benedict.
Nathl. Wade.	Wilm N. Whiting.
Francis Botsford.	Charles Nichols.
Ebenezer Allen.	Jonathan Baker.
Lewis Sturgis.	Zebulon Kirtland.
Samuel Porter.	John Whiting.”

As yet there were no churches within the borough, and the people were obliged to go to Stratfield to attend service upon the Sabbath, but in March, 1801, the members of St. John's parish voted to pull down their old church, which, as already stated, stood near the present crossing of North and Wood Avenues,

and build a new one in Bridgeport. This was upon the corner of State and Broad Streets, and continued to be occupied by the society until 1835, when it was sold to the Baptists.

An effort was made in the spring of 1801 to have the Congregational Society removed to Bridgeport, but it met with considerable opposition from that part of the congregation residing in Stratfield, and it was not until 1808 that the change was finally effected. The new meeting-house was erected by subscription at a cost of two thousand dollars, and was on the corner of Broad and John Streets, on the site of the present North church. Rev. Elijah Waterman was then the pastor, and deserves to be commemorated, not only as a faithful and successful minister, but as being the first white man to recognize the advantages of Golden Hill as a place of residence. He built his house, afterwards occupied by the late Hanford Lyon, upon the brow of this hill when it was so rugged and forest-clad that hardly a neighbor was in sight, and his people wondered that he should locate so far away from the village.

One of the most honored names in the history of the Methodist denomination is that of Jesse Lee, the founder of Methodism in the Eastern States. On his first tour through New England he preached once at Norwalk and again in the court-house at Fairfield, and then continued his journey into Rhode Island. Returning, he preached in Stratfield on Friday, Sept. 25, 1789.

Dr. Abel Stevens, in his history of the denomination, thus refers to the occasion: “It was a memorable day. After the sermon he conducted a kind of class-meeting composed of about twenty persons. It was the first class-meeting held on the circuit, and led to the formation next day of the first class, composed of three women, who appeared willing to bear the cross and have their names cast out as evil for the Lord's sake. Since his arrival in New England three months of incessant labors and vexatious rebuffs had passed, and but three women were organized into the new church which was to spread scriptural holiness over the land.”

In Barber's “Historical Collection for Connecticut,” page 409, it is also stated that the first Methodist Society in New England “was formed by Rev Jesse Lee, at Bridgeport, Sept. 26, 1789.” The house where the meetings were held was that of a Mrs. Wells, on the lower part of Park Avenue. It was pulled down a few years ago, but before its destruction photographs were taken of it, which are still preserved.

Nathan and Heman Bangs, both eminent men in the denomination, were born in Stratfield, the former about the year 1777, the latter April 15, 1790. Their father, an intelligent blacksmith, has already been mentioned in these pages. His house was at the foot of the hill upon which the Stratfield Baptist church now stands, but about the year 1793 he removed to

Stamford, N. Y. He is said to have been a churchman, and, when Jesse Lee preached here, to have kept his family closely at home, lest they should become infected with the itinerant's supposed heterodoxy. Both himself and his wife in after-years became members of the Methodist connection. Of Nathan Bangs it is said, that as a minister or presiding elder for more than sixty years, as a founder of the missionary society, the periodical literature, and the Conference system of his Church, and as its recognized historian, he rendered it more important services than any other man save Asbury.

The Bridgeport Bank, of which a more particular account will follow, was chartered by the Legislature in 1806 with a capital of two hundred thousand dollars. In 1810 the census of the borough, which before that date had been included with the town of Stratford, was taken separately, and showed a population of two hundred and twenty-two persons on the point, and eight hundred and sixty-seven on the west side of the river,—an aggregate of one thousand and eighty-nine souls. Bridgeport contained at this time one bank, two houses of public worship,—one for the Episcopalians, one for the Congregationalists,—and one hundred and twenty-three dwelling-houses, thirty-one of which were on the point. Most of the houses were two-story buildings and painted white.

Eighteen vessels, of the capacity of one thousand four hundred and fourteen tons, were owned here, and were engaged in the West India or the coasting-trade. The principal exports were live-stock, wheat and rye flour, and Indian meal, corn, rye, oats, flaxseed, pork, beef, butter, lard, cider, and cider-brandy. Among the articles manufactured in the place were beaver hats, rope, saddles and saddletrees, boots and shoes, cabinet-work, and carriages. There were two tanneries, three printing-offices, two weekly newspapers, one pottery, and forty-three stores.

During the war of 1812, New London was blockaded for a number of months by a British fleet, while the coasting-trade of Long Island Sound was for a long time almost entirely suspended owing to the presence of the fleet and the activity of several privateers fitted out in the British provinces. One of these, known as the "Liverpool Packet," and hailing from Liverpool, Nova Scotia, picked up, among other prizes, two sloops running as packets between Bridgeport and New York.

One afternoon in 1814 she was seen in pursuit of two coasters, a sloop and a schooner, the latter owned in Derby, and commanded by Capt. Hart, of that place. Both vessels spread every sail in the attempt to escape, but, finding their efforts in vain and that their enemy was gaining upon them, they bore up for Bridgeport Harbor, which the sloop succeeded in reaching safely, while the schooner grounded on the outer bar. She was soon boarded by a boat's crew from the Nova Scotiaman, who, finding their prize immovable, would have set her on fire, but it was be-

fore the day of matches, and Capt. Hart had taken the precaution to throw overboard the tinder-box as soon as his vessel struck. \* The captors now rummaged cabin and hold, taking whatever suited their fancy, and some of them had even commenced to cut with their sheath-knives strips of duck from the sails to mend their canvas trousers with, when a cannon-ball from the shore coming inconveniently near, caused them to tumble precipitately into the boat and return to their own ship, which soon bore away up the Sound. At the next tide the stranded schooner floated again, and was brought up to the dock and discharged her cargo here. The pursuit and capture and subsequent relinquishment of the prize were witnessed by hundreds of excited spectators on shore, and the artillery-fire which drove off the privateersman was partly from the single gun of the Bridgeport Artillery Company, under command of Capt. Samuel Hawley, and partly from the little fort on the "Tongue," from which Capt. James Allen fired twenty-four shots at the enemy.

As there were no railroads at that time and the British had entire control of the Sound, great inconvenience resulted from this practical blockade of our ports. Most of the commerce carried on between them and New York had to be by means of whale-boats, which, being of exceedingly light draught, could closely hug the shore, and if pursued put up into some little creek or inlet for safety; but this mode of conveyance was both inconvenient and costly, and it is not surprising that a plan to capture some of the detested privateers was much discussed. It was proposed to put out from Bridgeport Harbor with an old sloop gotten up very much on the plan of the celebrated Trojan horse, with two or three venerable fishermen of simple demeanor on deck, and half a hundred well-armed athletic young fellows concealed below in the hold. When captured, as they were sure to be, they would lie to very close to their captors,—if possible alongside,—and then at the proper time would turn the tables in a most surprising manner, capture the British privateer, and bring her into port amid the ringing of bells, the firing of cannon, and the applause of the populace. I am told that this remarkable plan would actually have been attempted but for the opposition of Joseph Backus, already mentioned as an attorney and a leading man in the place at that time.

Early in the war a company of State militia, commanded by Lieuts. Curtis and Bellamy, was stationed here for a time. It was quartered in an old bakery on Water Street, opposite Union Street, on the ground now occupied by the Housatonic Railroad building, and details were sent down daily to mount guard in an earthwork upon the peninsula known as the "Tongue." Another detachment occupied "Fort Union," upon Grover's Hill, Black Rock.

Some time after this company had been ordered elsewhere, probably during the year 1814, the com-



munity was startled one afternoon by the sight of two British men-of-war coming to anchor opposite the town. These vessels belonged to the fleet which, under the command of Sir Thomas Hardy, the friend and companion of the illustrious Nelson, was blockading Decatur at New London. Their port-holes were raised, as if it was intended to shell the town, and by the aid of a spy-glass it could be seen that their decks were swarming with men. People recalled to mind the fate of Fairfield and Norwalk in the Revolution, and, though the sun went down and darkness came on without the firing of a gun or any attempt being made to land, the excitement on shore was very great, and continued to increase throughout the night. No one slept, the church-bells were rung, the money and valuable papers belonging to the Bridgeport Bank were removed into the country for security, and not a few of the people, taking with them their most portable property, sought safety upon the summit of Toilsome Hill. Of course the militia were called out and made ready to welcome the invaders "with hospitable hands to bloody graves," and Gen. Enoch Foote sent messengers for reinforcements to all the neighboring towns, some of which responded, while others did not.

To the great relief of all, when morning dawned not a trace of the British ships could be seen. They had sailed during the night, having only anchored here to procure a supply of fresh provisions, which, under cover of darkness, were purchased from certain parties on shore. A man named Garlick, who was proprietor of the Johnson tide-mill, in West Stratford, carried on contraband traffic of this kind quite extensively, buying many sheep and cattle and selling them again at such times to the officers of the British fleet. The enemy never made any attempt to land here, but their vessels were frequently in sight, and caused much alarm to the timid.

One evening the sentinel stationed upon the shore, near where the Soldiers' Monument now stands, rode furiously up town shouting at the top of his voice, "The British have landed!" Two parties were sent down in different directions to meet the supposed invaders, and in the darkness fired upon each other, causing great excitement for some time, but, fortunately, no lives were sacrificed.

The news of the treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain was received in New York, Feb. 11, 1815, and was welcomed with an illumination. A public celebration in honor of the event was held in Bridgeport, February 22d. There was firing of cannon and ringing of bells at daybreak, and in the forenoon a procession headed by a band of music marched through the streets to the North church, where the President's proclamation was read, Rev. Messrs. Shelton and Waterman offered prayer, and J. A. Crocker pronounced an oration. After the exercises in the church were concluded there was a public dinner at Knapp's Hotel, and a ball in the

evening. At Fairfield an ox was barbecued on the public green.

On the night of Aug. 20, 1824, Gen. Lafayette and suite, while on a journey from New York to Boston, put up in Bridgeport at Knapp's Hotel, on the corner of Wall and Water Streets. Preparations had been made for an escort to meet the party in Fairfield and conduct it in triumph to the hotel, but these were disconcerted by the lateness of the hour—past eleven o'clock—of the general's arrival, nearly every one having given up expecting him and retired to rest.

An eye-witness\* gives the following account of his reception next morning:

"At five in the morning the bells began ringing and the cannon firing. Lafayette had arrived and slept securely through the night at Knapp's. A few minutes later the street before the hotel was thronged with men, and the walk before the brick stores was filled with ladies. Lafayette and his suite made their appearance upon the balcony between Mr. Hubbell and Mr. Lockwood. The people welcomed Lafayette with three cheers. He replied, 'I am very happy to receive your kind welcome.' Afterwards, placing his hand upon the balustrade, he exclaimed, not in a loud voice, but with much feeling, 'Happy, happy people!' The ladies now formed in line in front of the men, and, going up one by one, shook hands with him. The men did the same, and I grasped the hand of Lafayette."

After breakfast Lafayette resumed his journey eastward, and was accompanied by a disorderly procession of the townspeople, some on horseback, others in vehicles of various descriptions. At Washington Bridge, Gen. Enoch Foote made brief farewell remarks "in behalf of the citizens of Bridgeport," but a few of the escort kept on as far as Milford.

In the year 1819, thinking that Bridgeport was fully capable of managing its own affairs; and feeling the inconvenience of being compelled to go to Stratford to vote at every election, the people of this place petitioned the Legislature to be set off into a separate town. Their petition was defeated by the opposition of the Stratford representatives. In 1821 the attempt was renewed, and this time was successful, no opposition being offered on the part of Stratford. In fact, finding that the Bridgeport men were very decided and could outvote them at town-meetings, the people of Stratford favored the division of their town, but were careful to have the boundary-line established to suit their own interests and not those of Bridgeport. This is the reason why our township, down to the year 1870, was so extremely narrow, and why the eastern shore of our harbor still remains under another jurisdiction.

At the time of the setting off, Bridgeport is reported to have contained about seventeen hundred inhabitants and two hundred and eighteen dwelling houses.

\* Rev. Edward W. Peet, D.D.

There were also within its limits two flouring-mills, and seventy-threestores and manufactories. The number of the taxable polls was two hundred and thirty-five, and the valuation of property, according to the returns made by the assessors for that year, was twenty-four thousand seven hundred and one dollars.

Division Street, now Park Avenue, continued to be the western boundary of the township until 1870, when that portion of Fairfield lying east of Ash Creek was annexed by act of the Legislature.

The city of Bridgeport was incorporated in May, 1836. At the first city meeting Isaac Sherman, Jr., was elected mayor, and Ira Sherman city clerk. In the year 1839, owing to the financial troubles resulting from the issue of city bonds to the Housatonic Railroad Company, East Bridgeport petitioned the Assembly to be set off from the city. Their request was granted, and for twenty-five years our neighbors upon the east side of the river, while belonging to the town, had no voice in city affairs. In 1864, however, the eastern district was reunited to the city, of which it has since formed a very important part.

The charter of Bridgeport has been so frequently amended that to give an exact account of its successive changes would require the pen of a historian like Hallam.

Following is a list of the mayors of the city from its first incorporation to the present time: Isaac Sherman, 1836; Daniel Sterling, 1837; Alanson Hamlin, 1838; Charles Foote, 1839; Charles Bostwick, 1840; William P. Burrall, 1841; James C. Loomis, 1843; Henry K. Harral, 1844; Sherwood Sterling, 1847; Henry K. Harral, 1849; John Brooks, Jr., 1851; Henry K. Harral, 1852; Charles B. Hubbell, 1853; John Brooks, Jr., 1854; P. C. Calhoun, 1855; Silas C. Booth, 1858; D. H. Sterling, 1860; Clapp Spooner, 1863; Jarratt Morford, 1864; Stillman S. Clapp, 1865; Monson Hawley, 1866; Jarratt Morford, 1868; Monson Hawley, 1869; Jarratt Morford, 1870; E. B. Goodsell, 1871; Robert T. Clarke, 1874; P. T. Barnum, 1875; Jarratt Morford, 1876-77; Robert E. De Forest, 1878; John L. Wessels, 1879; Daniel N. Morgan, 1880.

## CHAPTER XI.

### BRIDGEPORT (Continued).

Growth of the City—Its Population increased more than sevenfold in less than half a Century—Description of Bridgeport in 1837—The Whale-Fishery attempted—The Railroad Epoch—Sketch of Alfred Bishop—Opening of the Housatonic, New York and New Haven, and Naugatuck Railroads—Financial Embarrassments—Development of East Bridgeport—The Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Company—Bridgeport during the War of the Rebellion—Great War-Meetings—Departure of Troops for the Front—The Ladies' Relief and Soldiers' Aid Societies—Return of the Regiments—Seaside Park established 1865—Dedication of Soldiers' Monument—Celebration of the Centennial Fourth of July, 1876.

BRIDGEPORT has changed wonderfully in almost every respect within the memory of many persons

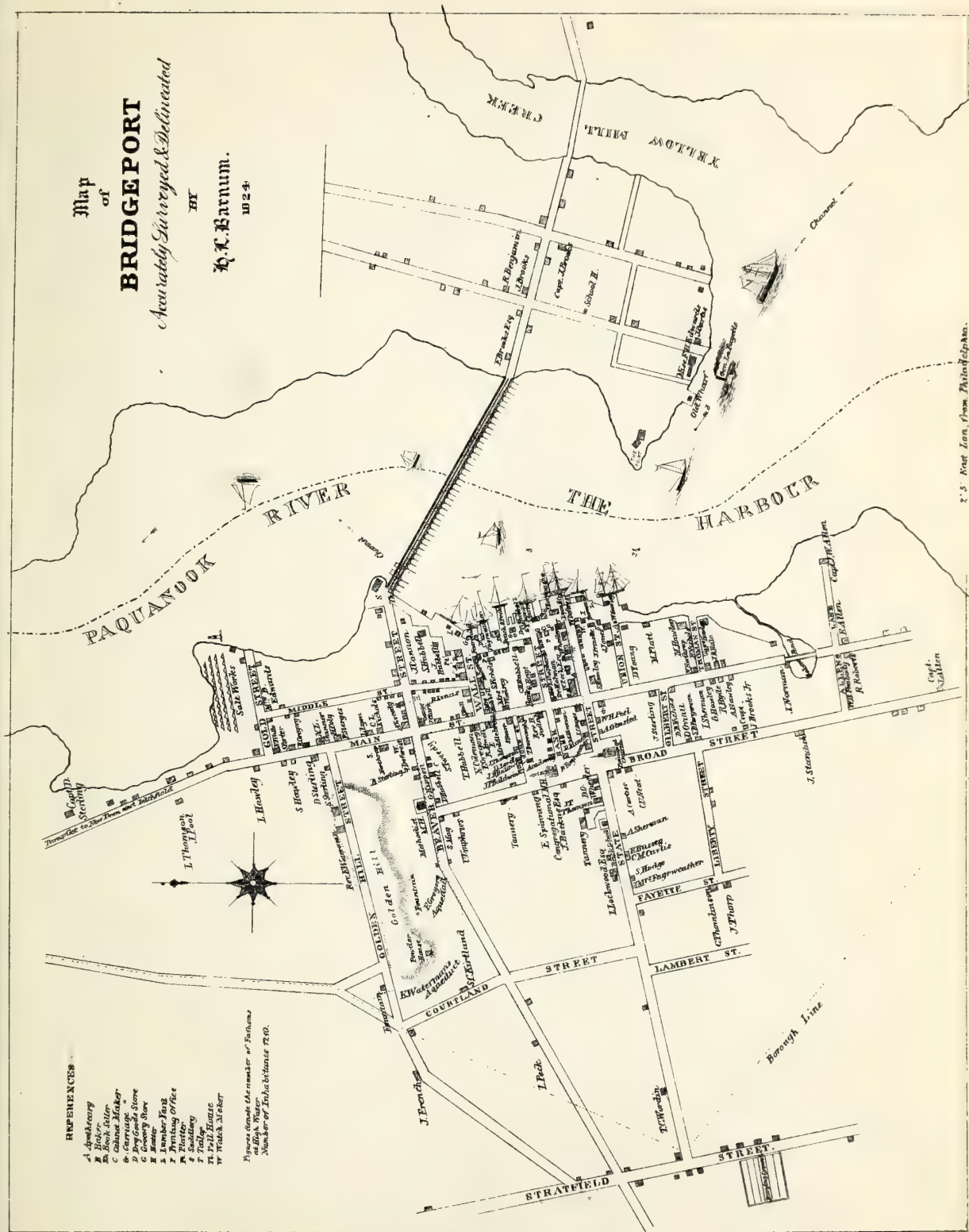
now living. One well-known citizen tells the writer that he can recollect the time when Main Street was bordered with common rail-fences for almost its entire length, and it was necessary to let down a pair of bars before going up upon Golden Hill. Another speaks of the time when he rented a broad tract fronting upon the river and extending as far back as Lafayette Street, to be used as a cow-pasture, for the sum of seven dollars per year. In 1824 a map of Bridgeport was published by H. L. Barnum, a print of which, though upon a smaller scale, forms one of the illustrations of this work and will repay careful examination. Even since the incorporation of the place as a city, in 1836, it has increased in population more than sevenfold. The article upon Bridgeport in Barber's "Historical Collection of Connecticut," written in the following year,—1837,—is worth reading in this connection, and, as copies of the work are now scarce, the greater part of it is herewith reproduced:

"Bridgeport was incorporated as a town in 1821. It was formerly that part of the parish of Stratfield lying in the town of Stratford. It is of a triangular shape, averaging four miles in length from north to south and over two miles in breadth, containing perhaps about ten square miles. It is bounded north by Trumbull; east by Stratford; south by the waters of Long Island Sound; and west by Fairfield. The township is generally level, and has a strong, fertile soil.

"The city of Bridgeport was incorporated in 1836. It is mostly built on the west side of an arm of the sea, seventeen miles southwest from New Haven, sixty-two miles from New York, and four from Fairfield. The harbor extends about three miles inland to the head of tide-water, where it meets Pequonnock River, a considerable mill-stream. The average width of the harbor at high water is eighty rods. At low water most of it is bare, leaving a channel about a dozen rods wide; common tides rise seven feet,—spring tides, nine. The depth of water on the bar at high water is about thirteen feet; within the bar the water is much deeper, having a muddy bottom. The bridge across the harbor is about one mile and a half from its mouth, seventy-five rods in length, built on trestles, with a draw for vessels to proceed above. The surface on which the town is principally built is a plain about twelve feet above high-water mark. There is, however, a rise called Golden Hill, commencing about one hundred rods northwest of the centre of the present buildings, which after a gradual ascent of about twenty rods, in which the perpendicular elevation is fifty feet, presents a surface of half a mile square, forming a delightful situation for an upper town; from this elevation is a fine prospect of the Sound and surrounding scenery. Though situated within three miles of Stratford and four of Fairfield, both among the earliest settlements in the State at the close of the Revolutionary war, there were but



Map  
of  
**BRIDGEPORT**  
*Accurately Surveyed & Delimited*  
BY  
**H. K. Barnum.**  
1824.



**ABBREVIATIONS**

- A. Apothecary
- B. Bank
- C. Carriage
- D. Dry Goods Store
- E. Eating House
- F. Ferry
- G. General Store
- H. Hotel
- I. Iron Works
- J. Jewellery
- K. Kitchen
- L. Lumber Yard
- M. Mill
- N. Nursery
- O. Office
- P. Printing Office
- Q. Quilting
- R. Restaurant
- S. Saddlery
- T. Tailor
- U. Upholstery
- V. Veterinary
- W. Warehouse
- X. Wax Works
- Y. Yarn
- Z. Zephyr

These figures denote the number of Families  
in each Ward.  
Number of Inhabitants 7210.

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ten or twelve houses on the site where Bridgeport is now built. In 1790 there were but one hundred and ten inhabitants. In 1830 there were upwards of eighteen hundred in the borough. The number of inhabitants at this time (1837) in the city is three thousand four hundred and sixteen.

"The original name of the village (now city) was Newfield, which in 1800 was incorporated as a borough and called Bridgeport.

"There are five churches in the limits of the city,—one Episcopal, erected in 1801, now (1837) used by the Baptists; two Congregational: the first Congregational church was erected in 1803 (?) by the society formerly worshipping in Stratfield, the other in 1830; the Methodist, erected in 1822; and the present Episcopal church, now building. The ancient meeting-house of the parish of Stratfield stood about one mile and a half northwest of the central part of the city, on the Line Road between Fairfield and Bridgeport. It was taken down a year or two since.

"The first newspaper printed in the village was in 1795, and edited by Lazarus Beach. The first bridge was erected across the harbor in 1783 (?). There are two banks in this place,—the Bridgeport and Connecticut Banks, the former incorporated in 1806, the latter in 1831. The number of inhabitants within the limits of the town is estimated at upwards of four thousand. A daily line of steamboats between Bridgeport and New York was established in July, 1834. Among the principal articles manufactured in this place are saddlery and carriages. The whale-fishery of late has received considerable attention. Bridgeport at this time is rapidly increasing in wealth and population. A charter was granted in 1836 for a railroad, called the Housatonic Railroad, following the valley of the Housatonic about eighty-five miles to West Stockbridge, Mass."

Allusion has been made to the prosecution of the whaling-business from this port. In May, 1833, Eben Fairchild, Daniel Tomlinson, David Perry, Samuel F. Hurd, and David P. Minot were incorporated under the name of "The Bridgeport Whaling Company;" the capital stock of the company was one hundred thousand dollars, and the object of its formation was "to prosecute the whale and other fisheries in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans." The company owned four ships, called the "Atlantic," "Hamilton," "Harvest," and "Stiegitz."

When the news was received that one of the whale-ships was outside great crowds of people used to assemble at the water's edge, usually at Stephen Hawley's lumber-yard, where the docks of the Housatonic Railroad Company now are, to welcome the mariners home from their long voyage. The boat's crew would bend to their oars until it seemed as if they would snap them, and the final pull as the boat neared the wharf would make it almost leap from the water. Then a great shout of joy would go up as the adven-

turers landed, and each would be surrounded with a throng of friends and relatives eager to bid him welcome. These vessels made quite a number of voyages with varying success, but, upon the whole, the business was not profitable, and after a few years it was discontinued. The late Deacon Sherwood Sterling was the last secretary of the company.

#### THE RAILROAD EPOCH.

Bridgeport, from its geographical position, is the natural depot for the products of the valleys of the Housatonic and the Naugatuck, and it was in order to secure the trade of Litchfield County that the New-town turnpike was chartered, in 1801. Efforts were made from time to time, however, to divert this trade from Bridgeport to other ports, such as Black Rock and Norwalk. New roads were opened for this purpose, and in 1827 a company was chartered by the Legislature with power to build a canal from the Housatonic River at New Milford to tide-water at Saugatuck Harbor. The desire to counteract such plans was one reason why the people of Bridgeport were inclined to take an active interest in the project of a railroad running northward to the Massachusetts line when that measure was first proposed.

Others may have originally suggested the idea of such a railroad, but to the late Alfred Bishop belongs the credit of first taking steps to carry it into practical effect, and to him, as the author of its complete system of railway communication, Bridgeport is certainly much indebted, and owes no small degree of its present prosperity.

Mr. Bishop was born in Stamford, Conn., Dec. 21, 1798, but in early manhood removed to New Jersey, where he engaged in farming. Upon his farm he made numerous personal experiments with pickaxe, shovel, and wheelbarrow, obtaining in this way exact estimates of the cost of moving masses of earth to a distance, which he afterwards turned to good account in his business as a railroad contractor. Before leaving New Jersey he had already become known as the builder of the Morris Canal and the bridge over the Raritan at New Brunswick. In 1836, Mr. Bishop removed to Bridgeport, where he built the residence upon Golden Hill Street until recently occupied by his widow. His connection with the Housatonic, New York and New Haven, and the Naugatuck Railroads is related elsewhere. Had his life been spared, it was his intention to present to Bridgeport a tract of land in the centre of the city for a public park, but on the 11th of June, 1849, at the comparatively early age of fifty-one years, he died, at Saratoga, whither he had gone for much-needed rest.

At the funeral, which was on June 13th, his pastor, Rev. Dr. Hewit, preached the sermon, and the Common Council, which had previously passed resolutions of respect, attended in a body.

Mr. Bishop left a large estate to his family, and in his will, besides an annuity to the Rev. Dr. Hewit,

was a legacy of eight thousand dollars to the American Bible Society, and another of five thousand dollars to the Ladies' Charitable Society of this city, the income of which is still applied to benevolent purposes.

In March, 1836, a little gathering of gentlemen met in the parlors of the old Sterling Hotel, to discuss the need of a railroad from Bridgeport to the northern line of the State. Eventually, they thought, this road would not only bring to Bridgeport the trade of the Housatonic valley, but would be extended from its southern terminus to New York, and thus become the great medium of freight and passenger communication between that city and Albany during the winter season, when the Hudson River was closed by ice.

Railroads were then in their infancy, it being but seven years since the first locomotive in the country was imported, and but two years since the Boston and Albany—the pioneer road of New England—was opened for travel, but Mr. Bishop succeeded in infusing some of his own enthusiasm into the gentlemen present, and before the meeting adjourned a petition for the proposed road had been signed by nearly all of them. Two months later Enoch Foote, William Peet, W. C. Sterling, and their successors, were incorporated by the Legislature of Connecticut under the name of "The Housatonic Railroad Company," with authority to build a road from Sheffield, Mass., to Brookfield, Conn., and from thence to tide-water at Bridgeport, or such other point as might be deemed expedient.

In order to aid the undertaking, the city of Bridgeport, at a meeting held March 2, 1837, voted to subscribe for stock of the new company to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, and individuals residing in other towns upon the route subscribed for two hundred thousand dollars more.

Ex-Governor Gideon Tomlinson acted for a time as president of the company, but at the first regular election, April 5, 1837, the following persons were chosen officers of the road: William P. Burrall, President; William H. Noble, Secretary; Jesse Sterling, Treasurer; William P. Burrall, Edwin Porter, Samuel Simons, Stephen Lounsbury, Charles De Forest, of Bridgeport, Anan Hine, Asa Pickett, of New Milford, Alpheus Fuller, of Kent, and Peter Bierce, of Cornwall, Directors.

Mr. Horace Nichols subsequently became treasurer of the road, and held the position until his resignation, in 1848. A contract was made by the board of directors with Messrs. Bishop and Sykes to build the entire road for the sum of \$936,000,—viz., cash, \$636,000, and stock of the company at par, \$300,000. Work was commenced in July, 1837, about three hundred men being employed by the contractors.

Owing to the panic of 1837, which caused nearly all the banks and moneyed institutions of the country to suspend specie payments, subscriptions for stock were not received as rapidly as had been anticipated, and the progress of the road was delayed.

In February, 1840, the southern division of the road—viz., from Bridgeport to New Milford—was completed and opened for travel. The cost up to that time had been, for the road proper, \$476,000; for cars, engines, depots, tanks, etc., \$99,000; total, \$575,000.

The remaining portion of the road was opened Dec. 1, 1842. Much annoyance was caused by the original track, which consisted of an iron strap fastened upon wooden sills by spikes, which often became loose, when the weight of passing trains caused it to curl up into "snake-heads." In 1846 it was replaced by iron rails of the present pattern.

March 25, 1838, the city of Bridgeport voted to confirm the previous subscription of one hundred thousand dollars, and authorized an additional one of fifty thousand dollars, and Messrs. Henry Dutton, F. C. Bassett, and Lockwood De Forest were appointed agents for the city to raise the necessary funds by issuing coupon bonds. These bonds were paid to the railroad company in lieu of cash, and by the company were disposed of to other parties.

At the May session in 1838 the Legislature by a special act validated the action of the city of Bridgeport, referred to above, in subscribing for the stock of the Housatonic Railroad Company, and in issuing bonds in payment for the stock. This act of the General Assembly was approved at a city meeting held for the purpose, but no provision was made for the payment of the bonds or of the coupons as they fell due.

The action of the majority was viewed with alarm by many of the leading tax-payers, who in January, 1839, appointed a "Council of Safety" to advise as to what measures should be taken in regard to these bonds. This council was composed of thirteen members, Philo Hurd being chairman and Isaac Sherman secretary. Eminent counsel were also retained by the city, and an effort was made to secure the services of Daniel Webster, but Mr. Webster was obliged to decline the case on account of other engagements. No active effort seems to have been made by any one to repudiate the debt, but a very general desire was manifested that some competent tribunal should decide to what extent the private property of citizens in the minority could be taken to satisfy a debt created by the vote of a majority, many of whom were not tax-payers.

In June, 1843, the railroad company obtained judgment against the city in the Superior Court, and, an appeal to the Supreme Court of Errors having been decided in favor of the plaintiff, an execution on this judgment was issued and placed in the hands of Deputy Sheriff Smith, of Norwalk, to be by him levied and collected. This officer then first demanded payment of the amount from the mayor, clerk, and treasurer of the city in turn, and then, payment not having been made, called upon them to exhibit goods, chattels, or lands belonging to the debtors,—viz., the



Mayor, Common Council, and freemen of the city,—which they were either unable or unwilling to do. The deputy sheriff then, acting under legal advice, broke open the dry goods store of Bronson B. Beardsley and the wholesale grocery of Niles, Thorp & Co., and, seizing a quantity of goods from the former, sold them at the post. Mr. Beardsley brought an action against the deputy sheriff for taking his property unlawfully, but in June, 1844, the case was decided against him. It was then carried to the Supreme Court of the State, where the decision in favor of the defendant was affirmed, Judge Church, in giving the opinion, using the following language:

"The city of Bridgeport, with great deliberation and unanimity, and under sanction of the General Assembly, has contracted a debt. The securities issued by the city have been purchased by *bona-fide* holders, with its assent, and upon the faith of the city and the laws. No funds, either by taxation or otherwise, have been provided for payment. A right without a remedy is not an admitted principle. We know of no other practical remedy but the one to which this plaintiff has resorted."

This was a very important decision, as the question at issue—viz., the liability of private property for the debts of a municipality—had never before been adjudicated. Once definitely settled, however, immediate steps were taken for the payment of overdue interest and legal expenses, and a tax of seven and a half per cent. upon the entire property of the city was laid and collected.

In 1856 a sinking fund of fifty thousand dollars—this being the sum derived from the sale of the stock owned by the city—was established by Mayor Calhoun, which, by careful management, has increased from year to year, until the greater part of the railroad debt of the city has already been paid off, and for the balance, due in 1886, full provision is already made.

The Housatonic Railroad, which had largely been built with borrowed capital, was much crippled. In 1844 it passed into the hands of a committee of twenty citizens, and for some time was operated under the name of E. Gregory & Co. Preferred stock to a large amount was finally issued, and a reorganization of the company effected.

Judging from the last report of the railroad commissioners, however, this road is now in a prosperous state. At the beginning of the year 1880 it had 74 miles of track, extending from Bridgeport to Sheffield, Mass., besides several branches and leased lines. Its capital stock is \$2,000,000,—viz., \$820,000 old stock, and \$1,180,000 preferred. Its bonded debt is \$550,000, and its floating indebtedness \$228,038.73; total, \$778,038.73. It has 20 locomotives, 32 passenger- and baggage-cars and 440 freight-cars, 420 employees, and 20 stations. It carried last year 252,740 passengers and 225,037 tons of freight, and its revenue from all sources was \$599,660.09.

The railroad commissioners, in concluding their report, say of this road,—

"Steel rails have been laid as far north as Merwinsville, and it is proposed to continue the steel track during the present year to the State line. The bridges, track, and rolling-stock of this road are all in good condition. The usual dividend of eight per cent. has been paid to the preferred stockholders."

The following are the officers of the company: William H. Barnum, President; David S. Draper, Vice-President; Charles K. Averill, Secretary and Treasurer; Henry C. Cogswell, General Freight Agent; Hobart W. Watson, Chief Clerk; L. B. Stillson, Superintendent; William H. Barnum, of Lime Rock, Conn.; Samuel Willets, of New York; Horace Nichols, William D. Bishop, of Bridgeport; George W. Peet, of Falls Village; Edward Leavitt, John B. Peck, of New York; D. S. Draper, of Great Barrington; A. B. Mygatt, of New Milford, Directors.

In the year 1844 an act of incorporation was obtained from the Legislature of Connecticut by Joseph E. Sheffield, of New Haven, Anson G. Phelps, of New York, and others, giving them permission to lay out and build a railroad, not exceeding six rods in width, from New Haven to the western boundary of the State, and to transport persons and property upon it by the power of steam or any other mechanical force, by animals, or "by any combination of these which said company may choose." May 11, 1846, the Legislature of the State of New York granted the same persons permission to extend their proposed railroad from the Connecticut line to connect with the Harlem road at Williams Bridge, N. Y.

The first stockholders' meeting was held at New York City, May 19, 1846, when the following board of directors was elected: Robert Schuyler, Anson G. Phelps, Elihu Townsend, Morris Ketchum, of the city of New York; Henry J. Sanford, of Stamford; William P. Burrall, Stephen Tomlinson, of Bridgeport; Joseph E. Sheffield, of New Haven; F. R. Griffin, of Guilford. At a subsequent meeting of the directors Robert Schuyler was chosen president and William P. Burrall secretary.

Preliminary surveys having been made by Alexander C. Twining, on the 27th of October, 1846, a contract was made with Messrs. Alfred Bishop and Sidney G. Miller to build the road from the depot of the Hartford and New Haven Railroad, in the city of New Haven, to Williams Bridge. The contract included the cost of obtaining a right of way of not less than four rods wide, and of building upon it a single-track railroad with four miles of turnouts, also the grounds and buildings for eleven depots, sundry water-stations, and numerous culverts. It also called for substantial bridges over the various streams crossed, including the Housatonic, Pequonnock, Saugatuck, and Norwalk Rivers, and the marsh at West Haven. Work was to be commenced by the first day of December, 1846, and was to be completed by Aug. 1,

1848. The contract price was two and a quarter millions of dollars, payable partly in cash and partly in the company's stock, as follows,—viz.:

Cash, in installments, as work is completed.....	\$1,350,000
9000 shares of stock at par.....	900,000
Total.....	\$2,250,000

The contractors were also each to receive a free pass for the term of their natural lives.

As usual in works of this magnitude, there was a slight delay in its completion. Trains commenced running from Bridgeport to Fairfield Sept. 2, 1848, but, though finished from New Haven to Westport in October, 1848, it was not until Jan. 1, 1849, that the road was fully open for travel over its entire length. The original fare, if the writer's information is correct, was from New Haven to New York, one dollar and fifty cents; from Bridgeport to New York, one dollar.

The capital stock of the road was originally two and a half millions of dollars, divided into twenty-five thousand shares, and at the completion of the road was owned as follows:

New York.....	15,374 shares.
Boston .....	4,600 "
Connecticut.....	5,026 "
Total.....	25,000 "

As already noted, Messrs. Stephen Tomlinson and William P. Burrall, of this city, were stockholders and members of the first board of directors. So many Bridgeport gentlemen have been connected with this road that some additional particulars respecting it, though not in strictly chronological order, may properly find a place here.

In May, 1851, an additional track was laid, and the capital stock was increased to three million dollars. Two severe disasters have occurred in its history,—the first the terrible accident and loss of life at Norwalk bridge, May 6, 1853, and the second the fraudulent overissue of stock by its first president, Robert Schuyler, which came to light in July, 1854,—but, with these exceptions, it has had a career of almost unbroken prosperity. Much of this success is due to the ability of Hon. William D. Bishop, of Bridgeport, who was its efficient president from May 17, 1867, to March 1, 1879, when ill health compelled him to resign. He is still, however, a member of the board of directors. Hon. Nathaniel Wheeler has also been a director from May 19, 1870, to the present time. Mr. John T. Moody and Mr. William H. Stevenson, of this place, are also connected with the road,—the former as assistant superintendent and the latter as superintendent of the Shore Line division.

In the summer of 1872 the New York and New Haven road was consolidated with the Hartford and New Haven Railroad, and in June of the following year the work of equipping it throughout was completed. The consolidated road now leases the Boston and New York Air Line, paying that company six per cent. of the earnings of the main line. It has

also leased the Shore Line since 1870 for an annual rental of one hundred thousand dollars. The distance from Springfield, Mass., to Harlem Junction is one hundred and twenty-three miles, but the total length of main lines and branches is two hundred and twenty-two miles.

The capital stock of the consolidated road is \$15,500,000, and the total debt only \$428,978.48. There are 1683 stockholders, and the earnings from all sources in 1879 were \$3,997,892.96. About fifteen passenger-trains traverse the road in each direction daily. There are 57 stations, 84 locomotives, 1740 cars, and during the past year 3,587,899 passengers and 1,209,630 tons of freight were transported. The usual dividend paid to the stockholders is ten per cent.

The idea of a railroad through the Naugatuck valley, terminating at Bridgeport, is also due to Alfred Bishop. This road was chartered in 1845, the following persons being the incorporators: Timothy Dwight, of New Haven; Philo Hurd, of Bridgeport; Green Kendrick, of Waterbury; Alfred B. Brittain, of Bridgeport; Thomas Burlock, of Derby; George L. Schuyler, of New York; William P. Burrall, of Bridgeport.

At the organization of the first board of directors, Feb. 18, 1848, Timothy Dwight was chosen president, Ira Sherman secretary, and Horace Nichols treasurer of the company. Messrs. Dwight and Sherman both died many years ago, but Mr. Nichols still retains his post. The recently published history of Derby, Conn., makes the following brief reference to this veteran officer:

"When the Naugatuck road was started Mr. Nichols was elected treasurer, and has continued therein—a faithful, honorable, prompt, and energetic officer—until the present time. He is unostentatious, scarcely allowing a notice of himself to be made in print, constant in his attention to business, and therefore greatly successful, and merits and receives the esteem of all with whom he is associated."

The original intention was to build only from Bridgeport to Waterbury, but the capital stock was afterwards increased from eight hundred thousand dollars to one million two hundred thousand dollars, and the road was extended to Winsted, Mr. Alfred Bishop being the contractor. He did not live to see the work entirely completed, but died in June, 1849, while the road was not finished until September 24th of the same year. Since the opening of the road villages upon the line have grown into thriving and prosperous cities, manufactures known the world over have been established, and the value of real estate has been increased fivefold.

The Naugatuck enjoys the reputation of being one of the best-managed roads in the country. It has neither floating nor bonded debt, pays all bills monthly, and its stock is in demand as a sound, dividend-paying investment.



The present officers are: E. F. Bishop, President; Horace Nichols, Treasurer; James Potter, Chief Clerk; George W. Beach, Superintendent; Samuel Wilmot, Auditor. The directors are W. D. Bishop, R. Tomlinson, E. F. Bishop, Bridgeport; J. G. Wetmore, Winsted; A. L. Dennis, Newark, N. J.; H. Bronson, J. B. Robertson, New Haven; R. M. Bassett, Derby; F. J. Kingsbury, Waterbury.

The Naugatuck now leases and operates the New Haven and Derby road, paying the latter twenty per cent. of the gross earnings of both corporations, the contract to be readjusted every five years. Its length, from Winsted to its junction with the consolidated road, near the Housatonic River, is  $56\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Its capital stock is \$2,000,000,—held by 432 persons, residing in every quarter of the world except South America,—and its total debt does not exceed \$30,000, while its earnings from all sources in the year 1879 were \$516,594.14. This road has 19 stations, 254 employees, 11 locomotives, and 310 cars, and transported in the above year 261,469 passengers and 199,845 tons of freight.

The railroad commissioners of the State, in their last annual report, say of it,—

"Steel rails have taken the place of the original iron the whole length of the road, and the track is kept in good surface and alignment. The passenger-cars have, during the past year, been equipped with the Miller platform and the Westinghouse automatic brake. The usual dividend of ten per cent. has been paid to the stockholders."

The decade between 1850 and 1860 was one of great prosperity for Bridgeport, and during this period it first began to assume the appearance of a city. In 1853 the Bridgeport Water Company was formed, and in 1854 and 1855 water-mains were laid through the principal streets by Nathaniel Greene and his associates. The Bridgeport Gas-Light Company was chartered in 1849, and commenced business in December, 1851. In June, 1850, the Bridgeport Library was incorporated. About the same time the Farmers' (now the First National), the Bridgeport City, and the Pequonnock Banks were chartered, several churches were dedicated, and two new bridges opened between the city proper and East Bridgeport. The newly-completed railroads brought much business to the place, and many new residents were attracted hither. Manufacturing, except for home consumption, was yet in its infancy, but the old-established houses of Lyon & Calhoun, afterwards Lacey, Meeker & Co., manufacturers of saddlery and harness, and of Tomlinson, Wood & Co., now Hincks & Johnson, carriage-builders, gave employment to many workmen and turned out an excellent class of work for export.

East Bridgeport now began to attract attention as an excellent site for building and for manufactories. The following paragraphs relating to its rapid growth are slightly abridged from the "Autobiography" of Hon. P. T. Barnum:

"In 1851 I purchased from Mr. William H. Noble the undivided half of his late father's homestead, consisting of fifty acres of land lying on the east side of the river, opposite the city of Bridgeport. We intended this as the nucleus of a new city, which we concluded could soon be built up, in consequence of many natural advantages that it possesses. Before giving publicity to our plans, however, we purchased one hundred and seventy-four acres contiguous to that which we already owned, and laid out the entire property in regular streets and lined them with trees, reserving a beautiful grove of six or eight acres, which we inclosed and converted into a public park. We then commenced selling alternate lots at the same price which the land cost us by the acre. Our sales were always made on the condition that a suitable dwelling-house, store, or manufactory should be erected upon the land within one year from the date of purchase; that every building should be placed at a certain distance from the street in a style of architecture approved by us; that the grounds should be inclosed with acceptable fences and kept clean and neat; with other conditions which would render the locality a desirable one for respectable residents. A new foot-bridge was built, connecting this place with the city of Bridgeport, and a public toll-bridge which belonged to us was thrown open to the public free. We also put up a fine covered drawbridge, between the two bridges already existing, at a cost of sixteen thousand dollars, which we also made free to the public for several years. We built and leased to a Union Company of young coach-makers a large and elegant coach-manufactory, which was the beginning of the extensive manufactories subsequently built in East Bridgeport."

The sagacious policy of Messrs. Barnum and Noble laid the foundation of the prosperity of East Bridgeport, but it was not until the Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Company removed here that its remarkable growth really commenced. Since that time many other large manufactories have been located here,—notably the Howe Sewing-Machine Company, in 1863; the Union Metallic Cartridge Company, in 1865; the Frary Cutlery Company, Messrs. Glover, Sanford & Sons; the Bridgeport Brass Company; the Farist Steel Company; the Monumental Bronze Company; J. A. House; and not a few smaller concerns. All these have in a greater or less degree contributed to the prosperity of the place.

The same is true of such establishments upon the west side of the river as the Eaton Cole & Burnham Company, the Furniture-Manufacturing Company, the Burlock Manufacturing Company, Thompson, Langdon & Co., the Spring Perch Company, Hincks & Johnson, the Read Carpet Company, the R. Tomlinson Spring Company, Ives, Blakeslee & Co., the Pacific Iron-Works, the John S. Way Company, Bridgeport Patent-Leather Company, Warner Brothers, Bridgeport Malleable Iron Company, Hotchkiss

Sons, Parrott Varnish Company, Bridgeport Spring Company, J. B. Secor, Smith & Egge Company, Wheel and Wood-Bending Company, White Manufacturing Company, Bridgeport Organ Company, Lee Arms Company, Fray & Pigg, American Belt, Tin, and Tube Company, Ornamental Wood Company, Bridgeport Coach-Lace Company, Bridgeport Elastic Web Company, Belknap Manufacturing Company, W. F. Swords, Bridgeport Paper-Box Company, Bridgeport Silver Company, H. D. Gates & Company, Ætna Spring and Axle Company, the Pequonnock Paper Company, J. S. Follansbee, Giles and Clancey, Coulter & McKenzie, and a multitude of others.

It is much to be regretted that the limits of the present sketch do not admit of an extended account of each one of them. The Wheeler & Wilson Company, however, has been so long and so intimately connected with Bridgeport, and has given employment to so large a number of the population, that no history of the city, even though a brief one, can be written without containing some account of it.

This company removed to Bridgeport in 1856, but, in order to gain a clear idea of its history, it is necessary to go back to 1849, the year when Allen B. Wilson first invented his sewing-machine. Nathaniel Wheeler, who was born in Watertown, Conn., in 1820, was then carrying on the manufacture of light metallic goods in his native place. Happening to be in New York upon business, he went to see the new sewing-machine, which was then on exhibition in a room in the old *Sun* building, and was attracting considerable attention. Mr. Wheeler quickly recognized the merits of the invention, and at once entered into a contract to build five hundred of the machines at his factory in Watertown, Mr. Wilson agreeing to remove to that place and superintend their manufacture.

Further improvements having been made in the machine, an application for a patent was filed, and the document was issued Aug. 12, 1851. Messrs. Wheeler and Wilson now entered into copartnership with Alanson Warren and George P. Woodruff, of Watertown, under the firm-name of Wheeler, Wilson & Co., and began the manufacture of machines under the patent. Several hundred had been sold, and Mr. Wheeler had succeeded in introducing them into the extensive shirt-factories at Troy, N. Y., and New Haven, Conn., and had established depots for their sale in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, when, for the better prosecution of the business, the firm was dissolved, and the Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Company was organized in October, 1853, with a capital of one hundred and sixty thousand dollars, one hundred thousand of this sum representing the patent-right, and the remainder standing for tools, machinery, and working capital already employed in the business.

The first president of the company was Alanson Warren, and the first secretary and treasurer George P. Woodruff, while among the original incorporators

and stockholders was George Mallory, then of Watertown, but for many years past a resident of this city. Mr. Wheeler was elected president of the company July 18, 1855.

In the spring of 1856, the business having greatly increased, it was decided to remove to East Bridgeport, where the works of the Jerome Clock Company had been purchased. Since that time its history has been identified with that of Bridgeport. The original clock-factory has been greatly enlarged and new buildings erected, so that the establishment is at present one of the most extensive and complete in the country.

At the present time the principal buildings consist of the main factory, for metal-working, assembling, testing, etc., occupying one complete square, 368 by 307 feet, under one roof; a wood-working factory, covering a second square, 526 by 219 feet; a foundry and needle-factory upon a third, 368 by 232 feet; the works altogether covering over seven acres of ground.

Only a few rooms and the more interesting operations can be mentioned here. The main machinery-room is that in which the principal mechanical work is performed in the production of the metal parts of the sewing-machines. This fireproof room is L-shaped, 300 feet in length, 210 feet in width in one part and 100 feet in the other. Power is distributed from four main lines of shafting, which have not perceptibly deviated from correct adjustment since they were first placed in position, thirteen years ago. In this room are no less than 1003 separate machines for special mechanical operations, many of them seemingly possessed of such intelligence and skill as to direct and control their own movements, and only needing consciousness to rise to the plane of the skilled mechanic.

To show how far division of labor is carried, it may be mentioned that the well-known rotary hook undergoes one hundred and twenty-eight distinct operations, a glass-presser thirty-two, and a hemmer seventy.

The number of driving-belts which meet the view in this one room is, by actual count, 1676, of the total length of 39,510 feet, or but 90 feet less than  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles. This is exclusive of short feed-belts, etc., of which there are probably as many more.

Passing through a tunnel under the street, we reach the buildings in which are the foundry and the needle-factory. Of the former it need only be said that for convenience and perfection of all appointments it is not surpassed.

As the sewing-machine proper is useless without the needle, the latter is, of course, an article of prime importance. No department of these works is more interesting than the mechanical processes of converting steel wire into perfectly finished needles. The distinct operations in the making of each needle now number thirty-three, having been recently reduced from fifty-two by improved machinery.

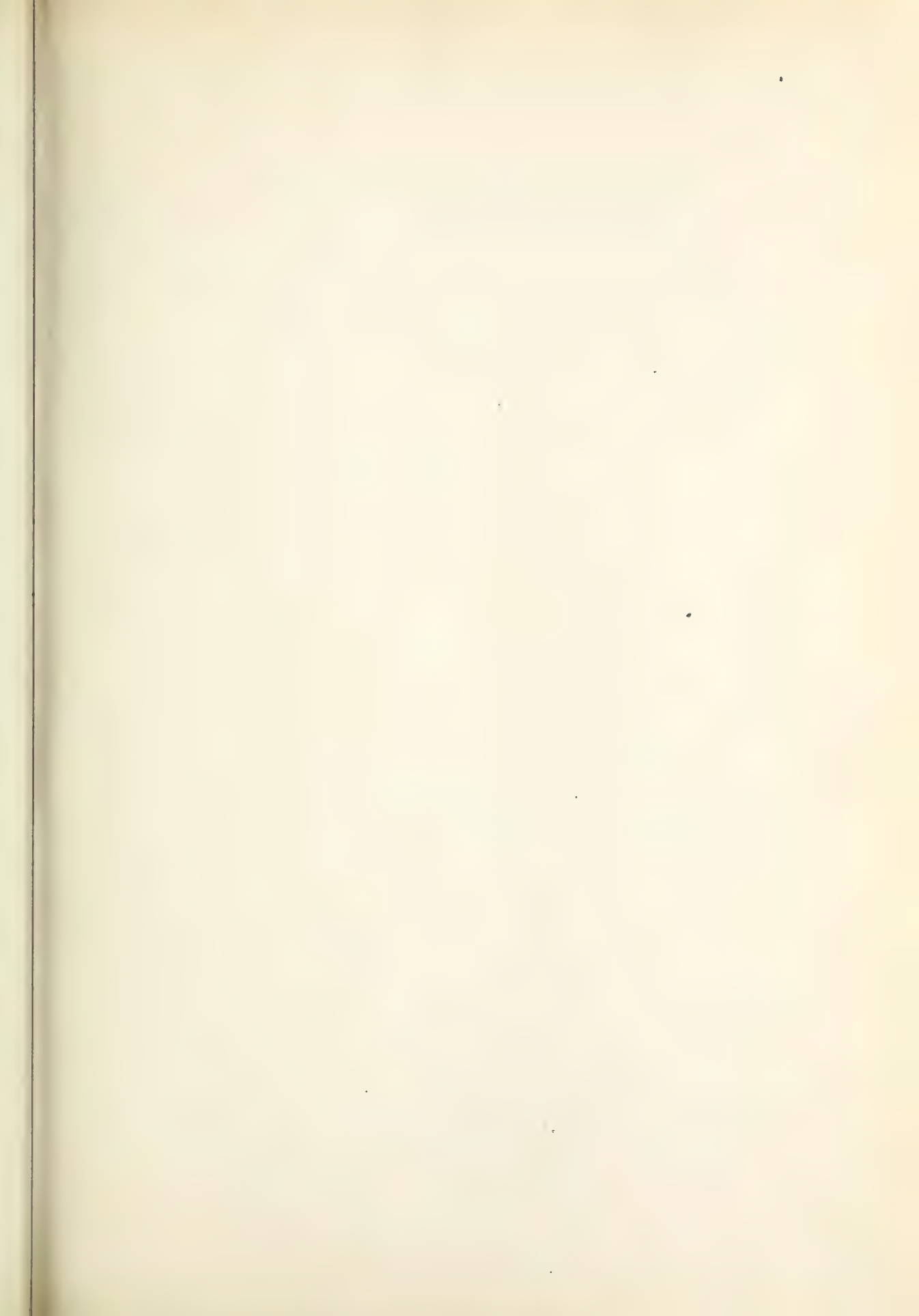


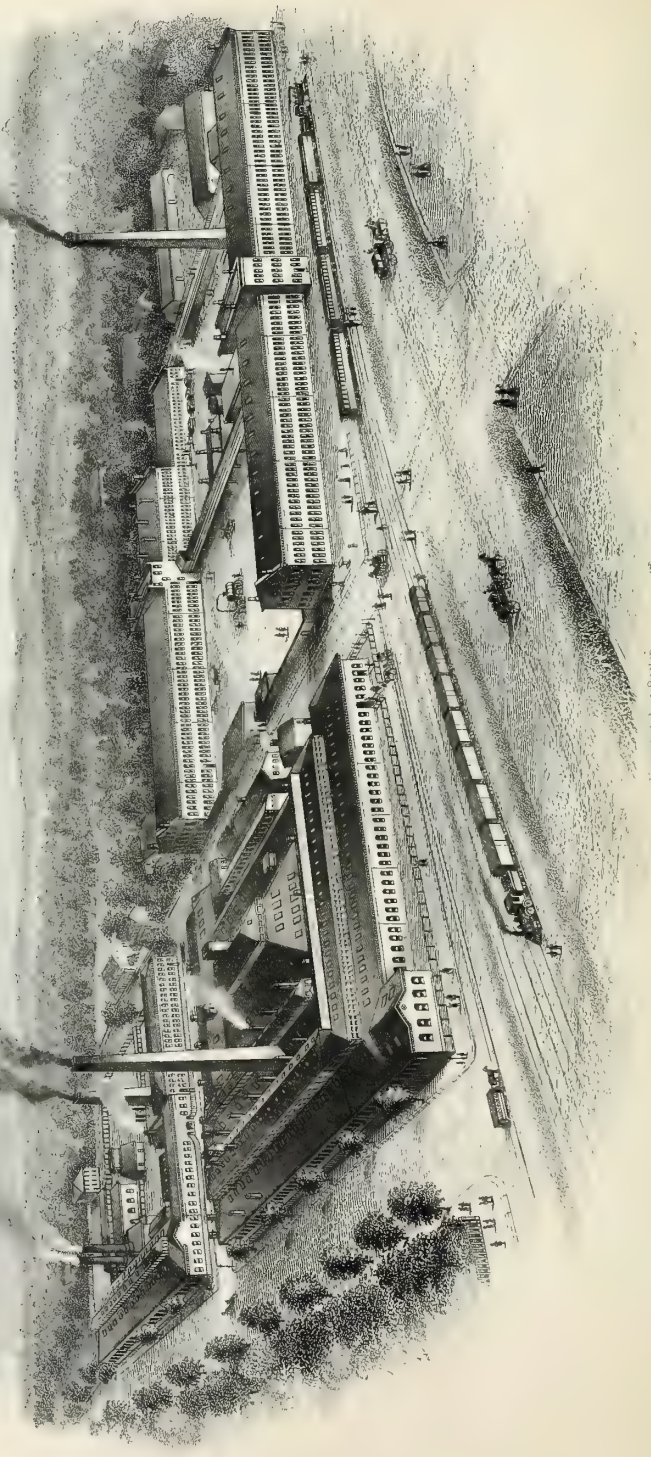


A. Wheeler









Wheeler & Wilson

WHEELER AND WILSON MANUFACTURING CO.

BRIDGEPORT CONN



The wood-working or cabinet department of this company is under a separate organization, styled the Sewing-Machine Cabinet Company. The main buildings of this department are two in number, each 526 feet in length. Here is made all the furniture for the machines, from a plain table-top to the most elaborate and expensive full case or cabinet. The raw material, brought from Arkansas and elsewhere, is cut to dimensions in the company's saw-mill, and afterwards worked up into the desired forms. The excellent finish of the cabinet-work is obtained by the use of the wood-filling invented by Mr. Wheeler, and patented Jan. 18, 1876. The invention is said to be one of great value, not only for sewing-machine work, but for all kinds of wood-work where a superior finish is desired.

The present number of employees in all departments of the factory is about 1200, and the aggregate sum paid out to employees of the company in the city of Bridgeport up to the present time is not less than \$14,000,000. Most of the workmen are of a superior class.

The following table, recently compiled for the United States Census Bureau, exhibits their nationalities:

Number born in the United States.....	802
“ “ Canada.....	4
“ “ Ireland.....	197
“ “ Germany.....	101
“ “ England.....	49
“ “ Scotland.....	5
“ “ other European countries.....	34
Total.....	1192

The merits of the Wheeler & Wilson machine have been recognized at the different World's Fairs. Awards were made to the original machine at London, in 1862, and at Paris, in 1867, and to the improved No. 6 and No. 7, for sewing leather and heavy cloth, at Vienna in 1873, and at Philadelphia in 1876, while the only grand gold medal and grand prize diploma issued to sewing-machines at the Paris Exposition of 1878 was awarded to the Wheeler & Wilson sewing-machine as excelling for general use any of its eighty competitors.

As already stated, the original capital of the company was \$160,000, but an increase to \$600,000 was authorized by the Legislature in 1864, and a further increase to \$1,000,000 in 1866. At this amount it still nominally remains, though the assets are much larger, and the stock sells for several times its par value.

The present officers and representatives of the company are: Nathaniel Wheeler, President; William H. Perry, Secretary and Treasurer; Frederick Hurd, President Sewing-Machine Cabinet Company; Isaac Holden, General Correspondent and Superintendent of Agencies. The directors are N. Wheeler, William H. Perry, of Bridgeport; S. M. Buckingham, James Elton, of Waterbury; T. A. Warren, of New Haven; N. Shipman, of Hartford; C. B. Erwin, of New Britain.

Mr. Wheeler has now been president of this great manufacturing establishment for more than a quarter of a century. He has represented Bridgeport in the

Legislature for several terms, and was one of the commissioners for building the new State Capitol at Hartford. He has rendered valuable service to Bridgeport by the discharge of many public trusts, and is at the present time a director of the Public Library, of Mount Grove Cemetery Association, and a member of the school board and many other institutions. He has always been a warm friend to the cause of education, and to his influence is largely due the decision of the town to erect a new high-school building upon Golden Hill, which will be a credit to the city.

The organization of the perfect system which prevails throughout these works requires excellent business talent, and reflects great credit upon Mr. William H. Perry, who has been connected with the company almost since its organization. He was elected secretary Sept. 5, 1855, and secretary and treasurer July 16, 1856, which office, with that of superintendent, he still holds. Mr. Perry has also rendered important services to Bridgeport for a number of years past as one of the board of park commissioners, and the city is much indebted to him for the present excellent condition of the public pleasure-grounds.

#### BRIDGEPORT DURING THE REBELLION.

No adequate account of the part taken by Bridgeport in the war of the Rebellion can be compressed into the limits of a sketch like the present. Only a few leading incidents can be given here, but perhaps upon the foundation now laid some future historian may build a better edifice.

The surrender of Fort Sumter was on Sunday, April 14, 1861. On Monday, the 15th, President Lincoln issued his proclamation calling for seventy-five thousand men. On the following day, Governor Buckingham called for one regiment of three months' volunteers, and two days later for a second regiment. Thursday, April 18th, sixteen car-loads of Massachusetts volunteers passed through Bridgeport *en route* for Baltimore, followed on Friday morning by twenty car-loads more, and on Sunday by still another detachment. These troops were welcomed by a great crowd at the depot, and in firing a salute to them, April 19th, Leopold Schmidt, a member of the German rifle company of this city, was killed, and a comrade of the same company was wounded,—the first Connecticut soldiers to fall. The same day the banks voted to loan to the Governor the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.

Saturday evening, April 20th, there was a great war-meeting, presided over by Hon. D. H. Sterling, mayor of the city. The "Star-Spangled Banner" was sung by the assembly, and great enthusiasm prevailed. Some idea of the spirit of the meeting may be obtained from the resolutions which were introduced by Hon. Amos S. Treat. It was unanimously voted that the photographs and the autographs of every member of the companies now being raised should be preserved in the town archives, that ten thousand dollars should

be raised for the families of the volunteers, and that when they left for the seat of war the whole population of the place should escort them to the depot. Of the ten thousand dollars voted, seven thousand were subscribed before the meeting closed.

To Capt. (afterwards Col.) Richard Fitzgibbons and to Capt. (afterwards Col.) John Speidel belongs the honor of being the first in the field. Their commands, subsequently designated as Company H, First Connecticut Volunteers, and Rifle Company B, of the same regiment, escorted by the Wheeler & Wilson Band and a great procession, marched to the depot and took the cars on Tuesday, April 22d, followed, a few days later, by Company D, Third Regiment, under command of Capt. (afterwards Lieut.-Col.) Frederick H. Frye. Maj. Henry M. Hoyt, now the publisher of the *Morning News*, was first lieutenant of Capt. Fitzgibbons' company. Two hundred overcoats, two hundred shirts, and a beautiful flag were presented to the volunteers by the ladies of Bridgeport, who had toiled incessantly to make them since the proclamation was issued.

On Saturday, April 26th, a town-meeting was held, Joseph Thompson acting as moderator, at which it was voted that the town should borrow thirteen thousand dollars,—the sum of ten thousand dollars to be expended for the families of volunteers, and three thousand dollars in raising and equipping additional troops. Thanks were voted to the volunteers already enrolled, and to the patriotic women of the place. Hon. D. H. Sterling was authorized to negotiate the loan, and a committee of seven was chosen to disburse it.

After this there was a lull in the excitement until July 12th, when the news of the battle of Bull Run was received. Early in August, the time of the three months' volunteers having expired, they returned home, and were met with a hearty welcome.

August 24th a picnic of the returned volunteers was held in Hough's Grove. The same day a peace-meeting at Stepney was broken up by a party from Bridgeport, and in the evening the office of the *Farmer* newspaper was destroyed.

During the fall of 1861 seven companies, to serve for three years, were recruited wholly or in part in Bridgeport,—viz., Company D, First Connecticut Cavalry, Capt. L. N. Middlebrook; Company H, Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, Capt. Henry Biebel, and Company I of the same command, Capt. Thomas Boudren; Company I, of the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, Capt. Sylvester H. Gray; Company A, of the Eighth Connecticut Volunteers, Lieut. H. M. Hoyt; Companies D and I, of the Ninth Connecticut Volunteers, commanded by Capt. Thomas Coats and Elliott M. Curtis, respectively. Among the field-officers commissioned by the Governor during the same period were Maj. John Speidel, of the Sixth, Lieut.-Col. Richard Fitzgibbon and Maj. Frederick H. Frye, of the Ninth, Regiments.

Several Bridgeport firms also were busy at this time filling government orders for war-material. Gun-carriages and caissons were built by Frederick Wood & Co.; harnesses in great numbers were turned out by Calhoun, Lacey & Co.; while the Pacific Iron-works were busy in manufacturing steam-engines for the "Kanawha" and other gunboats.

The reverses of the Union army under Gen. McClellan in the early summer of 1862 only quickened the patriotic spirit of the loyal people of Bridgeport.

Thursday evening, July 19, 1862, a great war-meeting was held, which filled both Franklin and Washington Halls. Mayor Sterling and Hon. Russell Tomlinson were the presiding officers, and among the speakers were Governor Buckingham, Hon. William D. Bishop, Elias Howe, Jr., the inventor of the sewing-machine, and others. Twenty thousand dollars was subscribed before the meeting closed, to be expended in carrying on the war; and when Mr. Howe announced that he had himself volunteered as a private soldier, the enthusiasm was very great, and numerous young men came forward and signed the roll.

During the next few days enlisting went on rapidly, owing in good degree to the efforts of Private Howe, who went about the streets with drum and fife picking up recruits for the Seventeenth, the new Fairfield County regiment. The ranks of the Seventeenth quickly filled up, and in August, 1862, it went into encampment at Camp Aiken, the present site of Seaside Park. During its stay here Rev. A. R. Thompson, of the South Congregational Church, acted as chaplain, and collections were taken up in the churches to provide the regiment with a chapel-tent and a library. August 29th a patriotic meeting was held on the green east of the court-house, attended by the Seventeenth in a body, and addressed by Messrs. Barnum, Bishop, Rev. Dr. Hewit, Father Lenihan, and others, and on Sunday, September 7th, divine service was conducted in the same place, and a sermon appropriate to the occasion was preached by Rev. J. M. Willey, rector of St. John's Church, who had served as chaplain with one of the three months' regiments.

Aug. 25, 1862, the Fourteenth Regiment, one thousand and fifteen strong, and containing a company from Bridgeport, marched through the streets of Hartford under command of Col. Dwight Morris, of this city, and embarked for the seat of war. Eight days later the Seventeenth, whose field-officers were Col. (afterward Gen.) William H. Noble and Lieut.-Col. Charles Walter, also left for Washington. It contained two full companies from Bridgeport,—D and G,—commanded by Capt. William H. Lacey and James E. Dunham. Most of the members of Company K were also from this place.

The Second Connecticut Light Battery, Capt. John W. Sterling commander, was also recruited almost entirely from Bridgeport, and received marching orders for Washington, Oct. 15, 1862.

During the month of November three additional





W. H. Perry



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companies recruited in Bridgeport, under the call for nine months' volunteers, left the State for service in the Department of the Gulf. These were: Company D, Twenty-third Connecticut Volunteers, Capt. C. W. Hall; Company I, Twenty-third Connecticut Volunteers, Capt. William H. May; and Company K, Twenty-fourth Connecticut Volunteers, Lieut. E. N. Goodwin. Lieut.-Col. C. W. Wordin was also commissioned as one of the field-officers of the Twenty-third Regiment.

On the 6th of October, 1862, occurred an event unprecedented in the annals of Bridgeport,—viz., a municipal election with but one ticket in the field. Hon. D. H. Sterling was re-elected mayor and a Common Council composed of members of both political parties was chosen without opposition, the whole number of votes cast being but three hundred and sixty-seven.

Mention ought to have been made sooner of the organized work of the loyal women of Bridgeport.

The Ladies' Relief Society was formed Aug. 1, 1861, and from that time forward until the close of the war met every Wednesday for work. Mrs. Woolsey G. Sterling was president until her removal from the city, when her place was filled by Mrs. Daniel Thatcher. The other officers of the society were Miss Lydia R. Ward secretary, and Miss Sarah Jane Hawley treasurer. The cash receipts of the society from its organization to its final meeting, in July, 1865, were \$3814.36. Large quantities of supplies were also contributed, chiefly by Bridgeport, but also from fifteen other towns. The main work of the society was in preparing and forwarding hospital garments and stores, co-operating in this good work with the Sanitary Commission; but boxes of provisions, and packages of mittens, stockings, etc., were also forwarded to most of the Connecticut regiments. The average attendance of ladies at the weekly gatherings was about thirty, but over one hundred were sometimes present. The following extract from the final report of the secretary, Miss Lydia R. Ward, is worthy of special notice:

"Voted to place the balance remaining in the hands of the treasurer (\$375.74) in trust for the benefit of the destitute children of soldiers, in the hope that as early as September a plan may be devised, which may be adopted by the citizens of Bridgeport, to found a home for these and other destitute children."

The first meeting of the Soldiers' Aid Society was held July 19, 1862, when the following officers were elected: Mrs. D. H. Sterling, President; Mrs. Monson Hawley, Vice-President; Mrs. L. H. Norton, Secretary; Mrs. William E. Seeley, Treasurer. The membership of this society was very large, and its work correspondingly important. During the first six months of its existence its cash receipts were over two thousand five hundred dollars (this amount having been raised by a paper circulated by Messrs. D. H.

Sterling and Henry R. Parrott), and twenty-two boxes had been sent to regiments. In December, 1863, it issued an appeal to the people of the State for fresh vegetables for the soldiers, which was liberally responded to, and several thousand barrels and boxes were received and duly forwarded, Mr. Henry R. Parrott, at that time agent of the Adams Express Company, having charge of the shipment.

The League of Loyal Women of Bridgeport was another organization, begun in April, 1863. Mrs. S. S. Clapp was president and Miss E. B. Whiting secretary, and one hundred and twenty-nine ladies signed the constitution, which pledged them to wear the Union colors and to "give the preference in trade to those known to be truly loyal."

In the summer of 1863 drafting was begun in Bridgeport to fill the quota of this and other places under the repeated calls of President Lincoln, the headquarters for the Fourth District being at the corner of Main and State Streets, over the Pequonnock Bank. The draft had not progressed very far when it became so unpopular that it was suspended, and from that time forward to the end of the war recruits were obtained only through the substitute-broker. Enormous bounties were offered, but, as a rule, the value of the recruit was about in inverse proportion to the amount of the bounty paid. Some few of the substitutes were honorable men and did good service, but the great majority were from the slums of New York City, and deserted upon the first opportunity. The whole history of the substitute business reflects but little credit upon the people of Connecticut, and it was putting a grievous insult upon the volunteers who were fighting the battles of the country at the front to send out such men for their comrades and companions, though it must be admitted that a great many never reached the front, but deserted *en route*.

Upon the 10th of April, 1865, there was a grand illumination in Bridgeport in honor of the fall of Richmond and of Petersburg, and the surrender of Lee's army. Five days later news was received of President Lincoln's assassination. A meeting of citizens was immediately called, and a committee of thirty was appointed to make arrangements for public funeral exercises. The Common Council met, and passed appropriate resolutions. Mayor Morford issued his proclamation, and on Wednesday, April 19th, which was the appointed day, all business was suspended, places of amusement were closed, the bells of all the churches were tolled, and the citizens assembled in their respective places of public worship, which were draped in mourning, and participated in memorial services in honor of the martyred President.

One of the earliest of the three years' regiments to return was the Fourteenth, which had participated in all the leading engagements of the Army of the Potomac from Antietam to Appomattox, and, after witnessing the surrender of Lee's army and marching in

triumph through Richmond at the head of the Second Army Corps, had participated in the grand review at Washington. June 3, 1865, the surviving members of the command, numbering two hundred and thirty-four, reached Hartford, and a week later the small detachment from Bridgeport was received at the depot and marched to the Sterling House, where a collation and many kind words of welcome awaited them.

Friday afternoon, Aug. 4, 1865, a grand reception was given to Companies D, G, and K, of the Seventeenth, which arrived from New Haven upon a special train provided by Elias Howe, Jr. Some five thousand people turned out to meet them; there was a procession through the principal streets; houses were gayly decorated with bunting, and at Franklin Hall there were stirring addresses and music by the glee club. Other companies and detachments were welcomed as they successively returned, though, coming later, their reception was not so demonstrative as was that of the companies belonging to the Seventeenth.

The number of soldiers enlisting from Bridgeport who are known to have been killed in battle, to have died of disease, or to have been starved to death in rebel prisons during the war is one hundred and seventy. Adding to this the number missing in action who were never after heard from, or who died from the effects of wounds received or from disease contracted in camp shortly after their return, the aggregate loss will doubtless exceed two hundred and fifty. Among them were such men as Lieut.-Col. Walter, of the Seventeenth, who was killed at Chancellorsville; Maj. Wilson Hubbell, of the Sixty-second New York, who fell at Cold Harbor; and Frederick H. Thompson, who died while serving upon the steamship "New London."

Special mention ought to be made here of eight young men,—the oldest can hardly have been more than twenty-one at enlistment,—all of them either schoolmates or members of the same literary society, the old Philomathean, whose early death it is almost impossible to deplore, so bright an example of Christian patriotism have they left to all who come after them. These were Walter Fitch, adjutant of the Sixth Connecticut Volunteers, who received his death-wound in the night attack upon Fort Wagner, while standing upon the parapet cheering on his men; Ord.-Sergt. Albion Brooks, of the Eighth Connecticut Volunteers, who did not live to enter the Christian ministry, as he had purposed, but fell in the charge at Cold Harbor; First Lieut. Franklin Bartlett, only seventeen years of age when he enlisted, who was killed at Hatcher's Run, near Petersburg; Capt. William H. Hawley, of the Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers, well termed "a heroic Christian soldier," who, after passing almost unscathed through twenty-five engagements, received a bullet in the brain while defending the captured Weldon Railroad; Adjt. Henry Chatfield, of the Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers, who, refusing to surrender, was shot down by

a party of guerrillas in Florida; Corp. Henry T. Winslow, member of a Massachusetts regiment, who fell a victim to the deadly malarial fever of the South; and First Lieut. Richard Ross Crawford, of the Seventh U. S. Infantry, a Virginian by birth, and a Democrat by education, but who remained true to the Old Flag and fell bravely fighting in its defense at Gettysburg, as did also Corp. Alvah Wilcox, of the Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers, who had sometimes been Crawford's opponent in political debate, but who fought under the same banner and has his name inscribed upon the same monument.

#### SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

Very soon after the close of the war it was decided by the ladies of the Soldiers' Aid Society that a monument should be erected to perpetuate the memory of our deceased soldiers. The funds at their command were small, but they were carefully invested, and from time to time were increased by fairs, a promenade concert, and other entertainments, until they reached quite a respectable sum. The corner-stone was laid at Seaside Park, Aug. 29, 1866, with appropriate ceremonies, the Governor and his staff, Maj.-Gen. Terry, and a large audience, made up of militia, firemen, veterans, civic societies, and citizens generally, being present.

At a town-meeting held June 10, 1873, the sum of eighteen thousand nine hundred dollars was voted by the town for the monument, and William H. Mallory, Henry A. House, and J. D. Alvord were appointed a committee to superintend its construction. The ladies of the Soldiers' Monument Association were also requested to co-operate in the work. The whole cost of the monument, including plans and specifications, was twenty-eight thousand nine hundred dollars, of which ten thousand dollars was contributed by the ladies' association.

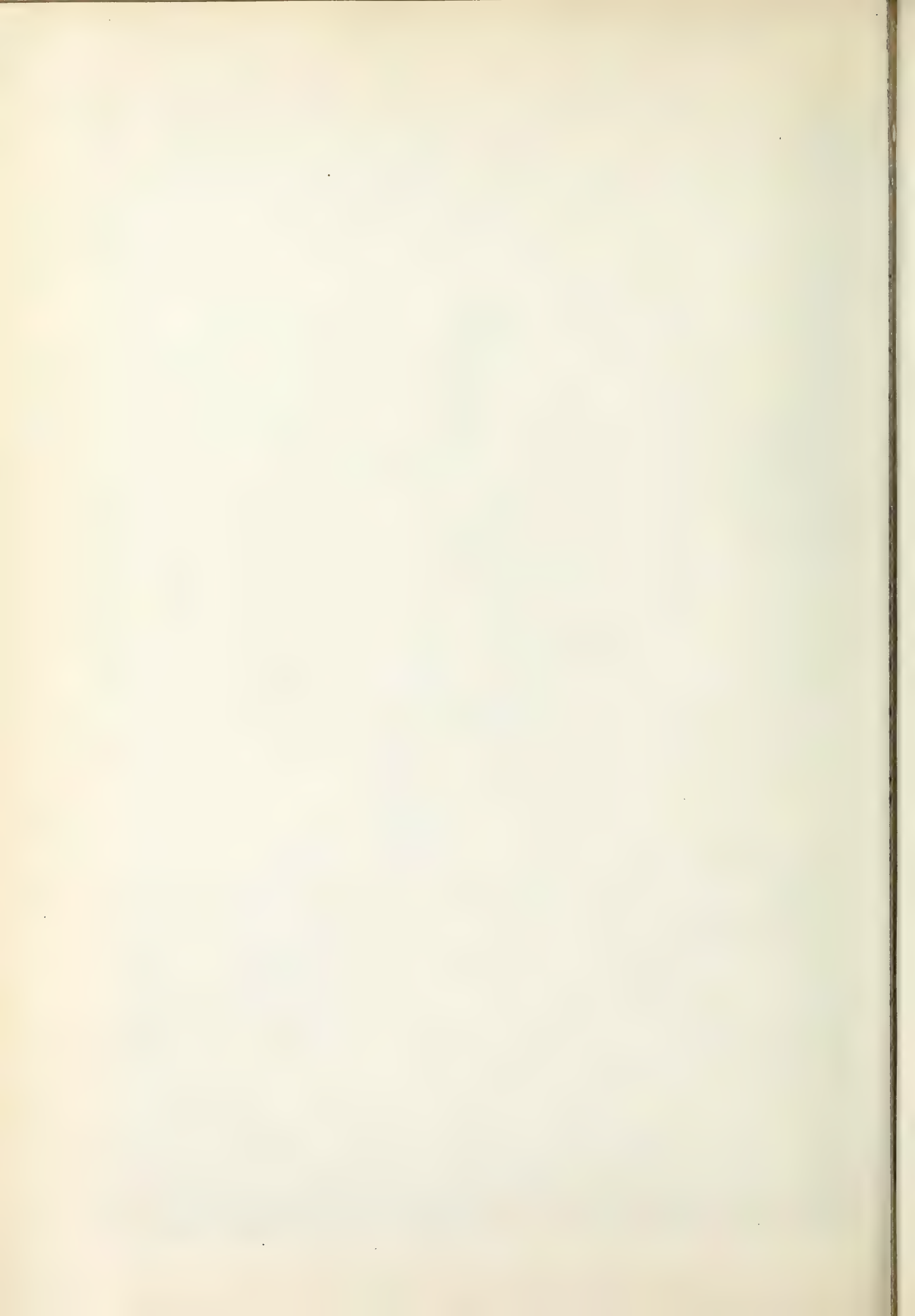
Aug. 17, 1876, was the day set for the dedication exercises. Military organizations and guests from abroad were present in large numbers, and the procession, which was under command of Chief Marshal William E. Disbrow, of the Nineteenth Connecticut Volunteers, was perhaps the most imposing ever seen in Bridgeport. A violent rain-storm interrupted the exercises at the park and compelled an adjournment to the opera-house, where addresses were made by Hon. D. H. Sterling, Rev. Dr. A. R. Thompson, Maj. W. H. Mallory, ex-Governor Hawley, Gen. W. H. Noble, and others. The design of the monument, which is the work of W. H. Mosman, of Chicopee, is generally much admired, and its location, overlooking the bright panorama of Long Island Sound, is certainly unequalled.

The ladies of the monument association still keep up their organization for the purpose of seeing that the monument and its surroundings are kept in proper order, and hold pleasant reunions in August of each year.

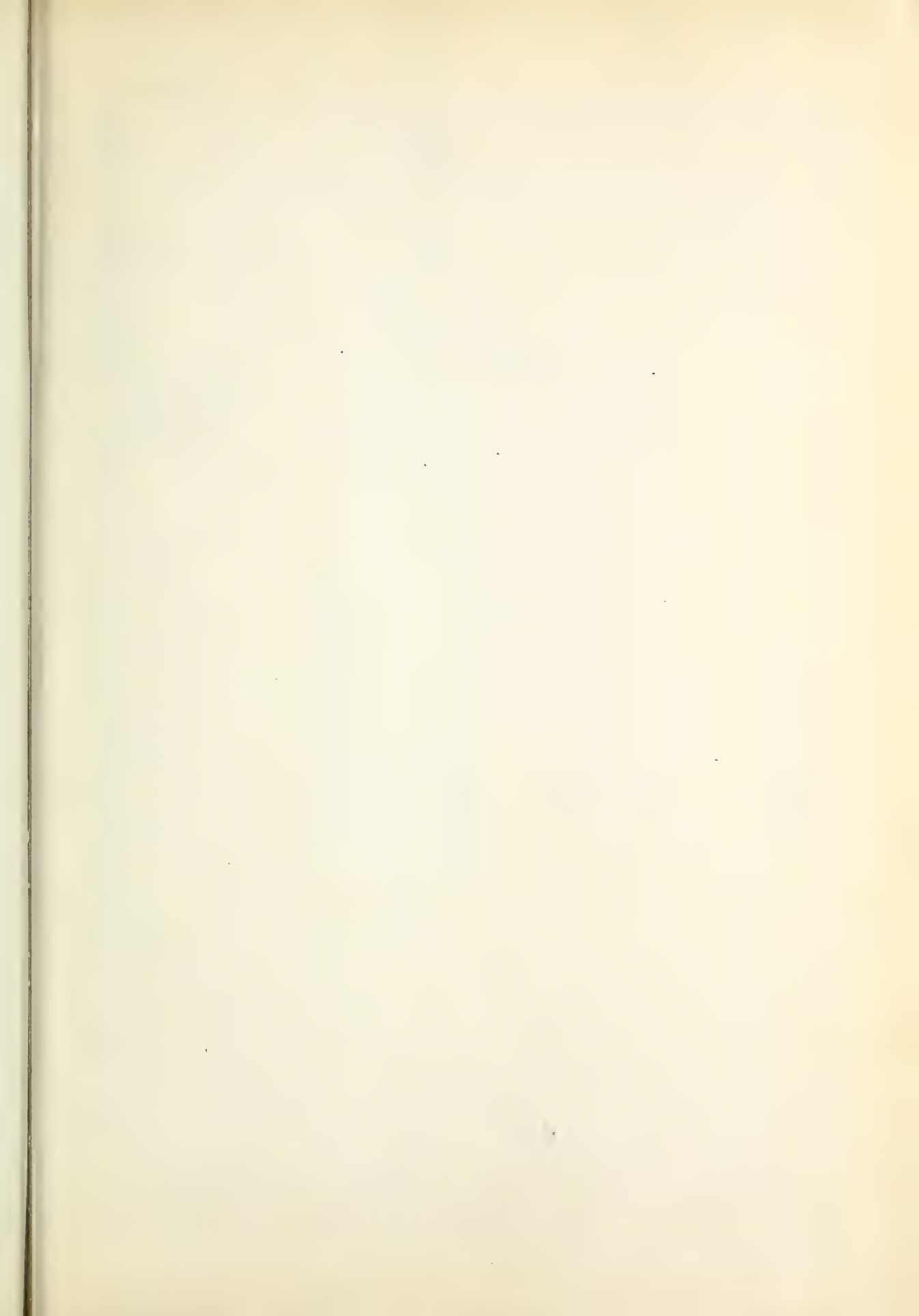


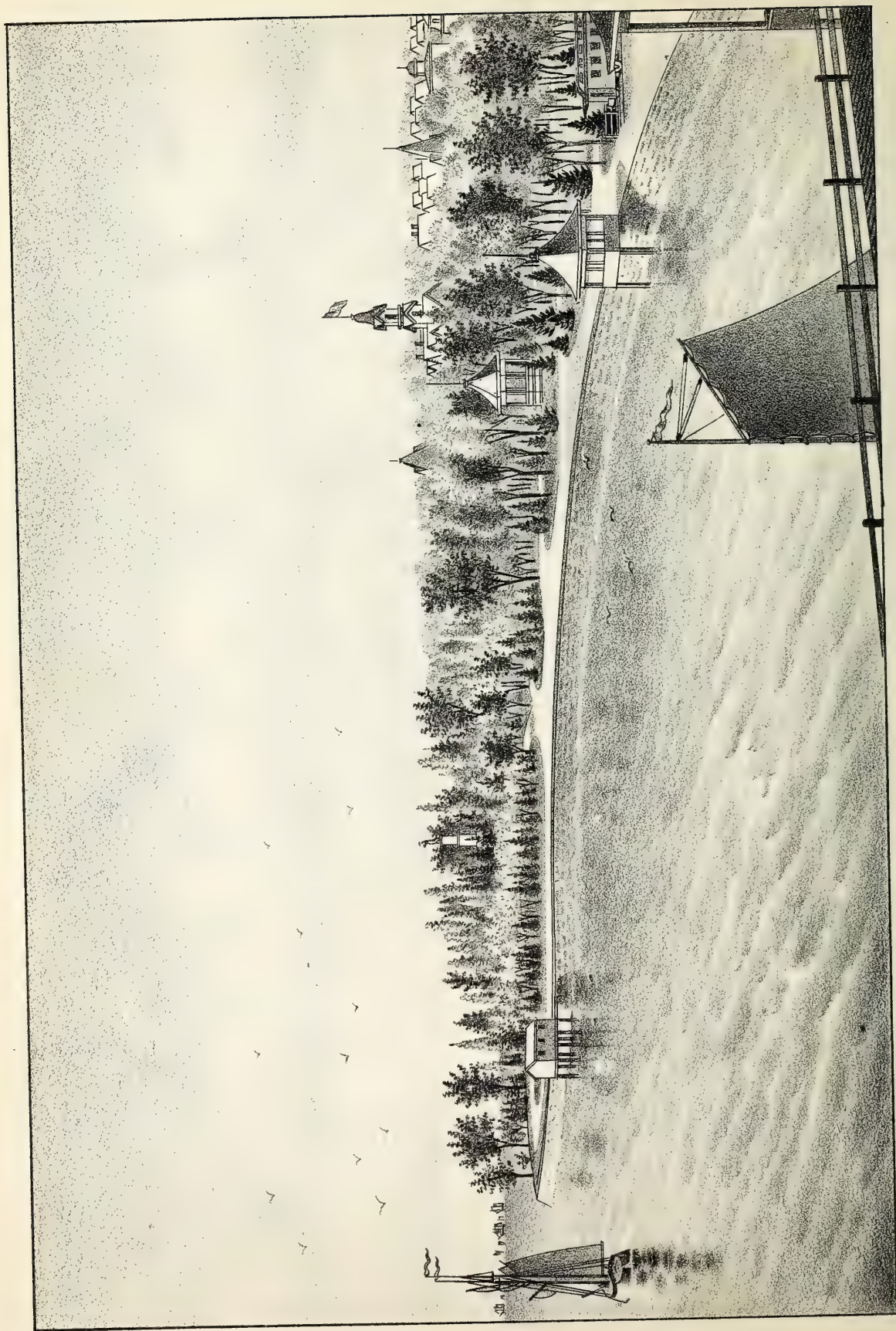


SOLDIERS MONUMENT, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.









VIEW OF SEASIDE PARK; FROM PIER, WALDEMERE IN THE DISTANCE,  
BRIDGEPORT CONN.



## SEASIDE PARK.

Public attention was first drawn to the capabilities of our water front, by the encampment of the Seventeenth Regiment upon the shore in the summer of 1862, and the experiments of Gen. Gillmore with the Ames gun in the same locality two years later. In October, 1863, an article in the *Standard* urged the necessity for one or more public parks, and Sept. 9, 1864, another article in the same journal recommended the purchase of the ground now occupied by Seaside Park, describing it in the following graphic terms:

"A beautiful undulating piece of land, free from rocks, skirted for a good part of the way on the north by fine forest-trees, and bounded on the south for its entire length by the sparkling waters of the Sound. From this water-front, which is cool and pleasant even in the hottest days, a picturesque and striking view is obtained. On the left, as we stand facing the water, is the city, with its tall spires and chimneys pointing skyward from among the trees; the harbor, dotted with its sailing craft, and the wooded point, with its cottages opposite; on the right, the green sloping shores of Black Rock, stretching far around to the lighthouse. Far away to the south the hills of Long Island loom up from the horizon in clear weather, while in the foreground a constant panorama meets the eye of white-sailed vessels passing up and down the blue waters of the Sound."

Messrs. P. T. Barnum and James C. Loomis were the first to move in the matter, and the former especially pushed it with his usual energy. Early in November, 1864, a survey of the land was made by E. R. Lambert and George Beckwith, and a map hung up in the post-office showing the area of the proposed park to be about thirty-five acres, thirteen of which were situated in the town of Bridgeport, and the remainder within the territory since annexed, but at that time a part of the town of Fairfield.

During the winter of 1864-65 the owners of the land, Capts. John Brooks and Burr Knapp, and Messrs. George Bailey and P. T. Barnum, agreed to convey the land to the city free of charge on condition that it be used perpetually for a public park, and the sum of two thousand seven hundred and twenty dollars was contributed by some sixty individuals and business firms, to purchase additional land. In the following spring the matter was brought up in the Common Council and referred to a committee composed of Hon. Nathaniel Wheeler, Frederick Hurd, and Eli Thompson, who reported favorably; and at a city-meeting, called in accordance with the report of the committee, July 8, 1865, the Council was authorized to accept the deeds of the land and to appropriate a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars in grading and improvements. Aug. 14, 1865, the Common Council formally accepted the deeds, and appointed James C. Loomis, S. S. Clapp, and Jacob Kiefer Commissioners of Seaside Park.

Gen. Egbert R. Viele, of New York, was consulted by the commissioners, and, acting upon his advice, the sea-wall and drive-way were begun, and the pond excavated and provided with an outlet. Plans were afterward procured at his own expense by Hon. Nathaniel Wheeler from Messrs. Olmstead and Vaux, the designers of Central Park, New York, which were followed in laying out the grounds. Extensive additions have since been made by purchase, including the beautiful grove on the north, so that the present area of the park is more than double that of the first survey.

It would be difficult to say too much in praise either of the original idea of this beautiful pleasure-ground or the manner in which it has been carried out. In addition to the natural attractions mentioned in the article which has been quoted, the trees and shrubbery, the Soldiers' Monument, the trotting-park, the open-air concerts through the summer, and the facilities for sea-bathing make it a place unequaled elsewhere in New England, while numerous streets and the horse-railroad afford easy access to all. What a benefit the Seaside Park will be to Bridgeport when another century has passed and the population of the place has perhaps increased to a hundred thousand, can hardly be estimated.

## THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

The anniversary of our national independence, July 4, 1876, was celebrated at the park so pleasantly, and withal so sensibly, that the occasion seems worthy of mention here.

John D. Candee, Esq., editor of the *Standard*, was president of the day, Col. Samuel B. Sumner was chief marshal, and the procession, though an excellent one, was entirely from Bridgeport and its immediate vicinity. The day was a perfect one, and those who managed the affair had set up the platform and the seats for spectators in the beautiful shady grove belonging to the park, and had not forgotten to provide barrels of ice-water for the refreshment of those who had marched in the procession.

The exercises were begun with prayer and the singing of Whittier's Centennial Hymn,—

"Our fathers' God! from out whose hand  
The centuries fall like grains of sand,  
We meet to-day, united, free,  
And loyal to our land and Thee,  
To thank Thee for the era done,  
And trust Thee for the opening one."

After this the audience listened with exemplary patience to the Declaration of Independence, to a historical address descriptive of the place as it was one hundred years ago, to a number of speeches, humorous, eloquent, and prophetic, and to an original poem, all the production of home talent. The whole company present then united in singing "America,"—"My country 'tis of thee," etc.,—and, having been dismissed with the benediction, retired to their homes,

much wondering what the exercises would be, and who would compose the assembly, when another century should have rolled around, and the 4th of July, 1976, have dawned.

## CHAPTER XII.

### BRIDGEPORT (Continued).

#### THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF BRIDGEPORT.

Almshouse—Banks—Board of Trade—Bridges—Casualties and Crimes—  
Cemeteries—Churches—Custom-House.

IN the succeeding chapters the writer proposes to give some account of the public institutions of Bridgeport, together with a number of incidents which could not conveniently be introduced into the preceding narrative, yet which are too important to be wholly passed over. Doubtless some of the statistics here given will seem to readers of to-day wholly uninteresting; yet it should be remembered that matters quite unimportant to one body of readers are often esteemed valuable by another circle, and also that many facts perfectly familiar to the public at the present time will be by no means so to the succeeding generation, unless put upon record in some such work as this. For convenience of reference, the topics in this chapter are arranged alphabetically.

#### ALMSHOUSE.

In the year 1865 the selectmen, having sold the land and building in East Bridgeport formerly occupied by the town-poor for about twenty thousand dollars, purchased a farm in the northeastern part of the town and began the erection of another building. The farm cost six thousand four hundred dollars and contains forty acres, of which about twenty-five are in good condition for tillage. The building is of brick, L-shaped, three stories high, and cost about fifteen thousand dollars. It stands upon the east side of Asylum Street, a little north of Old Mill Green, and has usually from fifty to sixty inmates. Besides these, some two hundred others receive occasional assistance at their own homes. For the past ten or twelve years the town has contracted with Mr. William H. Bunnell for the relief of the poor, paying him a gross sum, which is at present between thirteen and fourteen thousand dollars per annum, together with the use of the farm rent free. Mr. Bunnell is well spoken of by all who have dealings with him, and is believed to discharge the duties of his position with humanity. No stated religious services are held at the poorhouse.

#### BANKS.

At the present time there are five national banks in Bridgeport, whose aggregate capital and surplus is over a million and a half of dollars, and four savings banks, whose united assets exceed six millions.

One of these institutions, which has reached a very respectable—not to say venerable—age, is the old Bridgeport Bank, which was incorporated soon after the establishment of the borough, when there were but five other banks in the State, and has now entered its seventy-fifth year without showing any marks of decrepitude. Did space permit, it would be pleasant to speak at length of many of the gentlemen who have been prominent in banking circles here, but only a few can now be referred to, and that in the briefest manner.

Dr. Isaac Bronson, of Greenfield Hill, the first president of the Bridgeport Bank, was a man of mark in his day. He had served in the Revolution as assistant surgeon of Connecticut troops, and after the war had been engaged in banking, both in Philadelphia and in New York, before coming to Bridgeport. He was a successful financier, though some of his rules might now be thought a little arbitrary. One of these was never to discount paper having more than sixty days to run, and another never to renew a note.

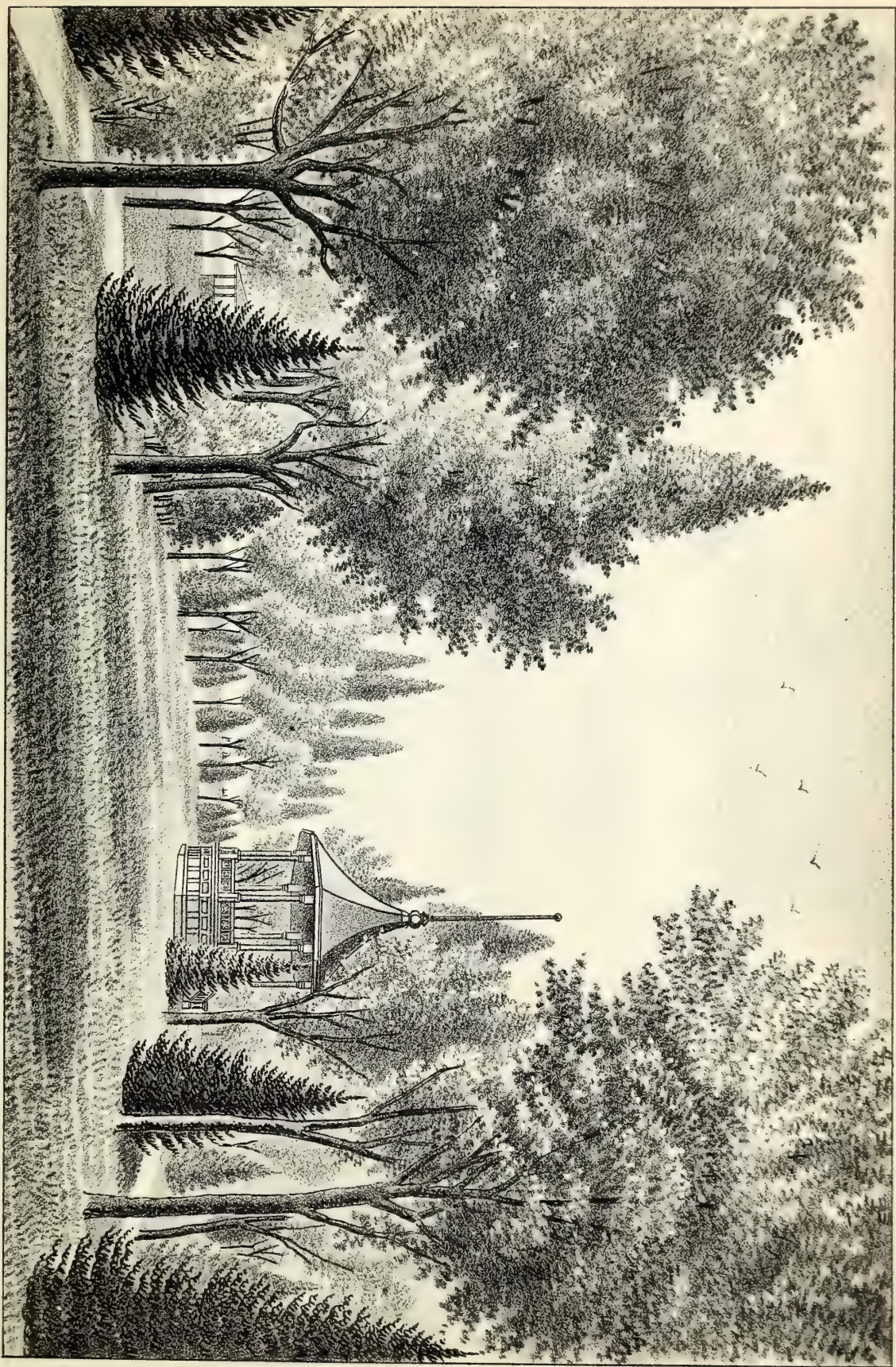
Daniel Thatcher, president of the Connecticut Bank for fifteen years prior to 1848, Sherman Hartwell, president of the Bridgeport from 1849 to 1869, and Sherwood Sterling, president of the City for a number of years prior to 1869, were all excellent men and stood high in public estimation. George Sterling also, who died in 1871, had been for twenty-eight years treasurer of the Bridgeport Savings Bank, and was respected and loved by all who knew him. Mention may also be made of P. C. Calhoun, who has found a wider field for his abilities than Bridgeport affords, and has been for a number of years past the president of the Fourth National Bank of the city of New York.

The Bridgeport Bank was incorporated October, 1806, on petition of John S. Cannon, Salmon Hubbell, Lambert Lockwood, and Isaac Hinman, and began business May 21, 1807, in a house no longer standing, upon the west side of Water Street, near State Street. The building now owned and occupied by the bank, on the corner of Main and Bank Streets, was erected in 1810, and was esteemed at that time a great ornament to the place. In 1865, in common with all the other banks of discount in the city, the Bridgeport became a national bank.

This bank has had seven presidents,—viz., Isaac Bronson, term of service, eighteen years; John S. Cannon, seven years; Ebenezer Jessup, five years; Sylvanus Sterling, eleven years; Hanford Lyon, one year; Sherman Hartwell, twenty years; and Monson Hawley, eleven years.

The capital of the Bridgeport National Bank is now \$215,850, and its surplus \$80,000. Officers of the institution at the present time are: President, Monson Hawley; cashier, F. N. Benham; directors, T. B. De Forest, Monson Hawley, R. B. Lacey, Carlos Curtis, D. M. Reed, John M. Wheeler, J. Bartram, T. B. Bartram, and P. N. Fairchild.





VIEW AT SEASIDE PARK, BRIDGEPORT CONN.





In May, 1831, Cyrus H. Beardslee, Daniel Sterling, Enoch Foote, and others, petitioned the Legislature, and received permission to establish a new bank in Bridgeport, to be called the Connecticut Bank, with power to open a branch at Mill River, or Southport, in the town of Fairfield. As the custom was at that time, the incorporators were required to pay a bonus of \$5000 for their charter, seven-tenths of which sum went to Yale College, and the remainder to Washington College. The first officers of the Connecticut Bank were Capt. Ezekiel Hubbell president, and Charles Foote cashier, the latter for many years identified with the bank, both as cashier and as director.

For several years this institution was located on the north corner of Wall and Water Streets, but after the great fire of 1833 a lot was purchased upon the corner of Main and Wall Streets, and the present edifice erected.

The capital of this bank at the present time is \$332,000, with a surplus of \$100,000, and the officers are as follows: President, Samuel W. Baldwin; cashier, Henry B. Drew; directors, P. C. Calhoun, William D. Bishop, Jarratt Morford, S. C. Trubee, Henry B. Drew, S. W. Baldwin, William R. Higby, and Marshall E. Morris.

The Farmers' Bank was chartered in 1849, with a capital of \$200,000, and was obliged to pay a bonus of \$5000 to the General Hospital Society of the State of Connecticut. For many years it transacted business upon the southwest corner of Main and State Streets, but in February, 1871, removed to its present location, at Main and Bank Streets, in the building of the People's Savings Bank. The Farmers' Bank was the first to avail itself of the National Banking Act, and in March, 1864, its name was changed to "The First National Bank of Bridgeport." It has been since its organization as a national bank a depository for funds of the United States government.

The capital of the bank now stands at \$210,000, with a surplus of \$105,000, and following is a list of its officers: President, Edmund S. Hawley; cashier, William E. Seeley; directors, E. S. Hawley, Russell Tomlinson, Horace Nichols, W. E. Seeley, Edward Sterling, C. K. Averill, C. A. Grannis, S. S. Booth, and H. L. Fairchild.

The Bridgeport City Bank—now the City National Bank—was organized Jan. 17, 1854, under the general banking act of 1852, with a capital of \$100,000, which five years later was increased to \$200,000. It began business in the old post-office building, on the north side of Bank Street, thence removed to the southwest corner of Wall and Water Streets, and in 1861 completed and occupied its spacious building, Nos. 17 and 19 Wall Street. The cost of this building was twenty-six thousand dollars. March 15, 1865, this bank was reorganized under the National Banking Act, with a capital of \$250,000.

The following gentlemen have served as presidents of the institution: Adam P. Houston, S. F. Hurd, Ira

Sherman, Sherwood Sterling, George B. Waller, and Daniel N. Morgan. Its capital stock is now \$250,000, and its surplus \$58,000. Hon. D. N. Morgan, mayor of the city, is the president, and J. F. Fayerweather cashier. The directors are George B. Waller, Elbert E. Hubbell, S. M. Middlebrook, Nathaniel Wheeler, George Mallory, E. G. Sanford, D. N. Morgan, D. B. Booth, and Miles Beardsley.

The Pequonnock Bank was chartered in 1851, and the sum paid for the privilege was four thousand dollars, which was distributed in the following manner: One thousand dollars to the Bridgeport Library, one thousand five hundred dollars to the State treasury, for the benefit of the insane poor, and the same amount to the State Reform School. Its brownstone building, corner of Main and State Streets, was completed and its doors opened for business Nov. 10, 1851.

Following is a list of the presidents of this bank: P. T. Barnum, 1851; Charles B. Hubbell, 1855; Clapp Spooner, 1860; Monson Hawley, 1865; Charles B. Hotchkiss, 1869. William R. Higby was cashier from the first organization until February, 1869, when he was succeeded by I. B. Prindle.

March 18, 1865, the Pequonnock was reorganized as a national bank. Its present capital is \$200,000; surplus, \$40,000. The officers are: President, Charles B. Hotchkiss; cashier, Isaac B. Prindle; directors, C. B. Hotchkiss, David Trubee, John Hurd, James H. Moore, I. B. Prindle, William M. Terry, William G. Lineburgh, J. L. Wessels, and Charles Nettleton.

The Bridgeport Savings Bank was chartered in May, 1842, and began business at a store on Water Street in July of the same year. Of the twenty-two corporate members mentioned in the charter, but four are now living,—viz., Messrs. Gideon Thompson, William H. Noble, Thomas Ranson, and Schuyler Seeley. At the time when the charter was granted there were but eight savings banks in the State, some of them just organized, and none west of New Haven. In 1821 the bank was removed to No. 21 Wall Street, and in 1850 to a building upon the site now occupied, on the corner of Main and State Streets. The present handsome banking-house was completed in 1878, and cost about forty-four thousand dollars, or with the lots, some fifty-eight thousand dollars.

The following gentlemen have been presidents of the institution: Sherwood Sterling, 1842; Smith Tweedy, 1843; Daniel O. Wheeler, 1850; Lemuel Coleman, 1851; Sherwood Sterling, 1864; Hervey Higby, 1870; E. S. Hawley, 1875. On Oct. 1, 1879, the last annual report of the bank commissioner shows that the number of depositors was 7763, and the total assets \$3,288,451, of which amount about two-thirds was invested in loans upon real estate. The present officers of the institution are: President, E. S. Hawley; vice-presidents, S. C. Trubee and Luzon W. Clark; treasurer, C. P. Porter; trustees, S. C. Trubee, W. R. Higby, A. E. Joy, C. Thompson, P. Conrad, J. Bartram, F. B. Hawley, L. W. Clark,

E. Birdsey, Edward Sterling, Dr. D. H. Nash, T. B. De Forest, W. H. Perry, C. P. Porter.

The petition for a second savings bank in Bridgeport was drawn by S. M. Middlebrook, and was signed by such men as S. Hartwell, P. C. Calhoun, Hanford Lyon, Russell Tomlinson, Horace Nichols, A. A. Pettengill, John Brooks, and others, and a charter was granted for the institution in May, 1859. Mr. S. M. Middlebrook was the first treasurer of the institution, and still holds the position, which he accepted nearly twenty years ago. The rooms of this savings bank have always been adjoining those of the City National Bank, at first upon the corner of Wall and Water Streets, and since 1861 at Nos. 17 and 19 Wall Street. The assets of the City Savings Bank, Oct. 1, 1879, were \$1,686,478, of which sum \$916,883 was invested in loans upon real estate. There were at the same date 4294 depositors. Mr. Hanford Lyon, for many years president of the institution, died Dec. 21, 1879. The following are the officers at the present time: President, Ira Gregory; treasurer, S. M. Middlebrook; trustees, Ira Gregory, D. F. Hollister, John Brooks, G. P. Stockwell, F. W. Parrott, Courtland Kelsey, C. K. Averill, Horace Nichols, J. Baylies, H. S. Peck, Horace F. Hatch, Burr Curtis, L. W. Booth, S. M. Middlebrook, George K. Birdsey, Levi B. Booth, Nathan Birdsey, and Marcus C. Hawley.

In June, 1860, upon petition of Nathaniel Wheeler, James C. Loomis, William H. Perry, Sherwood Sterling, George B. Waller, Frederick Wood, Elbert E. Hubbell, P. C. Calhoun, Ira Sherman, and others, the People's Savings Bank was incorporated. Its place of business was for some time upon the corner of Main and State Streets, in the building of the Pequonnock Bank. Its present handsome banking-house was erected in 1870, and cost about forty-three thousand dollars. The assets of the institution, Oct. 1, 1879, were \$1,268,143, a little more than half of which was invested in loans upon real estate, and the number of depositors 2893. The officers are as follows: President, George B. Waller; treasurer, Egbert Marsh; trustees, William E. Seeley, S. W. Baldwin, S. S. Booth, E. W. Marsh, D. W. Kissam, E. E. Hubbell, B. Sanford, S. P. Glover, R. Tomlinson, C. B. Hotchkiss, and Eli C. Smith.

The Mechanics' and Farmers' Savings Bank was incorporated in 1871, and commenced business Oct. 1, 1873, in a building upon Washington Avenue, East Bridgeport. Sept. 1, 1878, it was removed across the river to the rooms beneath the Connecticut National Bank, and April 1, 1880, to the premises now occupied, 409 Main Street (Barnum Building). The whole number of depositors, Sept. 1, 1880, was 730, and the total assets same date, \$142,838.09. The officers of the institution were: President, William G. Lineburgh; vice-presidents, George Lewis and Andrew Burke; secretary and treasurer, Lyman S. Catlin; trustees, David Wooster, S. C. Kingman, I. W. Smith, G. W. Peck, Carlos Curtis, R. B. Lacey, D. N. Mor-

gan, B. Soules, H. R. Parrott, L. B. Stillson, C. Morton, D. B. Lockwood, G. W. Hayes, L. F. Curtis, George Keeler, John L. Wessels, F. B. Hall, and Isaac B. Prindle.

#### BOARD OF TRADE.

The Bridgeport Board of Trade was incorporated in 1876 "for the promotion of trade, the giving direction and impetus to commercial and manufacturing enterprises, the encouragement of intercourse between business-men, and for the general growth and prosperity of Bridgeport." Among the substantial results already achieved may be mentioned the location here of Messrs. Warner Brothers' and Thompson, Langdon & Co.'s corset-factories, the Bridgeport Paper Box Company, the Frary Cutlery Company, the Sharps' Rifle Company, and other manufacturing establishments. A map of Bridgeport, with two columns of letterpress upon the margin setting forth the merits of the place as a site for manufacturing, has been published and extensively circulated. Besides the monthly meetings, annual banquets have also been held, at which much eloquence has been displayed which the world will not willingly let die.

The officers of the Board of Trade are as follows: President, David M. Read; vice-presidents, N. Wheeler, P. T. Barnum; secretary, R. B. Lacey; treasurer, T. R. Cruttenden; directors, W. H. Noble, B. Soules, J. Morford, H. R. Parrott, I. De V. Warner, E. G. Burnham, and M. W. Seymour.

#### BRIDGES.

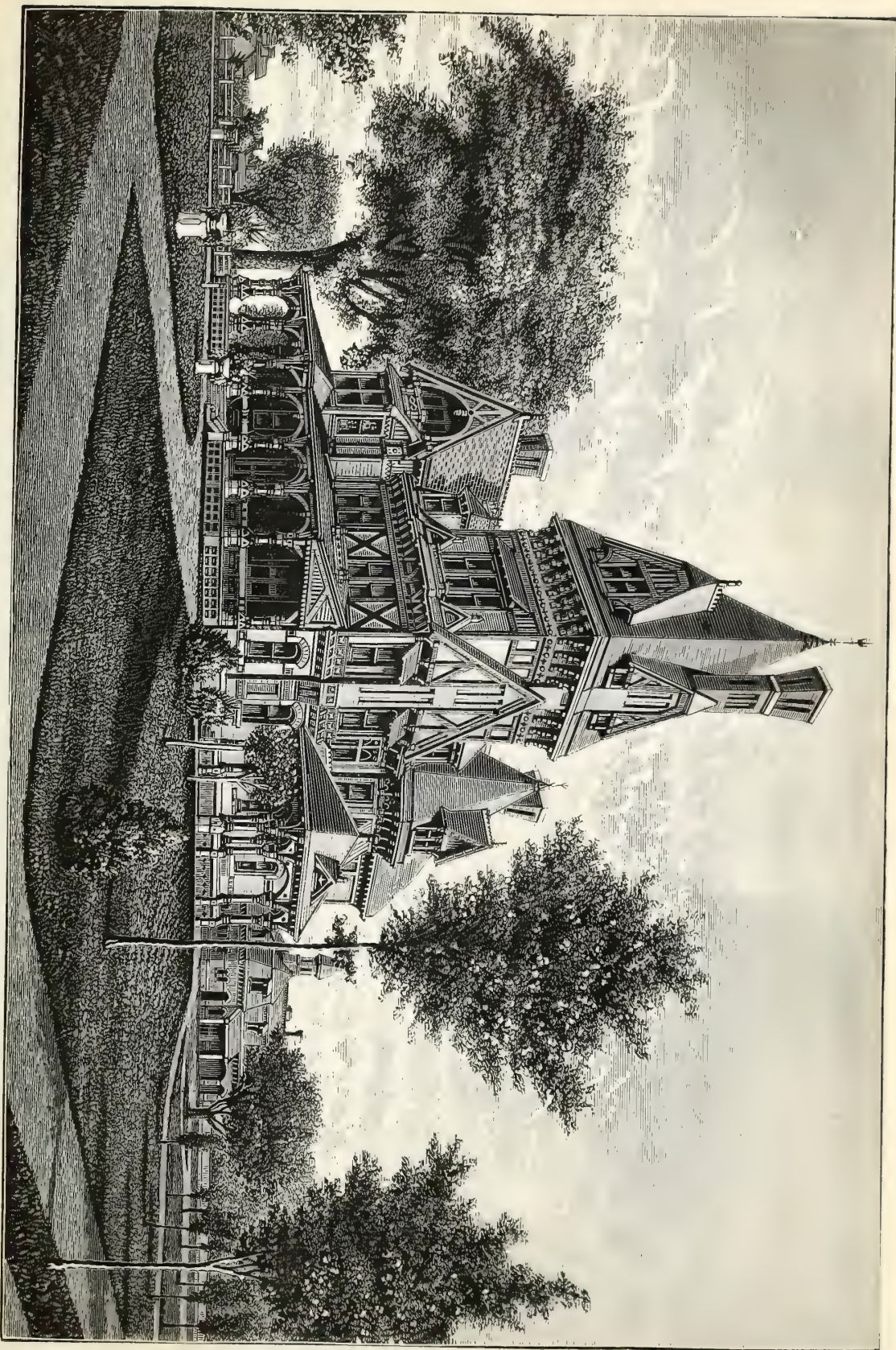
Bridgeport is not inappropriately named, as the whole number of bridges, great and small, crossing the Pequonnock River, Pembroke Lake, and the various streams known as Ash Creek, Horse Tavern Brook, Island Brook, and Rooster River, cannot be less than twenty-five or thirty in number. Time does not permit even an enumeration of them all, and only those crossing the Pequonnock River will be mentioned, taking them in the order of their construction.

1. First in point of time comes the bridge crossing the river upon the line of North Avenue, at the upper end of Berkshire mill-pond. This bridge is of no very ancient date, but its predecessor was built long before the Revolutionary war.

2. The Lottery Bridge, which was erected in 1793, extended from near the foot of Wall Street to Stratford Avenue upon the east. Having become dilapidated it fell over, and was replaced about the year 1807 by the present Bridgeport or Lower Bridge, whose western terminus is at the foot of Fairfield Avenue. Toll continued to be collected at the Bridgeport Bridge until the year 1868, when it was sold to the city for about eighteen thousand dollars and made free for public travel. The covered way for foot-passengers was built in 1850.

3. The dam across the river just above the Berkshire Mill was constructed in the year 1783, but that there was no bridge at that point for at least nine





RESIDENCE OF DR. I. DE VER WARNER, SEASIDE PARK, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

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years afterwards is implied, though not expressly stated, in an act passed by the Legislature in October, 1792. The present Berkshire Bridge, connecting Washington Avenue and Berkshire Street, is, however, without doubt, either the second or the third point at which the river was crossed.

4. In May, 1836, Willis Stillman, Birdsey G. Noble, and others, were given permission by the Legislature to build a drawbridge across the Pequonnock River at a place called Indian Island, and to collect toll from all persons crossing it except those going to public worship, funerals, or town-meetings, or who were upon military duty, all of whom were entitled to pass free. The corporation was called the East Bridgeport Bridge Company, and the bridge was the one now connecting the two parts of East Washington Avenue. It was finally purchased by the city for the sum of four thousand dollars, and thrown open for public travel Oct. 22, 1864. A sort of annex to this bridge was constructed by the horse railroad company in 1865.

5. In the year 1848 the New York and New Haven Railroad Company built a wooden bridge across the river, which in 1869 was replaced by a more substantial structure with double track and heavy iron draw, extending from Golden Hill Street upon the west to Crescent Avenue upon the east side.

In November, 1850, Abijah Burroughs, William A. Peck, and others, having been chartered by the Legislature under the name of the Crescent Foot-Bridge Company, with capital stock of two thousand dollars, opened a foot-bridge, built upon the foundation of the railroad company, upon the south side of the track, charging one cent toll. The present bridge for the accommodation of foot-passengers, upon the northerly side of the railroad track, was built by the city in 1869, and is free to all.

The next bridge built is no longer standing; having become unfit for heavy travel it was taken down about the year 1869. It was erected by Freeman B. Plumb, William S. Knowlton, and their associates, who in the year 1852 were authorized by the Legislature to construct a bridge from the foot of William Street, East Bridgeport, to some point near Porter's Rocks, on the western shore of the harbor, to collect toll from passengers, and to maintain a draw. This also was purchased by the city and made free, Oct. 22, 1864, the price paid being thirteen thousand two hundred and fifty dollars. A salute of one hundred guns in honor of the event was fired by enthusiastic persons in East Bridgeport, who perhaps had building-lots to dispose of.

6. The present Centre Bridge is the only one which can really be called a credit to the city. It extends from the foot of Congress Street, on the western side of the river, to the foot of William Street, in East Bridgeport, a distance of some eight hundred feet. For the greater part of this distance it has a clear roadway of thirty feet, and sidewalks of six feet in

width, while the draw, which measures two hundred and ten feet, is the longest in New England. The cost of this bridge was, in round numbers, one hundred thousand dollars, and it was completed and opened for travel in December, 1870. Following is a list of the special committee appointed by the Common Council for its construction: William D. Bishop, N. Wheeler, Eli Thompson, J. D. Alvord, Frederick Hurd, Eli Dewhurst, and J. H. Sharpe.

#### CASUALTIES AND CRIMES.

The great dam across the river, near the reservoir in North Bridgeport, has several times given way, causing disastrous inundations. These floods occurred in 1836 and 1843, and also on Nov. 21, 1851. Upon this latter occasion not only was the bridge below the factories and the Berkshire bridge and dam swept away by the resistless tide, which damaged property to the amount of seven thousand dollars, but a young man named Peter Kinsella was drowned, while trying to save a horse from a barn in the track of the torrent.

The steamer "Lexington" was burned opposite this harbor, though too far over towards the Long Island shore for assistance to be rendered, Jan. 13, 1840. It was a bitter night, and only four persons were saved, while one hundred and twenty-two are known either to have perished in the flames or to have sunk in the icy waters of the Sound. The light from the burning steamer was plainly visible here, and many people collected upon the shore to gaze at it.

Although the number of trains is about seventy daily, the list of railroad accidents in Bridgeport is a surprisingly short one. It is safe to say that more persons have been killed in this vicinity by runaway horses than in traveling upon the cars. Yet painful accidents have not been entirely escaped, and twice a horrible disaster has barely been prevented. Oct. 12, 1852, a locomotive and four cars belonging to a Nautack freight-train ran off the drawbridge. The engineer escaped by jumping; the fireman's leg was broken, but he was able to swim ashore. Aug. 15, 1865, a collision took place in North Bridgeport between a Housatonic passenger-train which was backing down and a locomotive upon its trial-trip, by which eleven persons lost their lives and twenty-seven others were injured. Engineer William Bristol was also killed by a collision a short distance above the Parlor Rock picnic-ground, Aug. 30, 1880.

On June 20, 1867, the noon express-train out of New York reached Bridgeport at half-past two, and after the usual halt at the depot moved forward upon the bridge at the rate of eighteen miles an hour, neither the engineer nor the conductor noticing that the red ball or safety-signal had been lowered, and that the heavy iron draw, which had been opened to admit the passage of a schooner, was still some twenty feet out of place. The only hope for the safety of the train was in the exertions of the bridge-tender, Dennis Colgan, who, by putting forth every effort, succeeded

in closing the gap just in time. Even then he was obliged to run down the single track in face of the advancing engine and shoot the bolt into its socket, or, the bridge being crescent-shaped, the impact of the train would have thrown the draw open again and precipitated the engine and cars into the water below. He was just in time to push the pin into its place and then drop between the ties to the timbers beneath, when the train thundered over his head. So close was the locomotive that spectators on shore and upon the adjoining foot-bridge, who had shouted for him to keep back and not to sacrifice his own life in the vain hope of saving others, all believed that he had been killed; and it was perhaps under this impression that the engineer, on arriving at New Haven, left at once his train and the company's employ without waiting for the formality of a discharge. Two weeks after this narrow escape the board of directors of the New York and New Haven Railroad passed a preamble reciting the foregoing facts, and a resolution that as a token of their appreciation of the heroism exhibited by Dennis Colgan five shares of the company's stock be transferred to him, and that a copy of the preamble and resolution, signed by the president, be sent to him, together with the certificate of stock.

Five years after this occurrence another disaster of the same nature, and of even greater magnitude, was just escaped at the same place. It was the afternoon before Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27, 1872, when a train of fourteen passenger-cars from New York, being behind time, after a brief stop at the Bridgeport depot, ran upon the bridge, the draw being open at the time to admit the passage of a lumber barge. From the neighboring Centre Bridge, which was crowded with carriages and pedestrians waiting for the draw on that bridge to close, frantic efforts were made to attract the attention of the engineer, but in vain; and men turned their backs that they might not see the fatal plunge that seemed inevitable. The new drawbridge has a double track and two sets of gearing, the one in ordinary use requiring about twenty revolutions to close the draw, the other, or fast gearing, taking only thirteen revolutions, but needing the strength of two men to operate it. Using the latter, Colgan, by his utmost exertions, just succeeded in closing the gap in time. Almost breathless from the exertion, he ran down the track to drive home the wedge which secures the draw, but was too late, for the engine had already reached the spot. There was no hesitation upon his part, however. "Standing upon the side track," says an eye-witness, "he planted his lever hard against the rail and held the draw firmly in place while the train went thundering by. Five seconds later in forming the connection, or the slightest shrinking on the part of the bridge-tender, and the train would have plunged into the horrid chasm." One can hardly read such an incident as this without thinking of Horatius at the bridge, and that, too, not altogether to the advantage of the brave old Roman.

It is pleasant to add that Dennis Colgan still remains in the employ of the railroad company in whose service he has been for over thirty years, and that he has prospered financially, being at present the owner of four double houses. Another point worthy of mention is that no drawbridge upon the line is now allowed to be opened within ten minutes of the time for any train.

In 1870 a man named Achille Zajotti was killed by an explosion of fulminate at the works of the Union Metallic Cartridge Company, in East Bridgeport. On Sept. 18, 1880, a disastrous explosion of the same substance occurred near the same locality, instantly killing three men, Philander Clark, Michael Dempsey, and Wilbur Fiershinger, and two boys, James Tobin and Joseph Sullivan, and completely demolishing the small building in which they were at work. The shock of the explosion broke hundreds of panes of glass in the vicinity, and was plainly felt for miles away. The accident was probably caused by carelessness in allowing the fulminate, in which the men were working, to become dry, as, when moist, it is considered non-explosive. The manufacture of exploders, in which this substance is used, has since been discontinued by the cartridge company.

Bridgeport has always been a law-abiding city, and its records are not stained by many great crimes. A few cases, however, are sufficiently horrible. In 1796 a youth named Shelton Edwards was murdered; the store, upon the corner of State and Water Streets, in which he slept, plundered, and then set on fire to conceal the crime. The perpetrator was never discovered.

Another mysterious case occurred here on the evening of June 3, 1872. Capt. George M. Colvocoresses, a retired naval officer, was shot dead in a secluded street near the steamboat-landing, whether by an assassin or by his own hand was the subject of much controversy at the time. Rewards of seven thousand dollars for the arrest of the murderer and ten thousand dollars for the recovery of the securities supposed to have been stolen from the person of the victim were offered, but have never been claimed, though detectives were busy for a long time investigating the case. Capt. Colvocoresses had insurance policies upon his life to the amount of nearly two hundred thousand dollars, which the companies declined to pay upon the ground that he had committed suicide. Suits were brought by his executor to enforce payment, but a compromise was finally effected.

One of the most cold-blooded murders ever perpetrated was brought to light here in September, 1878, when a woman of bad character, named Alexander, and one Bassett, the man with whom she was living, quarreled and accused one another of having murdered Frank Weinbecker, a sailor, in the hope of realizing a few dollars by selling his remains for dissection. The body was packed into a barrel and carried to New Haven, to the Medical School. Failing to dispose of it there and fearing detection, the barrel, with its



ghastly contents, was abandoned in a lonely place upon the way home, where it remained until discovered in the manner already indicated. Both the criminals are now serving out sentences of imprisonment for life in the State prison, at Wethersfield.

## CEMETERIES.

The old Stratfield or Pequonnock burying-ground upon North Avenue was used by the early settlers. It contains six hundred and forty gravestones, the inscriptions upon which have been copied, the earliest date found being 1688.\* Besides these are other rude stones without any lettering, and not a few graves entirely unmarked. Through the praiseworthy efforts of Mr. R. B. Lacey, this ancient burying-place has recently been greatly improved. The remains of three ministers of the first church in this city—Charles Chauncey, Samuel Cooke, and Robert Ross, whose united pastorates covered the period of ninety-three years—repose here, and a monument to their joint memory, either here or in Mountain Grove Cemetery, would not be an inappropriate tribute.

MOUNTAIN GROVE CEMETERY contains some seventy-five acres, beautifully situated near the western boundary of the town, and partially encircled by the meandering course of the pretty stream called Ash Creek. Within its limits repose the mortal remains of no less than five thousand seven hundred persons, about three thousand two hundred of whom were originally interred here, the remainder having been removed from other grounds,—in particular from the old Division Street or Park Avenue burying-ground in 1873. Although including so many inhabitants, this city of the dead is not an old cemetery, having been incorporated as recently as 1849, and opened with appropriate ceremonies June 7, 1850. The first person buried within its limits was Caroline, infant daughter of the late Dr. F. J. Judson, Aug. 1, 1850. About eleven thousand dollars—the profits of a very successful fair held in St. John's Hall in December, 1878—have recently been expended in grading and beautifying the grounds. Russell Tomlinson is president and William R. Higby is secretary of the association. The directors are R. Tomlinson, William D. Bishop, H. T. Shelton, William H. Perry, N. Wheeler, W. R. Higby, E. Birdsey, D. M. Read, and Edward Sterling.

PEMBROKE CEMETERY is situated in East Bridgeport, north of Old Mill Green, and bordering upon Stillman's Pond. It was chartered October, 1811, and originally contained but one acre of ground, to which seventy-seven rods were added in 1844. From 1862 to 1872 the old ground, being full, was suffered to become overgrown with underbrush, and burials in it ceased. In 1872 the charter of the association was

amended, permission being given to purchase one hundred acres of land, to sell the old ground, and to remove the dead to the new inclosure. Sixteen acres of land were accordingly purchased in the above locality. No record of burials previous to April, 1874, can be found. Burials since that date number three hundred and seventy-one. The officers of the association are: President, Ali Andrews; Secretary, A. C. Parker; Treasurer, George B. Mallory.

PARK CEMETERY, in North Bridgeport, was organized in 1878. It is situated a short distance west of Berkshire Mill-pond, and contains about forty-four acres. Seventy-five interments have already been made here. The officers of the cemetery are: President, B. T. Nichols; Secretary and Treasurer, Joseph S. French; Superintendent, Edgar S. Nichols; Directors, B. T. Nichols, Curtis Thompson, J. A. Nichols, E. S. Nichols, Joseph S. French.

There are also two Roman Catholic cemeteries,—one between Arctic and Shelton Streets, in East Bridgeport, which fronts upon Pembroke Lake, and the other upon that pleasant old thoroughfare called Grove Street (in early days Cooke's Lane), not far from the western terminus of the horse-railroad.

Here are a few epitaphs copied from the old burying-ground upon Park Avenue, incorporated in 1811, but discontinued and the remains removed elsewhere in 1873:

"Death is a debt to nature due,  
Which I have paid, and so must you."

"In youthful bloom death cut me down,  
There to await the trumpet's sound.  
Repent, believe, while you have time,  
For I was taken in my prime."

"And what is life? 'Tis but a flower  
That buds and blossoms for an hour,  
But death comes like a wintry day,  
And cuts the pretty flower away."

## CHURCHES.

At the present time there are twenty-six churches in Bridgeport, belonging to ten different denominations,—viz., Baptist, Congregational, Protestant Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Universalist, Christian, Advent, and Hebrew. Full particulars of the early history of the oldest three—the First Congregational, St. John's Episcopal, and the First Methodist—have already been given. Mention of the others will follow, but the space given to each will be unavoidably quite limited.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH was constituted Sept. 20, 1837, with thirty-nine members. The society had been formed previously,—July 24, 1835,—and the sum of three thousand dollars raised by subscription, which was paid for the house of worship just vacated by St. John's Episcopal Society,—a wooden building upon the corner of State and Broad Streets. This sum was collected through the efforts of Rev. James H. Linsley, of Stratford. A regular minister was not obtained

\* The writer is indebted to Mr. O. P. Dexter, of New York, for a copy of these inscriptions, and regrets that want of space prevents its publication with this article, as originally intended.

until 1838, when the Rev. Joseph W. Eaton, from Boston, was settled. His successors in the ministry here were: Rev. Daniel Harrington, 1840; Rev. William Smith, 1842; Rev. William Reid, 1846; Rev. Dr. A. G. Palmer, 1854; Rev. J. L. Hodge, D.D., 1857; Rev. A. M. Hopper, D.D., 1861; Rev. M. H. Pogson, 1877.

The present house of worship, a substantial brick structure costing seventeen thousand dollars, was built upon the site of the former church in 1860. In 1878 it was repaired and a number of improvements made, at an expense of about one thousand three hundred dollars. The number of communicants is now 325; membership of the Sunday-school, 283.

THE EAST WASHINGTON AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH was organized Jan. 30, 1874, with forty-seven members; Rev. C. W. Ray was the first pastor. The price paid for the church, which fronts upon Washington Park, and originally belonged to the Bethesda Mission Sunday-school, was ten thousand dollars, and about three thousand five hundred dollars additional was expended in repairs and improvements. Rev. W. M. Ingersoll is now the pastor, and the church has increased to 158 members, with a Sunday-school of 175.

An account of the organization and early history of the FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH has already been given. The present church edifice, upon the corner of Bank and Broad Streets, was completed and dedicated April 11, 1850, and is the fourth that has been occupied by the society. The chapel was built in 1858, cost eight thousand dollars, and has lately been repaired and improved at an expense of two thousand five hundred dollars. The communion service contains some antique pieces of plate presented by early members many years before the Revolution. The parsonage, No. 84 Golden Hill Street, was bequeathed to the society by the late Mrs. Sylvanus Sterling.

Fifteen pastors have been settled over the church during the one hundred and eighty-five years of its existence, but only three of them are now living. Rev. Charles Ray Palmer, the present pastor, was installed Sept. 11, 1872. A history of the church, prepared by Mr. Palmer in 1876, was published, and contains many interesting facts relating to the early settlers of this place. The present number of communicants is 348; membership of the Sunday-school, about 200. The church records contain the names of forty-two persons belonging to this congregation who served in the Union army during the Rebellion.

THE SECOND (or South) CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH was organized Jan. 28, 1830, with one hundred and seventeen members, who had been dismissed for that purpose from the First Church. Its first house of worship, a wooden building upon the corner of Broad and Gilbert Streets,—the same site now occupied,—was completed in November, 1830, and cost about five thousand dollars. Rev. Nathaniel Hewit, D.D., the first pastor, was in-

stalled Dec. 1, 1830, and his ministry—a very successful one—lasted for nearly twenty-three years.

His successors were: Rev. A. L. Brooks, 1854; Rev. Benjamin L. Swan, 1856; Rev. Alexander R. Thompson, 1859; Rev. Francis Lobdell, 1863; Rev. Daniel Lord, 1865; Rev. Edwin Johnson, 1870; Rev. R. G. S. McNeille, at present pastor, who was installed Dec. 4, 1877. The present house of worship was dedicated Jan. 20, 1862, and during the past year both church and chapel have undergone extensive alterations and improvements, costing upward of eleven thousand dollars, and rendering them exceedingly convenient and attractive in appearance.

This church furnished quite a number of the flower of its young men for the Union army in the late civil war. Among those who volunteered were Edward W. Marsh, William H. Hawley, Frederick B. Hawley, Frederick B. Doten, Henry M. Hoyt, Eliot Curtis, John Curtis, Frederick Curtis, James H. Porter, Henry L. Sturges, John Ward, Alfred G. Mollan, and Marcus Sterling.

The whole number of members enrolled upon the register of this church is 1186; the present membership is 434, and the Sunday-school numbers 350. Eight young men have been sent into the ministry, and over one hundred thousand dollars have been contributed by its members for benevolent purposes.

March 18, 1880, the church celebrated the completion of its first half-century of existence by services deeply interesting to all who attended. A history of the church, prepared by Mr. Edmund S. Hawley, was read upon this occasion; it is a document of great value, and ought to be reprinted.

THE PARK STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH was organized Jan. 15, 1868, with thirty-nine members, twenty-five of whom were dismissed at one time from the North Church for the purpose. Rev. John G. Davenport was ordained July 1, 1868, and still continues to be the pastor of this very successful church. Until the summer of 1871 services were held in Bethesda Mission Chapel, upon East Washington Avenue. The present church building, corner of Park and Barnum Streets, opposite Washington Park, was dedicated Oct. 17, 1871, and cost about twenty-five thousand dollars. The membership of the church is now 430, and its Sabbath-school—one of the largest in the city—numbers about 600,—certainly a very marked increase for the short space of less than thirteen years.

OLIVET CHURCH.—About the year 1866 a mission Sunday-school was begun by members of the First Congregational Church and others in the northern part of the city. The school met at first in the upper story of No. 114 North Washington Avenue, afterwards at Olivet Hall, upon the corner of Grand Street. After some time the school developed into the church now known as Olivet Congregational Church, which was formally organized by a council convened for the purpose, Nov. 16, 1870, and Dec. 14, 1870, the Rev.



De Forest B. Dodge was ordained pastor. Oct. 11, 1871, Mr. Dodge resigned, and letters of dismission were granted to forty-nine members of his former flock, that they might join him in forming a new ecclesiastical body. His successors as the pastors of Olivet Church have been: Rev. S. Hopkins Emory, April, 1872; Rev. Allen Clark, September, 1874; Rev. John S. Wilson, August, 1879. The building now used by the society, upon the corner of Main Street and North Avenue, was completed and occupied for worship Dec. 24, 1876. It cost, including the ground upon which it stands, about three thousand five hundred dollars. The membership of the church at its organization was 36; the present number of communicants is 104, with a Sunday-school of 170.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BLACK ROCK was gathered Sept. 11, 1849, twenty-four members having been dismissed from the Fairfield Congregational Church for the purpose. On the same day the house of worship erected by the society was dedicated. It stands upon the corner of Church Street and Bartram Avenue, and its cost was about three thousand dollars. The first pastor, Rev. W. J. Jennings, was ordained and installed April 9, 1850. His successors have been: Rev. Marinus Willett, 1858; Rev. A. C. Baldwin, 1861; Rev. F. W. Williams, 1866; Rev. Howard W. Pope, at present pastor, Sept. 1, 1874. Present membership of the church, 82; of the Sunday-school, 75.

CHRIST CHURCH (Protestant Episcopal) was organized August, 1850, and at first worshiped in a frame building on John Street, formerly occupied by the First Congregational Church. The Rev. J. Howard Smith, the first rector of Christ Church, was settled in December, 1850. His successors in the parish have been: Rev. William Preston, 1854-56; Rev. George B. Thrall, 1856-59; Rev. Lucius W. Bancroft, D.D., 1859-61; Rev. Henry M. Stuart, 1861-63; Rev. J. Blake Falkner, 1863-70; Rev. J. J. Harrison, 1870; Rev. N. L. Briggs, 1871-75; Rev. Horatio N. Powers, D.D., the present rector, November, 1875. The handsome brownstone edifice on Courtland Street occupied by the congregation of this church since its erection in 1852 cost about thirty-one thousand dollars. A lecture-room was added in 1870 at an expense of nine thousand dollars. The first wardens of the parish were Charles Bostwick, senior warden, and Russell Tomlinson, junior warden. Among the names of its prominent members deceased are those of Charles Bostwick, S. S. Clapp, S. B. Ferguson, Stephen Tomlinson, Frederick Wood, I. H. Whiting, and Daniel Hatch. Of the older members of the Vestry, Russell Tomlinson, P. B. Segee, George Keeler, Luzon W. Clark, W. H. Noble, S. B. Beardsley, S. Titus, C. B. Hotchkiss, Clapp Spooner, and Benjamin Ray still remain. Russell Tomlinson is the present senior warden, and George C. Waldo junior warden. The present number of communicants is 259, and the membership of the Sunday-school about 235.

THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY (Protestant Episcopal) was organized June 4, 1858. A mission Sunday-school and mission services had been maintained at the woolen-mills for several years previous to this date, but the precise time of their commencement is not known. Rev. G. S. Coit, D.D., was the first rector, and among those prominent in the enterprise at the outset were Rev. E. F. Bishop, H. M. Sherman, Eli Thompson, Joseph Richardson, Ira Gregory, John Hurd, and William L. Hubbell. Dr. Coit's successor was Rev. E. F. Bishop, who was followed by Rev. Henry Darby, who is now rector, though Rev. E. F. Bishop and Rev. Lewis W. Wells are at present officiating. The church, a very picturesque stone building upon Sylvan Avenue, North Bridgeport, was completed and occupied Jan. 15, 1859, and cost about ten thousand dollars. The number of communicants is about 50, and the Sunday-school (now being reorganized) has 65 members.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH (Protestant Episcopal).—Particulars respecting the early history of this ancient church have already been given. Rev. Philo Shelton was rector from 1784 until 1824, when, after forty years of continuous service, his resignation was accepted. His successors have been Rev. Henry R. Judah, 1824; Rev. Gurdon S. Coit, D.D., 1833; Rev. J. M. Willey, December, 1861; Rev. Eaton W. Maxcy, D.D., at present rector, June, 1867. The present church edifice, at the corner of Park and Fairfield Avenues, is the fourth that has been occupied by the parish of St. John's. The corner-stone was laid by Bishop Williams, Sept. 18, 1873, with appropriate ceremonies, and the house was first occupied Easter Day, March 28, 1875. The dimensions of the building are 120 by 57 feet, and it seats some seven hundred persons. The cost, including the building-site, but exclusive of the tower and lecture-room, which are yet to be added, was one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. The number of communicants is now 265, and the membership of the Sunday-school is 239.

Among the members of St. John's who entered the Union army during the Rebellion were the Rev. Dr. Coit, who resigned to accept a position as chaplain; Rev. J. M. Willey, chaplain of the Third Connecticut (three months') Regiment; Major William L. Hubbell, Seventeenth Connecticut Volunteers; Adj. Walter Fitch, Sixth Connecticut Volunteers; F. H. Thompson, of the naval service; and others.

Rev. Mr. Willey, whose death occurred in April, 1866, is the only rector who has died while holding the office.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH (Protestant Episcopal) was organized June 4, 1858, at the house of William H. Noble, on Stratford Avenue, and the Rev. G. S. Coit, D.D., of St. John's Church, was chosen rector. The Sunday-school at first met in the coal-office of D. W. Thompson, near the east end of Centre Bridge, afterwards in rooms over a store upon the corner of

Crescent Avenue and East Main Street. Rev. N. S. Richardson, D.D., was the first settled rector of St. Paul's parish, his ministry here beginning January, 1868.

The corner-stone of St. Paul's Church, a handsome stone building upon Kossuth Street, fronting Washington Park, was laid by Bishop Williams, Oct. 6, 1868; the structure was dedicated and occupied for worship July 29, 1869, but not consecrated until May 18, 1880. It cost about thirty thousand dollars.

Rev. Dr. Richardson, in addition to parochial duties, is now editor of the *Church Guardian* newspaper of New York City, Rev. George S. Pine assisting him in the care of the parish.

The communicants at St. Paul's number 296, and the Sunday-school has 403 members.

TRINITY CHURCH (Protestant Episcopal) was organized June 1, 1863, and services were at first held in a hall over the New York and New Haven Railroad Depot. The corner-stone of the church, which is built of freestone, and stands at the corner of Broad Street and Fairfield Avenue, was laid Nov. 2, 1863. The first services were held in it July 3, 1864, and the building was consecrated November 2d of the same year. The cost of this church was ten thousand dollars, or, including the lot and church furniture, sixteen thousand dollars. The original number of communicants was 57; present number, 284; the Sunday-school has 157 members. Rev. Sylvester Clarke has been rector of this church from its organization until the present time.

TRINITY MEMORIAL CHURCH, in West Stratford, is also under the pastoral care of Rev. Mr. Clarke. This is a mission of Trinity Church, Bridgeport, and a memorial of the Rev. G. S. Coit, D.D. The first services were held at the house of Silas Scofield, in West Stratford, Sept. 20, 1871, and a Sunday-school was begun four days later in the Newfield district school-house. The corner-stone of the present chapel was laid Nov. 29, 1871. First service, the Holy Communion, Whitsunday, May 9, 1872, at seven A.M. Cost of the chapel, including lot, etc., was six thousand dollars. The present number of communicants is 30; membership of Sunday-school, 70.

THE FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—If this is the same religious body that was founded by Rev. Jesse Lee, it is the oldest Methodist church in New England, and its centennial anniversary, which occurs in 1889, ought to be duly celebrated. The late Isaac Sherman, however, in his historical sketch, published in 1860, mentions Rev. Nathaniel Ruggles and Rev. John N. Maffitt as the "founders of the first Methodist church in Bridgeport in 1802." Before they had a meeting-house of their own the members of this denomination used to gather for worship in the wooden block which is still standing upon the corner of Main and State Streets. The church was built in 1822, upon the corner of Fairfield Avenue and Broad Street, the site now occupied, and

was destroyed by fire March 23, 1849. Its successor, the present brick structure, was completed and dedicated in the latter part of the same year. Among the many ministers who have been settled over this church, one of the most successful was Rev. Heman Bangs, who was stationed here in 1847 and 1848. Rev. Charles E. Harris is now pastor. The number of communicants is 370, and the Sunday-school has 345 members.

WASHINGTON PARK METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was organized Sept. 12, 1853. The church building, which stands upon the corner of Barnum and Noble Streets, in East Bridgeport, was completed and occupied in the same year. Its original cost was only four thousand dollars, but in 1867 it was enlarged and improved at an expense of eleven thousand dollars. The present value of the property is about twenty thousand dollars. Rev. J. E. Searles, who is now pastor, began his work here April 1, 1879. There are 380 communicants, and the Sunday-school—one of the largest in the city—has 585 teachers and scholars.

THE TABERNACLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was founded in July, 1873. In March, 1874, the house of worship, which stands upon North Main Street, at the foot of Frank Street, was completed, and in the following month Rev. A. B. Sanford was appointed pastor. His successors have been Rev. S. H. Smith, Rev. David Osborne, and the Rev. Joseph R. Dumble, the latter commencing his labors here in March, 1880. The cost of the church building, including the lot, was about four thousand five hundred dollars. The church has ninety-five communicants and a Sunday-school of one hundred and seventy-five members.

There are two African Methodist Episcopal chapels upon Broad Street, a short distance north of Seaside Park. The older (or Bethel) Church was built in 1835; the younger and larger, known as Zion Church, was completed, as a tablet over the door informs the passer by, in June, 1843. This tablet also formerly contained an inscription from the Old Testament,—“The glory of the latter house shall exceed that of the former,”—but the words are now erased. Rev. J. B. Small is pastor of Zion Church, which has eighty-two members and a Sunday-school of seventy. Bethel Church, with twenty-eight members and a Sunday-school of twenty, is at present without a settled minister.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was constituted Oct. 16, 1853, at which time eighty-two persons entered into covenant and resolved to join the Presbytery of New York. The pastor, Rev. Dr. Hewit, and a considerable number of the members had previously been connected with the Second (or South) Congregational Church of this city. The first meeting for public worship was held Oct. 9, 1853, in the upper room of the brick school-house, No. 200 State Street, Dr. Hewit preaching from the text “Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day, and forever.” October 31st



the church was admitted to the Presbytery of New York, and Feb. 1, 1854, the chapel on Myrtle Avenue was dedicated, having cost about three thousand dollars. The church adjoining, upon the corner of Myrtle Avenue and West Liberty Street, was dedicated Aug. 8, 1855, and cost twenty-eight thousand dollars. The lot upon which the church and chapel stood was the gift of Capt. John Brooks and Capt. Burr Knapp. In 1873 the chapel was taken down and a new one, costing eleven thousand dollars, was erected at his own expense by Capt. Brooks and presented to the church. The expense of enlarging the church organ, already one of the finest in New England, and of putting a new roof upon the church, amounting to about five thousand dollars, was also borne entirely by Capt. Brooks.

These and other improvements were not quite completed, when on Wednesday evening, Dec. 9, 1874, both church and chapel, with all their contents, were totally destroyed by fire, probably occasioned by the careless use of candles by a workman. The burning steeple, two hundred and twenty-seven feet in height, was the most magnificent spectacle ever seen in Bridgeport. The loss upon the buildings and their contents amounted to seventy thousand dollars; insurance, thirty-five thousand dollars. Resolutions of condolence and tenders of the use of their several edifices were made by most of the other churches in Bridgeport, but the church preferred to occupy the opera-house, corner of State and Main Streets, for a season. Owing to the liberality of Capt. Brooks and other members of the society, rebuilding was promptly commenced. The new church, which stands upon the corner of State Street and Myrtle Avenue, cost, including the chapel, organ, and furniture, about ninety-four thousand dollars, and was dedicated Oct. 12, 1876.

In 1858, having reached the age of seventy, Dr. Hewit resigned his office, but his resignation was not accepted, and he continued to be pastor of the church until his death, in February, 1867. Rev. H. G. Hinsdale was settled Oct. 28, 1862, at first as colleague to Dr. Hewit, and after his death as sole pastor. Mr. Hinsdale resigned in 1877, and was succeeded, Feb. 14, 1878, by Rev. H. A. Davenport, who is at present pastor of the church. The late Mrs. Mary Bishop was one of the most liberal benefactors of this church, having subscribed largely to build it, and also to cancel the debt incurred in its erection. The church records show the number of communicants to be 185, and the membership of the Sunday-school 316.

THE GERMAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, on State Street, was first organized Oct. 1, 1860. Rev. A. Schroeder was pastor from 1860 to 1864. In 1868 the church was reorganized. Rev. Casper Bruner was then settled as pastor, and has continued to hold that office until the present time. In the same year the society purchased the church now occupied, on State Street, nearly opposite Myrtle Avenue, for about eight thou-

sand dollars. The present membership of the church is 115; of the Sunday-school, 110.

ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH (Roman Catholic).—The Rev. Mr. McDermott was the first Catholic priest who celebrated mass in Bridgeport. This was in the house of Mr. Farrell, on Middle Street, in the year 1834. About eighteen Catholic families were then living here. Soon afterwards, by order of Bishop Fenwick, the Rev. James Smith attended Bridgeport once a month. He built the old brick church which formerly stood upon the corner of Arch Street and Washington Avenue. Rev. Michael Lynch, the first settled pastor for Bridgeport, was appointed in December, 1842. Ten years later,—Sept. 2, 1852,—Rev. Thomas J. Synnott was appointed by Bishop O'Reilly to take charge of the Catholics of Bridgeport. Soon after his arrival Rev. Mr. Synnott commenced building the old church of St. Mary upon Crescent Avenue, in East Bridgeport, and finished it in the following year. In this same year he began St. Thomas' church, at Fairfield, and finished it in 1854.

Ten years later, the old brick church upon Washington Avenue being found too small to accommodate the growing Catholic population, the foundation of St. Augustine's church was laid upon the corner of Washington Avenue and Pequonnock Street. This church, which is the largest in Bridgeport, was dedicated March 17, 1867, and has cost about one hundred and twenty thousand dollars. The material of which it is built is gray granite from North Bridgeport. It is intended to carry up the spire about ninety feet higher than its present termination, making it by far the highest object in the city. The whole number of Catholics in St. Augustine parish is about four thousand, and the average attendance at mass is estimated to be as high as three thousand. The Sabbath-school contains about six hundred and fifty members. The amount contributed for special benevolent objects during the pastorate of twenty-eight years of the Rev. Mr. Synnott is between three and four thousand dollars; the amount raised for church purposes—parish expenses, building, etc.—cannot be far from a quarter of a million of dollars.

Adjoining the church on the west is a large and extremely handsome structure, built of gray granite from Plymouth, Conn., which is intended for a Sisters' house and academy for young ladies. It will be completed during the year 1881, and its cost is expected to be about the same as that of the church,—one hundred and twenty thousand dollars.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH (Roman Catholic).—This fine edifice is built of brick with granite trimmings, and stands upon the corner of Pembroke and Steuben Streets, East Bridgeport. It was dedicated Oct. 14, 1877, and cost about ninety thousand dollars. The number of Catholics belonging to St. Mary's parish is estimated to be three thousand, and the average attendance at church from two thousand to two thousand five hundred. The Sabbath-school has about six

hundred members. The first settled minister of the parish was the Rev. Dr. Wallace, from Providence, R. I., and his successors were Rev. Messrs. O'Gorman, O'Neil, Drea, Lenihan, and Rev. J. F. Rogers, the present pastor. The old church of St. Mary, upon Crescent Avenue, is still standing, and is used for school and other purposes.

THE GERMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH was organized in December, 1874, and for a time held religious services in a hall in Wheeler's Building, Main Street, corner of Fairfield Avenue. Subsequently it removed to the building No. 449 Main Street. The present house of worship was commenced in October, 1878, and completed in April following, at a cost, including the land, of eight thousand dollars. Rev. Joseph A. Schaele, of New Haven, has been pastor from the organization of the church to the present time. There were at first twenty-five families in the congregation, which now numbers seventy-five families, or about three hundred persons. The Sunday-school has one hundred members. Mass is celebrated and a sermon preached every Sunday morning, the pastor returning to New Haven at the conclusion of the services.

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.—The Universalist Society in Bridgeport was organized in the year 1850, and the brownstone building on Fairfield Avenue, near Broad Street, originally known as the Church of our Saviour, but now called Church of the Redeemer, was dedicated near the close of the following year. Rev. Olympia Brown—now Mrs. Olympia Brown Willis—was pastor of this church from 1869 to 1875; Rev. John Lyon, who is now the pastor, was settled Dec. 3, 1876. The cost of the house of worship, including land, etc., was thirty-four thousand dollars. The present number of communicants is 70, and the membership of the Sunday-school is 135. A chapel is soon to be constructed upon the lot in rear of the church, which was given to the society by P. T. Barnum, and it is proposed that the second story of this building shall contain a free reading-room for the use of workmen and others.

THE ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH of Bridgeport was organized November, 1849, with fourteen members, and has maintained regular services ever since, both upon the Sabbath and on week-day evenings, though most of the time without a settled pastor. Eighty-two members have been added since the church was first formed, but, owing to death, removal, and other causes, the present membership is only fifty-seven. The place of meeting is Temperance Hall, on Beach Street, East Bridgeport.

The members of the body known as the CHURCH OF CHRIST in Bridgeport have met for study of the Bible and for religious worship since the year 1871, but were not formally organized as a church until Aug. 23, 1874, under the leadership of Dr. W. A. Belding, of Troy, N. Y. The meetings, at first held in a private house, have been for several years past conducted in the hall at No. 356 Main Street, on the Sab-

bath and upon two week-day evenings. No stated preacher has been employed, but since May, 1880, Charles Abercrombie, a revivalist, has been laboring here. The present membership is 65.

The Hebrew congregation (BENAI ISRAEL) in Bridgeport was organized Sept. 19, 1859, the first minister being Rev. A. Jacobs, and the place of worship No. 35 Wall Street. Rev. Mr. Jacobs has had twelve successors, the present incumbent being Rev. E. Willner, settled Aug. 16, 1879. The congregation now meets upon Friday evenings and Saturday mornings at Freedman's Building, on State Street, opposite the court-house. The Hebrews in this place number only fifteen families, or about seventy-five persons, all of whom belong to the congregation. The Sunday-school has fifteen members.

#### CUSTOM-HOUSE.

In the "Municipal Register" for 1875 Mr. Lacey has given so full an account of the customs district of Fairfield that it is only necessary to make brief reference to it here. This district was constituted by act of Congress, March 2, 1799, and includes the entire coast, from the Housatonic River to the New York State line. The collector's office was at first at Fairfield, then at Greenfield Hill, but was removed to Bridgeport in 1832. Capt. Samuel Smedley, distinguished as a naval commander in the war of the Revolution, was the first collector. His successors were: Walter Bradley, date uncertain; Samuel Simons, 1832; Joseph Thompson, 1840; Stephen Lounsbury, 1844; William H. Peet, 1848; William S. Pomeroy, 1852; Silas C. Booth, 1860; John Brooks, 1864; Julius S. Hanover, 1869.

Since December, 1874, the custom-house has been located in rooms, handsomely fitted up for the purpose, upon the corner of Main and Wall Streets. The records of the office are well kept, and among the archives are documents bearing the autographs of Alexander Hamilton, John Quincy Adams, James Monroe, and other venerable patriots.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### BRIDGEPORT (Continued).

#### PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF BRIDGEPORT, CONCLUDED.

Express Company—Fire Department—Freemasons—Gaslight Company—Grain-Elevator—Harbor—Horse-Railroad—Hospital—Hydraulic Company—Internal Revenue—Library—Lighthouses—Mills—Newspapers—Odd-Fellows—Orphan Asylum—Parks—Police—Population—Post-Office—Public Schools—Societies—Steamboats.

#### EXPRESS COMPANY.

WILLIAM F. HARNDEN was the first man to commence running an express between Boston and New York, in February, 1839, and is regarded as the



founder of the express business in this country. In May, 1840, Alvin Adams began an opposition to Harnden. For several years Mr. Adams was his own messenger, cashier, clerk, and porter, all in one. In 1843 he first began to use horses and wagons in delivering, and soon afterwards Adams & Co. made a contract with the Treasury Department for the transportation of government funds, which their successors still continue. Oct. 26, 1848, the New York and New Haven Railroad was opened for travel from New Haven to Bridgeport, and on October 31st the following advertisement appeared in the *Weekly Standard*:

"NEW EXPRESS.

"Adams & Co. respectfully give notice that they have commenced running a daily express, to and from New Haven and Bridgeport, in connection with their New York and New Haven line. Packages, Specie, Bank-Notes, and Valuables of every description intrusted to their care will be transmitted with the utmost safety and dispatch, and all business, such as the collection of Notes and Bills, the delivery of Drafts for acceptance, and orders of all kinds, will receive their particular attention. A special messenger will accompany the train leaving New Haven at quarter before nine A.M.; returning will leave Bridgeport at ten, or on arrival of boat from New York.

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"OFFICES AND AGENTS:

"ADAMS & Co., 16 Wall Street, New York.

"W. WEBB & Co., 143 Chapel Street, Dwight's Building, New Haven.

"SANFORD CORNWALL, No. 2 Exchange Place, opposite the Sterling House, Bridgeport."

The office of the express company was afterwards located under the Sterling House, subsequently removing to the York House building, on the west side of Water Street, near Union Street, and from thence to its present location, in the depot building at the foot of Fairfield Avenue. The Adams Express Company was formed by the consolidation of some half a dozen other lines, July 1, 1854. At that time the capital stock was divided into twelve thousand shares, whose value was not specified, but supposed to be worth at least one hundred dollars each, or one million two hundred thousand dollars altogether. The headquarters of the New England division were removed from Hartford to Bridgeport, April 2, 1865; to Boston, Sept. 1, 1868; to Hartford, Sept. 2, 1869; and again to Bridgeport, Feb. 6, 1876. Since that time Bridgeport has been the central office, all the other agencies in New England reporting to it.

The company has experienced several robberies. One of the greatest on record took place on Saturday evening, Jan. 6, 1866, when the door of the express-car running from New York to Boston was forced, and securities, cash, and other valuables, to the amount of half a million dollars, were abstracted therefrom. Nearly all the stolen property was recovered, and the criminals, who were arrested in Norwalk, were tried and sentenced at Bridgeport in February, 1866.

The officers and representatives of the Adams Express Company residing at Bridgeport are: Henry Sanford, General Superintendent; Clapp Spooner, Resident Manager, and Superintendent of New Eng-

land Division; William L. Hubbell, Auditor; S. J. B. Dibble, Cashier; John C. Curtis, Agent.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

One of the first public measures of the citizens of Newfield—afterwards the borough of Bridgeport—was to form themselves into a fire company, which was incorporated, as already mentioned, in 1797. An act of similar tenor was passed in the following year, and in 1834 a third fire company was chartered, followed in 1840 by the Phoenix Fire Company, No. 4, and the Pequonnock Fire Company, of North Bridgeport, and in 1845 by the Bridgeport Hose Company.

The engines of that day, however, were extremely rude affairs, without any suction apparatus, it being necessary to pour the water into them before it was squirted upon the fire, and whenever an alarm of fire was given the first duty of a good citizen was to rush to the spot with his fire-bucket, which was a part of the furniture of every house, and to form one of a line for drawing water from some convenient well and passing it up to the engine. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that fires were frequent and destructive. Conflagrations several times swept through the business part of the place, notably upon the morning of Dec. 11, 1845, when the eastern side of Water Street and both sides of Wall and State Streets were devastated. Forty-nine buildings were consumed on this occasion, and the loss was estimated at over one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

The first engine worthy of the name was that purchased for Company No. 5, which had a suction apparatus, and was built in New York at a cost of one thousand dollars. Within a week after its arrival the steam flour-mill near the corner of Water Street and South Avenue was burned, and, ten days later, the Methodist church on Beaver Street suffered the same fate.

Previous to 1847 there was no organized fire department, the several companies being not only independent of one another, but sometimes antagonistic. A by-law drafted by Mr. R. B. Lacey, providing for the appointment of a board of engineers and the enforcement of better discipline, was adopted in that year, and continued in force until the adoption of a paid fire department. The steam fire-engine D. H. Sterling, No. 1, was purchased by the city in January, 1864, and proved so successful that in May, 1865, steamer Protector, No. 2, was purchased, and in August of the same year steamer Excelsior, No. 5.

In October, 1872, the volunteer fire department was disbanded, and a paid department substituted for it. Charles A. Gerdenier, who had been at the head of the volunteer organization since 1869, was appointed chief engineer, and has held this important office to the present time.

The property of the fire department, March 1, 1880, consisted in part of the following articles: Five engine-houses, three steam fire-engines, two hook-and-

ladder trucks, one of them with chemical attachment, ten thousand four hundred feet of hose, two bell-towers and alarm-bells, a fire-alarm telegraph, five chemical fire-extinguishers, twelve horses, and one hundred and seventy-three hydrants, the aggregate value of the whole being one hundred and seven thousand seven hundred and nineteen dollars.

Besides the chief engineer, the active force of the department consists of nine assistant and steamer engineers, seven drivers, and forty-five hose and hook-and-ladder men,—in all, sixty-two persons. The government of the department is in the hands of a board of commissioners, Messrs. S. W. Baldwin, William R. Higby, Eli Dewhurst, and John M. Sammis\* being the present members.

The department has upon the whole met with excellent success ever since its organization in subduing the ravages of the devouring element, but it is hardly to be expected that a place of this size should wholly escape from disastrous fires, the work either of incendiaries or of carelessness. Among the noteworthy fires of recent years have been the following: July 22, 1852, steamer "Alice" burned at the dock: loss, twenty-eight thousand dollars; Dec. 22, 1865, carriage-factory of F. Wood & Co., on Broad Street, badly damaged; May 28, 1871, lumber-yard of Beardsley, Wilson & Co. burned; Sept. 30, 1872, planing-mill and lumber-yard of S. Nickerson & Son destroyed; Feb. 21, 1873, Courtland Block badly damaged; Dec. 9, 1874, Presbyterian church destroyed; Dec. 14, 1875, the cabinet-factory of the Wheeler & Wilson Company destroyed, causing a loss estimated at six hundred thousand dollars; June 7, 1877, the hat-manufactory of Glover Sanford & Sons burnt, on which occasion eleven lives were lost by the falling of a wall.

#### FREEMASONS.

St. John's Lodge, No. 3, F. and A. M., of this city, was founded under a charter dated Feb. 12, 1762, and issued by George Harrison, Grand Master of the province of New York, to Eleazer Hubbell, of Stratfield, in the county of Fairfield and colony of Connecticut. There was then no Grand Lodge in Connecticut; indeed, there were but two other lodges in the colony,—viz., Hiram, No. 1, of New Haven, instituted 1750, and St. John's, No. 2, of Middletown, instituted 1754.

The first meeting of St. John's Lodge under its new charter was at the house of Capt. Samuel Wakelee, which stood upon the street now called Park Avenue, a short distance south of State Street, Feb. 15, 1762. Five members were present,—viz., Arnout Cannon, of the city of New York, who officiated as Master *pro tem.*; Joseph Knapp and Isaac Young, both of Fairfield; Eleazer Hubbell, of Stratfield; and J. Anderson, who acted as Secretary, and was perhaps a visiting brother, as his name occurs but once again in the records. It was a special meeting, called for

the purpose of initiating David Wheeler and Wolcott Chauncey. The first regular or proper meeting was held at the house of Richard Hubbell, who lived on the street now called Clinton Avenue, Feb. 24, 1762. On July 14th of the same year occurred the first election of officers, when Eleazer Hubbell, who had already acted in the capacity, was formally chosen Master for the ensuing year.

Meetings continued to be held in Stratfield until Dec. 8, 1762, when the lodge was removed to the house of Isaac Young, in Fairfield. It was voted at this meeting that brother Young should be paid forty shillings in lawful money for the use of two west chambers for a period of one year from date. Two years later it was voted to remove to "the sign of the Anchor," probably the village inn at Fairfield. In January, 1763, it was voted that the lodge should have a seal and parchment, and that the secretary should charge three shillings for giving a certificate. The initiation fee was three pounds ten shillings until 1780, when it was fixed at three pounds silver money, or its equivalent in the depreciated Continental currency. Besides the initiation fee, taxes, regular and special, were often imposed upon the members to defray the expenses of the lodge. Several passages in the records show that the "refreshments" furnished were what would now be thought of a convivial nature. Among the furniture of the lodge-room were glasses and a punch-bowl, while by special vote it was made the duty of the steward "to provide necessaries for the lodge, such as rum, sugar, pipes, and tobacco." This was according to the universal custom of the time, when spirituous liquors were freely used at gatherings of every description, even those of the clergy. Masonry at the present day, however, has an excellent record in the matter of temperance, for nearly sixty years ago the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut forbade, under heavy penalty, the introduction of ardent spirits into any lodge within its jurisdiction, and the law is still enforced.

Frequent mention is made in the records of the celebration of the two St. John's Days,—June 24th and December 27th,—when the members of the lodge and invited guests usually dined together after listening to a sermon by some one of the clergy. The Rev. Andrew Eliot, of Fairfield, was a frequent guest upon these occasions, and the names of the Rev. Messrs. Lamson, Sayre, Baldwin, and Shelton also occur in this connection. Slight tokens of good will were often voted to the officiating clergyman, such as a piece of calico for a summer gown to the Rev. Mr. Eliot, a pair of silk gloves to the Rev. Mr. Stebbins in return for a "very ingenuous and pathetic discourse" in memory of a brother lost at sea. The following resolution dated Feb. 25, 1793, is a similar instance:

"Voted unanimously, That Bro's Lacey and Cannon wait on the Rev. Philo Shelton and present him with the thanks of this lodge, as likewise one guinea, for his excellent discourse on St. John's Day, 27th Dec., 1792, at Newfield."

\* Mr. Sammis died in August, 1880.



Among the prominent members of the lodge while it remained in Fairfield were Jonathan Bulkley, who for seventeen years was elected Master; Gen. Elijah Abel, the county sheriff; Lieut. Isaac Jarvis and Capt. Samuel Smedley, of Revolutionary fame, the latter afterwards the collector of customs for Fairfield District; and Dr. Francis Forgue, the leading physician of the village, who for many years was a constant attendant.

On Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 1782, the following resolution was passed by the lodge:

*"Voted, That Brother Abel be desired to wait on Brother Forgue and know whether it is his desire that prayers be desired for him at the Throne of Grace, under his present indisposition of body."*

A few weeks later the brethren of the order followed his body to its last resting-place, and resolutions of respect to his memory were drawn up and published in the New Haven paper.

Jan. 14, 1784, St. John's Lodge participated by its delegates in the formation of the present Grand Lodge of the State, on which occasion Pierrepont Edwards, of New Haven, but afterwards of Bridgeport, was chosen Grand Master. No allusion to either the Revolution or the war of 1812 is made in the records, but in December, 1799, it was

*"Voted, That the members of the lodge wear suitable mourning upon the arm, during the pleasure of the lodge, in token of respect for the memory of the late M. W. Grand Master of the United States, George Washington."*

During the war of the Revolution intervals of several months occurred during which no meetings were held, and from 1786 to 1789 the meetings were very infrequent and but slenderly attended.

In 1789, through the efforts of Josiah Lacey, Lambert Lockwood, and Daniel Young, influential members of the order engaged in business at the thriving settlement of Newfield, which centred near the present corner of Water and State Streets, Bridgeport, the lodge was removed here. The first meeting was held at the dwelling-house of Daniel Young, which is still standing, on the southwest corner of Union and Water Streets, June 24, 1789. Nine members of St. John's Lodge and four visiting brethren were present, and officers were elected and delegates to the convention chosen, after which the brethren adjourned to the public-house of William Peet, "where they dined and drank in good harmony."

Jan. 27, 1790, the lodge voted to meet at the house of Mr. William Peet, innkeeper, upon the north side of State Street, where the post-office now stands, "until a more convenient place can be obtained." Dec. 14, 1791, it was voted to remove to the chambers of Brother Josiah Lacey's house, which stood upon the south side of State Street, between Main and Water Streets.

March 14, 1792, the committee previously appointed to procure sundry articles belonging to the lodge, which were supposed to be at Fairfield, reported that they had found fourteen drinking-glasses, one punch spoon, one silver seal, an old great chair, and three

large wooden candlesticks without the brasses. A pair of brass andirons which had been left at the house of a member in Fairfield were not forthcoming, but were believed to have been carried off to Delaware by his son.

Oct. 5, 1792, the lodge voted to purchase ten tickets in the lottery for building Newfield Bridge.

Dec. 12, 1792, it was voted to remove to the house of Isaac Hinman, which stood upon the southwest corner of Wall and Water Streets.

Many other interesting extracts might be made from the early records did space permit, but it is sufficient to say that after its removal to Bridgeport its condition was prosperous. The surplus funds in the treasury amounted to several hundred dollars, and were loaned to members to use in their business, always by vote of the lodge and upon a six months' interest-bearing note.

From 1809 to 1812, by order of the Grand Lodge, the lodge was obliged to meet within one mile of the court-house, in the town of Fairfield. In 1812 it returned to the house of Brother Ephraim Knapp, who succeeded Mr. Hinman upon the corner of Wall and Water Streets, and from that time it has continued to meet in Bridgeport.

During the years 1831 and 1832, on account of the supposed abduction of Morgan, public feeling ran high against Masonry. It was accused of being an institution dangerous to the community and injurious to morality and religion. To meet this charge a defense of Freemasonry, signed by fifty members of St. John's Lodge, was published in the local newspapers. The document, though interesting, is too long to quote here. Among the signers were such well-known names as those of Hanford Lyon, Philo Hurd, Wilson Hawley, Gen. Enoch Foote, Charles Foote, William Peet, Rev. H. R. Judah, rector of St. John's Church, Dr. William B. Nash, Abijah Hawley, Ezekiel Hubbell, Eli Thompson, Gideon Thompson, and others of equal standing in the community. Notwithstanding this defense, the popular prejudice was so strong against the institution that Masonry was practically dormant in this place until about the year 1847. After this date it began to revive, and meetings were held at first in the old lodge-room, which was in the upper story of the school-house, No. 200 State Street, afterwards upon the northwest corner of State and Water Streets, then over Ferris Hurd's store, on Water Street, at the foot of State Street, and finally, in 1855, in the present well-known and handsome rooms in Sturdevant Building, corner of Main and Bank Streets.

Feb. 12, 1862, the centennial anniversary of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, was celebrated by interesting exercises held in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, and by a supper at Franklin Hall, at which some four hundred members of the order and invited guests were present. An account of the proceedings, together with a historical sketch and an oration delivered on the occasion by the Rev. Dr. Ewer, was afterwards published.

The present membership of St. John's Lodge, No. 3,

is five hundred and eight, and the officers of the body are: Frederick F. Callender, W. M.; Thomas F. Daly, S. W.; Edward T. Ward, J. W.; E. Stewart Sumner, Sec.; William R. Higby, Treas.; Rev. E. W. Maxey, D.D., Chaplain.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 104, was chartered May 22, 1868, and now numbers one hundred members. It meets in the same lodge-room used by the members of St. John's, and its officers are as follows: Daniel N. Morgan, W. M.; W. W. Ingham, S. W.; H. E. Winsor, J. W.; Charles E. Wilmot, Sec.; H. H. Porter, Treas.; Rev. Sylvester Clarke, Chaplain.

Hamilton Commandery, No. 5, Knights Templar, was chartered (under name of Hamilton Encampment), May 10, 1855, with sixteen charter members, all of whom had originally belonged to Clinton Commandery.

May 21, 1855, Hamilton Commandery, No. 3, of Norwalk, was instituted, officers were chosen, and three members—William R. Higby, James L. Gould, and James E. Dunham—received the honor of knighthood. The first public appearance of this body was at the funeral of Alexander Hamilton, a prominent citizen, from whom the Commandery took its name, who died Aug. 27, 1857. Its twenty-fifth anniversary was celebrated May 20, 1880, by appropriate exercises, including an interesting historical sketch by William R. Higby, which has been published. Officers of the Commandery at this time are: William E. Seeley, E. C.; Hugh Stirling, Gen.; William R. Higby, Treas.; W. B. Osborn, Rec.

Following are the dates of organization of several of the other Masonic bodies in this city. Want of space forbids giving any account of them at this time:

Jerusalem Chapter, No. 13, R. A. M., Oct. 21, 1813.

Jerusalem Council, No. 16, R. and S. M., in 1827.

De Witt Clinton Lodge of Perfection, May 11, 1858.

Pequonnock Chapter, R. C., June 1, 1858.

Washington Council, P. of J., June 1, 1858.

Lafayette Consistory, S. P. of R. S., June 1, 1858.

As will be seen by what has been written, the membership of the order in this city is at this time over six hundred. Though not professing to be a charitable organization, it does not a little for the relief of the sick and suffering, and in this respect is certainly worthy of all praise.

#### GASLIGHT COMPANY.

The Bridgeport Gaslight Company was incorporated in 1849, and, as already mentioned, commenced business in December, 1851, with seventy-six private consumers and twenty-six public street-lamps. Among the original corporators named in the charter were Horace Nichols, R. B. Mason, W. P. Burrall, Philo Hurd, and Hanford Lyon. H. K. Harral was the first president of the company, and P. C. Calhoun the first treasurer. After the decease of Mr. Harral, in June, 1854, his place was filled by Hanford Lyon, who held the office until April 2, 1868, when he was succeeded

by Amos S. Treat, who has ever since been president. The original cost of the works was seventy-five thousand dollars, but more than one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars additional has since been expended upon them. The late John Cornwall was secretary and treasurer for twenty years, from 1854 to 1874, and C. A. Gerdenier, the present superintendent, has been connected with the company since 1864.

Officers of the company at the present time are: Hon. Amos S. Treat, President; William B. Hincks, Secretary and Treasurer; Charles A. Gerdenier, Superintendent; Samuel C. Trubee, William H. Perry, William R. Higby, A. C. Hobbs, Henry L. Clark, Horace Nichols, Sidney B. Beardsley, Amos S. Treat, William B. Hincks, Directors.

#### GRAIN-ELEVATOR.

The following account of this building is taken from an article entitled "The Trade and Manufactures of Bridgeport," in the "Municipal Register" for 1876.

"Bridgeport has the only grain-elevator on the coast between New York and Boston. It was erected in 1871 by the enterprising firm of Crane & Hurd, and grew out of their connection and experience with the grain trade in the West. It is forty by fifty feet at the base, and one hundred feet in height. It is run by a twenty-five horse-power engine and the labor of five men, and is capable of taking in and storing eight thousand bushels of grain per day of ten hours from either railroad-car or boat at the dock. Grain is brought in bulk in rail-cars from any point in the West, or by water in canal-boat, barge, or schooner from any of the larger markets, and here conveniently and economically handled and then distributed to the various points of consumption. As many as one and a half million bushels of grain have passed through this elevator in a single year. Mr. John Hurd is the present sole proprietor."

#### HARBOR.

With proper attention Bridgeport Harbor ought to be one of the best upon the Sound. Systematic improvements were begun by the United States government in the summer of 1872, and are still in progress. Before dredging was commenced there were but five and a half or six feet of water at low tide at certain points where there is now twelve feet. The intention of the government engineers is ultimately to make the channel three hundred feet wide and twelve feet deep from Long Island Sound to the lower bridge, and to extend the present breakwater to a point thirteen hundred and eighty feet from the eastern shore. The effect of the breakwater, it is thought, will be to keep the channel from filling up again, and thus make the improvements of a permanent character. Above the lower bridge the harbor has been much injured by encroachments, some of the docks and piers having been built out much farther than should have been permitted.



## HORSE-RAILROAD.

The Bridgeport Horse-Railroad Company was incorporated in 1865 with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, the charter of the company giving it permission to extend its line from the starting-point near Pembroke Lake, in East Bridgeport, to Mountain Grove Cemetery and Black Rock, with a branch to the railroad depot at the foot of Fairfield Avenue. Cars first commenced running from the Sterling House to the eastern terminus Jan. 23, 1866, and while the road was a novelty it was liberally patronized. The present western terminus is at the junction of Fairfield and Clinton Avenues, the length of track four miles, and the rate of fare five cents. Nine cars and forty-one horses are owned by the company and three hundred and thirty thousand eight hundred and forty-seven passengers were carried during the past year.

Officers of the corporation are: Albert Eames, President; Frederick Hurd, Secretary and Treasurer; B. F. Lasher, Superintendent; N. Wheeler, P. T. Barnum, C. A. Hotchkiss, James Wilson, Frederick Hurd, Albert Eames, J. J. Gorham, Directors.

## HOSPITAL.

The need of a well-conducted hospital in a city of the size of Bridgeport for the relief of cases of accidental injury and the treatment of patients who cannot receive proper care at their homes is very apparent. To Dr. George F. Lewis belongs the credit of first attempting to supply this want. At his suggestion a bequest was inserted in the will of his aunt, the late Miss Susan Hubbell, of West Stratford, for founding a hospital in this vicinity. In January, 1878, the Bridgeport Hospital was organized as a body corporate by the Legislature. Following are the officers of the corporation: P. T. Barnum, President; E. F. Bishop, Vice-President; George F. Lewis, Secretary and Treasurer; Jarratt Morford, William B. Hincks, Robert J. White, Executive Committee; P. T. Barnum, Samuel W. Baldwin, George F. Lewis, F. B. Hall, R. W. Bunnell, E. F. Bishop, Robert J. White, Amos S. Treat, William B. Hincks, Charles B. Hotchkiss, Jarratt Morford, Samuel C. Trubee, Directors.

The amount of Miss Hubbell's bequest was thirteen thousand four hundred and seventy-nine dollars, together with a lot containing about one acre of land on Mill Hill Avenue, West Stratford. By accumulation of interest upon the investments, and by collections taken up in behalf of the object by churches and societies, this amount has now increased to about twenty-two thousand dollars; but, as the sum of sixty thousand dollars is needed before commencing to build, it is obvious that much remains to be done.

## HYDRAULIC COMPANY.

A very full account is given in the "Municipal Register" for 1873 and succeeding years of the history of the water supply of Bridgeport, and only a few of the leading facts will be recapitulated here.

The first effort to supply water by pipes to the people of Bridgeport was made by Rev. Elijah Waterman about the year 1818. Certain springs of pure water near the present corner of Golden Hill and Hewit Streets were deepened and cleared out, and the water conducted down town and through the principal streets in wooden pipes, or rather bored-out logs. The enterprise was continued, at first by Lewis C. Scgee, who succeeded Mr. Waterman about the year 1823, and afterwards in May, 1833, by Jesse Sterling, Stephen Hawley, S. B. Jones, Nichols Northrop, and their associates, who were incorporated in May, 1833, under the name of the Bridgeport and Golden Hill Aqueduct Company, with capital of ten thousand dollars, the water being obtained from the source already mentioned.

In 1853, the need of a more extensive supply of water, particularly for fire purposes, being felt, the Common Council granted to Nathaniel Greene (agent of the Pequonnock Mills, in North Bridgeport), and to his assigns the exclusive privilege of laying down water pipes in the public streets, on condition of his furnishing the city and the inhabitants with a full supply of pure water for domestic, mechanical, and all ordinary uses, both public and private. The Bridgeport Water Company was incorporated by Mr. Greene and others for this purpose in the year 1853, with a capital of one hundred and sixty thousand dollars, and during the following year a distributing reservoir in North Bridgeport was constructed and pipes were laid through the principal streets of the city, the source of supply being the water of the Pequonnock River, which was pumped up into the reservoir.

The enterprise did not prove remunerative to the stockholders, and, bonds to the amount of ninety thousand dollars having been issued, the company eventually fell into the hands of the bondholders by foreclosure, and in June, 1857, a charter was granted to a new corporation composed of the bondholders. By this charter William S. Knowlton, N. Greene, J. H. Washburn, Joseph Richardson, and others became, under the name of the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company, the successors of the Bridgeport Water Company, and the possessors of all its rights and franchises. Serious complaint having been made for a long time both as to the want of a sufficient supply and as to the quality of the water furnished, an act was passed by the General Assembly, July 2, 1873, authorizing the city to buy the works of the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company, or to build new works, if a purchase could not be effected upon terms satisfactory to the city. This act was duly ratified by the city, but at a city meeting called for the purpose, Aug. 13, 1873, resolutions to purchase the hydraulic company's works for the sum of three hundred thousand dollars were lost by twenty-seven majority, the whole number of votes cast being six hundred and seventy-six. A new proposition made by the company to a committee of the Common

Council, to sell the works, franchises, etc., for the sum of two hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars was rejected, Nov. 3, 1873, by a larger majority than before,—viz., two hundred and twenty-three out of a vote of seventeen hundred and forty-three.

Eventually, Joseph Richardson, up to this time the president and leading stockholder of the hydraulic company, sold his stock to Hon. Amos S. Treat, and a new policy was inaugurated. The sources of supply have been greatly enlarged, old and worn-out pipe has been replaced in many sections with new pipe of good quality, and mains have been laid in localities not before reached. Since Aug. 25, 1875, the date of Mr. Treat's purchase, the sum of one hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars has been expended in laying down mains and thirty thousand dollars in building new reservoirs, etc. The total amount of mains now in use is forty-five miles and the elevation of the distributing reservoirs above tide-water is one hundred and ten feet. The company now depends for water chiefly upon natural flow, resort to the pump being had only in dry seasons.

Following is a list of present sources of supply: Trumbull reservoir, 60 acres; Island Brook reservoir, 62 acres; Bunnell's Pond, 50 acres; Bunnell's Upper Pond, 45 acres; Ox-stream reservoir, 15 acres; Horse tavern reservoir, 5 acres; distributing reservoir, 3 acres; total, 240 acres.

Officers of the company for 1880 are: P. T. Barnum, President; A. S. Treat, Treasurer; C. H. Thorpe, Secretary; George Richardson, Superintendent; P. T. Barnum, N. Wheeler, J. Richardson, William H. Perry, A. S. Treat, T. B. De Forest, Samuel Wilnot, S. W. Baldwin, Directors.

#### INSURANCE.

The Mutual Life Insurance Association of Bridgeport was organized in 1878, and at the present time has about four hundred and fifty members. An admission-fee varying from six to sixty dollars according to the age of the applicant is charged, and upon the death of any member of the association an assessment of two dollars is made upon each of the survivors for the benefit of the relatives of the deceased, or of such other person as he may have designated. This is the only insurance company in Bridgeport.

Following is a list of the officers: Charles B. Hotchkiss, President; John D. Candee, Vice-President; W. G. Lineburgh, Secretary; William E. Seeley, Treasurer.

#### INTERNAL REVENUE.

The Internal Revenue system of the United States was established in 1862. Each congressional district was at first made a collection district, and David F. Hollister, of Bridgeport, was appointed Collector of the Fourth District of Connecticut (Fairfield and Litchfield Counties) by President Lincoln, Aug. 15, 1862.

In October, 1873, the Second and Fourth Districts

were consolidated, and Mr. Hollister was appointed Collector of the consolidated territory, which comprises the counties of Litchfield, Fairfield, New Haven, and Middlesex, and is called the Second Connecticut District; and this position he still holds. The total amount of revenue collected from the old Fourth District from its organization in August, 1862, to the date of its consolidation, November, 1873, was \$7,886,011.66. The collections in the Second District from its formation to Sept. 1, 1880, were \$1,843,510.64, making the aggregate amount collected in a little over eighteen years \$9,729,522.30. During this whole time there has never been the discrepancy of a single cent between Mr. Hollister's accounts and those of government, and the office has been repeatedly commended for the accurate manner in which its transactions are recorded.

The principal office of the district is in Bridgeport. The other officers residing here are: Henry C. Lemon and Francis E. Barlow, Deputy Collectors; William H. Kelsey, Clerk; and John A. Boughton, Gauger.

#### LIBRARY.

The present Bridgeport Library, incorporated in June, 1850, was reorganized and a new act of incorporation obtained in October, 1855. It was the successor of a similar institution, which disbanded and transferred its books and other property to the new association. The manner in which the original institution was begun is briefly as follows: About the year 1830, S. M. Middlebrook, the present treasurer of the City Savings Bank, wrote several anonymous articles urging the necessity of a public library in Bridgeport, and slipped them at different times under the office-door of *The Weekly Farmer*, where they were found and published by the editor. Encouraged by their reception, young Middlebrook wrote another article, calling a public meeting to be held at Knapp's Hotel, corner of Wall and Water Streets, upon a certain specified evening, to discuss the subject; but, feeling that he was only a boy, did not sign his name to the communication. Like the others, it was published. The evening came; quite a number of the solid citizens of the place were in attendance, but no one appeared to state the object of the meeting or to take the lead, and much wonder was expressed as to the author of the call in the *Farmer*, and why he was not present to champion his idea. Certainly no one thought of suspecting the young lad who was strolling up and down outside, occasionally casting a keen glance through the window to see what was taking place within. Alanson Hamlin, the leading lawyer of the borough, finally took the chair and made a strong speech in favor of a library. Resolutions were passed, a committee was appointed to take up subscriptions, and the result was that a small number of well-selected books was obtained.

This library was kept for a time in the old savings bank, the treasurer, Deacon George Sterling, acting



as librarian without compensation. Sometimes interest in the affair would languish, and the books were boxed up for a time; at other times the institution was quite prosperous. It finally disbanded, bequeathing its property to its successor, as already related.

The Bridgeport Library received a bonus of five hundred dollars from the Farmers' Bank, and one of one thousand dollars from the Pequonnock Bank, both in 1851. Considerable sums of money have also been realized at different times by courses of lectures and other entertainments, and by the circulation of subscription-papers in its behalf. During the year 1855 the sum of three thousand dollars was subscribed by public-spirited citizens of the place, and the collection of the Calliopean Society of Yale College was purchased and placed upon its shelves. The library and reading-room, originally at No. 41 Wall Street, were removed thence to the court-house building, and about ten years ago to their present location, in Wheeler's Building. The number of volumes is now about eight thousand, besides a large number of government documents. The rent is paid by the city, but the only source of income at present possessed by the institution is the membership dues of about three or four hundred dollars per annum.

The institution has always been fortunate in its librarians, and never more so than at present, but, owing to the want of funds, no new books have been purchased for several years past, and a large number of those owned by the association are badly dilapidated from long use. What this institution greatly needs is an endowment fund of not less than ten thousand dollars, the interest of which should be specially devoted to the purchase of new books. This would put new life into all its departments. Until such time as this can be obtained, it would seem that the town might wisely make an annual appropriation in its behalf, as is everywhere done in Massachusetts, and as permitted by the statute law in this State.

#### LIGHTHOUSES.

The Bridgeport lighthouse is about one and a half miles south by east from the city, and consists of a tower and dwelling painted white, with slate-colored Mansard roof and black lantern. The house stands upon iron piles, and was erected in the year 1871. In entering the harbor vessels must pass to the eastward and not nearer than two hundred feet. The light is a fixed red one, fifty-three feet above the sea-level, and the fog-signal is a cast-steel bell struck by machinery every fifteen seconds.

The Black Rock lighthouse is upon the southern extremity of Fayerweather's Island, and consists of a stone tower erected in 1808, white, with black lantern, containing a fixed white light, fifty-two feet above the sea-level and visible for thirteen miles. The breakwater adjoining the lighthouse was built in the summer of 1837.

Penfield Reef lighthouse, one and a quarter miles

southwest of Black Rock light, was built in 1873, and marks what was formerly one of the most dangerous localities in Long Island Sound. The keeper's dwelling, of gray granite, is built upon a masonry pier and has a Mansard roof surmounted by an octagonal wooden tower painted white, excepting the dome of the lantern, which is black. The light is a flashing red one, and the fog-signal is a steel bell struck by machinery,—two blows in quick succession, at intervals of twenty seconds.

Information concerning the different lighthouses and beacons in this vicinity—their cost, date of erection, etc.—may be found in the acts of Congress approved upon the following dates: April 21, 1806; Feb. 10, 1807; May 23, 1808; March 3, 1819; March 3, 1821; March 2, 1827; and others.

The late Capt. Abram A. McNeil established a light at the entrance of Bridgeport Harbor about the year 1844,—at first merely a lantern upon the end of a buoy, afterwards a whale-boat decked over and carrying a light, and then a group of five piles with a lantern upon the one in the centre. In 1851, upon petition of Capt. John Brooks, a small lighthouse was erected here by the government, the predecessor of the handsome structure of 1871, described above.

The present breakwater and the beacon upon the rocks known as "the Cows," off Fairfield, were also built upon petition of Capt. Brooks.

#### MILLS.

The original parish grist-mill was upon Ash Creek, a short distance north of the old stage road or North Avenue, and is supposed to have been built either by Henry Jackson, of Fairfield, or by his son Moses as early as the year 1653. The successive structures upon this site have been commonly known as Jackson's, Knapp's, and Moody's Mill.

A mill upon the Pequonnock River, near the present reservoir, was owned and occupied by Stephen Burroughs before the Revolution, but the date when it was built is unknown to the writer. Old Mill, which stood at the eastern extremity of the common known as Old Mill Green, was built in the year 1653 by Thomas Sherwood and John Hurd, of Stratford, who were granted land by the town, and allowed to charge a toll of one-sixteenth part of every grist ground. The name Old Mill is still a familiar one, though the mill itself disappeared nearly a century ago.

The mill near the site of the present Berkshire Bridge was first built in 1783, as shown by the following extract, slightly abridged, from the manuscript acts of the General Assembly at Hartford. The act in question was passed in October, 1792, and may be found in vol. v. pages 34, 35:

"Upon the petition of William Pixlee and James French, of the town of Stratford, stating that upon Pequonnock River, above the settlement called New Field, about one mile from the mouth of Newfield Harbor, is a place called the Narrows; that they own the land on each side of said river at said place; that in the year 1783 they erected a dam and a

grist-mill at said place, which they have continued ever since; that they have been perpetually harassed with law-suits ever since, by Philip Nichols and Stephen Burroughs, Esqs., of said Stratford, who own lands above said river, half a mile above said mill; and that a tide-mill at said place would be a public advantage, as per petition on file;

"Resolved by this Assembly, That said dam be established at said place called the Narrows, and liberty is hereby granted to said petitioners to keep up and maintain a dam across said river, and to use and employ said mills now erected, or that may be erected, for twenty years from the first of December next, or longer, at the pleasure of this Assembly. *Provided*, That the Gates of said Dam shall be deemed sufficient by a Committee appointed for the purpose for the passage of Vessels, Boats, and Scows.

"And it is ordered that neither of the petitioners shall be liable to respond in damages to any private person for keeping up or maintaining the same. *Always provided*, That no person or persons shall be barred from maintaining any action in case they are damaged by the overflowing of the waters occasioned by said Dam."

#### NEWSPAPERS.

Extended reference has already been made to the *American Telegraph*, the first newspaper published in Bridgeport. Among its successors were the following:

The *Bridgeport Herald*, a weekly paper, commenced about the year 1805 by Samuel Mallory. Copies of it are now extremely scarce,—much more so than those of its predecessor, the *Telegraphe*, of which quite a number have been preserved.

The *Bridgeport Advertiser*, started in 1806, by Hezekiah Ripley, and published weekly for several years at the rate of one dollar and fifty cents per annum.

The *Connecticut Courier*, begun in 1810, by Nathaniel L. Skinner, and continued by him for upwards of a dozen years.

Another paper, called the *Connecticut Patriot*, was commenced in 1826, by L. Bradley & Co., at their office, corner of Main and State Streets, opposite the Steamboat Hotel, afterwards the Franklin House.

A newspaper called the *Spirit of the Times*, published and edited by George W. Smith, Jr., at the corner of State and Water Streets, which met for a time with considerable success. This paper was started in 1831, when public feeling ran high on the subject of Masonry, soon after the abduction of the unfortunate Morgan. It was devoted to the cause of anti-Masonry, and for a while circulated as many as eight hundred copies. It was afterwards sold to John Swaine.

The *Bridgeport Republican*, a weekly paper, commenced in 1830 by Edmund Fanton. This paper was the predecessor of the *Standard*. About the year 1839, Mr. Fanton sold his printing material to A. A. Pettengill.

The *Bridgeport Chronicle*, first published Sept. 9, 1848, by B. H. Munson, at the corner of State and Water Streets. It was issued weekly, at one dollar per annum, and enjoyed but a brief existence.

The same is true of the first *Bridgeport Leader*, which was suspended after fifteen numbers. It was edited by T. M. Clarke, subsequently editor of the *Winstead Herald*, and published by the Bridgeport Printing Company. The date upon its first number is March 25, 1854.

The newspapers published in Bridgeport at the present time are the *Farmer*, Democratic, *Standard*,

Republican, and the *Morning News and Leader*, independent.

The first number of the *Republican Farmer* was issued April 25, 1810, by Mr. Stiles Nichols, who had removed from Danbury, where the paper had been published under the same name since 1803. The first copy of the *Daily Farmer* was printed Jan. 1, 1850, by the late W. S. Pomeroy. The publication-office and editorial-room of the *Farmer*, which were for many years upon the corner of Wall and Water Streets, have been recently removed to a more convenient location, No. 21 Fairfield Avenue (Waller's Building), adjoining the railroad depot. Messrs. James L. Gould and Henry B. Stiles are the proprietors of this old-established journal, the former giving special attention to the editorial, the latter to the publication, department. The local editor is Mr. Rufus A. Lyon.

The *Republican Standard* was commenced in the year 1839 by A. A. Pettengill, who was both editor and proprietor. In the spring of 1848, Julius S. Hanover was admitted to an interest in the business, and the firm-name was subsequently changed to Pettengill & Hanover. In 1853 a tri-weekly edition was begun, followed in 1854 by the publication of a daily. In September, 1863, Mr. John D. Candee, formerly of New Haven, became the successor of the firm of Pettengill & Hanover, and Jan. 1, 1867, the *Standard Association* was organized, with a capital stock of sixty thousand dollars. At the present time the paper is edited by Messrs. John D. Candee and George C. Waldo, Alexander Wheeler having charge of the business management and Louis C. Prindle the department of local news. The handsome brick building on the corner of Fairfield Avenue and Middle Streets, owned and occupied by the Standard Association, was erected in 1870, at a cost of about thirty thousand dollars.

Several attempts have been made at different times to found a daily morning paper in Bridgeport,—a difficult task in any city, but especially so here on account of the proximity of New York and the early hour at which the metropolitan journals are received. The *Morning News*, however, begun in 1879, seems to have secured a foothold and to enjoy a fair share of public favor. The publication-office is No. 324 Main Street. Maj. Henry M. Hoyt is publisher, Arthur W. French editor, and I. M. Witmeyer reporter.

The *Leader*, now in its ninth volume, is issued every Wednesday and Saturday at No. 321 Water Street. Franklin Sherwood is the editor and proprietor. Special attention is given in its columns to municipal affairs, the proceedings of the Common Council, etc.

#### ODD-FELLOWS.

The society known as the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows was first introduced into Connecticut, and Quinnipiac Lodge, of New Haven, instituted, Sept. 3, 1839. In April, 1840, Charter Oak Lodge,



No. 2, of Hartford, and Middlesex Lodge, No. 3, of East Haddam, were founded, followed, June 11, 1841, by Pequonnock Lodge, No. 4, of Bridgeport, the petition for which was signed by George H. Johnson, John M. Wilson, Gilson Landon, Samuel L. Eldred, and George Walters, all of this city. The first place of meeting for Pequonnock Lodge was in a small room in the upper story of No. 35 Wall Street, but in January, 1845, a larger hall was occupied, at No. 407 Water Street. Feb. 4, 1847, Arcanum Lodge, No. 41, was instituted, its first officers being Ira Morse, N. G.; W. H. Lacey, V. G.; W. H. Williams, Sec.; L. C. Shepard, Treas. The place of meeting was the same one occupied by Pequonnock Lodge, No. 407 Water Street. For a number of years these lodges prospered financially and numerically, but the interest having declined, and secret societies generally being out of favor with the public, in 1856 Arcanum Lodge surrendered its charter, and in 1860 its example was followed by Pequonnock Lodge.

Steuben Lodge, No. 83, of this city, was instituted April 1, 1867, and for a long time met at the old hall on Water Street, but on July 9, 1879, having greatly increased in membership and in funds, it removed to its present elegant rooms in Stanton Block, State Street. The charter of Pequonnock Lodge was renewed Feb. 2, 1869, on petition of Martin Conrad, F. H. Stevens, J. L. Roberts, Ebenezer Wheeler, and Lewis Sherman, former members. Its meetings were held at first on Water Street, but in January, 1871, it removed to the hall over the People's Savings Bank, corner of Main and Bank Streets, and April 19, 1873, to its present quarters, in the upper story of Burroughs' Building, upon the corner of Main and John Streets. These rooms were fitted up, furnished, frescoed, and carpeted very handsomely by the lodge, and the hall is the largest occupied in this State by the order. Arcanum Lodge, No. 41, was revived March 17, 1875, and at present meets in the hall of Pequonnock Lodge, while Lessing Lodge, No. 94, organized Dec. 14, 1874, has always met over the People's Savings Bank, and, like its parent, Steuben Lodge, works in the German language.

In the year 1876 it was thought advisable to begin to hold meetings of the order in East Bridgeport, and Harris Lodge, No. 99, was begun, October 27th of that year, at No. 224 East Main Street (Barr's Block), with thirty-eight members; but, a severe storm having unroofed the building, the lodge removed to its present rooms, upon East Washington Avenue, about Jan. 1, 1877. Charity Lodge, No. 4, and Friendship Lodge, No. 13, Degree of Rebekah, were instituted May 7, 1870, and Feb. 13, 1874, the latter working in the German language. Both these bodies are composed of members of the other subordinate lodges and their wives, and are in a flourishing condition.

Stratfield Encampment, No. 23, was instituted July 16, 1869, with seven charter members, and meets in the hall of Pequonnock Lodge. The whole number

admitted to its membership is two hundred and thirty-one; present membership one hundred and nineteen, including a battalion of about forty uniformed Patriarchs. Bridgeport Encampment, No. 22, was chartered May 17, 1870, and meets in the hall of Steuben Lodge, on State Street. Its numerical strength at the present time is ninety.

Each of the lodges and encampments makes its own by-laws respecting the amount of admission fees and weekly and funeral benefits.

The Mutual Aid Association, composed of Odd-Fellows throughout the State, has at the present time (August, 1880) four hundred and thirty-five members in Bridgeport. It pays upon the death of a member fifteen hundred dollars in one class, and five hundred dollars in another class. There is also a sick-benefit association in connection with Pequonnock and Arcanum Lodges, which pays five dollars per week during sickness in addition to the regular benefits paid by the lodge. Another mutual-aid association of members of these two lodges has at present about one hundred names upon its roll, each one of whom pays two dollars upon the death of any member of the association.

In addition to the necessary expense of fitting up lodges, rent, etc., there has been paid out for relief of members of Bridgeport organizations since the revival of the order in 1867 not far from eighteen thousand dollars.

The whole number of persons admitted to membership during the same period is about twelve hundred, and the strength of the order in this place July 1, 1880, was as follows:

	Member- ship.	Funds on hand.
Pequonnock Lodge, No. 4.....	319	\$7,622
Arcanum " " 41.....	142	3,707
Steuben " " 83.....	223	5,176
Lessing " " 94.....	71	102
S. H. Harris " " 99.....	139	1,238
Total.....	894	\$17,845

At the same date the other branches of the order reported the following membership and strength:

	Member- ship.	Funds on hand.
Bridgeport Encampment.....	90	\$823
Stratfield " ".....	119	1219
Friendship Lodge, D. of R.....	132	978
Charity " ".....	150	150
Total.....	491	\$3170

These figures show that the aggregate amount of funds on hand in the several lodges of the place was twenty-one thousand and fifteen dollars, and that, not including the encampments or Friendship and Charity Lodges, the membership of the order embraced about one-sixth of the voting population of the city.

It should be also stated that, while pecuniary benefits are a leading feature of Odd-Fellowship, they are by no means the sole, or even the chief, end of the institution. Though not himself a member, the writer is assured by those in whom he has full confidence that it inculcates love for Him "in whom we live and

move and have our being." It teaches gratitude to the Creator, loyalty to our country and its laws, and fraternity to our fellow-men.

Among the Bridgeport men who have been prominent in the order are the late George S. Sanford, who was elected Warden of the Grand Lodge in 1848, Grand Master in 1849, and Grand Representative in 1850, and Rev. J. M. Willey, D.D., former rector of St. John's Church, who held the offices of Grand Chaplain, Grand Master, and Representative. Rev. E. W. Maxey, D.D., present rector of St. John's, is a member of Arcanum Lodge, No. 41, and has been Chaplain of the Grand Lodge for the past three years. Charles W. Smith, of Pequonnock Lodge and Stratfield Encampment, was elected Grand Patriarch in 1877, and is at present Grand Representative; and Thomas Stirling, of Arcanum Lodge, was chosen Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut in 1878, and in 1879 Representative for two years from that body to the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

#### ORPHAN ASYLUM.

The Bridgeport Protestant Orphan Asylum was organized Dec. 11, 1867, and incorporated May 6, 1868, "for the purpose of relieving, supporting, and educating children who are friendless and desolate," Miss Lydia R. Ward, Mrs. Eliza S. W. Jones, Mrs. Mary L. Clapp, and forty-seven other ladies being the incorporators. The building now occupied as an asylum, No. 119 Lafayette Street, between Atlantic and Gregory Streets, was completed March 31, 1870, and cost thirteen thousand dollars. The land upon which it stands was the gift of Nathaniel Wheeler, Isaac H. Whiting, and Francis Ives. A new building for hospital purposes has just been completed at a cost of one thousand dollars. The present number of inmates of the asylum is thirty-two, and the annual expenses about two thousand five hundred dollars.

Officers of the institution are Miss Lydia R. Ward, President; Mrs. Edward Sterling, Vice-President; Mrs. S. B. Sumner, Chief Manager; Mrs. G. Ohnesorg, Recording Secretary; Miss Henrietta Noble, Corresponding Secretary; Miss Georgiana Gossling, Treasurer; Miss S. C. Ward, Provider; Mrs. W. K. Seeley, Assistant Provider; Mrs. W. K. Seeley, Mrs. D. M. Reed, Miss Sarah C. Ward, Standing Committee; Nathaniel Wheeler, George Mallory, E. S. Hawley, Edward Sterling, Clapp Spooner, William D. Bishop, Trustees.

#### PARKS.

An account has already been given of our beautiful pleasure-ground by the seaside, and in the same connection reference was made to the reservation of a tract of land in East Bridgeport for a public park by Messrs. Barnum and Noble in 1851. This land was not formally transferred to the city until July 17, 1865, when deeds executed by P. T. Barnum and William H. Perry were accepted by the Common Council in behalf of the city, that body having been duly authorized to take this action by a city meeting

held July 8th. At the same meeting of the Council the name of Washington Park was given to the land, an appropriation of one thousand dollars was made for fencing, in addition to the sum already raised by private subscription, and William H. Perry, Charles A. Hotchkiss, and Nathaniel Wheeler were appointed commissioners for the care and improvement of the park.

The proposed Beardsley Park is situated about one mile north of Old Mill Green, and two and a half miles from the county court-house, between the Trumbull Road and Bunnell's Pond. It contains some fifty acres, and its highest point is about one hundred and five feet above tide-water.

By the following list it will be seen that Bridgeport is well provided for in the matter of parks:

	Area in acres.	Estimated value.	Annual cost of maintenance.
Seaside Park.....	75	\$250,000	\$2500
Washington Park.....	4	100,000	500
Beardsley ".....	50	20,000	500
Old Mill Green.....	6	5,000	100
Total.....	135	\$375,000	\$3600

#### POLICE.

The police force of Bridgeport at the present time consists of Chief William E. Marsh, Capt. George S. Pratt, Sergt. Wm. J. Dorrance, and sixteen patrolmen. There are also a police surgeon and thirty-seven special officers for occasional duty when required. The annual expenses of the force, pay-roll, etc., amount to about eighteen thousand dollars.

During the year ending March 1, 1880, eight hundred and sixty-two arrests were made, one of which was for murder, two hundred and thirty were for drunkenness, and the remainder for a variety of minor offenses. Of the persons arrested, two hundred and seventy-four were of American, and five hundred and eighty-eight of foreign, birth. Stolen property to the amount of three thousand five hundred dollars was recovered during the year. The police headquarters have been for a number of years past in the basement of the county court-house, hitherto a very damp and unhealthy locality, but alterations to the building are now in progress that will much improve its sanitary condition.

The government of the police force is vested by the city charter in a non-partisan board of four members, with the mayor as presiding officer. Following is a list of the board as at present constituted: Hon. Daniel N. Morgan, President, *ex-officio*; Charles K. Averill, term expires April, 1881; Samuel C. Kingman, term expires April, 1881; Frank C. Bennett, term expires April, 1882; William B. Spencer, term expires April, 1882.

#### POPULATION.

The late Deacon Isaac Sherman, writing in 1860, made the following estimate of the number of people residing at different dates within the territory embraced in the city limits of Bridgeport:













BIRDSLEY PARK.

SKETCHED BY H. P. WHINNERY.

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	Inhabitants.
1790.....	110
1800.....	250
1810.....	556
1820.....	840

The first time that the census of Bridgeport was taken separately was in 1810, before that time it having been included with Stratford. Jeremiah W. Beardsley was enumerator that year, and his original return is still preserved. According to this there were 94 heads of families in the borough, and the total population, including a negro slave in the family of Lieut. Salmon Hubbell, was 572. The population of the adjoining towns at the same date was as follows: Stratford (not including the borough of Bridgeport), 2895; Fairfield, 4125; Trumbull, 1241. In 1820, Bridgeport had increased in size to about 1200, and in 1830 to 2800. In 1840, Henry Edwards was enumerator, and the number returned by him was 4570. In 1850 the late William R. Bunnell took the census, and found 7558 inhabitants, of whom 832 resided upon the east side of the river and 250 at North Bridgeport. The number of colored persons making their home in Bridgeport at that time was 286, and of foreigners 1493,—viz., born in Ireland, 1102; in England, 188; in Germany, 138; from other countries, 65.

In 1860, George W. Lewis was enumerator, and the population of the place was 13,299, having almost doubled during the decade preceding. In 1870 the census was taken under the supervision of the late Philo F. Barnum, and showed 19,876 inhabitants, not including the portion of territory annexed that year. During the present year (1880) the census has been taken under the supervision of Supervisor W. E. Disbrow, whose jurisdiction embraces Fairfield, Litchfield, and New Haven Counties. By dividing the territory into districts whose population does not exceed 2000, greater accuracy than ever before has been attained. The present population of Bridgeport is found to be 29,153, of whom 27,713 reside within the city limits and 1440 beyond them. The number living upon the west side of the river is 19,770, and in East Bridgeport 9383. Careful investigation showed the number of insane to be 27, and of idiots 17. There were also found here 16 deaf and 9 blind persons and 53 paupers.

#### POST-OFFICE.

Following is a list of the postmasters in Bridgeport, with dates of appointment, since the first establishment of the office:

Amos B. Fairman, appointed April 1, 1801.  
 Charles Bostwick, appointed Jan. 1, 1804.  
 Benjamin Bostwick, appointed July 1, 1806.  
 Charles Bostwick, appointed Oct. 1, 1808.  
 Jesse Sterling, appointed Sept. 15, 1810.  
 Stephen Lounsbury, Jr., appointed May 8, 1829.  
 Smith Tweedy, appointed Jan. 12, 1837.  
 Isaac Sherman, Jr., appointed April 12, 1841.  
 Philo F. Barnum, appointed Sept. 22, 1845.

George Wade, appointed July 16, 1849.

E. B. Goodsell, appointed April 9, 1853.

F. W. Smith, Jr., appointed May 16, 1861.

George F. Tracey, appointed April 16, 1869.

James E. Dunham, appointed Nov. 9, 1872.

Julius W. Knowlton, appointed Oct. 15, 1875.

The mails were carried by stage-coach entirely until about 1838; after that date in part by steamboat until 1849, when the New York and New Haven Railroad was completed. The present post-office, No. 39 Bank Street, extending through to State Street, was first occupied Aug. 5, 1864. The letter-carrier system—perhaps the greatest improvement since the office was instituted—went into effect Sept. 15, 1879. A full history of the office, written by Mr. R. B. Lacey, from memoranda furnished by F. W. Smith, Esq., will be found in the "Municipal Register" for 1877.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Before the vote of the town in 1876 placing all the schools under the control of the Board of Education there were eleven separate school districts, a great deal of information concerning which may be found in the "Municipal Register" for 1874, in the annual reports of the Board of Education since consolidation, and especially in a historical sketch by Superintendent H. M. Harrington, published with the report dated July 12, 1880.

"Under the district system, prior to consolidation, the public schools of Bridgeport were confessedly inferior to the general standard of schools in towns of corresponding population, especially to those where consolidation had been established. There was great irregularity in attendance, an entire want of uniformity in school accommodations, in the course of study, in the books, maps, and charts used, in the qualifications and compensations of the teachers, in the proficiency of the pupils, and in the expenditures of the respective districts. In a word, all those evils existed which must necessarily result from so many disjointed systems running at random."\*

The abolition of these districts and bringing the schools into one harmonious system and under the executive control of a single head was certainly one of the most important events that ever took place in the history of Bridgeport. The superintendent of schools and the members of the Board of Education are entitled to great credit for the marked improvement in scholarship and in discipline already effected, which in the short space of four years has placed the public schools in Bridgeport upon an equal footing with the best in Connecticut, if not in the country at large. Still further progress in the future is confidently expected. It is to be hoped, however, that as vacancies occur in the Board only those who are well qualified to fill them may be nominated, and that our

\* Hon. J. C. Loomis, president of Board of Education, Report for year ending July 9, 1877.

best citizens will not refuse to accept these honorable though onerous positions.

During the past year an appropriation has been voted by the town and plans accepted for a new high-school building, upon Congress Street, Golden Hill, which, including the land, is expected to cost about seventy thousand dollars, and will be, when completed, not only an ornament, but an institution of great value, to the city.

The whole number of pupils enrolled in the public day schools at the present time is about 4500, with 91 teachers,—viz., 3 males and 88 females.

The amounts expended for the maintenance of schools for the year ending July 13, 1880, were:

For salaries of teachers and superintendent.....	\$44,765.56
“ repairs to buildings.....	9,303.11
“ janitors.....	2,668.78
“ fuel.....	1,897.83
“ miscellaneous items.....	2,701.34
Total expense for the year.....	\$61,336.62

The Board of Education at this time is constituted as follows: Julius S. Hanover, President; Frederick W. Zingsem, Vice-President; Edward W. Marsh, Secretary; Augustus H. Abernethy, Edward W. Marsh, Thomas J. Synnott, Emory F. Strong, David Ginand, George N. French, Julius S. Hanover, Nathaniel Wheeler, Frederick W. Zingsem, James Staples, Peter W. Wren, George C. Waldo, Members of the Board; H. M. Harrington, Superintendent of Schools.

#### SOCIETIES.

In addition to the Masons and the Odd-Fellows, there are in Bridgeport more than fifty societies of various descriptions holding regular meetings, and some of them doing excellent work. Among them are some fifteen different temperance organizations, a Bible society, the Knights of Pythias and Knights of Honor, a dramatic society, a medical association, the St. George, Caledonian, Emmett, and other clubs, the Fireman's Benevolent Association, the Ladies' Charitable Society, a Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, several military companies, and numerous shooting, singing, and gymnastic associations; for a nearly complete list of which reference should be made to the "City Directory" for the current year. While many of these fraternities are well worthy of extended notice, it is to be regretted that the limits of this article allow only brief mention of two or three.

The Bridgeport Bible Society was organized Nov. 21, 1859, and is composed of delegates from some twelve different churches, in each of which an annual collection is taken up for the society. Many hundreds of copies of the Scriptures have been distributed by its members and agents, and during the past year the city has been thoroughly canvassed and destitute families supplied. The balance of the money raised—about one thousand dollars per annum—has been turned over either to the American or to the Connecticut Bible Society, to be used in publishing and distributing the Scriptures elsewhere. Mr. S. M.

Middlebrook has been treasurer of the Bridgeport Bible Society since its organization. Deacon George Sterling, Deacon John W. Hinks, and Rev. G. B. Day have successively held the office of president.

The Bridgeport Society of Natural Science is an incorporated body, formed for the purpose of original research and the discussion of scientific topics. This society was founded in July, 1877, and has now one hundred and fifty members and a collection embracing some fifteen hundred specimens of minerals, insects, old documents, Indian relics, etc. Interesting and valuable papers are read at its meetings upon such topics as the Stone Age, Electricity, Magnetism, Sound, Water, and the like, illustrated sometimes by diagrams and often by original apparatus, constructed by members. The officers of the society are: Rev. H. N. Powers, D.D., President; George C. Waldo, Secretary; Thaddeus E. Peck, Treasurer; Clarence Sterling, Curator.

Elias Howe, Jr., Post, No. 3, of the Grand Army of the Republic, was instituted April 25, 1867, and is composed of honorably-discharged veterans who served in the war of the Rebellion. The present commander is Lewis G. Logan; adjutant, George W. Keeler. Comrade William E. Disbrow, of this post, was for some time commander of the order for the State of Connecticut.

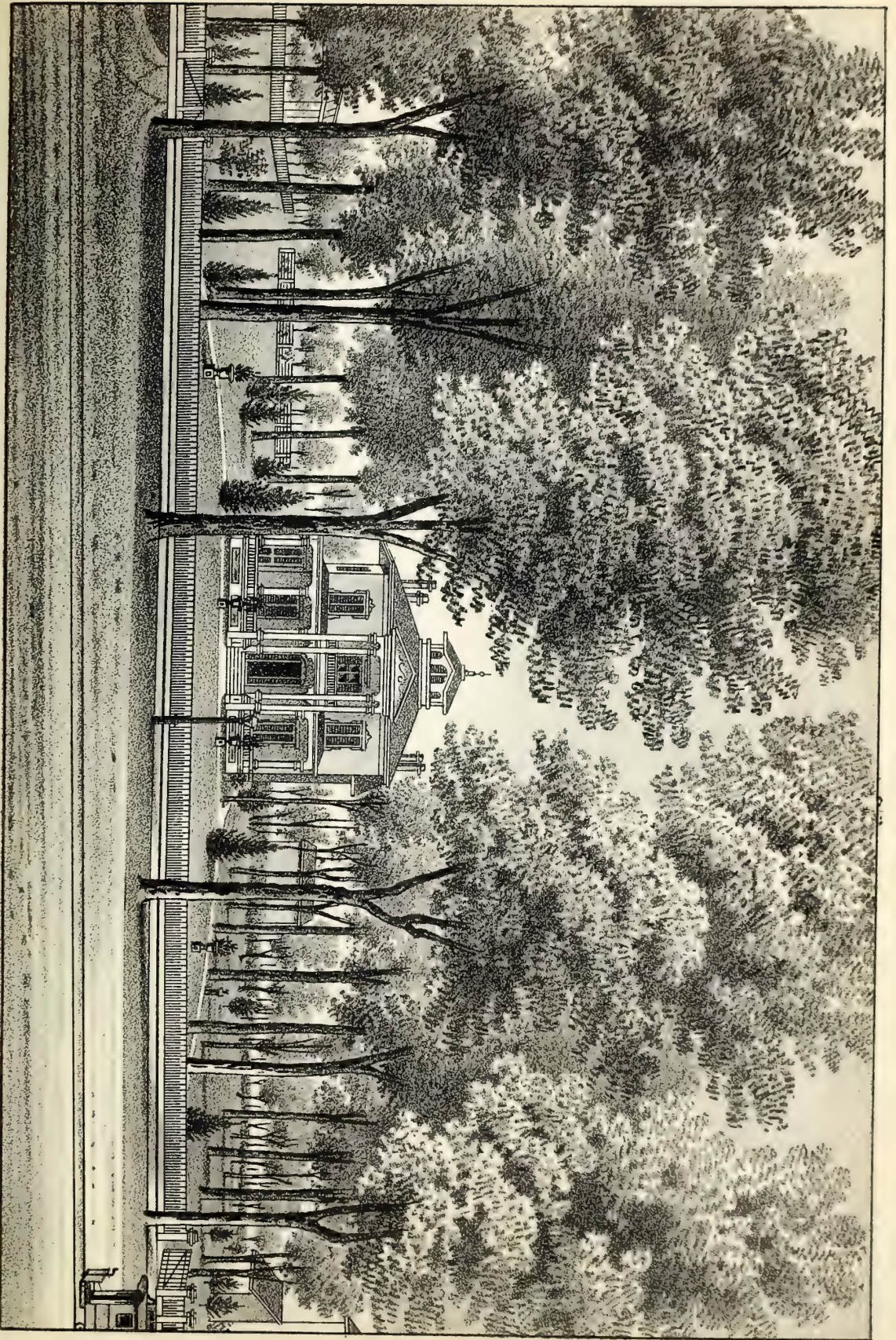
The Bridgeport Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was organized in 1880, with many of the best citizens of the place as members, and has already effected a decided improvement in the treatment of the lower animals. Jacob Kiefer is president of this excellent society, and Edgar S. Nichols superintendent.

#### STEAMBOATS.

Steamboat navigation was begun in Long Island Sound about the year 1815, by Capt. Bunker, in the "Fulton," who made the trip from New Haven to New York once a week. The time occupied was eleven hours, and the fare was six dollars. April 16, 1832, the steamer "Citizen," Capt. John Brooks, commenced running from Bridgeport to New York, and in July, 1834, the "Nimrod," Capt. John Brooks, Jr., and the "Fairfield," Capt. Peck, were put upon the same route.

The present Bridgeport Steamboat Company is the successor of the Housatonic Transportation Company, and was incorporated in December, 1865, under the general joint-stock law, but in May, 1866, was granted a special charter. The original capital was two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, but the assets of the company now amount to four hundred thousand dollars. The boats owned by the company are three,—viz., the "Bridgeport," 1062 tons, the "Laura," 1098 tons, and the propeller "Vulcan," 250 tons. Large quantities of freight are transported, and the company appears to be doing a good business, though the fare to New York is only thirty-five cents, or fifty cents for the round trip. In September, 1879, the





RESIDENCE OF MRS. GEO. SWINFORD, FAIRFIELD AV. BRIDGEPORT CONN.







fast sailing steamer "Rosedale," owned by A. M. C. Smith, of New York, was put upon this route as an opposition boat, and has received a good share of the public patronage.

The present officers of the Bridgeport Steamboat Company are as follows: E. F. Bishop, President; Sydney Bishop, Vice-President; William Tomlin, Secretary; S. Bishop, E. F. Bishop, S. W. Baldwin, Samuel Wilmot, J. Richardson, Directors.

#### REPRESENTATIVES.

As already mentioned, the town of Bridgeport was set off from Stratford by an act of the Connecticut Legislature passed in May, 1821. From 1822 to 1875 Bridgeport was entitled to but a single representative in the Assembly. Since the latter date two representatives have been chosen each year. Following is a list of the gentlemen who have held this office:

1822, Enoch Foote; 1823, Joseph Backus; 1824, William Peet; 1825, William D. Frost; 1826, Noah Plumb; 1827, Smith Tweedy; 1828, Thomas C. Wordin; 1829, Smith Tweedy; 1830, Samuel Simons; 1831, Enoch Foote; 1832, Noah Plumb; 1833, Smith Tweedy; 1834, Noah Plumb; 1835, Daniel O. Wheeler; 1836, Smith Tweedy; 1837, William S. Pomeroy; 1838-39, Henry Dutton; 1840, Joseph Thompson; 1841, James Fitch; 1842, Abijah Hawley; 1843, Sherwood Sterling; 1844, Alexander Hamilton; 1845, Dwight Morris; 1846, Joseph F. Crosby; 1847, Joshua Lord; 1848, Henry T. Huggins; 1849, Silas C. Booth; 1850, William S. Pomeroy; 1851-52, Wyllys Lyon; 1853, Joseph F. Crosby; 1854, Thomas H. Oakley; 1855, Silas C. Booth; 1856, James C. Loomis; 1857, Philo C. Calhoun; 1858, Amos S. Treat; 1859, Allison A. Pettingill; 1860, James C. Loomis; 1861, George W. Bacon; 1862, Amos S. Treat; 1863, Russell Tomlinson; 1864, Dwight Morris; 1865, Samuel Larkin; 1866, Nathaniel Wheeler; 1867, George Mallory; 1868, Nathaniel Wheeler; 1869, Amos S. Treat; 1870, Nathaniel Wheeler; 1871, William D. Bishop; 1872, Nathaniel Wheeler; 1873, Goodwin Stoddard; 1874, Robert Hubbard; 1875, Carlos Curtiss; David B. Lockwood; 1876, Robert Hubbard, George W. Bacon; 1877, Carlos Curtiss, George W. Bacon; 1878, Phineas T. Barnum, Stephen Nichols; 1879, Phineas T. Barnum, Amos S. Treat; 1880, Dwight Morris, John Sexton.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### BRIDGEPORT (Continued).

#### CATALOGUE OF UNION VOLUNTEERS, RESIDENTS OF BRIDGEPORT, WHO ENLISTED IN CONNECTICUT REGIMENTS DURING THE REBELLION.

THIS list is based upon the "Catalogue of Connecticut Volunteer Organizations" published by the State in 1869, but contains only the names of the original members of the several regiments.

#### FIRST REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Richard Fitzgibbons, captain; com. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Henry M. Hoyt, first lieutenant; com. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
William A. Lee, second lieutenant; com. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
F. M. Fairchild, sergeant; enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Horace T. Hanford, sergeant; enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Daniel J. West, sergeant; enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Philo B. Sherman, sergeant; enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Robert B. Gage, corporal; enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Addis E. Payee, corporal; enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.

James H. Hurlburt, corporal; enl. April 23, 1861; missing at Bull Run, July 21, 1861.  
John Waters, corporal; enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
William H. Andrews, musician; enl. April 23, 1861; furnished substitute, May 7, 1861.  
William S. Ward, musician; enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Robert D. Kelley, musician; enl. May 7, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
William H. Andrews, enl. June 15, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Charles A. Beardsley, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Theodore Bowman, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
David P. Bennett, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Philo M. Beers, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Richard Brown, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. for disability, July 7, 1861.  
Eli N. Baldwin, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
William Bestick, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
William F. Banks, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
William E. Baldwin, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Albert B. Clark, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Thomas Case, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Charles W. Coley, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. for disability, June 15, 1861.  
William H. Cooley, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
John B. Dunning, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Bernard Eberhardt, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Gurdon J. Fox, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Frederick P. Godfrey, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Charles H. Grogan, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Benjamin Green, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Frank Hogue, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Lucius L. Hull, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Alonzo Hayes, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Frederick Holmes, enl. April 23, 1861; missing at battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861.  
George H. Hill, enl. April 23, 1861; furnished substitute, June 1, 1861.  
Franklin Hotchkiss, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Herman N. Hastings, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Henry Judson, enl. April 23, 1861; missing at battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861.  
Orris S. Jennings, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Edson C. Jennings, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Joseph B. King, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Luther W. Lewis, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Bennet S. Lewis, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
John Laurie, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
George A. Munson, enl. June 1, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Richard Mason, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
John J. McCarty, enl. April 23, 1861; missing at battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861.  
Alonzo S. Morgan, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Charles H. Marsh, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Lewis Marshall, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
George A. Mayne, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Theodore Morris, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Edwin H. Nearing, enl. May 2, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Frederick E. Nearing, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
William H. Parker, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Charles H. Peet (1st), enl. April 28, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Charles H. Peet (2d), enl. April 28, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Edwell Page, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
J. V. K. Page, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Charles E. D. Patterson, enl. April 23, 1861; furnished substitute May 2, 1861.  
Oscar Platt, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Edgar Squires, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
W. H. Stillman, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Charles Smith, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Theodore Smith, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Frederick Smith, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Horace Stoddard, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
David G. Shepard, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
George H. Sherman, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
George Thompson, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Benjamin B. Tuttle, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Rosamond Vizir, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Allen Webb, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
George L. W. Williams, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Luman Williams, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
Thomas S. White, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.

Casper Wurm, enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 John Speidel, captain; com. April 22, 1861; pro. to lieutenant-colonel; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 John Holzer, first lieutenant; com. April 22, 1861; pro. to captain; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 George Louis, second lieutenant; com. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Henry Biebel, sergeant; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Leonard King, sergeant; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 George Scheib, sergeant; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Lorenz Jacobs, sergeant; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Ignatz Schuer, corporal; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. for disability, June 14, 1861.  
 Charles Rohrbach, corporal; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Philip Hafner, corporal; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Martin Nowey, corporal; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. for disability, April 24, 1861.  
 Julius Hofer, musician; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Valentine From, musician; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 A. Ahrenholz, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Jacob Arnold, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Charles Bayer, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Henry Behning, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Charles Biebel, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 George Buelter, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Emil Dietrich, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Heinrich Drescher, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 John P. Goeren, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Gustave Grunert, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Rochus Hartung, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Louis Held, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Peter Herting, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. for disability, April 24, 1861.  
 Freidrich Helzet, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Franz Hill, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Friedrich Haux, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 John Jacob Haux, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 John C. Koch, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. for disability, April 24, 1861.  
 Rudolph Kost, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Adolph Kumerler, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Frank Lehman, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. for disability, April 24, 1861.  
 Albert Mertens, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 George Nagel, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Charles Reneppe, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 William Rixenger, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Nicholas Sanger, enl. April 22, 1861; taken prisoner at the battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861.  
 Louis Schaefer, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Joseph Schmedel, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Henry Schuetfinger, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Andreas Unfried, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 William Volz, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Charles Walter, enl. April 22, 1861; pro. first lieutenant; taken prisoner at the battle of Bull Run; disch. Aug. 21, 1862.  
 Henry Werner, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Andreas Wnerck, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 John Wolff, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Peter Wolff, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 William Wolter, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Franz Woolziefer, enl. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.

#### SECOND REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

H. Bruns, enl. May 7, 1861; disch. Aug. 7, 1861.

#### THIRD REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Frederick Frye, captain; com. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Sylvester H. Gray, first lieutenant; com. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Elliott M. Curtis, second lieutenant; com. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Henry G. Doane, sergeant; enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 John H. Porter, sergeant; enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 David C. De Forest, sergeant; enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 David L. Eaton, sergeant; enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Walter H. Seeley, corporal; enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Elijah C. Dunning, corporal; enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Edgar A. Peck, corporal; enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 William H. Allen, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

John C. Baylis, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Richard R. Crawford, enl. June 21, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 William P. Carritt, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Charles H. Crandall, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Pierce D. Colburn, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 John Delaney, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 George Dart, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Louis Gates, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 John Gorman, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Patrick Holton, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 James Kennedy, enl. May 11, 1861; taken prisoner at the battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861.  
 Simeon S. Knapp, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Edward Lyon, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 William A. Marsh, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Robert Macque, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Martin Murphy, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Alfred G. Mollan, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 John M. Mayne, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 George O'Brien, enl. May 11, 1861; missing at the battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861.  
 George R. Peck, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 John T. Platt, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Henry J. Ruggles, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 John P. Smith, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 John H. Selleck, enl. May 11, 1861; missing at battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861.  
 Theodore A. Smith, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Stephen D. Skidmore, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 George S. Webb, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Alfred Williams, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Theodore T. Winton, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Samuel H. White, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Stephen Wagner, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

#### FIRST SQUADRON CONNECTICUT CAVALRY.

William H. Mallory, captain; com. July 26, 1861; pro. to major.  
 Frederick C. Bowman, corporal; enl. Aug. 3, 1861.

#### FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY, CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Louis N. Middlebrook, captain; com. Nov. 26, 1861; res. Nov. 21, 1862.  
 Richard R. Crawford, first lieutenant; com. Nov. 26, 1861; trans. to U.S.A., Dec. 6, 1861; killed at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863.  
 John W. Clark, quartermaster-sergeant; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 19, 1864; first lieutenant; killed March 15, 1865.  
 George O'Marcy, sergeant; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; pro. to major; disch. Nov. 4, 1864.  
 Augustus N. Wood, sergeant; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; discharged; enl. in U.S.A. Nov. 9, 1862.  
 Joseph B. King, corporal; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 17, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Samuel W. Hawley, corporal; enl. Nov. 20, 1861; first lieutenant, Jan. 18, 1864; disch. Aug. 16, 1864.  
 Frederick Curtis, saddler; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 4, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Comfort H. Bogue, enl. Oct. 26, 1861; disch. Oct. 27, 1864.  
 H. A. Barraclough, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Nov. 11, 1864.  
 John W. Booth, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Nov. 2, 1864.  
 James Birchard, enl. Nov. 25, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 17, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Frederick Cushing, enl. Dec. 26, 1861; disch. Sept. 16, 1862.  
 William Degarmo, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Nov. 2, 1862.  
 John B. Dunning, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. for disability, Nov. 9, 1863.  
 Henry I. Flint, enl. Nov. 20, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 17, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Charles E. Gilbert, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. for disability, Feb. 5, 1863.  
 Derenzel Hall, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. for disability, Sept. 26, 1862.  
 George W. Hall, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; enl. in U.S.A., Nov. 10, 1862.  
 Joseph Heaton, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; died at Salisbury, N. C., Dec. 4, 1864.  
 Franklin Hull, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 24, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Calvin J. Lathrop, enl. Nov. 20, 1861; disch. for disability, March 27, 1862.  
 Robert H. Marvin, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Nov. 2, 1864.  
 William H. Parker, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 17, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 George L. Robinson, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. for disability, Feb. 1, 1862.



Jesse A. Randall, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. for disability, Feb. 18, 1862.  
 Henry B. Sherman, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; discharged; enl. in U. S. A., Nov. 7, 1862.  
 Charles L. Simons, enl. Nov. 2, 1862; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Peter Seman, enl. Nov. 21, 1861; re-enl. Aug. 24, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 George S. Stratton, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Nov. 2, 1864.  
 O. W. Treadwell, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. for disability, June 25, 1862.  
 Benjamin B. Tuttle, enl. Nov. 20, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 17, 1863; pro. to captain; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Arthur H. Wheeler, enl. Nov. 14, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 17, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 George W. Wight, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. for disability, Nov. 10, 1862.  
 Frank A. Wood, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Nov. 2, 1864.  
 Nathaniel H. Young, enl. Nov. 20, 1861; disch. Oct. 4, 1862.

## FIRST LIGHT BATTERY.

John R. Hull, artificer; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out July 24, 1865.  
 Alexander Doran, enl. Nov. 14, 1861; disch. Nov. 13, 1864.  
 Luther G. Riggs, enl. Oct. 26, 1861; disch. Aug. 21, 1862; captain 22d Regt. Conn. Vols.  
 Jonathan Riggs, enl. Oct. 26, 1861; disch. for disability, July 18, 1862.  
 Ebenezer Wakeley, enl. Nov. 14, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 19, 1863; must. out June 11, 1865.

## SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

John W. Sterling, captain; com. July 22, 1862; disch. Nov. 24, 1864.  
 Walter S. Hotchkiss, first lieutenant; com. July 22, 1862; pro. to captain; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Philip B. Segee, first lieutenant; com. July 29, 1862; res. Jan. 5, 1863.  
 George Munger, second lieutenant; com. July 29, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; disch. for disability, Nov. 10, 1864.  
 Philo B. Sherman, second lieutenant; com. July 28, 1862; res. Jan. 13, 1864.  
 Frank H. Whiting, quartermaster-sergeant; enl. Aug. 13, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Miles Gray, first sergeant; enl. Aug. 5, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Justus B. Hawley, sergeant; enl. July 30, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Henry R. Chaffee, sergeant; enl. Aug. 7, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Willis M. Benham, sergeant; enl. July 29, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Edward B. Jones, sergeant; enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Willard E. Root, sergeant; enl. Aug. 1, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Walter K. Mills, sergeant; enl. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Aug. 4, 1863, to enter 17th Conn. Vol.  
 Frederick A. Booth, corporal; enl. July 30, 1862; disch. Feb. 16, 1863.  
 Myron H. White, corporal; enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 George N. Wilson, corporal; enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Frederick Holmes, corporal; enl. Aug. 5, 1862; died Jan. 4, 1865.  
 John B. Boughton, corporal; enl. July 29, 1862; disch. for disability, June 9, 1865.  
 William E. Francisco, corporal; enl. July 29, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Tylee W. Hartshorne, corporal; enl. Aug. 12, 1862; died Aug. 1, 1863.  
 John Lewis, corporal, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 William Seymour, corporal; enl. Aug. 5, 1862; disch. June 6, 1863.  
 William W. Stevens, corporal; enl. Aug. 4, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, July 1, 1863.  
 Frederick O. Seeley, corporal; enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Ebenezer Tracey, corporal; enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 John D. Mead, musician; enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 George A. Parkington, musician; enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Daniel W. Hawley, artificer; enl. Aug. 2, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 William W. Naramore, artificer; enl. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. April 4, 1863.  
 A. C. Spencer, artificer; enl. Aug. 2, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Garrett J. Vanness, artificer; enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Burr Robertson, artificer; enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Peter Petersen, artificer; enl. Aug. 16, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Feb. 15, 1864.  
 George A. Stockwell, guidon; enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Phineas E. Austin,\* enl. Aug. 9, 1862.  
 Herbert C. Beecher, enl. July 29, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.

Levi Barnum, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Wm. P. Burroughs, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Chas. D. L. Burroughs, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 George Benedict, enl. July 31, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Thomas Conner, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. May 23, 1864.  
 Lyman A. Clark, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; must. out Aug. 21, 1864.  
 Edward Chapin, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 James W. Cowan, enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 John A. Cosier, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Theodore Colston, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 John Clary, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; died Oct. 11, 1864.  
 William M. Evitts,\* enl. July 30, 1862.  
 William R. French, enl. July 29, 1862; disch. for disability, June 13, 1865.  
 James E. Fairchild, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Feb. 15, 1864.  
 John G. Fowler, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Charles Gibson, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Patrick Gallagher, enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Jotham S. Green, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 William H. Gordon, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. for disability, June 9, 1865.  
 Henry Hubbell,\* enl. July 29, 1862.  
 George H. Hill, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; died Feb. 27, 1865.  
 Edward A. Holste, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. June 19, 1864.  
 David A. Hodge, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Wm. H. Hotchkiss, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Henry W. Hart, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Peter Haefner, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Patrick Hayes, enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Garritt C. Hogan,\* enl. Aug. 11, 1862.  
 Theron M. Holcomb, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Frederick A. Johnson, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; disch. Oct. 29, 1863.  
 John Johnson, enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Charles Krapp, enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 William Keller, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; disch. June 15, 1863.  
 Thomas Kelley,\* enl. Aug. 12, 1862.  
 Edmund T. King, enl. July 24, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Hezekiah Lockwood, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Jared Lewis, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 5, 1865.  
 Harmon Lane, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 David B. Lockwood, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Benjamin F. Lewis, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 16, 1863.  
 Henry B. Meyers, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; died June 26, 1865.  
 S. H. Middlebrook, enl. July 31, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 C. R. Merrills, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; disch. April 13, 1863.  
 Martin Mason, enl. Aug. 1, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 George W. Meyers, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 William A. Maynard, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; disch. March 31, 1863.  
 John S. Mills, enl. July 30, 1862; killed April 9, 1865.  
 Hiram Manville, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 N. B. Middlebrook, enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Frank T. Morehouse, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Samuel M. Morris, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; disch. for disability, June 9, 1865.  
 Sylvester Nichols, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Harry Organ,\* enl. Aug. 12, 1862.  
 Jerome R. Palmer, enl. July 24, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 George R. Peck, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Samuel Peck, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Norman Platt, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 William R. Palmer, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Charles W. Rowe, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Rushmore Raynor, enl. July 30, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Angevine Rodgers, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; disch. March 18, 1863.  
 William Riexinger, enl. July 22, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 David Sterling, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 William M. Skinner, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 David G. Silliman, enl. July 29, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 John W. Stoddard, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Charles W. Scarritt, enl. July 31, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Charles H. Speer, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Wyllys H. Stillman, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; disch. June 17, 1864.  
 George C. Scarritt, enl. July 31, 1862; disch. Dec. 21, 1863.  
 Joseph Sedden, enl. July 25, 1862; disch. 1862.  
 Samuel B. Spinning, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; disch. March 30, 1863.  
 Joseph Stewart,\* enl. Aug. 4, 1862.  
 Daniel J. Talman, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Fergus Truman, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Samuel H. White, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; transferred to Inv. Corps, Jan. 5, 1864.

James G. Wood, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; died April 19, 1863.  
 Benjamin Williams, enl. July 28, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 David Williams, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Edward J. Watson, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Allen Webb, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Charles H. White, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. Oct. 18, 1864.  
 John Wade, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 William H. Wilson, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.

#### FIRST REGIMENT HEAVY ARTILLERY, CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Uriah Wallace, captain; com. March 12, 1862; res. May 23, 1862.  
 Charles W. Gleason, second lieutenant; com. March 12, 1862; res. June 4, 1862.  
 William W. Pardee, first sergeant; enl. March 1, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out March 11, 1865.  
 John Andrews, sergeant; enl. Feb. 6, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 15, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Byron Athington, sergeant; enl. Feb. 7, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; disch. June 5, 1865.  
 Hiram Taylor, sergeant; enl. Feb. 4, 1862; disch. Feb. 4, 1865.  
 George F. Blinn, corporal; enl. Feb. 7, 1862; disch. for disability, May 15, 1864.  
 Henry Baker, corporal; enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 John Beck, corporal; enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 15, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 William Bestick, corporal; enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Montgomery Egbert, corporal; enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Henry Hubbell, corporal; enl. March 12, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 15, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 George F. Abbey, enl. March 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 William H. Anderson, enl. March 10, 1862; died Aug. 4, 1863.  
 George Athington, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 James Barry, enl. Feb. 18, 1862; died Feb. 29, 1864.  
 Charles B. Baldwin, enl. March 11, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Henry Booth, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Franklin Boynton, enl. Feb. 21, 1862.  
 Edward Collins, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Joseph H. Cooke, enl. Feb. 21, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864.  
 Charles H. Crandall, enl. Feb. 12, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 15, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Simon Cronenberger, enl. March 4, 1862; disch. for disability, Sept. 13, 1862.  
 W. M. Dickinson, enl. March 1, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Jacob Dietrick, enl. Feb. 25, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 William C. Dowd, enl. Feb. 18, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 William E. Durfee, enl. Feb. 12, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Hanford B. Edwards, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; disch. Feb. 4, 1865.  
 Isaac L. Eldred, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 William French, enl. Feb. 4, 1864; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Woolsey French, enl. Feb. 21, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 15, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 John Fitzgibbons, enl. March 6, 1862.  
 Frederick P. Godfrey, enl. March 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Alpheus C. Godfrey, enl. Feb. 18, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 James W. Hanford, enl. Feb. 7, 1862; disch. Feb. 2, 1865.  
 William Hubbell, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 John Hunt, enl. Feb. 25, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864.  
 George W. Lovejoy, enl. Feb. 11, 1862; disch. for disability, March 27, 1862.

Thomas McMullen, enl. March 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 6, 1864; died Aug. 31, 1864.  
 Simon Morgan, enl. Feb. 21, 1862; disch. for disability, March 4, 1863.  
 Horace Page, enl. March 5, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 10, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Charles M. Squires, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Gilbert S. Street, enl. Feb. 10, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 18, 1862.  
 Charles Taylor, enl. March 4, 1862; died Aug. 22, 1862.  
 Robert Thorp, enl. March 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 15, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Osmer B. Wells, enl. Feb. 25, 1862; disch. for disability, June 27, 1862.  
 John Young, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Frederick S. Canfield, enl. May 22, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 14, 1861.  
 William McIntire, enl. May 22, 1861.  
 Charles W. Stewart, enl. May 22, 1861; disch. May 22, 1864.  
 William Conley, enl. May 23, 1861; disch. May 22, 1864.  
 William W. Baughan, enl. May 22, 1861; re-enl. Nov. 16, 1863; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 James F. Lowber, enl. Feb. 27, 1861; disch. for disability, April 1, 1862.

#### FIFTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Andrew J. Gilson, enl. July 22, 1861; pro. to assistant surgeon, Jan. 26, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 James Gilbert, musician; enl. July 23, 1861; must. out Aug. 16, 1862.  
 Joseph W. North, musician; enl. July 23, 1861; must. out Aug. 16, 1862.  
 Otis F. Porter, musician; enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Luther M. Morehouse, corporal; enl. July 23, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864.  
 William E. Beers, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864.  
 Thomas E. Benedict, enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Charles B. Rogers, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 5, 1863.  
 Philip L. Williams, enl. July 22, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, September, 1863.  
 John Dewitt,\* enl. July 22, 1861.  
 John T. Harris,\* enl. July 22, 1861.  
 Joel F. Selleck, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, May 31, 1862.  
 Chauncey A. Sharp,\* enl. July 22, 1861.

#### SIXTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

John Speidel, major; com. Sept. 13, 1861; pro. to lieutenant-colonel; transferred to Inv. Corps, July 20, 1863.  
 Henry Biebel, captain; com. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. March 12, 1865.  
 George Louis, first lieutenant; com. Sept. 9, 1861; res. April 14, 1864.  
 Rudolph Kost, second lieutenant; com. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. March 13, 1865.  
 George Soder, sergeant; enl. Sept. 9, 1861; pro. to captain; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Andrew Wunk, corporal; enl. Sept. 9, 1861; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 John Hamburger, wagoner; enl. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. Sept. 8, 1864.  
 Thomas Crow, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 Leonard Becker, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 William Gibner, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Rochus Hartung, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Henry Haupt, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 Frederick Keller, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; discharged; enl. U. S. A., Dec. 15, 1862.  
 Christian Kohlers, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 August Loescher, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; missing Aug. 16, 1864.  
 Jacob Reininger, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Gustave Schmidt, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; died of wounds, Aug. 12, 1863.  
 Frederick Speer, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 John Unfried, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 Henry Wirth, enl. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 4, 1862.  
 Thomas Boudren, captain; com. Sept. 5, 1861; res. Jan. 27, 1864.  
 Daniel J. West, first lieutenant; com. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out March 15, 1865.  
 Stephen S. Stevens, second lieutenant; com. Sept. 5, 1861; killed July 18, 1863.



Robert B. Gage, sergeant; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; killed Oct. 22, 1862.  
 John Waters, sergeant; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; pro. to second lieutenant; disch. March 18, 1865.  
 Bennett S. Lewis, sergeant; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; pro. to captain; must. out Dec. 2, 1864.  
 Albert B. Clark, sergeant; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enlisted.  
 Charles H. Grogan, sergeant; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; died of wounds, July 28, 1863.  
 George H. Sherman, corporal; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability, Aug. 5, 1863.  
 George A. Staples, corporal; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 William H. Rossman, corporal; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Thomas Condrew, corporal; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 Joseph O. Conger, musician; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Robert D. Kelley, musician; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Charles Hull, wagoner; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 David Bailey, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for promotion, Feb. 4, 1863.  
 George W. Bailey, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for promotion, Feb. 4, 1863.  
 Eli N. Baldwin, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. May 13, 1863.  
 John F. Beardsley, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Jacob Beck, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 4, 1864.  
 Alfred B. Beers, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; pro. to captain; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 Sylvester Blinn, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability, June 2, 1863.  
 James Brislin, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 Charles H. Brotherton, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Charles Burritt, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Terrence Carney, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; discharged; enl. U. S. A., Feb. 22, 1863.  
 Ward H. Collins, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Theodore A. Crofut, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Wm. F. Dailey, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Patrick Deary, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; died Nov. 13, 1863.  
 Harry Delpt, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; killed Oct. 22, 1862.  
 Walter Fitch, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; pro. to adjutant; wounded; res. July 22, 1864.  
 Michael Flynn, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; missing at Fort Wagner, July 18, 1863.  
 George H. Fox, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. on account of wounds, Sept. 4, 1864.  
 John B. Gilbert, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; pro. to captain; disch. July 15, 1865.  
 Andrew Grogan, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; pro. to second lieutenant; disch. Nov. 22, 1864.  
 Horace T. Hanford, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 David W. Hodge, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 Lucius L. Hull, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 19, 1864.  
 William M. Kelly, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; died Nov. 18, 1864.  
 William Keyes, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 4, 1864.  
 Wm. S. Lacey, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; died July 19, 1862.  
 Frederick C. Lutz, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 4, 1862.  
 Frederick J. Lyon, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 William Mitchell, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 James A. Morris, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability, March 15, 1862.  
 John Mulloy, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, May 8, 1864.  
 A. A. Murray, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Alfred G. Mollan, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability, April 3, 1862.  
 Alonzo Phillips, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; missing at Fort Wagner, July 18, 1863.  
 Granville Platt, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 A. D. Powers, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 Thomas Quinn, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 7, 1864.  
 Albert W. Stacey, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; missing at Fort Wagner, July 18, 1863.  
 John H. Stratton, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 4, 1864.  
 Edward B. Taylor, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; died of wounds, July 25, 1863.  
 Isaac S. Taylor, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, March 15, 1864.  
 Thomas Taylor, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; died of wounds, Oct. 23, 1863.  
 Samuel C. Thomas, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enlisted; died of wounds, Aug. 19, 1864.  
 Ebenezer Wakely, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability, July 5, 1863.  
 Frederick Ward, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 W. W. Walker, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.

Edwin N. White, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Byron Worsley, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Edwin D. Wetmore, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, March 14, 1864.  
 Frederick Smith, enl. Sept. 12, 1861; disch. Feb. 7, 1865.

## SEVENTH REGIMENT, CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Sylvester H. Gray, captain; com. Sept. 13, 1861; resigned Jan. 27, 1864.  
 Ira E. Hicks, second lieutenant; com. Sept. 13, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Charles H. Stevens, sergeant; enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 John B. Young, sergeant; enl. Sept. 13, 1861; pro. to captain; must. out Nov. 23, 1864.  
 William S. Marble, sergeant; enl. Sept. 13, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Oct. 25, 1864.  
 Lorenzo M. Bailey, corporal; enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Dec. 13, 1862.  
 Michael Carey, corporal; enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 George W. Sanderson, corporal; enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 Henry F. Stratton,\* wagoner; enl. Sept. 13, 1861.  
 George A. Campana, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 2, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Thomas Carney, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 Moses Hamilton,\* enl. Sept. 13, 1861.  
 George W. Hunt, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 Daniel J. Kiefer, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 Alfred Jeroldman, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 Charles B. Lewis, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. May 30, 1864.  
 Robert McCullough, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Nov. 4, 1863.  
 Bernard McBride, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 James Moore, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; killed at Fort Wagner, July 11, 1863.  
 Daniel Morgan, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 2, 1864; died of wounds, Jan. 7, 1865.  
 Lewis F. Ward, enl. Sept. 13, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Bartholomew O'Brien, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 Anson B. Field, enl. Sept. 7, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 Gilbert H. Young, enl. Sept. 7, 1861; disch. Sept. 7, 1864.

## EIGHTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Henry M. Hoyt, first lieutenant; com. Sept. 25, 1861; pro. to captain; must. out at expiration of term.  
 Gurdon J. Fox, sergeant; enl. Sept. 25, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 17, 1862.  
 Orris S. Jennings, corporal; enl. Sept. 25, 1861; trans. to Invalid Corps, Jan. 15, 1863.  
 Theodore Smith, corporal; enl. Sept. 25, 1861; disch. for disability, Feb. 2, 1863.  
 William Fisher, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 George Parker, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; disch. for disability, May 16, 1863.  
 William H. Smith, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; re-enlisted; disch. for disability, March 19, 1865.  
 George F. Stephens, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Sept. 18, 1865.  
 James Sutherland, enl. Sept. 30, 1861; disch. for disability, March 26, 1863.  
 Edward Lineburg, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Sept. 22, 1864.  
 William E. Dudley, enl. Sept. 30, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 13, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Charles H. Lewis, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; died of wounds, Sept. 17, 1864.

## NINTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Richard Fitzgibbons, lieutenant-colonel; com. Nov. 1, 1861; must. out Oct. 26, 1864.  
 Frederick Frye, major; com. Nov. 1, 1861; must. out Oct. 26, 1864.  
 William W. Carroll, quartermaster; com. Nov. 1, 1861; res. April 10, 1862.  
 Patrick T. Claffee, sergeant-major; enl. Nov. 1, 1861; pro. to adjutant; died Oct. 2, 1862.  
 Nathan I. Bennett,\* quartermaster-sergeant; enl. Nov. 1, 1861; pro. to quartermaster; res. Jan. 23, 1863.  
 Thomas C. Coats, captain; com. Oct. 30, 1861; disch. Oct. 15, 1862.  
 Richard A. Clancey, first lieutenant; com. Oct. 30, 1861; dismissed Nov. 12, 1862.  
 George N. Morehouse, second lieutenant; com. Oct. 30, 1861; res. April 12, 1862.  
 Thomas S. White, sergeant; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

John Laurie, sergeant; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Thomas Knablin, sergeant; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

David Sloan, sergeant; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Richard Yates, sergeant; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

John Ennes, corporal; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; died Oct. 16, 1862.

Peter Gilday, corporal; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Oct. 26, 1864.

James Cahill, corporal; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Oct. 26, 1864.

Michael McGrath, corporal; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; died Aug. 3, 1862.

Christopher Arnold, corporal; enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 22, 1862.

James Henderson, corporal; enl. Oct. 4, 1861; died Dec. 20, 1862.

George Lyon,\* musician; enl. Oct. 4, 1861.

John Anderson, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; disch. for disability, April 1, 1862.

John Baggs, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; died Aug. 9, 1862.

Richard Bennett, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Bernard Burns, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 22, 1862.

Dominick Burns, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. for disability, Nov. 17, 1861.

John Burke, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Anthony Bulger, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 28, 1864.

James Caffrey, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Patrick Colemey, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 28, 1864.

Charles Dimon, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Nicholas Doyle, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; killed by a member of the regiment, Feb. 23, 1863.

Michael Fagan, enl. Oct. 30, 1861; died Jan. 30, 1862.

William Fibbs, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; died July 11, 1863.

John J. Foley, enl. Oct. 12, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

John Gafney, enl. Oct. 12, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Patrick Garagan, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

James Glancey, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Dennis Gregg,\* enl. Sept. 26, 1861.

John Gorman, enl. Nov. 1, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 28, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

John Hanlon, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

George Hill, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 16, 1862.

Stephen Hunter, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 20, 1863.

Michael Hussey, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Patrick Kane, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. Sept. 25, 1864.

Michael Kelley (1st), enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Peter Keenan, enl. Oct. 12, 1861; died July 20, 1863.

Owen McCabe, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Charles McCarty, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 20, 1863.

Michael Moore, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; died Aug. 19, 1862.

Peter M. Morris, enl. Oct. 4, 1861; disch. for disability, May 12, 1863.

Thomas O'Brien, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; died Nov. 16, 1862.

Peter O'Conner, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; died Aug. 26, 1863.

Patrick O'Riley, enl. Oct. 12, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Dennis Otis, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; died Nov. 22, 1863.

Peter Smith, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; died Aug. 26, 1862.

James Stafford,\* enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864.

Patrick Walch, enl. Sept. 26, 1861; not taken up; on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.

James Wilson (1st), enl. Sept. 26, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 22, 1862.

James Wilson (2d), enl. Sept. 26, 1861; re-enlisted; disch. for disability, July 18, 1865.

William A. Lee, first lieutenant; com. Aug. 15, 1862; pro. to captain; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Addis E. Payne, second lieutenant, com. Oct. 30, 1861; pro. to captain; must. out Oct. 26, 1864.

Frederick M. Fairchild, first lieutenant; com. April 7, 1862; died July 29, 1862.

Thomas Fitzgibbons, first lieutenant; com. Feb. 25, 1862; pro. to quartermaster; must. out Oct. 26, 1864.

Elliott M. Curtiss, captain; com. Oct. 30, 1861; must. out Oct. 26, 1864.

Dennis O'Brien, sergeant; enl. Oct. 2, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Samuel D. Finch, sergeant; enl. Oct. 1, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 8, 1863.

Henry C. Wright, sergeant; enl. Oct. 5, 1861; appointed quartermaster Third Native Guards, Dec. 8, 1862.

John C. Baylies, sergeant; enl. Oct. 6, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Thomas O'Brien, corporal; enl. Oct. 1, 1861; disch. for disability, Nov. 27, 1862.

John C. Curtiss, corporal; enl. Oct. 30, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Oct. 29, 1864.

Anson B. Parker, wagoner; enl. Oct. 9, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

William Parker, enl. Nov. 1, 1861; discharged; term expired.

Albert Alaby, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; died Aug. 16, 1862.

William H. Allen, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

John Coyne, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; died July 13, 1862.

Levi Dart, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; dropped from rolls, Aug. 31, 1862.

Levi S. Drew, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Andrew B. Graham, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; re-enlisted.

Frederick B. Hendricks, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; disch. Sept. 30, 1864.

Philip McQuirk, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Timothy Miller,\* enl. Oct. 9, 1861.

Moses Mills, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Philip O'Donnell, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

James S. Olmstead, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Seth Robertson, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; died July 8, 1862.

Frederick Smedel, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

David B. Taylor, enl. Oct. 14, 1861; disch. for disability, Nov. 1, 1861.

John H. Ward, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Thomas Millington, second lieutenant; com. Nov. 24, 1861; res. Jan. 1, 1862.

James B. Prescott, sergeant; enl. Nov. 24, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 27, 1862.

James Begley, corporal; enl. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

Andrew Burk, enl. Nov. 24, 1861; disch. Oct. 20, 1862.

Charles Conner,\* enl. Nov. 24, 1861.

Isaac Russell, enl. Nov. 24, 1861; disch. Oct. 27, 1862.

## TENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

George L. W. Williams, corporal; enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died of wounds, Oct. 2, 1864.

Thomas W. Cook, wagoner; enl. Oct. 16, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

Frederick Manchester, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; died January or February, 1862.

William B. Curtis, enl. Oct. 22, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; disch. July 18, 1865.

## ELEVENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Eugene W. Ward, corporal; enl. Dec. 9, 1861; enl. U. S. A., Nov. 6, 1862.

Theodore A. Smith, enl. Nov. 27, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 14, 1863; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

Frederic Faltix, enl. Nov. 27, 1861; died of wounds, June 18, 1864.

William Miller, enl. Dec. 13, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 13, 1863; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

## TWELFTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

James Hurlburt, sergeant; enl. Jan. 15, 1862; re-enl. Jan. 22, 1864; disch. Dec. 2, 1864.

Edward Peet, corporal; enl. Dec. 19, 1861; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, May 1, 1864.

Caleb B. Cadmus, corporal; enl. Dec. 21, 1861; re-enl.; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

Herman Birch, corporal; enl. Nov. 23, 1861; died Sept. 28, 1862.

Starr Ward, wagoner; enl. Dec. 19, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 24, 1863.

Ezra Jackson, enl. Jan. 21, 1862; re-enl. Jan. 22, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

Henry J. Ruggles, enl. Nov. 30, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 29, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

Ambrose Thompson, enl. Dec. 2, 1861; drowned July 22, 1863.

David Bartram, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

Thomas Bayless, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; disch. Dec. 19, 1864.



Joseph Bevans, enl. Dec. 20, 1861; killed in action, Oct. 19, 1865.  
 Charles Bowman, enl. Dec. 20, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 17, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 William Byron, enl. Dec. 27, 1861; must. out May 20, 1865.  
 Wm. L. Carpenter, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Michael Clark, enl. Jan. 21, 1862; re-enl. Jan. 22, 1864; must. out Sept. 12, 1865.  
 Edward P. Clinton,\* enl. Feb. 12, 1862.  
 Julius F. Derrick, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; disch. for disability, July 29, 1862.  
 George W. Ferris, enl. Dec. 27, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; enl. in U.S.A.  
 Lawrence Grant, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out May 24, 1865.  
 John A. Hall, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Joseph Hunter,\* enl. Dec. 21, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864.  
 Wm. H. Lane, enl. Dec. 27, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Wm. J. Newell, enl. Jan. 8, 1862; died of wounds, Jan. 19, 1863.  
 Edgar A. Peck, enl. Jan. 8, 1862; discharged.  
 John E. Phelan,\* enl. Dec. 19, 1861.  
 Thomas Rowland, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; disch. Dec. 19, 1864.  
 Frederick Seymour, enl. Jan. 15, 1862; disch. for disability, May 13, 1863.  
 Charles Smith, enl. Dec. 27, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 John Sullivan, enl. Dec. 27, 1861; disch. for disability, Feb. 3, 1863.  
 John Wansor, enl. Dec. 28, 1861; disch. for disability, Sept. 26, 1862.  
 John C. Wellman, enl. Jan. 8, 1862; re-enl. Jan. 22, 1864; died April 2, 1865.  
 Charles H. Wells, enl. Dec. 27, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; died Oct. 21, 1864.  
 Ezra W. Wells,\* enl. Dec. 27, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864.  
 Alfred Williams, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; disch. Dec. 19, 1864.  
 Charles L. Williams,\* enl. Dec. 27, 1861.

#### THIRTEENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Hiram Blackman, corporal; enl. Feb. 1, 1862; re-enlisted; disch. for disability, Aug. 11, 1865.  
 William Finnimore, corporal; enl. Jan. 22, 1862; re-enlisted; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Lewis F. Marshall, corporal; enl. Dec. 30, 1861; disch. for disability, June 30, 1862.  
 Albert Martins,\* corporal; enl. Jan. 11, 1862.  
 John N. Botsford, enl. Jan. 7, 1862; re-enlisted; must. out April 25, 1866.  
 Francis C. Byington,\* enl. Dec. 22, 1861.  
 William E. Casey, enl. Feb. 5, 1862; must. out Jan. 6, 1865.  
 John F. Fancher, enl. Feb. 18, 1862; disch. for disability, June 27, 1862.  
 Alonzo Hayes, enl. Jan. 28, 1862; re-enlisted; must. out April 25, 1866.  
 George F. Jennings, enl. Dec. 30, 1861; must. out May 13, 1865.  
 Horace B. Stoddard, enl. Dec. 17, 1861; re-enlisted; must. out April 25, 1866.  
 Rosamond Vizer,\* enl. Jan. 28, 1862; re-enlisted.  
 Henry Robinson, enl. Dec. 22, 1861; drowned April 11, 1864.  
 Albert Latus, enl. Feb. 18, 1862; disch. for disability, Sept. 22, 1862.  
 William Missbach, enl. Jan. 22, 1862; disch. for disability, Aug. 26, 1862.

#### FOURTEENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Dwight Morris, colonel; com. May 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 14, 1863.  
 Julius W. Knowlton, commissary sergeant; enl. June 24, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; res. March 29, 1864.  
 Alfred G. Mollan, hospital steward; enl. July 24, 1862; died Nov. 25, 1862.  
 James D. Merritt, captain; com. Aug. 18, 1862; res. Dec. 20, 1862.  
 George N. Morehouse, first lieutenant; com. Aug. 12, 1862; res. Dec. 5, 1862.  
 Miles S. Wright, second lieutenant; com. Aug. 12, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; dismissed March 1, 1863.  
 Frederick B. Hawley, first sergeant; enl. July 22, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; res. on account of wound, Jan. 20, 1864.  
 Lucius L. Dyer,\* sergeant; enl. Aug. 12, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant.  
 William H. Hawley, sergeant; enl. July 22, 1862; pro. to captain; killed in action, Aug. 25, 1864.  
 Franklin Bartlett, sergeant; enl. June 21, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; killed in action, Feb. 5, 1865.  
 Henry M. Cooley, sergeant; enl. July 23, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.

Edward L. Hummiston, corporal; enl. June 5, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps on account of wounds; must. out July 5, 1865.  
 Frederick B. Doten, corporal; enl. Aug. 1, 1862; pro. to captain; disch. April 29, 1865.  
 Frederick Standish, corporal; enl. June 29, 1862; disch. for disability, March 4, 1863.  
 Theodore F. Bradley, corporal; enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 William E. Craig, corporal; enl. July 22, 1862; disch. on account of wounds, April 29, 1863.  
 Robert L. Fields, corporal; enl. June 4, 1862; disch. for disability, Feb. 14, 1863.  
 George H. Bachelor, corporal; enl. July 18, 1862; wounded; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out July 5, 1865.  
 Lucien W. Hubbard, musician; enl. July 19, 1862; died in prison at Richmond, Va.  
 William B. Nichols, wagoner; enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 George P. Beck,\* enl. May 28, 1862.  
 Henry E. Batchelor, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; wounded; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Horace Bartram, enl. June 6, 1862; disch. for disability, April 10, 1863.  
 George B. Bartram, enl. June 6, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 George Bunyan,\* enl. Aug. 1, 1862.  
 Alfred Brown, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 George Carlock, enl. July 19, 1862; killed in action, Dec. 13, 1862.  
 John A. Dean, enl. May 18, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 Charles R. Englehardt, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability, Feb. 8, 1863.  
 John Fox, enl. July 8, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps on account of wounds, Feb. 15, 1864.  
 John Geatley, enl. May 28, 1862; pro. to color-sergeant; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 Russell Glenn, enl. June 19, 1862; pro. to sergeant; three times wounded; disch. June 18, 1865.  
 Amzi Garabrant, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. Oct. 9, 1862.  
 William B. Hincks, enl. July 22, 1862; pro. to major; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 Thomas Henderson, enl. June 12, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 William Jacobs, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; died of wounds received in battle of Wilderness.  
 Francis A. King, enl. July 19, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 Thaddeus W. Lewis, enl. June 19, 1862; killed at battle of Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862.  
 George E. Langguth, enl. July 24, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 30, 1863; must. out June 29, 1865.  
 John Lotty, enl. June 27, 1862; must. out May 24, 1865.  
 Duncan C. McCann, enl. July 5, 1862; disch. for disability, April 4, 1863.  
 Michael Madigan, enl. July 25, 1862; killed at battle of Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862.  
 Henry Phillips, enl. June 12, 1862; died of wounds, Oct. 24, 1864.  
 Thomas Ring, enl. July 30, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 13, 1863.  
 Jesse H. Ramsdell, enl. July 28, 1862; died in prison at Richmond, Va.  
 Stephen D. Skidmore, enl. July 7, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 Frederick Taylor,\* enl. June 4, 1862.  
 Oliver Tomlinson, enl. May 27, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, March 15, 1864.  
 Richard Wallace, enl. June 25, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 William Wooley, enl. June 11, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.  
 Edwin A. Wilcox, enl. June 4, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps on account of wounds.  
 Joseph H. White, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. for disability, June 3, 1863.  
 Samuel McCune, enl. July 15, 1862; disch. for disability, Feb. 8, 1863.  
 Eugene Sullivan, enl. July 17, 1862; disch. for disability, March 7, 1863.

#### SIXTEENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Levi E. Abbe, enl. July 14, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 1, 1863; must. out July 6, 1865.

#### SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

William H. Noble, colonel; com. July 22, 1862; wounded May 2, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Charles Walter, lieutenant-colonel; com. Aug. 27, 1862; killed in action, May 2, 1863.  
 Hanford N. Hayes, quartermaster; com. July 25, 1862; res. July 18, 1863.  
 Robert Hubbard, surgeon; com. Aug. 11, 1862; pro. to medical director Eleventh Army Corps.

- Elijah Gregory, second assistant-surgeon; com. Aug. 16, 1862; pro. to first assistant-surgeon; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Jesse S. Nash, hospital steward; enl. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 29, 1862.
- William H. Lacey, captain; com. Aug. 1, 1862; res. May 9, 1863.
- William L. Hubbell, first lieutenant; com. July 23, 1862; pro. to captain; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Samuel E. Blinn, second lieutenant; com. Aug. 8, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; res. Nov. 13, 1863.
- Albert W. Peck, first sergeant; enl. July 23, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Henry North, sergeant; enl. July 23, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.
- C. T. Batchelder, sergeant; enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 5, 1865.
- James R. Brinsmade, corporal; enl. July 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1864.
- Wright Curtis, corporal; enl. July 23, 1862; disch. for disability, Feb. 23, 1863.
- John H. Foley, corporal; enl. Aug. 7, 1862; wounded; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out July 13, 1865.
- Charles B. Lewis, corporal; enl. July 23, 1862; died Aug. 6, 1863.
- Alvah E. Wilcox, corporal; enl. July 24, 1862; died of wounds, Gettysburg, July 6, 1863.
- John J. Green, corporal; enl. Aug. 15, 1862; disch. for disability, April 15, 1863.
- Henry Huss, musician; enl. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Frederick M. Wilmot, musician; enl. July 23, 1862; must. out June 8, 1865.
- Garrett D. Bowne, enl. July 23, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.
- M. C. Batchelder, enl. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Samuel B. Barnum, enl. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John F. Bartlett, enl. July 23, 1862; wounded; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out Aug. 29, 1865.
- Samuel J. Barlow, enl. July 23, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 17, 1863.
- John B. Curtis, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Frederick H. Carpenter, enl. July 23, 1862; must. out June 8, 1865.
- William P. Carritt,\* enl. July 24, 1862.
- John W. Dunning, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; disch. for disability, Feb. 23, 1863.
- Charles F. Dunning, enl. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- William S. Dewhurst, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- George S. Gorgas, enl. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Joseph H. Goodhue, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. for disability, July 7, 1864.
- George R. Hayes, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; wounded July, 1863; died Feb. 5, 1864.
- Frederick B. Hall, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 24, 1862.
- George W. Hannaford, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Elias Howe, Jr., enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Charles A. Hurd, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Ernest Kehrer, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 31, 1862.
- Luther W. Lewis, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John F. Lewis, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; died March 11, 1864.
- Stephen C. Lewis, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out June 23, 1865.
- Edward A. Morse, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Joseph Mott, enl. July 23, 1862; must. out June 14, 1865.
- Alonzo Northrop, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Joseph R. Parrott, enl. July 23, 1862; disch. for disability, Feb. 16, 1863.
- Oliver E. Pitcher, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Dec. 15, 1863.
- Horace Plumb, enl. July 25, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- George D. Phillips, enl. July 28, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- William A. Rogers, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; died of wounds, May 2, 1863.
- Alonzo Scranton, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; wounded; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps; must. out July 17, 1863.
- Legrand Stratton, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out July 19, 1865.
- William H. Schlipf, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- George E. Underhill, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- William Wirte, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John F. Clancey, second lieutenant; com. July 11, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant.
- George McBride, corporal; enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. for disability, June 9, 1863.
- Charles A. Bacon, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- James Birmingham, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John Beck, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John Brown, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Edmund Baggs, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John Connelly, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John Dunn, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Peter Doran, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out June 28, 1865.
- Michael Egan, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 5, 1862.
- David W. Fauton, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. for disability, Aug. 12, 1863.
- Jeremiah Leahy,\* enl. July 29, 1862.
- James Newton, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 23, 1863.
- Michael O'Neil, enl. July 29, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- James E. Dunham, captain; com. Aug. 1, 1862; res. May 3, 1863.
- Charles W. Parker, sergeant; enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Edward Denis, sergeant; enl. Aug. 15, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; res. June 27, 1864.
- Henry A. Warner, corporal; enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John A. Black, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; killed July 1, 1863.
- George Blake, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out June 14, 1865.
- Jerome Bennett, enl. Aug. 20, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Cassius M. Crable, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; killed July 1, 1863.
- H. Whitney Chatfield, enl. Aug. 20, 1862; pro. to adjutant; killed in action, Feb. 5, 1865.
- Elijah C. Dunning, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. for disability, March 27, 1863.
- William H. Hawkhurst, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; died April 26, 1863.
- George W. Hurd, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Frederick Lindheim, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps; must. out July 10, 1865.
- Robert Murphy,\* enl. Aug. 16, 1862.
- Walter S. Murphy, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 10, 1862.
- Abel W. Mallett, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- William W. Morgan, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out July 12, 1865.
- Russell P. Morgan, enl. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. for disability, March 9, 1863.
- Henry Pettit, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. for disability, Nov. 13, 1862.
- Charles H. Smith (2d), enl. Sept. 1, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John B. Smith,\* enl. Aug. 28, 1862.
- Edgar Squires, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 10, 1862.
- Charles Wurz, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Warren J. Burtis, enl. Aug. 20, 1862; must. out June 8, 1865.
- Edwin Smith, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 6, 1863.
- John H. Porter, sergeant; enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- George B. Ruggles, sergeant; enl. Aug. 15, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; disch. May 15, 1865.
- Samuel Thorp, sergeant; enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. June 2, 1865.
- Morris Jones, corporal; enl. Aug. 12, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.
- William Mallard, corporal; enl. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. for disability, Aug. 7, 1863.
- Cornelius C. Wilson, corporal; enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- George Birge, corporal; enl. Aug. 15, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 10, 1862.
- John McCarthy,\* corporal; enl. Aug. 6, 1862.
- James Ainscow, musician; enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out June 1, 1865.
- James Broderick, enl. Aug. 20, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Edward Brennan,\* enl. Aug. 6, 1862.
- George Broadbrook, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Charles W. Cooley, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. for disability, Feb. 17, 1863.
- Jerry B. Dean, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. for disability, April 16, 1863.
- Lewis H. De Mott, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- James Dennis, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; died March 15, 1865.
- John Garigan, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- William O. Johnson, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Jeremiah Kelley, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 3, 1862.
- Orville Kelley, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability, Feb. 20, 1863.
- Enos Kelley, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Simmons Kelley, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. for disability, July 19, 1865.
- Demond Kirke, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 5, 1862.
- John B. Kable, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; must. out July 25, 1865.
- John M. Lewis, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- John Lennan,\* enl. Aug. 30, 1862.
- John M. Lubitz, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- James Leavy, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; missing July 3, 1863, at Gettysburg.
- William Lein, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Charles McElroy, enl. Aug. 20, 1862; wounded; disch. May 15, 1864.
- Henry Waite, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.
- Patrick Wade, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.



Stephen Wagner, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; Inv. Corps, Feb. 15, 1864.  
 William Wallace, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; Inv. Corps; must. out July 5, 1865.  
 James Wallace,\* enl. Aug. 30, 1862.

#### TWENTIETH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

David P. Sanford, chaplain; com. Sept. 8, 1862; res. May 18, 1863.  
 John Deuchanno,\* enl. July 29, 1862.

#### TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Charles W. Worden, lieutenant-colonel, com. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 John H. Cogswell, quartermaster-sergeant; enl. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Charles W. Hall, captain; com. Aug. 20, 1862; appointed quartermaster; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Stephen M. Nichols, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Ezra G. Hawley, sergeant; enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Charles Adams, sergeant; enl. Aug. 25, 1862; died July 17, 1863.  
 William H. Barlow, sergeant; enl. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Julius W. Skidmore, musician; enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 E. W. Gilbert, wagoner; enl. Aug. 31, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 George Baruum, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Eli P. Burton, enl. Aug. 31, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Peter O. Gregory, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Abel S. Hall, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Pearson Hendrickson, enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Henry Jacobie,\* enl. Sept. 22, 1862.  
 Adolph Keller, enl. Aug. 21, 1862; killed June 23, 1863.  
 Watson M. Mead, enl. Aug. 29, 1862; died July 1, 1863.  
 Albert H. Owens, enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Charles W. Peet, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Daniel L. Staples, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 William Van Gasbeck, Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 William H. May, captain; com. Aug. 18, 1862; captured June 23, 1863.  
 John G. Stevens, first lieutenant; com. Aug. 18, 1862; captured June 23, 1863.

John W. Buckingham, second lieutenant; com. Aug. 19, 1862; captured June 23, 1863.  
 Charles R. Gritman, sergeant; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Dwight A. Smith, sergeant; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Robert B. Fairchild, sergeant; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Henry S. Gregory, sergeant; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Lewis T. Olmstead, sergeant; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Frederick L. Curtis, corporal; enl. Sept. 8, 1862; died July 8, 1863.  
 E. Augustus Hanford, corporal; enl. Sept. 3, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 N. A. Sutton, corporal; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Rufus W. Bunnell, corporal; enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 William Krapp, corporal; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Charles E. Shelton, corporal; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Henry L. Dexter, corporal; enl. Sept. 9, 1862; died June 7, 1863.  
 Charles L. Derrick, corporal; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Edward H. Curtis,\* musician; enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Henry Bartholemew, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Edwin F. Derrick, enl. Sept. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Albert A. Derrick, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Andrew McIntyre, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Charles E. D. Patterson, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Constantine V. Roche, enl. Sept. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Walter H. Seeley, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Joseph Strasberger, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

#### TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Edward N. Goodwin, first lieutenant; com. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Patrick Nooney, second lieutenant; com. Aug. 13, 1862; res. Jan. 29, 1863.  
 William Kinsela,\* sergeant; enl. Aug. 22, 1862.  
 Mathew McDonald, corporal; enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Thomas Grant,\* corporal; enl. Aug. 19, 1862.  
 James McCool, wagoner; enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 John Austin,\* enl. Aug. 29, 1862.  
 Richard Anderson,\* enl. Aug. 13, 1862.  
 Patrick Burns,\* enl. Aug. 18, 1862.  
 James Burns, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Edward D. Colgan, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 John Callon, enl. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 James G. Clark, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.

Peter Doolan, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Anthony Dougherty, enl. Sept. 6, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 William Frazier, enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Christopher Hughes,\* enl. Aug. 18, 1862.  
 Thomas Hughes,\* enl. Aug. 28, 1862.  
 John Hickey,\* enl. Sept. 6, 1862.  
 Michael Kavanaugh,\* enl. Aug. 27, 1862.  
 Edward Keena, enl. Sept. 4, 1862; died Aug. 11, 1863.  
 George Laughlin, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Edward Larkin, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Thomas Larkin, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Roger Leddy, enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 William Lotten,\* enl. Sept. 15, 1862.  
 Owen McOwen, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Thomas Nevin, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Felix O'Neil, enl. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Patrick Powers, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Francis Quinn, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 John P. Smith,\* enl. Aug. 20, 1862.  
 James Sullivan, enl. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Henry Walters, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; died Sept. 7, 1862.

#### TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Richard Buskirk, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Paul Cæsar, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 George Darling, enl. Jan. 2, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 William Elder, enl. Dec. 11, 1863; must. out Nov. 3, 1865.  
 Henry Franklin, enl. Feb. 25, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Moses H. Hayes, enl. Dec. 7, 1863; disch. for disability, May 15, 1864.  
 William H. Lake,\* musician; enl. Dec. 22, 1863.  
 Harvey Leppian, enl. Dec. 7, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Joseph Thompson, enl. Dec. 14, 1863; must. out Oct. 21, 1865.  
 A. Van Winkle, enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

#### THIRTIETH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Thomas Freeman, sergeant; enl. Jan. 29, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 William M. Wesley, enl. Jan. 19, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 George Gaul, enl. Jan. 27, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 Thomas A. Johnson, enl. Feb. 3, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 Arthur Johnson, enl. April 9, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 Ellery B. Leonard, enl. Jan. 28, 1864; missing July 30, 1864.  
 Andrew Marshall, enl. Feb. 5, 1864; died April 22, 1864.  
 John Miller,\* enl. Jan. 28, 1864.  
 Joseph Morgan, enl. April 2, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 Joseph G. Smith, enl. Feb. 1, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 Frank Smith, enl. Jan. 29, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 Reuben Thompson, enl. Jan. 28, 1864; must. out Nov. 1, 1865.  
 Harris Leven, enl. April 2, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.

NOTE.—Those names marked with an asterisk (\*) are reported as deserters in the Official Catalogue of Volunteers, published by the State,

#### RECORD OF THE DEAD.

The following list of soldiers and sailors enlisting from Bridgeport who died in the service of the United States during the late war is taken from the tablets upon the sides of the Soldiers' Monument in Seaside Park:

#### FIRST CONNECTICUT CAVALRY.

David Sherwood, Andersonville, July 18, 1864.  
 Eugene H. Starkweather, Sept. 30, 1864.  
 George Wagner, Dec. 24, 1865.  
 Joseph Heaton, Salisbury, Dec. 4, 1864.  
 John Burke, Feb. 13, 1864.  
 George Fallon, Meadow Bridge, May 12, 1864.  
 John W. Clark, March 15, 1865.  
 Theodore Sterling, Nov. 30, 1863.

#### SECOND CONNECTICUT BATTERY.

Frederick Holmes, White River, Jan. 4, 1865.  
 Lyman A. Clark, Fort Gaines, Aug. 21, 1864.  
 John Clary, New Orleans, Oct. 11, 1864.  
 Henry B. Myers, Mobile, June 26, 1865.  
 John S. Mills, Blakeley, April 9, 1865.  
 James O'Donnell, New Orleans, Jan. 28, 1865.  
 James B. Ramsdell, Feb. 4, 1865.

Francis Simpson, New Orleans, Oct. 17, 1864.  
 Charles B. Whittlesey, Dec. 22, 1864.  
 Tylee W. Hartshorne, Aug. 1, 1863.  
 James G. Wood, Wolf Run Shoals, April 19, 1863.  
 George H. Hill, New Orleans, Feb. 27, 1865.  
 Edmund F. Moody, New Orleans, July 30, 1864.

#### FIRST HEAVY ARTILLERY.

Ira S. Wakefield, Petersburg, April 2, 1865.  
 Edward J. Carl, Broadway Landing, March, 1865.  
 James Barry, Feb. 29, 1864.  
 Thomas McMullen, Broadway Landing, Aug. 31, 1864.  
 Charles Taylor, Fortress Monroe, Aug. 22, 1862.  
 William H. Anderson, Frederick, Aug. 4, 1863.  
 Edgar Athington, Feb. 3, 1864.

#### SECOND HEAVY ARTILLERY.

James Bradley, Alexandria, June 14, 1864.  
 Lucius B. Palmer, June 9, 1864.  
 Peter Reilly, 1864.  
 Charles Bennett, Strasburg, Oct. 19, 1864.  
 David Backus, Winchester, Nov. 3, 1864.  
 Thomas Doyle, Winchester, Sept. 22, 1864.  
 Joseph Curnal, Annapolis, Aug. 19, 1864.  
 Cornelius Goebel, March 5, 1865.  
 Seymour Lovdell, Strasburg, Nov. 16, 1864.  
 William Morton, March 7, 1865.  
 John Martin, Cold Harbor, June 1, 1864.  
 Henry Tanner, Cold Harbor, June 1, 1864.  
 John Pollard, Hanover, May 30, 1864.  
 Frederick Slade, Sept. 24, 1864.  
 John Thomas, Feb. 13, 1864.

#### FIRST CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Theodore Morris, Beaufort, July 12, 1862.

#### SIXTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Charles H. Grogan, July 28, 1863.  
 Patrick Deary, Belle Island, Nov. 13, 1863.  
 Harry Delpt, Pocatalligo, Oct. 22, 1862.  
 Michael Flynn, Fort Wagner, July 18, 1863.  
 Wm. M. Kelley, Nov. 18, 1864.  
 Wm. S. Lacey, July 19, 1862.  
 Alonzo Phillips, Belle Isle, July 18, 1863.  
 Albert W. Stacey, July 18, 1863.  
 Edward B. Taylor, July 25, 1863.  
 Thomas Taylor, Pocatalligo, Oct. 23, 1862.  
 Samuel C. Thomas, Aug. 19, 1864.  
 Robert B. Gage, Oct. 12, 1862.  
 John R. Burney, Washington, March 15, 1865.  
 Ambrose B. Seymour, Salisbury, Oct. 28, 1864.  
 Patrick Fox, Andersonville, Nov. 6, 1864.  
 Gustave Schmidt, Fort Wagner, Aug. 12, 1864.  
 William Reed, Morris Island, July 18, 1863.  
 Stephen S. Stevens, Morris Island, July 18, 1863.  
 Andrew Wunk, Belle Isle, July 18, 1863.

#### SEVENTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

John Reed, Andersonville, Sept. 17, 1864.  
 Charles Dubois, Chester Station, May 14, 1864.  
 Alexander Potocki, Andersonville, July 6, 1864.  
 John Zabroski, Fortress Monroe, Sept. 24, 1864.  
 Daniel Morgan, Jan. 6, 1865.

#### EIGHTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Charles Jones, Fort Darling, May 16, 1864.  
 Melancthon S. Lyon, Hampton, March 4, 1864.  
 Charles H. Lewis, Sept. 17, 1864.  
 Albion D. Brooks, Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.

#### NINTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Patrick T. Claffee, New Orleans, Oct. 2, 1862.  
 Michael McGrath, Baton Rouge, Aug. 3, 1862.  
 James Henderson, New Orleans, Dec. 20, 1862.  
 John Baggs, Baton Rouge, Aug. 9, 1862.  
 Jeremiah Wells, Baton Rouge, Aug. 11, 1862.  
 Charles B. Burton, Sept. 16, 1862.  
 John Ennis, Camp Parapet, Oct. 16, 1862.

Nicholas Doyle, Feb. 23, 1862.  
 Michael Fagan, Ship Island, Jan. 11, 1862.  
 William Fibbs, New Orleans, July 11, 1863.  
 Michael Moore, New Orleans, Aug. 19, 1862.  
 Thomas O'Brien, New Orleans, Nov. 16, 1862.  
 Peter O'Connor, New Orleans, Aug. 26, 1862.  
 Dennis Otis, New Orleans, Nov. 22, 1863.  
 Peter Smith, New Orleans, Aug. 26, 1862.  
 James C. Dimon, New Orleans, Sept. 30, 1862.  
 Henry Dressendoffer, New Orleans, June 29, 1863.  
 William Funt, New Orleans, Oct. 6, 1862.  
 Luke C. Lackey, New Orleans, Aug. 27, 1862.  
 Philip Pearson, New Orleans, Sept. 3, 1863.  
 John Coyne, New Orleans, July 13, 1862.  
 Peter Keenan, New Orleans, July 20, 1863.  
 Albert Alaby, New Orleans, Aug. 16, 1862.  
 Seth Robertson, Vicksburg, July 8, 1862.  
 Frederick M. Fairchild, Vicksburg, July 29, 1862.

#### TENTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Jules Lasalle, Petersburg, April 2, 1865.  
 George L. W. Williams, Richmond, Oct. 2, 1864.  
 Marcus Thomas, Newberne, May 10, 1864.  
 Frederick Manchester, Hatteras Inlet, 1862.  
 Henry Perkins, Oct. 24, 1863.  
 Lawrence Lawless, Petersburg, Sept. 7, 1864.

#### ELEVENTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Jeremiah Brady, July 31, 1864.  
 Frederick Faltix, July 18, 1864.

#### TWELFTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Ambrose Thompson, July 22, 1863.  
 John Mulloy, Salisbury, Jan. 13, 1865.  
 Herman Birch, Camp Parapet, Sept. 28, 1862.  
 Joseph Bevans, Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, 1864.  
 James H. Hurlburt, Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, 1862.  
 John C. Wellman, April 2, 1865.  
 Charles H. Wells, Oct. 21, 1865.  
 William J. Newell, Port Hudson, Jan. 19, 1863.

#### THIRTEENTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Henry Robinson, April 11, 1864.

#### FOURTEENTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

William H. Hawley, Ream's Station, Aug. 25, 1864.  
 Alfred G. Mollan, Nov. 24, 1862.  
 Thaddeus W. Lewis, Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862.  
 Michael Madigan, Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862.  
 Franklin Bartlett, Hatcher's Run, Va., Feb. 5, 1865.  
 George Carlock, Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, 1862.  
 William Jacobs, Wilderness, May 20, 1864.  
 Henry Phillips, Oct. 24, 1864.  
 Jesse H. Ramsdell, Richmond.  
 Lucien W. Hubbard, Richmond.

#### SIXTEENTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Samuel Johnson, Roanoke Island, May 27, 1864.

#### SEVENTEENTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Charles Walter, Chancellorsville, May 2, 1863.  
 Charles B. Lewis, Baltimore, Aug. 6, 1863.  
 George R. Hayes, Baltimore, Feb. 5, 1864.  
 William A. Rogers, Chancellorsville, May 2, 1864.  
 Cassius M. Crabbe, Gettysburg, July 1, 1863.  
 William H. Hawkhurst, Washington, April 26, 1863.  
 James Dennis, Picoleta, March 15, 1865.  
 John F. Lewis, Beaufort, March 11, 1864.  
 Henry W. Chatfield, Feb. 5, 1865.  
 Alvah E. Wilcox, Gettysburg, July 6, 1863.  
 John A. Black, Gettysburg, July 1, 1863.  
 Stephen Wagner, Point Lookout, Aug. 9, 1864.

#### EIGHTEENTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

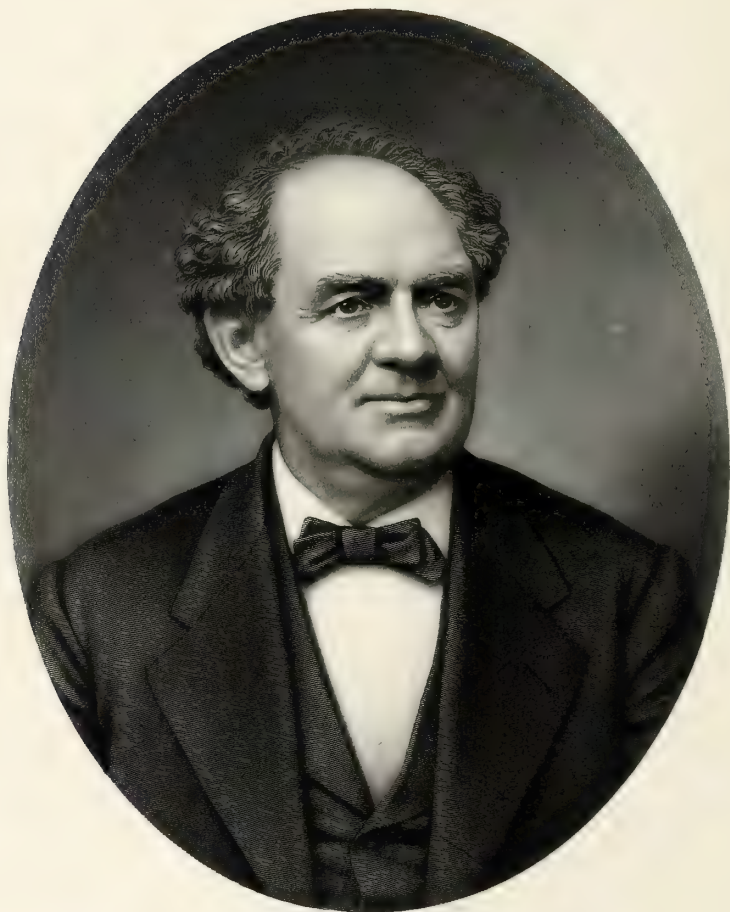
Thomas F. Jones, Winchester, Va., June 15, 1863.

#### TWENTY-THIRD CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Charles Adams, New Orleans, July 17, 1863.  
 Adolph Keller, Brashear City, June 23, 1863.







*P. T. Barnum*



Henry L. Dexter, La Fourche, June 7, 1863.  
 Frederick L. Curtis, Brashear City, July 6, 1863.  
 Watson Mead, New Orleans, July 1, 1863.

#### TWENTY-FOURTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Edward Kenna, New Orleans, Aug. 11, 1863.  
 Henry Walters, Ship Island, Dec. 7, 1863.

#### TWENTY-NINTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

George W. Burr, Richmond, Oct. 13, 1864.  
 James Spriggs, Oct. 7, 1864.  
 Martin Storms, Aug. 2, 1865.  
 James Hawley, Feb. 20, 1864.  
 George A. Deming, July 17, 1864.

#### THIRTIETH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY.

Andrew Marshall, April 22, 1864.

#### UNITED STATES NAVY.

Wheeler Sherman, U. S. Gunboat "Chenango," April 15, 1864.  
 James Burns, U. S. Gunboat "Narcissus."  
 Frederick H. Thompson, Steamship "New London," Sept. 5, 1863.  
 George H. Lounsbury, U. S. Steamer "Hartford," July 24, 1862.  
 Joseph Grogan, U. S. Steamer "Weehawken," Dec. 6, 1863.  
 James McGregor, U. S. Flag-Ship "Pensacola," Sept. 24, 1863.  
 Peter P. Pitts.  
 William Brooks, U. S. Gunboat "Kennebec," May, 1863.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Wilson Hubbell, Sixty-second New York Infantry, Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.  
 Richard R. Crawford, Seventh United States Infantry, Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.  
 Charles F. Lendeveg, First New York Mounted Rifles, Suffolk, June 24, 1863.  
 William H. Lord, Second New York Heavy Artillery, May 6, 1865.  
 Jonathan Mills, Fortieth New York Infantry.  
 Martin C. Vans, Forty-eighth New York Infantry, Petersburg, July 30, 1864.  
 William A. Porter, Sixty-sixth New York Infantry, Harper's Ferry, Nov. 14, 1862.  
 James Lennon, Sixty-ninth New York Infantry, Malvern Hill, July, 1862.  
 Andrew B. Taylor, Fifth New Hampshire Infantry, Andersonville, July 16, 1864.  
 Henry P. Bostwick, U. S. A., New Orleans, Dec. 31, 1862.

[NOTE.—The article contributed by William B. Hincks ends at this point.]

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### PHINEAS TAYLOR BARNUM.

Phineas Taylor Barnum was born in the town of Bethel, Fairfield Co., Conn., July 5, 1810. He is the son of Philo Barnum, and grandson of Ephraim Barnum, who was a captain in the war of the Revolution. He commenced his education at the district school at an early age, and worked at farm labor during the summer season and attended school in the winter. As he grew older his aversion to farm labor became manifest in various ways, and his father finally established a store in Bethel, installing him as clerk. On the 7th of September, 1825, his father died, leaving his mother and five children, of whom Phineas T., at fifteen years of age, was the eldest. He was trusted for a pair of shoes to attend the funeral of his father, thus starting in life with one pair of shoes less than nothing. Upon the settlement of the estate it was found to be insolvent, and P. T. was left without a

cent, having loaned the little sum he had accumulated to his father. He then entered the employ of a mercantile firm at Grassy Plain as clerk, at six dollars per month, where he remained about one year, and then went as clerk in a grocery-store in the city of Brooklyn.

He remained there about one year and then opened a porter-house on his own account, which he continued but a few months, when he accepted an offer as clerk in a similar establishment at 29 Peck Slip, New York. In the following year he returned to his native town, and with a capital of one hundred and twenty-five dollars established a retail fruit and confectionery store.

In 1829 he opened a lottery-office in Bethel,—lotteries at that time being legal in the State,—with branch offices in Danbury, Norwalk, Stamford, and Middletown, and did a large business. He soon after tried his hand as a book-auctioneer, and in 1831, with his uncle, Alanson Taylor, opened a country store in Bethel, which they continued but a short time, and he then embarked in an enterprise which eventually gave him great notoriety. This was the founding, Oct. 19, 1831, of the *Herald of Freedom*. He entered upon the editorial management of his paper with all the vigor and vehemence of youth, and frequently laid himself open to the charge of libel. Three times in three years he was prosecuted, and finally a judgment of one hundred dollars was obtained against him and sixty days in the common jail. He fared well while in jail, had a good room, lived well, edited his paper as usual, and at the close of the sixty days the event was celebrated by a large concourse of people from the surrounding country. An ode, written for the occasion, was sung, speeches delivered, and Mr. Barnum was conducted to his home by a band of music and a large procession of the citizens, amid the firing of cannon and the cheers of the multitude. In 1834 he sold his paper and removed to New York, where he was employed for a short time as a "drummer" for several stores, and, in May, 1835, opened a private boarding-house, at the same time purchasing an interest in a grocery-store.

The summer of 1835 was an important epoch in the career of P. T. Barnum. In that year he began the business which has made him famous throughout the civilized world.

He purchased a negress named Joice Heth, then on exhibition in Philadelphia, said to be one hundred and sixty-one years of age and the nurse of Washington, and exhibited her about the country. She lived but a short time after her purchase by Mr. Barnum, and was buried at Bethel, in this county. He then engaged an Italian sleight-of-hand performer, and soon joined Aaron Turner's traveling circus as ticket-seller, secretary, and treasurer. He subsequently traveled extensively throughout the country with a show, of which he was sole proprietor.

The occupation not proving particularly remuner-

ative, and being desirous of having a permanent respectable business, he finally, after various discouragements, purchased the American Museum in New York for twelve thousand dollars, and succeeded in paying for it from the profits in one year. He was now on the high-road to success. His wonderful success with the museum, with Gen. Tom Thumb, and with the Jenny Lind enterprise, is too well known throughout the world to need repetition in this sketch. The latter was bold in its conception, complete in its development, most astounding in its success, and brought a fortune to its adventurous progenitor. As high as six hundred and fifty dollars was paid for tickets, and the receipts for ninety-five concerts aggregated seven hundred and twelve thousand one hundred and sixty-one dollars and thirty-four cents. With Gen. Tom Thumb, Mr. Barnum appeared three times before Queen Victoria and the royal court of England, as well as the principal potentates of Europe then living.

In 1851 he organized the Great Asiatic Caravan, Museum, and Menagerie; in 1852 became part-owner of the first illustrated paper published in New York, and about this time also was president of the Crystal Palace Association. In 1851 he purchased a tract of land consisting of several hundred acres, where now is located the thriving city of East Bridgeport, laid out the entire property in regular streets, lined them with trees, reserving a beautiful grove of six or eight acres, which he inclosed and converted into a public park, which he presented to the city, and began the sale of lots, thus becoming the founder of one of the leading manufacturing cities in New England. Through his instrumentality a clock company from Litchfield, Conn., was removed to the embryo city and reorganized as the "Terry & Barnum Manufacturing Company," and in 1855 he received a proposition from a citizen of New Haven that the Jerome Clock Company, then reputed to be a wealthy concern, should be removed to East Bridgeport. The result is briefly told. He advanced a large sum of money to the company, the rotten concern finally came down with a crash, and P. T. Barnum was a ruined man.

So at the age of forty-six, after the acquisition and loss of a handsome fortune, he was once more nearly at the bottom of the ladder, and was about to begin the world again. The situation was certainly disheartening, but he had energy, experience, health, and hope.

In 1857 he again set sail for England, taking with him Gen. Tom Thumb, where he remained several years, and accumulated considerable money. He also, while abroad, delivered his famous lecture on "The Art of Money-Getting" in London and various other cities, and was finally offered six thousand dollars for the manuscript by a publishing-house, which he refused.

In 1859 he returned to America, and, having re-

deemed his property, on the 31st of March "Barnum's Museum" was reopened under the management and proprietorship of its original owner. Barnum was on his feet again, and congratulations poured in from friends at home and abroad. The museum was continued by Mr. Barnum with great success until July 13, 1865, when it was totally destroyed by fire. Although his old friend, the lamented Greeley, of the *Tribune*, advised him to "accept this fire as a notice to quit and go a-fishing," he failed to accept the advice, and soon after leased the premises 535, 537, and 539 Broadway, New York, known as the Chinese Museum buildings, and in less than three months had converted the building into a commodious museum and lecture-room. He soon after made arrangements with the renowned Van Amburgh Menagerie Company to unite their entire collections with the museum, and the company was known as the Barnum & Van Amburgh Museum Company. This was also a success, and the monthly returns made to the collector of internal revenue showed that their receipts were larger than those of any theatre or other place of amusement in New York or America. The fire fiend again visited him, and on the morning of March 3, 1868, the museum was totally destroyed. He then followed Mr. Greeley's advice to "go a-fishing," and for about two years retired from active business, though he was still more or less interested in numerous enterprises.

He traveled extensively, and seemed happy in the contemplation of the fact that he was a gentleman of elegant leisure. But nature will assert itself. To a robust, healthy man of forty years' active business life something else than "elegant leisure" is needed to satisfy. He could no longer remain inactive, and so in 1870 began the organization of an immense establishment, comprising a museum, a menagerie, caravan, hippodrome, and circus of such proportions as to require five hundred men and horses to transport it through the country. In 1871 and '72 this already largest traveling show in the world was reorganized and greatly augmented, and to move it required seventy freight-cars, six passenger-cars, and three engines. Additions and attractive novelties have since been added, and "Barnum's own and only greatest show on earth" of 1880 is, indeed, the largest combination of circus, menagerie, and museum ever exhibited on either continent.

Mr. Barnum's ambition has always been to exhibit the greatest novelties at whatever cost, and to combine instruction with amusement. He never advertises attractions which he does not exhibit, thereby forming an honorable exception in his profession. He is careful to secure the best possible assistants,—honest, competent, and, like himself, clear-headed. At this present writing, although he has passed his seventieth birthday, he has just formed a combination with The London Circus and Menagerie, the greatest show in the world except his own, and en-



tered into a contract binding his heirs and executors for ninety-nine years to continue this immense combined moral and refined traveling show,—thus, as he says, hoping to gratify future generations with a sight of “Barnum’s greatest show on earth.”

At the present writing Mr. Barnum has all the vigor of middle life, and, having made arrangements which he thinks will secure the permanency of his great traveling museum, menagerie, and circus for many years after he is gone, he, in the summer of 1880, erected in Bridgeport buildings covering five acres of land for the headquarters and especially the wintering of his great show. Among these buildings is an “elephant house,” containing a ring for the training of elephants, horses, ponies, and other animals, as well as for the practicing of his circus-riders. Long rows of iron cages in adjoining buildings, heated by steam in winter, contain many hundreds of the most valuable and rare wild beasts and birds in captivity in any country.

Politically, Mr. Barnum was a Democrat previous to the breaking out of the Rebellion, but since that time has acted with the Republican party. He was elected to the General Assembly of Connecticut from the town of Fairfield in 1865, and from Bridgeport in 1877. In 1878 he again received the nomination for the same office, and, although in a Democratic city, he was elected by a handsome majority. In 1875 he was elected mayor of Bridgeport, and, as he always has the best interests of the city at heart, it is needless to add that his administration was eminently successful.

Mr. Barnum has ever manifested a lively interest in all measures looking to the advancement of the interests of the city, and has devoted much labor and money in public improvements generally. He was the progenitor of Seaside Park, one of the most beautiful parks in New England, and it was principally through his influence that the improvement was consummated. “To Mr. P. T. Barnum,” says the *Bridgeport Standard*, “we believe, is awarded the credit of originating this beautiful improvement, and certainly to his untiring, constant, and persevering personal efforts are we indebted for its being finally consummated.” Mr. Barnum purchased the land from the owners at nominal prices, amounting in all to less than five thousand dollars, of which he paid the largest share and obtained private subscriptions for the balance, and thus the park was presented to the city free of cost.

In the summer of 1878 he expended about twenty-five thousand dollars in the purchase and reclamation of a large tract of salt marsh adjoining Seaside Park and the grounds of Waldemere on the west. Although he well knew that he would never be reimbursed for half of his expenditures, he could see that the improvement would be a great public benefit, and he bent his energy to the task. He built this dyke straight across a channel which let in the tide-water

every twelve hours and covered an immense tract of low salt meadow. He made it seventy-five feet wide at the bottom and of sufficient width on the top to form a fine street leading from one of the city avenues to the beach on Long Island Sound. This extension of Seaside Park, forming a boulevard for carriages and promenade on the very edge of Long Island Sound, where the flashing waves may be seen, heard, and enjoyed for all time, is one of the finest improvements of its kind on the Atlantic coast.

He also secured to the city of Bridgeport the beautiful Mountain Grove Cemetery. He has laid out many streets and planted hundreds of trees in Bridgeport proper, and built hundreds of houses, many of which he sold to mechanics, giving them years in which to make the payments, and in annual sums equal only to about their usual rents.

In 1846 and 1847 he erected the well known “Iranistan”<sup>\*</sup> palace for his residence. It was modeled after the Oriental architecture, and was the first of this peculiar style introduced in America. Its interior and exterior decorations were of the finest style, and it was singularly complete in all its appointments. The whole was built and established by Mr. Barnum literally “regardless of expense,” for he had no desire even to ascertain the entire cost. This was one of the finest country-seats in New England, and it was indeed a great loss to Mr. Barnum when, on the night of Dec. 17, 1857, it was burned to the ground. He subsequently built Lindencroft, which was his residence for a number of years, and finally, in 1868, erected a house, laid out walks, etc., on a delightful spot overlooking Long Island Sound and Seaside Park, and christened it “Waldemere” (“woods-by-the-sea”), preferring to give this native child of his own conception an American name of his own creation. He removed to “Waldemere” in 1869, where he has since resided.

Nov. 8, 1829, Mr. Barnum united in marriage with Charity Hallett, a native of Bethel, by whom he had three daughters.

Mrs. Barnum died Nov. 19, 1873.

In the autumn of 1874 he married again. His wife is the daughter of his old English friend John Fish, Esq., whom he has embalmed in his “Recollections” under the title of “An Enterprising Englishman.”

Mr. Barnum’s career has been a remarkable one. He has been up and down and up again the financial ladder, and now the Bethel boy who at the age of fifteen years was so poor that he attended his father’s funeral in borrowed shoes is reputed to be worth several millions, and his name is a household word throughout the civilized world.

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<sup>\*</sup> Signifying Oriental villa.



*Alfred B. Beers*

Hon. Alfred B. Beers was born at New Rochelle, N. Y., April 23, 1845, and is the son of Alfred Beers, now a resident of Stratford, Conn., and who has been identified with the Naugatuck Railroad since 1851. The ancestry of Mr. Beers upon the male side of the line is traced back to James Beers, of Gravesend, Kent, England, who died in 1635, leaving two sons, James and Anthony, who emigrated shortly after to Watertown, Mass., and removed from there to Fairfield, Conn., in 1777. Anthony was a mariner, and was lost at sea in 1676, leaving a son Ephraim, who was born 1648, and died, leaving a son Ephraim, who died in 1759, leaving a son Daniel, who was born 1745, who removed to Ridgefield, Conn., and served in the Continental army and was present at the attack on Danbury and engagement at Ridgefield by Tryon, in 1777, and died 1820. He left a son Edmund, born 1768, who died in 1843, leaving a son Jonathan, born 1789, who settled at Vista, Westchester Co., N. Y., and died in 1868, and who was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. His mother's maiden name was Mary E. Bishop, her father being Leander Bishop, of Stamford, Conn., who was a brother of Alfred Bishop, late of Bridgeport, Conn., now deceased, a well-known contractor and builder of railroads, especially of the Naugatuck Railroad; their father was William Bishop, of Stamford, Conn. The grandfather of his mother upon her mother's side was Dr. Charles McDonald, of Rye, N. Y., a

Scotchman by birth, who came to this country shortly before the Revolutionary war, and upon the breaking out of hostilities enlisted in the Continental army and served during the entire war, participating in the capture of Fort Ticonderoga, and also in the battle of White Plains, N. Y., in 1776, where he distinguished himself by his bravery. After the close of the war he entered the medical profession, and practiced successfully until his death, which occurred about 1842.

Alfred B. Beers removed to Bridgeport in 1851, and was educated in the public and select schools of that city. He entered the volunteer army, Sept. 5, 1861, as private in Company I, Sixth Connecticut Volunteers. This regiment was attached to the Tenth Army Corps, and participated in the bombardment of Hilton Head, S. C., battle of Pocataligo, S. C. (he was honorably mentioned in regimental orders for bravery and meritorious conduct in that engagement), also in the siege of Fort Pulaski, Ga., actions at James Island, S. C., Morris Island, Fort Wagner, and siege of Charleston, S. C.; re-enlisted as a veteran volunteer in same regiment in 1864, and was engaged in the Bermuda Hundred, Va., campaign against Richmond, siege of Petersburg, Va., engagements at Deep Bottom, Deep Run, Chapin's Farm, and Laurel Hill, on the north side of the James River, in 1864; was promoted from first sergeant of Company I to captain of Company B in same regiment, and was engaged in the bombardment, charge, and capture of Fort Fisher, N. C., January, 1865, capture of Wilmington, February, 1865, and advance upon Goldsboro', N. C., April, 1865, and was discharged from the service at New Haven, Conn., Aug. 21, 1865, being then about twenty years of age. He then engaged in general business and in study until 1868, when he commenced the study of law, and was admitted to the Fairfield County bar in 1871. In 1872 he was clerk of the City Court, in 1875 assistant city attorney. In 1877 he was elected by the Legislature judge of the City Court of the city of Bridgeport, re-elected in 1879, and still holds that office. He has been prominently connected with the Grand Army organization since 1868, and is now the Senior Vice-Commander of the State of Connecticut, and will probably be elected Commander in 1881. He was married Feb. 29, 1872, to Callie T. House, of Vineland, N. J., daughter of William House, who was one of the settlers of Little Meadows, Pa., and was a brother of Royal E. House, the inventor of the House printing telegraph system, with whom he was interested, and also took part in the construction of the first telegraph line erected in this country, being the line from Baltimore to Washington. Two children are the result of the marriage, — Alfred B. Beers, Jr., born Feb. 16, 1873, and Harry H. Beers, born March 27, 1876.

As a lawyer, Judge Beers is devoted to his chosen profession, and brings to its practice a clear and logical mind, a retentive memory, confidence in his cause upon its merits, and a thorough hatred of trickery and





*Sanatt Murphy*

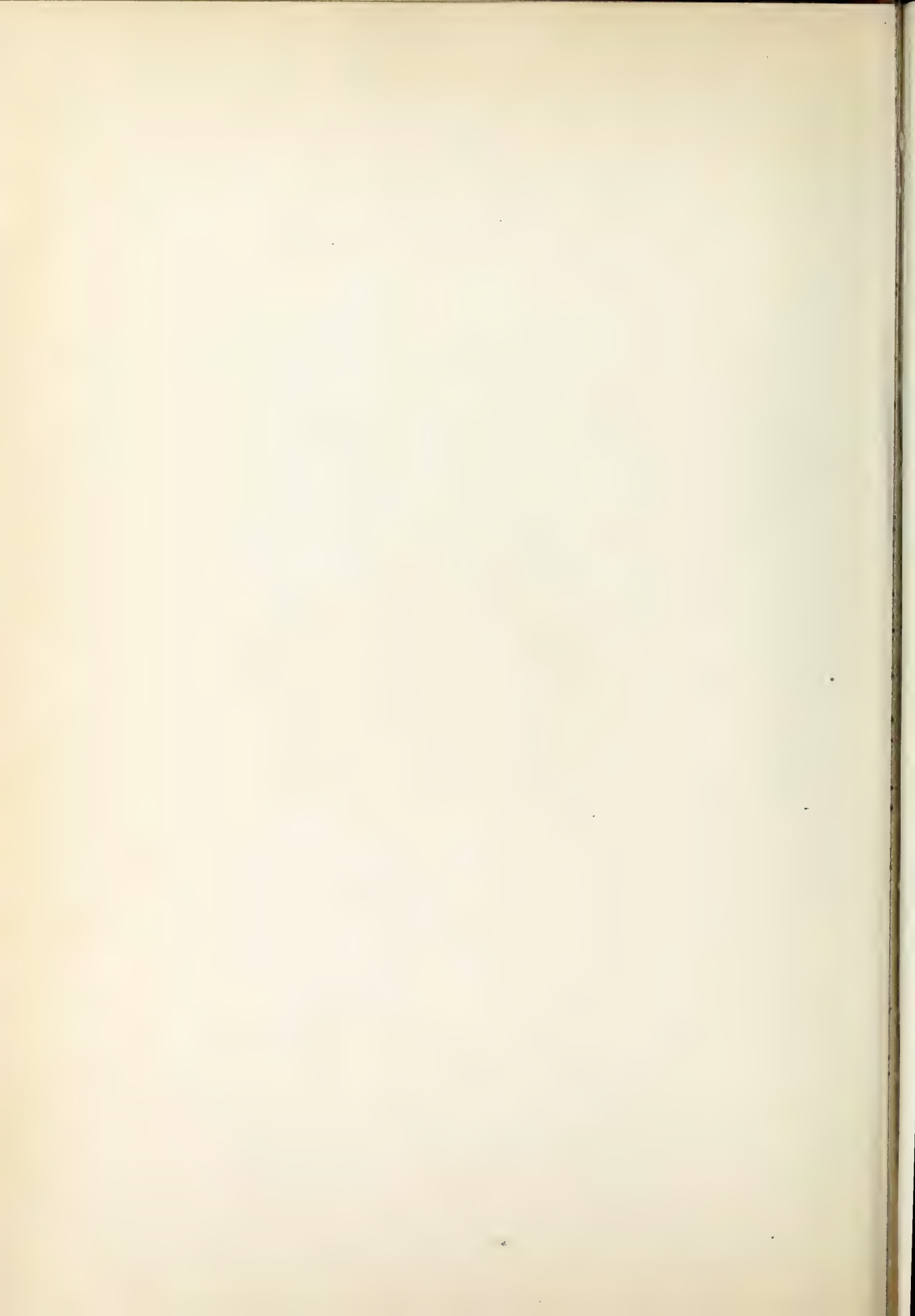




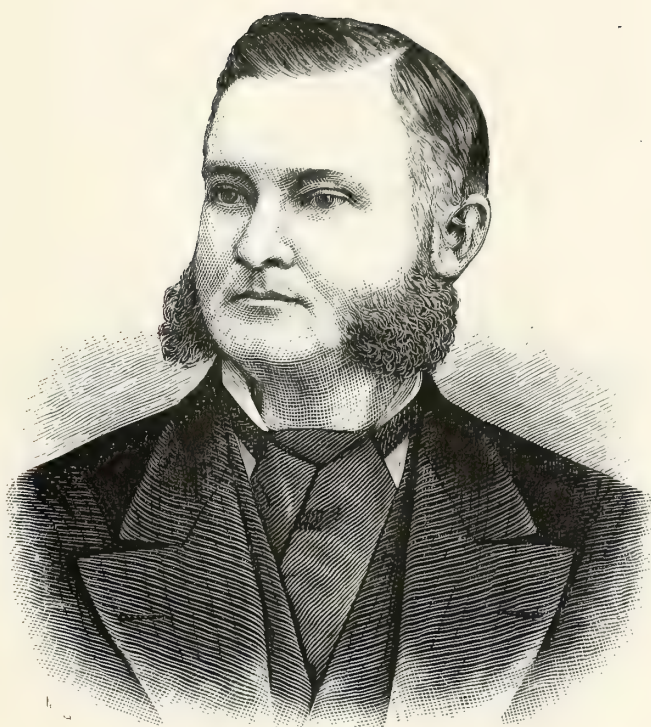




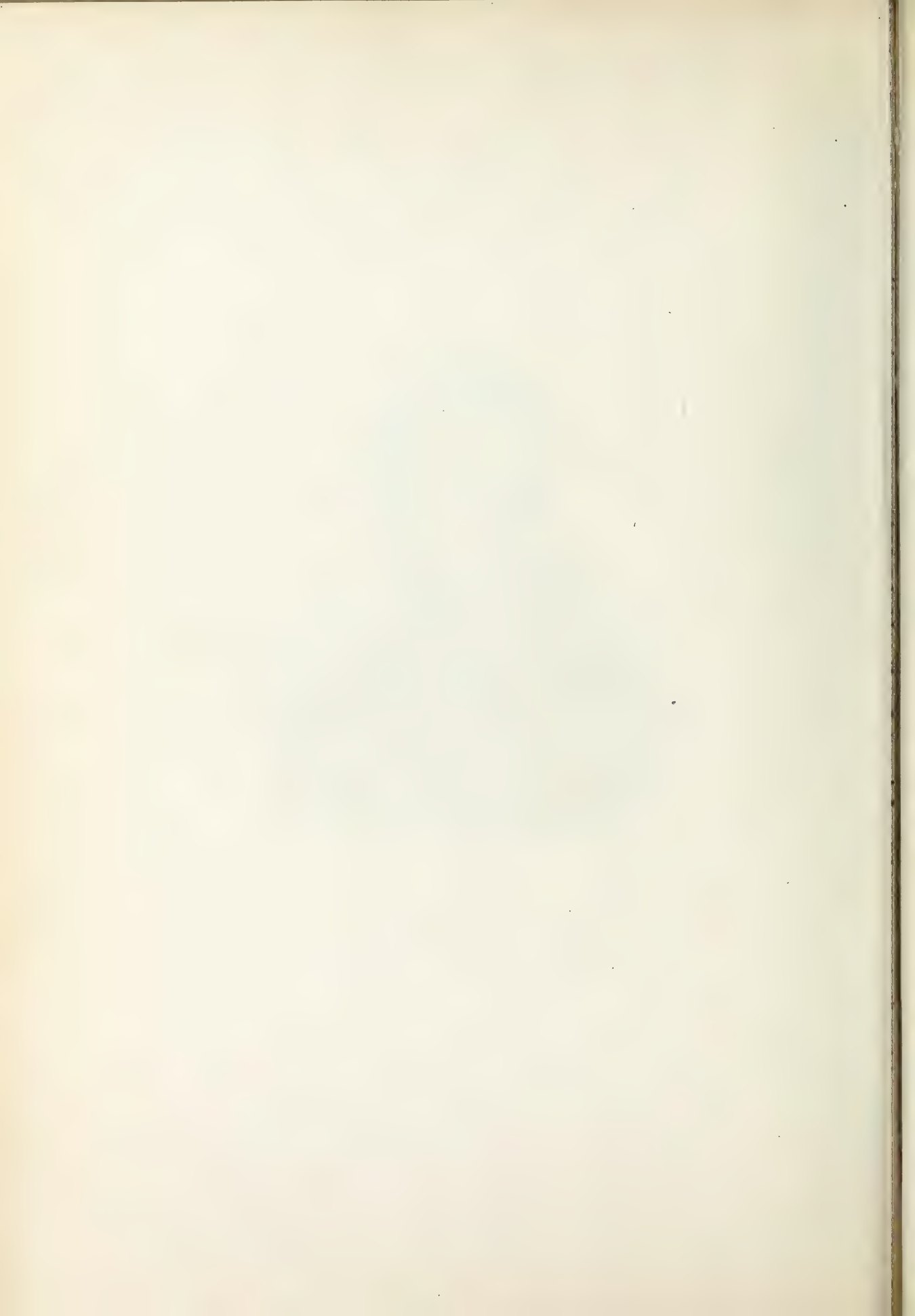
Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*C. H. Averill*





*L. W. Kessam*









*L. A. Morgan*



shams. He is careful in the preparation of his cases, ready in speech as an advocate, and honest in his claims for his client.

As a judge he has discharged the duties of that position with marked fidelity and inflexible honesty. He holds the scales of justice evenly balanced, and renders his decisions unmoved by sympathy and un-awed by clamor.

Possessed of a genial and kind nature, affable in intercourse with his fellows, with a personal character above reproach, he is esteemed and honored as a private citizen no less than as an able lawyer and an upright and conscientious judge.

#### DANIEL WHITEHEAD KISSAM.

Daniel Whitehead Kissam, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Addoms Kissam, was born in New York City, Jan. 6, 1836. At nine years of age he removed with his father's family to Plymouth, N. C., where he remained about six years, when he was sent to West Bloomfield, now known as Montclare, N. J., and entered the preparatory school then known as "Ashland Hall." He continued in this school, pursuing his studies with diligence and attention, until seventeen years of age, when he entered the employ of the late H. N. Conklin, a lumber-dealer in the city of Brooklyn, as clerk, the remuneration being his board and shoes. Although the compensation was small and the labor irksome, he attended strictly to his business, and three years later was rewarded with the position of book-keeper in the large steam-engine and iron-works establishment owned by Mr. Conklin.

In February, 1859, with a Mr. Wilmot, he started in business for himself, manufacturing metallic fastenings used in the manufacture of hoop-skirts, under the firm-name of Wilmot & Kissam. In the following year the business was organized into a stock company, with a capital of thirty thousand dollars, under the name of the Wilmot & Kissam Manufacturing Company, Mr. Kissam taking one-quarter of the stock. The business was continued until 1865, when it was removed to Bridgeport, and reorganized as the Bridgeport Brass Company, with a capital of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, manufacturing rolled brass, brass wire, tubing, and various other goods. Upon the organization of this company Mr. Kissam was made secretary, and has been secretary and manager of the business since, and is the largest stockholder in the concern. At the beginning the annual sales amounted to about twenty-five thousand or thirty thousand dollars per year, and, as an illustration of the rapid development of the business, the annual sales now aggregate four hundred thousand dollars, and two hundred and thirty persons are employed.

The factory is a three-story brick structure, one hundred and sixteen by one hundred and thirty feet,

with various additions and extensions, located on the corner of Crescent Avenue and Willard Street, East Bridgeport. The power for this establishment is furnished by three steam-engines, with an aggregate of two hundred horse-power, and has a capacity of one million two hundred and fifty thousand pounds of metal per annum. This is a representative institution of this manufacturing city, and great credit is due Mr. Kissam and those through whose energy and enterprise it has been placed in the front ranks of manufacturing establishments in New England. The present officers of the company are F. A. Mason, President; D. W. Kissam, Secretary; and Samuel Holmes, Treasurer.

Politically Mr. Kissam is a Republican, and is a vestryman in St. John's Church. He has given nearly his undivided attention to his business, and during his whole career as a manufacturer has not been absent from his post of duty two consecutive weeks.

Oct. 22, 1863, he united in marriage with Mary J. Nostrand, of Brooklyn, and their family consists of two daughters,—Jeannie and Elizabeth.

Mr. Kissam has ever manifested a lively interest in the welfare of his adopted city; is a member of the Board of Trade, corporator and director in the People's Savings Bank, etc.

He is descended from old Puritan stock on his father's side from the "Mayflower," through John Alden, and collaterally from Bishop Seabury. His maternal grandfather served as captain in the Revolutionary war and fought at the battle of Monmouth, and was one of the original members of the Cincinnati Society, and his father served in the war of 1812; and Col. Abeel, an ancestor of Mrs. Kissam, was also in the Revolution, serving as deputy quartermaster under Gen. Greene.

Mr. Kissam is essentially a self-made man. Early in life he learned that the way to success was no royal road, but was open to stout hands and willing hearts. Energy and integrity coupled with an indomitable will have rendered his career a success, and the boy who worked for his board and shoes when seventeen years of age is now one of the substantial manufacturers of New England.

#### DANIEL N. MORGAN.

The ancient town of Newtown has been the home of various men who subsequently occupied conspicuous positions in the councils of the State and nation, and of many old and sterling families who have left the impress of the New England character upon their posterity. Prominent among these families and intimately associated with the welfare of the town and county stands the name of Morgan.

Ezra Morgan, the father of Daniel N., was for more than forty years a farmer and merchant in this town

and one of its leading and influential citizens. He was a leading Democrat, and occupied many official positions of trust and responsibility. He was also president of the First National Bank of Bethel.

Daniel N. Morgan, son of Ezra and Hannah Nash Morgan, was born in Newtown, Aug. 18, 1844. He received the rudiments of his education at the common schools of his native town, and subsequently attended the Newtown Academy and Bethel Institute, where he acquired an education which well fitted him for his subsequent successful business career.

At the age of sixteen he entered his father's store as a clerk. He soon exhibited a remarkable capacity for mercantile transactions, and at the age of twenty-one years stepped out into the broad area of active business life on his own account, and for one year conducted the mercantile business at Newtown Centre as sole proprietor, when he took a partner and continued for three years longer. Desiring a wider range and better facilities for doing business, where his ability might have ample scope, Mr. Morgan removed to Bridgeport and became a member of the firm of Birdsey & Morgan, dealers in dry goods and carpets. Mr. Birdsey subsequently retired, and the large and prosperous business was continued by Mr. Morgan until January, 1880, when, in consequence of impaired health, caused by too close attention to business, he was compelled to relinquish it, and in the mean time took an extensive tour for his health to Great Britain and Continental Europe.

His strength of character and financial ability was soon recognized by the citizens of his adopted city, and he has been called to many positions of trust and responsibility. He was elected to the City Council in 1873, and re-elected in 1874. He was also a member of the Board of Education in 1877. In January, 1879, he was chosen president of the City National Bank, and is the present incumbent of that office. In the same year he was elected a trustee of the Mechanics' and Farmers' Savings Bank.

True to the instincts of his early training, he is a Democrat in politics and an able advocate of the principles of that party. He is active in political circles, and in 1880 accepted the nomination for mayor from the Democratic party, and was elected by a handsome majority, running one hundred ahead of his ticket,—sufficient commentary upon his popularity and worth as a citizen. He is also Master of Corinthian Lodge, No. 104, F. and A. M.

Mayor Morgan also manifests a decided interest in religious matters, is a consistent churchman, is the present clerk of Trinity Parish, and has been many years. He comes of a long-lived ancestry, his grandparents living to the advanced age of eighty, eighty-four, ninety, and ninety-six respectively.

The latter, Daniel Nash, who lived to the advanced age of ninety-six years, and from whom Mr. Morgan received his name, when seventy-four years of age

walked from New York to Westport in one day, a distance of forty-four miles.

June 10, 1868, Mr. Morgan united in marriage with Medora H., daughter of Capt. William A. Judson, a native of Huntington. Capt. Judson is a prominent and influential man, and has officiated in various capacities within the gift of his fellow-citizens. He has been senator and representative, and has served as justice of the peace nearly forty years.

The ancestors of both Mr. and Mrs. Morgan were sterling patriots during the Revolution. Agur Judson, great-grandfather of Mrs. Morgan, was a colonel in the war of the Revolution, and served from the beginning to the close of that arduous struggle.

Zedekiah Morgan, great-grandfather of Daniel N., was a captain in the Revolution and an active and determined patriot. During the war he kept a number of cavalry horses on a portion of the place still known in Newtown as the Morgan farm.

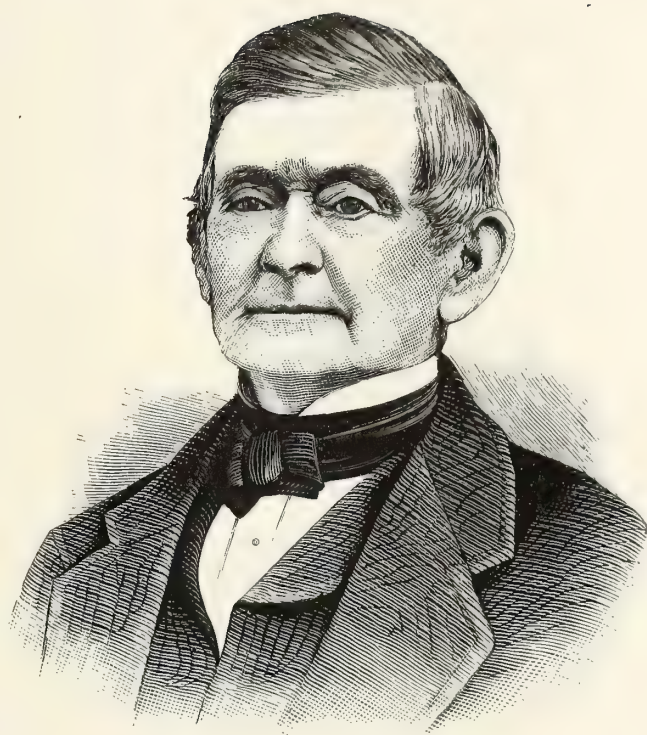
#### SHERMAN HARTWELL.

The subject of this sketch was born in the town of Washington, Litchfield Co., Conn., Dec. 2, 1790. Through his grandmother on the father's side he was connected with the Sherman family of Dedham, England. Several representatives of this family came to New England in 1634, and settled in Watertown, Mass., now Cambridge. Mr. Hartwell's particular line is through *Capt. John Sherman*, as distinguished from that of *Pastor John* of the same town, and of Samuel, brother of the latter, who removed and became a resident of Stratford, Conn. The grandmother of Mr. Hartwell was Rebecca Sherman, sister of the celebrated Roger Sherman, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and the family line may be traced as follows: 1. *Capt. John Sherman*, born 1613, in Dedham, England; 2. *Joseph*, born 1650, in Watertown, Mass.; 3. *William*, born 1692, married Rebecca Cutler (4. *Roger*, born 1721, married Elizabeth Hartwell); 5. *Isaac Hartwell*, born 1768, married Mary Pitcher; 6. *Sherman Hartwell*, born 1790, married Sophia Todd, daughter of Eli Todd, of New Milford. Roger Sherman spent his early life in New Milford.

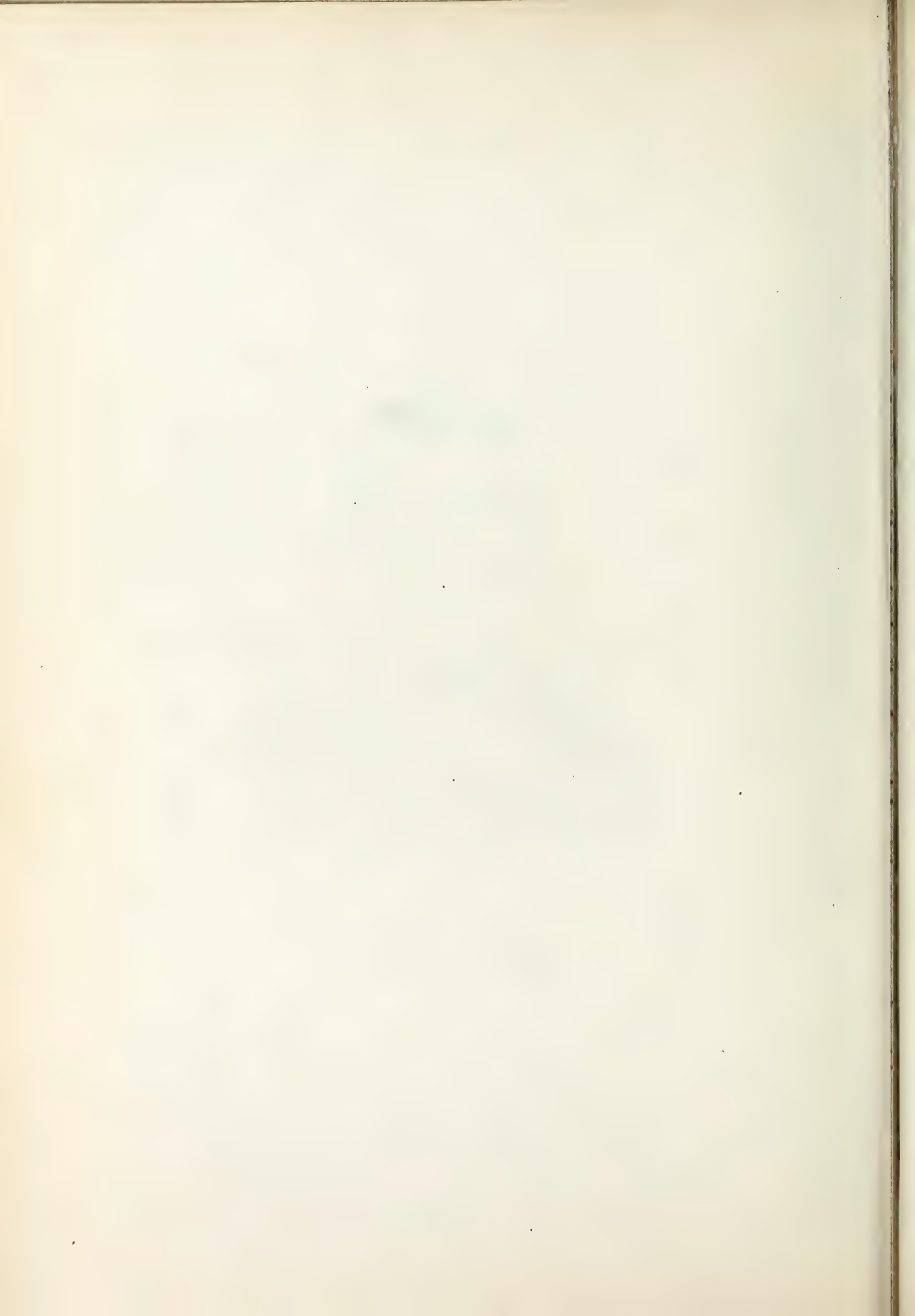
The Hartwell family came also to Litchfield County from the vicinity of Boston in the early part of the eighteenth century, and were among its most substantial citizens. This branch of the Sherman family and the Hartwell family seem to have been intimately connected, as the wife of Roger Sherman was the sister of Joseph Hartwell.

The early years of Mr. Sherman Hartwell were spent on his father's farm in Washington. His educational advantages were only such as were afforded by the district schools of his native town. He made such proficiency, however, as to fit himself acceptably as a teacher, and taught school in Kingston, N. Y.,

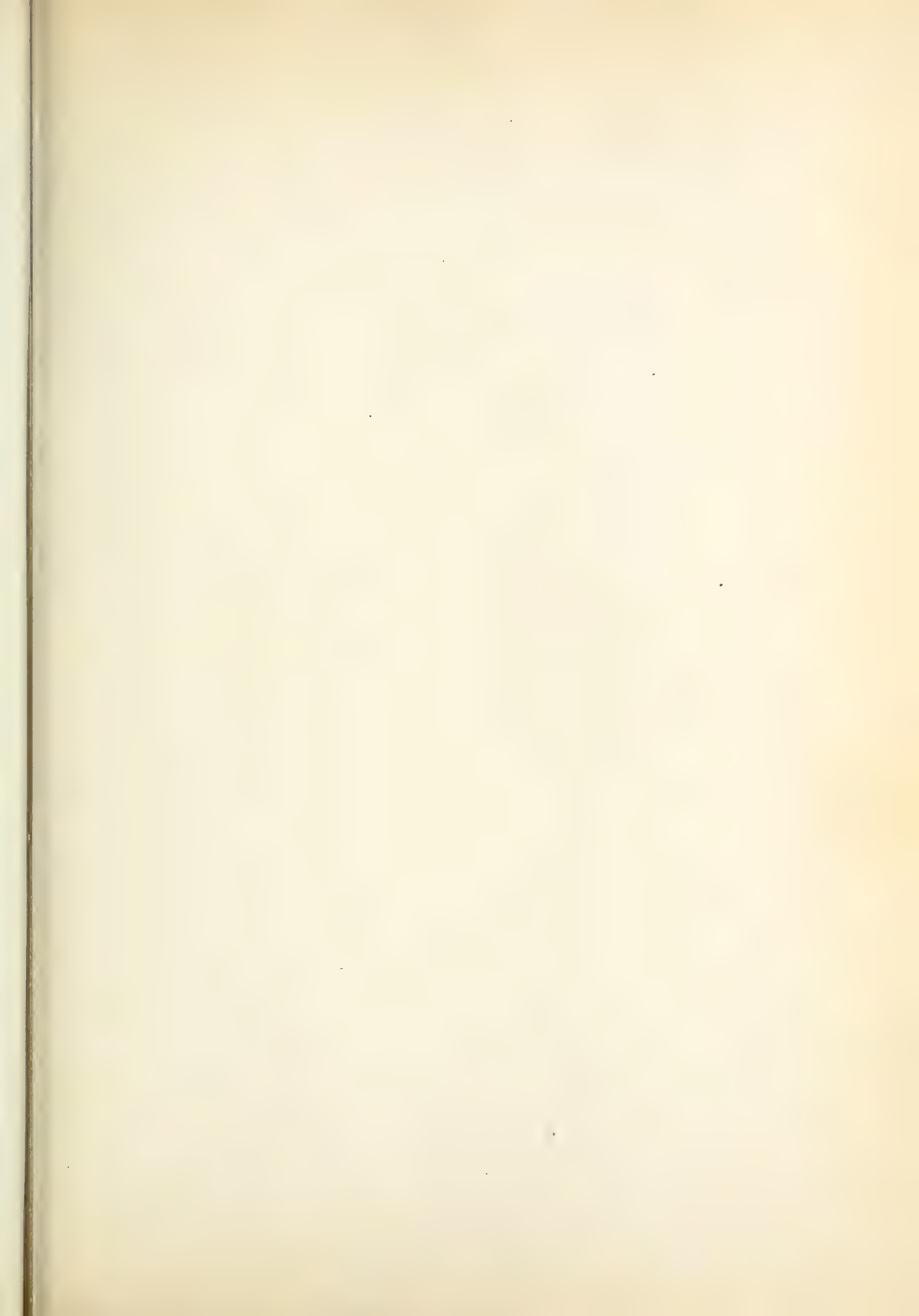




*A. Northwell*









*J. De Yoe Warner*



one or more years, when he was about twenty years of age. Returning therefrom to Connecticut, he entered the store of Mr. Eli Todd, in New Milford, where he continued several years.

In 1813, assisted by Mr. Todd, Mr. Hartwell started a country store in the town of Warren, adjoining his native town. Here he continued business by himself and in successive partnerships with a Mr. Starr and Burton Gilbert for twenty-five years, and by patient toil, frugality, and thrift laid the foundation of his ample estate.

In 1838, Mr. Hartwell removed to Bridgeport, rather as an experiment for the benefit of the health of Mrs. Hartwell. The change proving beneficial, he made his permanent residence here, and thereafter became thoroughly identified with Bridgeport and its institutions. For a short time he engaged in merchandising on Water Street, in connection with the late Charles De Forest. In 1844 we find him on the "council of safety" (with twelve others of the most substantial men of the city) to advise in all matters relative to the city bonds issued in aid of the Housatonic Railroad Company. This subject presented a problem of appalling financial interest at that period, and in its treatment Mr. Hartwell rendered valuable aid. It was manfully grappled with, and by a wise and careful management time has wrought a comparatively easy solution.

From 1840 to 1848 he was nearly all the time a member of the Common Council of the city and participated actively in city affairs, especially in matters of finance. He was agent for the management of the funded indebtedness of the city and the payment of interest on the same from 1848 to 1858.

It was, however, in connection with our banking interests that Mr. Hartwell was best and most favorably known. On the reconstruction of the old Bridgeport Bank after the disastrous period of 1837, he became an active and efficient director, and contributed largely in bringing it up to the position it soon attained as one of the soundest and most prosperous institutions in the State. On the death of Silvanus Sterling, Esq., in 1848, Mr. Hartwell became president, and filled that position ably and successfully until 1869, when he positively declined a re-election. His active connection with this bank thus covered a period of thirty-one years. During this time there were many seasons of financial stringency and embarrassment, sometimes very trying. Mr. Hartwell so thoroughly enjoyed the friendship and confidence of leading bankers in New York—the late R. Withers, president of the old Bank of the State of New York, E. G., and others—as to be of great service in such periods. In the discharge of his often delicate duties Mr. Hartwell exhibited great urbanity and kindness, mingled with firmness, and his superior judgment and ability were recognized. On his relinquishment of his official relations to the bank he was tendered the free use at his pleasure of his chair and desk in the directors'

room, of which he availed himself more or less quite to the close of his lengthened life.

Mr. Hartwell was also an active trustee of the Bridgeport Savings Bank for a number of years. On the organization of the City Savings Bank, in 1859, he became identified with that institution, and continued a trustee and vice-president to the time of his death, Jan. 16, 1876. He was very methodical and careful in all his transactions, and retained his interest in affairs to the last.

Mr. Hartwell united with the Congregational Church in Warren, Conn., during his residence there. Soon after his removal to Bridgeport, he and his family became connected with the First Congregational Church and Society, where they have ever been a pillar of strength.

The following are the names of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell, only one of whom survives: Mary,\* born 1818, married Hon. Simeon B. Chittenden; Rachel Todd,\* born 1822, married Timothy P. Chapman; Eli Merwin,\* born 1827, died 1829; Sophia, born 1830, married John N. Bonesteel; Sidney,\* born 1832, died 1833; Cornelia,\* born 1834, married Robert Hubbard, M.D.

#### I. DE VER WARNER, M.D.

Dr. I. De Ver Warner was born in Linckaleen, Chenango Co., N. Y., March 26, 1840. He received a common-school and academic education, and, having decided upon the medical profession as a life-work, entered the office of Dr. C. M. Kingman, a leading physician and surgeon residing at McGrawville, Cortland Co., N. Y. He pursued his studies with diligence and attention, and subsequently, when only twenty-one years of age, graduated at the Geneva Medical College, and was valedictorian of his class.

He commenced the practice of his profession at Nineveh, Broome Co., N. Y., where he remained about two years, when he returned to McGrawville, and succeeded to the practice of his former preceptor, Dr. Kingman. An active practice soon convinced Dr. Warner that the masses should be taught concerning their physical organization, and he at once instituted a series of popular lectures, which he delivered with marked success throughout New England and the Middle States. Being a thorough master of his profession and a fine speaker, he drew large and intelligent audiences, and continued in the lecture-field about ten years. During this time he became convinced that many of the diseases of women were the result of illy-contrived corsets, and at once set about to institute the much-needed reform, and became the inventor of the celebrated Warner health corset. The manufacture of this corset was commenced at McGrawville, N. Y., where it was continued until 1876.

\* Deceased.

The corset at once became immensely popular, and, desiring increased facilities for manufacture and shipping, Dr. Warner decided to locate in this city, and after selecting a site the erection of their present large brick factory was commenced in August, and on the 5th of the following October the manufacture of corsets was begun. Not content with producing a corset which worked a revolution in the manufacture of this much-needed article, he still gave it his study, and three years ago patented and began the manufacture of the famous flexible-hip corset, the improvement being that the bones run around the body instead of up and down. He has also other patents in embryo. From a small shop, where six hands were employed, the business has rapidly increased, until at the present time they employ over one thousand persons, and the daily capacity is three hundred and fifty dozen corsets. They operate five hundred Wheeler & Wilson sewing-machines. The firm has a large store in New York, and also one in Chicago, which is the only exclusive jobbing corset-house in the West. The junior member of the firm, Dr. L. C. Warner, is at present in Europe, and has completed arrangements for the manufacture of the Warner corset by the large firm of Footman, Pretty & Nicholson, of Ipswich, England. The manufacture is also to be introduced into Paris.

Thus, within an almost incredibly short period, this energetic firm has inaugurated an industrial enterprise of vast proportions, of which not only Bridgeport, but New England and the entire country, may justly feel proud. It is the largest establishment of its kind in America, and justly merits its success. By a strict attention to business, coupled with an indomitable will and the manufacture of the best quality of goods, Dr. Warner has succeeded in building up in this city the largest corset-manufactory in the world.

Sept. 24, 1862, he united in marriage with Lucetta M. Greenman, a native of McGrawville, Cortland Co., N. Y., and has three children,—Annie L., De Ver H., and Hugh F. The last named died May 1, 1879.

#### JARRATT MORFORD.

A man who entirely by his own efforts has risen to affluence and social position, and through all the changing events of an active business life has preserved his integrity unimpeached, well deserves the pen of the historian. Such an one is Jarratt Morford, the subject of this sketch. Without the advantages of inherited aid he worked the problem of his own fortune, and lives to enjoy the fruition of a successful business career.

He was born in Shrewsbury, N. J., March 29, 1817, and was one of a family of eight children of George Morford and Maria Wardell.\* His boyhood was

passed in his native town, like the youth of that period generally, working at farm labor during the summer season and attending school in the winter. When only twelve years of age he entered as a clerk the retail grocery establishment of Klots & Tralford in New York City. Here he remained six years, and then became a clerk in the store of C. & R. Wardell & Co., wholesale grocers in New York, and after a service here of six years came to Bridgeport, then a small village, as clerk for the late D. H. Sterling, who was a wholesale grocer, and for that day doing a large business. He remained in the employ of Mr. Sterling about four years, and on the 12th of April, 1845, thirty-five years ago, commenced business for himself as a member of the firm of Morford, Blakeman & Co., wholesale grocers. Mr. Blakeman, who is now a member of the firm of Ivison, Blakeman, Phinney & Co., publishers, of New York, continued with the firm only about six months, and disposed of his interest to Mr. L. C. Northrop, and the business was conducted under the firm-name of Morford, Northrop & Co., the "Co." being Mr. Philo Hurd, about four years, when Mr. Samuel C. and David Trubee purchased Mr. Northrop's interest. Samuel C. remained with the firm but a few years, when he retired, and this large business has since been carried on under the name, familiar to business men throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts, of Morford & Trubee. During the long career of this firm they have occupied only two stores, the old one, No. 346, and the present one, first occupied in 1870, 356 and 358 Water Street.

At the beginning of business the sales were meagre, amounting to about seventy-five thousand dollars per year, and as an illustration of the rapid development of the business, it is stated that the value of the annual sales now reaches from six hundred thousand to eight hundred thousand dollars, while at times their monthly sales reach the sum of ninety-five thousand dollars. The house handles an immense amount of flour and sugar, and also owns a flouring-mill at Kalamazoo, Mich., with a capacity of nine hundred barrels per week. While the success of this business has been something remarkable, it has not been attained without the exercise of good judgment and a strict attention to the business in all its details. From the beginning Mr. Morford has given the business his *personal attention*, and to this fact, which is too much undervalued by many young business men of to-day, is attributed much of his success. During the various financial panics which have swept over the country this house remained firm, and, remarkable as it may appear in the life of an active business man, from the beginning to the present time not a year has elapsed that Mr. Morford has not made more than his expenses.

Mr. Morford has educated numerous young men in business, many of whom have become successful in their various spheres. Among the number may be

\* Mr. Morford's ancestors were among the pioneers of Shrewsbury, and the present town of Red Bank is located upon a portion of his father's original purchase.



mentioned Melanctha M. Hurd, now a member of the celebrated publishing house of Hurd & Houghton.

Mr. Morford is a public-spirited and generous citizen, popular with the masses, and manifests a deep interest in all matters tending to advance the interests of the city of Bridgeport.

Politically he is a Democrat, and an earnest advocate of the principles of that party. In 1858 he was elected first selectman of the town, and held the office three years, the second year being nominated by both parties. Mr. Morford established the present system of taking care of the town-poor, and reduced the pauper expenses in one year from twenty-two thousand dollars to five thousand five hundred dollars. He was elected mayor in 1864, and it was largely through his influence, and during his administration as mayor, that Seaside Park, one of the finest in the country, also Washington and Beardsley Parks, were commenced.

Mayor Morford also manifests a lively interest in ecclesiastical matters. He is a churchman, was junior warden in St. John's Church, was one of the founders of Trinity Church, and has been senior warden since its organization, in 1863.

Nov. 19, 1844, he united in marriage with Anna Eliza Annin, a native of New York City, and has two children living,—Esther Holmes and George, both of whom reside in Bridgeport. Mrs. Morford is a descendant of John Annin, one of the pioneers of Basking Ridge, N. J., and Jonathan Dickinson, the founder and first president of Princeton College. The old Annin homestead is still standing, which was erected over one hundred and fifty years ago. The Annins were of the Scotch nobility.

Mr. Morford's life has been one of steady and active devotion to business, and his great success has been the natural result of his ability to examine and readily comprehend any subject presented to him, power to decide promptly, and courage to act with vigor and persistency in accordance with his convictions.

#### CHARLES KETCHUM AVERILL.

The subject of this sketch is descended from an old New England family, dating from an ancestor, Isaac Averill, who, in 1700, with two brothers, emigrated from Milford Haven, Wales, and settled in Topsfield, Mass.

Nathan Averill, father of Charles K., was born April 10, 1774, in New Preston, Litchfield Co., Conn., and married Polly Ketchum, of Salisbury, Conn., and of whom lived to a ripe old age, the former dying at the age of ninety-two, and the latter at the age of ninety. Their family consisted of nine children,—six sons and three daughters. Their eldest son, Henry, married a niece of Chancellor Kent, and their eldest daughter married Chancellor Walworth, the eminent jurist of New York.

Charles K. Averill was born in Granville, N. Y., Oct. 6, 1812. His boyhood was passed in the village of Plattsburgh, N. Y., where he was educated at the Plattsburgh Academy, at that time the leading educational institution in Northern New York.

In early life he exhibited a fondness for mercantile pursuits and the counting-room. At the age of thirteen he accepted a clerkship in a store at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and in 1830 removed to the city of New York, and became a clerk in the wholesale jobbing-house of Joseph B. Varnum, 165 Pearl Street. While here, as a branch of education, he took up during his leisure hours the science of double-entry book-keeping, and became familiar with books and accounts. After a few months he was promoted to assistant book-keeper, and finally became the book-keeper for the concern.

In the winter of 1862 he accepted an invitation from the late Morris Ketchum, Esq., to come to Bridgeport and reside, and on the 14th of March of the same year he was unanimously elected treasurer of the Housatonic Railroad Company, and has since held that office. He is also treasurer of the "Bridgeport Steamboat Company," and has held that office for fifteen years.

Mr. Averill has always prominently identified himself with the community wherein he has resided, and has held at various times the office of recorder and acting mayor of Michigan City, Ind.; postmaster in Vermont; and councilman, alderman, assessor, and police commissioner in this city. While in New York he held a commission from Governor William L. Marcy as captain in the One Hundred and Forty-Second Regiment of infantry, and his company was chiefly composed of Pearl Street clerks.

Mr. Averill is a staunch Democrat, whose first vote was given for Andrew Jackson, hard money, and the honest payment of all debts.

He is a consistent churchman, a member of St. John's Church—Protestant Episcopal—in this city, in which he is now senior warden. He is also treasurer of the parish. April 9, 1838, he united in marriage with Jane M., seventh daughter of John H. Sumner, of Claremont, N. H., and their family consists of five children: Lucy, Mary, Henry D., Jane, and Charles. Henry D. is general ticket agent of the Housatonic Railroad.

#### ISAAC SHERMAN.

Isaac Sherman was born in the parish of Stratfield, now Bridgeport, Sept. 25, 1788. He was the youngest son of David and Rebecca (French) Sherman. The paternal residence was on Division Street, now Park Avenue, a short distance above North Avenue, on the site of the present residence of Mr. John H. Beach. It was the homestead of three generations bearing the honored name of David Sherman, in direct succession,

all of them men of mark in their time. This family came from Samuel Sherman, the first settler of the name in Stratford, Conn., through Matthew, one of his eight sons, who very early came to Stratfield, and located at or near the above-mentioned spot. Matthew Sherman was one of the constituent members of the Stratfield Church (now the First Congregational Church of Bridgeport) at its organization in 1695, and with others brought his letter of dismission from Stratford. Samuel, the father of Matthew, emigrated to Boston from Dedham, in Essex, England, in 1634, in company with his distinguished brother, Rev. John Sherman, and their cousin, Capt. John Sherman. While both the latter settled in Watertown, Mass., Samuel, who was married to Sarah Mitchell (daughter of Matthew Mitchell and ———), pushed on to Connecticut, first to Wethersfield, and from thence to Stratford. Here he reared his family of eight sons and one daughter, all or nearly all heads of families, having their representatives in all parts of the country.

At the risk of digression, it may be of interest to note here that John, one of the sons of Samuel, who went from Stratford to Woodbury, Conn., was the ancestor of W. T. Sherman, General of the United States army, and of the distinguished Secretary of the Treasury, Hon. John Sherman, of Ohio, their father and grandfather having removed to Cleveland about 1820.

The family line of Isaac Sherman may be given as follows:

In England, Henry Sherman, of Dedham, England, married Agnes Butler. He died 1580.

In England, son Edmund first married, in 1569, Ann Pellett; second marriage, in 1584, to Ann Clark.

In England, son Edmund married, in 1611, Judith Angier; came to this country in 1634; some time in Watertown, Mass., and died at New Haven, Conn., in 1641.

In Stratford, first, Samuel, baptized 1618; married Sarah Mitchell.

In Stratfield, second, Matthew, born 1645; married Hannah —.

In Stratfield, third, Lieut. David, born 1692; married, second, Sarah Thompson.

In Stratfield, fourth, David, born 1736; married Mary Sterling.

In Stratfield, fifth, David, born 1757; married Rebecca French.

In Stratfield, sixth, Isaac, born 1788; married, 1810, Maria Burroughs.

The children of Isaac and Maria (Burroughs) Sherman were as follows, none of whom survive: Mary, born 1812, died 1857; David, born 1814, died 1815; Eliza, born 1816, married Darwin Warner, died in 1845; Jane Eleanor, born 1819, married Rowland B. Lacey, died in 1857; Harriet, born 1825, died 1825.

Very early in life Mr. Sherman compiled and executed quite artistically a genealogical chart, showing

at a glance his descent, on his father's side, from Matthew Sherman (son of Samuel) and Jacob Sterling, and on his mother's side from Samuel French and John Edwards, heads of four families of first settlers here, with the collateral branches in each generation.

At the lower right-hand corner is represented the log house of the original settler, a large group of children with the mother at the door, and at a short distance in the clearing is the husband and father, with uplifted axe felling the forest-tree.

At the left hand, surrounded by significant emblems, is engrossed the following:

"This genealogical table was designed and executed by Isaac Sherman : . . from motives of duty and filial affection for his ancestors, whose names are remembered with respect and honor in this new country, of which they were among the first settlers."

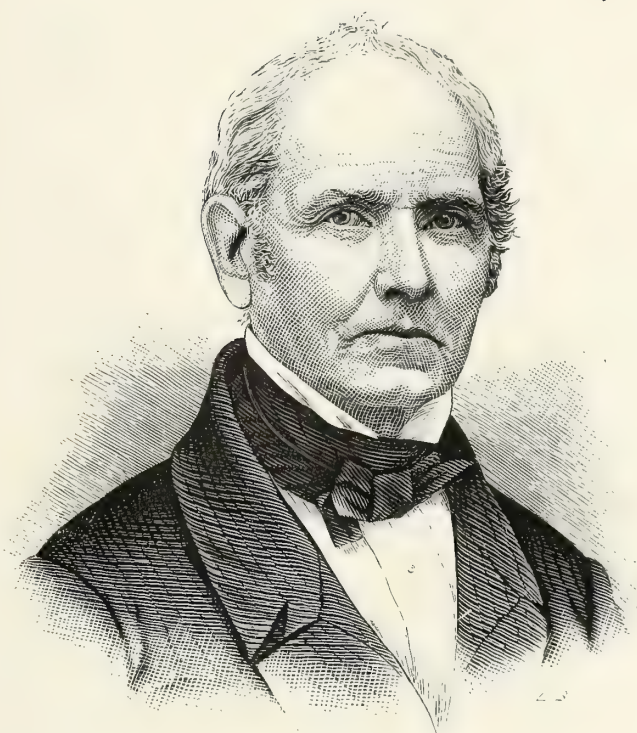
This tribute, which is preserved and cherished by Mr. Sherman's descendants, shows a drift of mind which was more fully developed in after-years, and will be again referred to.

The son was not wanting in respect for his father, but Mr. Sherman was accustomed to acknowledge his indebtedness to his mother more than to any earthly friend for the formation of his character and the foundation of his religious life. His school education was limited, such only as was afforded by the district school at the four corners (now of Park and North Avenues). It had been the intention of his father to give him a liberal education, but the loss of a valuable vessel and cargo crippled him financially, and the idea was abandoned.

Almost the only avenue open to an aspiring young man without capital was the sea. Despite its risks, Isaac betook himself to this, with the approbation of his parents, at the age of sixteen years. He followed it with varying success for upwards of four years, having twice been shipwrecked on the New Jersey coast, with the loss of all things except his dauntless purpose to rise. At the end of this period he came out with ninety-five dollars ahead. To this his good mother added five dollars, thus giving him a capital of one hundred dollars. Observant of his manly qualities, his excellent uncle, Dr. James Eaton Beach, furnished nine hundred dollars additional capital, and thus started the firm of Beach & Sherman, located on Water Street, in a grocery business, conducted solely by Mr. Sherman. So successful was he that the capital of the firm was doubled by his profits the first year.

Shortly after, his brother, Capt. Sterling Sherman, was admitted as a partner, with additional capital, and the business was continued successfully up to 1814, a period of seven years in all. At the close of the second war, commonly known as the war of 1812, the political and international situation was not favorable for mercantile and maritime pursuits in this country, and there followed for Mr. Sherman a year of enforced





*Isaac Hurman*





quiet, which completely cured him, as he said, "of ever wishing to spend any part of his life in idleness."

In December, 1810, he married Maria, the eldest daughter of Stephen Burroughs, Jr., and purchased the house, then recently built, on the northeast corner of Main and Gold Streets, which was the only home of his married life of fifty-three years.

In 1815 he joined his father-in-law in the grocery, grain, Boston and New York coasting business, which was successfully continued up to 1831, with the exception of an interval of four years in partnership with Capt. John Brooks, Jr., in the same line of business. The firm of Burroughs & Sherman owned a number of vessels, and built the schooner "Nassau" for a Boston coaster. During her second year this vessel was sent in command of Capt. Lent M. Hitchcock, under charter of some merchants from New York, to Saint Stephens, on the Tombigbee River (Alabama). On this trip, June, 1817, she was the first American vessel to enter the port of Mobile after it came into the possession of the United States. She continued to run to Mobile under the same command, with good success about four years, when the trade had increased so much as to require larger vessels.

In 1832, Mr. Sherman retired from active commercial life, but not from active usefulness. Indeed, he never ceased to be useful. While physical strength remained he was busy, according to the principle expressed in his journal: "I believe it best for me to exercise myself in some honest and useful employment as long as health will permit."

As early as the year 1819, Mr. Sherman had been appointed justice of the peace, and this office he retained after his retirement from business, and until 1851. In the same year of his withdrawal from mercantile business he became town clerk, and held the office sixteen years by successive annual elections. He was also town treasurer twenty-two years by the annual suffrages of his fellow-citizens, and during this period his office was headquarters for conveying, and indeed all public business. Later he was for a time judge of Probate and recorder of the city.

He seemed reluctant to take part in the administration of the city government. Having once been elected alderman he declined to qualify, as is supposed, from a disinclination to attend the evening sessions of the Common Council, often very much protracted, yet he was not wanting in interest in municipal affairs. In the trying times of 1844 he was a member of the council of safety, appointed by the city to advise in all matters connected with the city bonds issued for the benefit of the Housatonic Railroad Company. Mr. Sherman was the secretary of the council, and the meetings were generally held in his office. The records of the council are extant.

To these and other duties Mr. Sherman added an agency for procuring pensions for Revolutionary soldiers and widows of deceased soldiers. From the absence of early records the establishment of these

claims by the requisite proofs frequently involved an amount of investigation and persevering labor almost incredible. He never undertook doubtful cases. His papers were always made out with great care and clearness, and it came to be understood that their special reliability was recognized at the pension office in Washington. This was all the more true as Commissioner Edwards, who so long and ably administered the Pension Bureau at this period, knew his personal worth.

That he was a most industrious man is amply attested by voluminous records, original deeds and other conveyances, wills and documents, which are preserved in the archives of the town of Bridgeport, the Bridgeport Probate District, and the private box of nearly every property-holder of his time in this vicinity. Yet, though so busy and so efficient, those who knew him well remember his quiet manner, and how, if he ever hastened, he seemed to illustrate the maxim, "Make haste slowly."

This part of our sketch would not be complete or just without allusion to the last contribution made by Mr. Sherman, for the benefit of those who should come after him. His long life in this community and his extensive personal acquaintance, his familiarity with the church and parish records, his respect for his own ancestry—already noticed—and his genealogical studies, his intercourse with and fondness for old people, his extensive business intercourse, his investigations for the establishment of pension claims, his experience in connection with the settlement and distribution of estates, all contributed to furnish his observant and retentive mind with a fund of information regarding the early settlement and history of Stratfield and Bridgeport. He could give the exact location of the old family homes, and much about the descendants, the settlement of the Newfields (now the city of Bridgeport), the rise and progress of business, the business firms, how composed, how located, and whether successful or otherwise, etc. No one had attempted to cover the field, and no one living could do it as he could, and unless by him committed to paper, at his decease it was certain that very much would be inevitably lost. This consideration was frequently urged upon him for years without success. After his retirement from public business, to the quiet of an office improvised under the domestic roof, the situation seemed favorable, and his consent to enter upon the work was gained. The plan was laid out for him, and he entered upon it timidly, as he said "his early education was defective, and had not qualified him to write history," but his interest and his confidence grew as he progressed. The result was not a complete history, but the embodiment of a mass of fact and valuable information of great value. To those who would study the early history of Bridgeport and Stratfield, or their families, "Esquire Sherman's Recollections" are a necessity, and every passing year they increase in value.

Mr. Sherman's religious convictions commenced early in life. They were grounded on the Word of God, were pronounced, and influenced his whole being. He and his estimable wife together united with the Stratfield church, the church of his fathers, in 1812. Though modest and retiring, here, as in secular matters, his worth was thoroughly appreciated and his services sought. In 1830 he was elected to the office of deacon, and continued in active service until 1858. He was for a long period upon the Society (or Parish) Committee, and its most active member. He was also clerk and treasurer of the church. The responsibility and labor involved in this connection added very materially to his daily cares and duties. As to how they were met, his pastor in his funeral discourse bears this testimony: "In the heart to see the house of God prosper, and thoughtfulness for widows, for the poor and bereaved, he was without fault. Many a child of sorrow has called him blessed." He was not ambitious for wealth. This is apparent from his early voluntary retirement from mercantile business, also from the firm Christian principle which led him to decline, when a young man, to sell liquor by the glass, and this long before the temperance reformation, while it was customary and entirely respectable to do so. It was urged upon him, and visions of wealth were painted before his eyes. But he was inflexible, and would have no share in a traffic which was injurious, which *he* saw to be wrong, whether others did or not.

Having acquired a moderate competency, he seemed only desirous of earning by his useful labors enough to provide for his moderate family expenses and disbursements for religious and charitable purposes. These latter probably seldom, if ever, fell short of the Scripture rule of one-tenth of his income. He often remarked that "it was a very nice thing to live right;" and again, that Agur understood the matter pretty well in his prayer; "Remove far from me vanity and lies. Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me," etc. In his own estimation, he had not much religion to speak of. But his life told, and, referring to it, it was well said in the funeral discourse before quoted: "One exemplary, faithful, kind, peaceable, loving, practical Christian life, sustained to the last—such as our lamented and venerable friend has led in this community—is worth to the cause of God and truth and human salvation, more than all mere head orthodoxy,—the spasmodic piety, the exhortations and conversations, which are so common and so cheap in every place,—all put together—a thousand fold. Such a life is a 'living epistle' written not with pen and ink, but with the finger of God. Men cannot help reading it, nor can they help believing it.

"So lived and labored

ISAAC SHERMAN,

And rested Nov. 23, 1863."

#### ROWLAND B. LACEY.

If one were to choose a proper title for the biography of the subject of the present sketch, no fitter one could be found than "Record of a busy and exceedingly useful life." Rowland Bradley Lacey, only son of Jesse and Edna (Munson) Lacey, was born at Easton, Conn., April 6, 1818, and comes from excellent New England stock, being connected upon his mother's side with the family of President Stiles, of Yale College, and directly descended from John Haynes, the first Governor of Connecticut colony, and his wife, Mabel Harlakenden. Upon his father's side he is descended from John Lacey, an early settler of Stratfield Parish, and Deacon David Sherman and Deacon Henry Rowland, both of whom were pillars in the ancient First Church. His great-grandfather, Edward Lacey, son of John, removed to North Fairfield, now Easton, in 1756, and was one of the founders of that town. His grandfather, Zachariah Lacey, son of Edward, was a Revolutionary soldier, who served under Washington at the time of the evacuation of New York, and afterwards commanded a small guard which was stationed for a time upon Fairfield beach. Rowland Lacey was brought up upon his father's farm in Easton, receiving the usual common-school education of the day. When fourteen years of age he was sent to a select private school, taught by Eli Gilbert, in Redding, Conn. At the early age of fifteen and a half years he commenced teaching a district school in his native town; and in the summer of 1834, and the following winter, taught the large public school upon Redding Ridge, many of the pupils being quite as old as their youthful preceptor.

Among those who attended this school were Mr. Henry Sanford, of this city; Sheriff Aaron Sanford, of Newtown; Henry B. Fanton, of Danbury, and others. The next year was passed as a pupil at Easton Academy, after which, in April, 1836, at the age of eighteen, he removed to Bridgeport. This place was then only a small village of some three or four thousand inhabitants, with very few of the public improvements now possessed. There were no parks, no sewers, no gas, a very scanty supply of public water, and flagged sidewalks only in a portion of three or four business streets. The principal public buildings were the Bridgeport and Connecticut banks and the wooden Sterling Hotel on Main Street, then just completed.

Mr. Lacey's first occupation in Bridgeport was that of assistant postmaster. This place he held, at first under Stephen Lounsbury, and afterwards under Smith Tweedy, for nearly four years, with an interval of about six months in 1838, which were spent in study at Easton Academy.

On the opening of the Housatonic Railroad,—one of the very first roads of the country,—in December, 1839, Mr. Lacey took a position in the transportation department, and as agent at Bridgeport bore a large





Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*R. B. Leary*

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share of the responsibilities of operating the road. For several years during the winter season this was the only steam line between New York and Albany, and the traffic was very heavy, taxing to the utmost not only the meagre facilities for handling freight, etc., but the mettle and resources of the management. The duties intrusted to Mr. Lacey, however, were faithfully and successfully performed until March, 1844, when he voluntarily withdrew, not without the remonstrances and expressed regrets of Alfred Bishop and other leading men connected with the road. In taking leave of the railroad business, he had the satisfaction of feeling that not only had his services been highly prized by the company, but that no mistake or negligence of his had ever been the occasion of injury to either life or property. The immediate reason for his making the change was an unsolicited proposition upon the part of Messrs. Harral & Calhoun that he should take the position of book-keeper in their saddle-factory.

This was at that time one of the leading manufacturing establishments in Connecticut, doing a large and remunerative Southern trade, and having a warehouse in New York and a branch establishment in Charleston, S. C. Mr. Lacey soon became assistant manager of the manufactory, and so familiar with all the details, both of the saddle trade and the office business, that new hands who did not know to the contrary supposed that he had been brought up to it. In 1853 he became a member of the firm of Harral, Calhoun & Co. In 1858, after the death of Mr. Harral, the firm was reorganized under the name of Calhoun, Lacey & Co., and in 1863 the title was again changed to Lacey, Meeker & Co. The late war was almost a fatal blow to the saddlery business, the chief market for which was in the South. Not only did it cause immense losses, but it demoralized and impoverished the market, so much so as to render attempts to continue the business unprofitable, if not disastrous.

Between the years 1840 and 1850, Mr. Lacey was connected with the old volunteer fire department, as private member and as foreman of Company No. 1, and assistant engineer. In 1848 he drew up and procured the passage of a very full and explicit ordinance for the organization and government of the department. Previous to this time the several companies had been entirely independent of each other, and anything but harmony had prevailed. Under the new system the government was vested in a board of engineers, discipline was enforced, and the result was exceedingly advantageous in all respects. This plan continued in force until the adoption of the paid system in 1870.

Another field in which his influence has been felt is the Common Council, to which he was elected in 1848, 1852, 1853, and again in 1864.

About the year 1870 there was felt by leading citizens of Bridgeport to be a need of a better system of keeping the city accounts. Accordingly, at the re-

quest of Mayor Morford and other prominent gentlemen, Mr. Lacey visited New Haven and Hartford, Newark, N. J., and Springfield, Mass., in order to examine the methods of keeping the public accounts in use in those cities. From information thus acquired he drew up the present financial system, which, after having been revised, and in some respects elaborated, by Francis Ives, Esq., was adopted by the Common Council, Feb. 20, 1871. At the same time he was appointed city auditor, an office which he has filled with eminent ability and faithfulness to the present time, having been thrice re-elected to it,—viz., in 1874, 1877, and 1880. The original appointment was made under a Democratic administration as a non-partisan one, and has always had the support of leading men of both parties. As auditor of the city, all matters of finance and accounts pass under his inspection, and no bills or claims can be paid without his examination and approval. He has also been connected almost constantly during the above period with the street and sewer departments, as the clerk and man of business of the board of road and bridge commissioners, and as secretary of the Park commissioners. In addition to other services performed, all the men in both of these departments are paid their weekly wages by him personally, a matter of no small responsibility and labor. In all these transactions there has been a remarkable freedom from error, and the books and accounts have been kept with accuracy and care.

Mr. Lacey has also introduced system into the accounts of the town of Bridgeport, and since 1876 has had the management of the town sinking fund, which at the present time (October, 1880) amounts to over \$100,000. From his large experience, his services are frequently in demand to apportion the cost of sewers and pavements, and in fact, in so many forms does his work appear, that he has sometimes been accused of running the entire city government. He is continually called upon for advice and for data concerning city and town matters, both by residents of the place and by correspondents from abroad. In 1873 he commenced the compilation of the "Municipal Register," a work of several hundred pages, containing lists of city officers, public documents, financial statements, etc., together with historical information of great interest. This work has been published annually to the present time, and is invaluable as a work of reference.

From a very early period Mr. Lacey has taken a deep interest in the cause of education. On first coming to Bridgeport, when he was only eighteen years of age, his "spirit was stirred within him" at the low condition of the public schools. He addressed several communications to the newspapers upon this topic, and unaided obtained the services of Prof. J. Orville Taylor, of Albany, the common-school champion of the State of New York, to lecture here upon the subject. As the fruit of these efforts, the old

wooden building, inappropriately known as the High-school house, was demolished, and a substantial brick structure, at No. 200 State Street (now occupied for business purposes), took its place, and the services of such teachers as George W. Yates, and afterwards of Emory F. Strong and others, were secured.

Another subject in which Mr. Lacey has always been interested, and which in fact might be called his hobby, is the early history of this place and of its inhabitants.

Concerning the old families here his knowledge is varied and exceedingly accurate. It was at his suggestion that his father-in-law, Deacon Isaac Sherman, a life-long resident, wrote out a valuable series of articles, embodying his own early recollections, together with many facts that had been handed down from the first settlers. These articles, revised and corrected by Mr. Lacey, were published after the decease of Esquire Sherman.

The historical papers of the "Municipal Register" have already been alluded to, and mention ought also to be made of the many excellent and judicious obituary sketches from Mr. Lacey's pen which from time to time have been kindly contributed to the columns of our local newspapers when the ranks of our leading citizens have been thinned by death. These sketches have always been read with interest, though few besides the immediate friends of the deceased have been aware of their authorship, nor even they of the labor involved in their preparation. The biographies of the Rev. Henry Jones, Sherman Hartwell, and Isaac Sherman in the present volume, are from his hand.

As might be supposed, the services of a gentleman so well qualified have been in request in various positions of financial responsibility. He is at present a director in the Bridgeport National Bank and in the Bridgeport Mutual Insurance Company, also trustee in the Mechanics' and Farmers' Savings Bank, and his aid is often sought in the making of wills and in the management of estates and property, in such capacities as executor, administrator, conservator, or trustee.

For several years he was a director in the Mountain Grove Cemetery, and was on the committee for the first reappraisal of the lots. The old Stratfield Cemetery also, which has been used as a burying-place for more than two hundred years, has lately been placed under the charge of a committee, of which Mr. Lacey is the treasurer and active member, and by his instrumentality improvements are being made in the grounds.

With so many public duties devolving upon him, Mr. Lacey has been necessarily much absent from home, but he has always been an affectionate husband and father.

His first wife was Jane E., daughter of the late Isaac Sherman, Esq., of this city. They were married Nov. 17, 1841, but the union was dissolved by her death, April 5, 1857. His present wife, Mrs.

Elizabeth R. Boardman Lacey, was a daughter of the late Sherman Boardman, Esq., of Hartford. The date of their marriage is April 14, 1859. The children by the first marriage were (1) Mary Louisa, whose first husband was the late Maj. Ezra D. Dickerman, but who is now the wife of Samuel S. Hunter; (2) Edward Rowland, deceased; (3) Henry Rowland, deceased; (4) David Sherman, now in business in New York City. Miss Henrietta Boardman Lacey is Mr. Lacey's daughter by his second marriage.

In politics, Mr. Lacey in his early years was a member of the old Whig party, and a great admirer of Daniel Webster and Henry Clay. During the war he was an earnest Union man, and since its close he has acted with the Republican party, and may be classed as a conservative Republican, though he has many warm friends in each of the two political parties.

No sketch of the subject of this biography would be complete that did not give more than passing notice to the religious principles which are the foundation of his whole character,—the solid rock upon which the entire structure rests. Mr. Lacey was born and educated a Congregationalist of the Puritan type, yet, from early association with Christian people of other denominations, has always been catholic and liberal in his sentiments, though firmly adhering to the faith of his forefathers. About the year 1827 he was one of the original scholars in the first Sunday-school formed in the town of Redding, the Sunday-school then being a new institution. Mr. N. H. Lindley, now of this city, was his teacher in this school, but in his fifteenth year Mr. Lacey himself became a teacher. Previous to this time, May 6, 1832, at the age of fourteen years, he had made an open profession of religion, and united with the Congregational Church in Redding, a step due to the influence and the early religious instruction of a devoted Christian mother, more than to any other human source.

In July, 1837, he became a member of the First Congregational Church of this city, with which he has ever since been identified, both as deacon, to which office he was elected Aug. 30, 1850, and for a number of years as clerk and as treasurer of the church. From 1837 to 1850 he was a member of the choir. For many years he has also served in one or more of the following capacities: society's treasurer, member and chairman of society's committee, Sunday-school teacher, librarian, superintendent of Sunday-school, and teacher of a Bible class. His heart is in the Sunday-school work, and he considers himself as enlisted for life to serve this cause in some capacity.

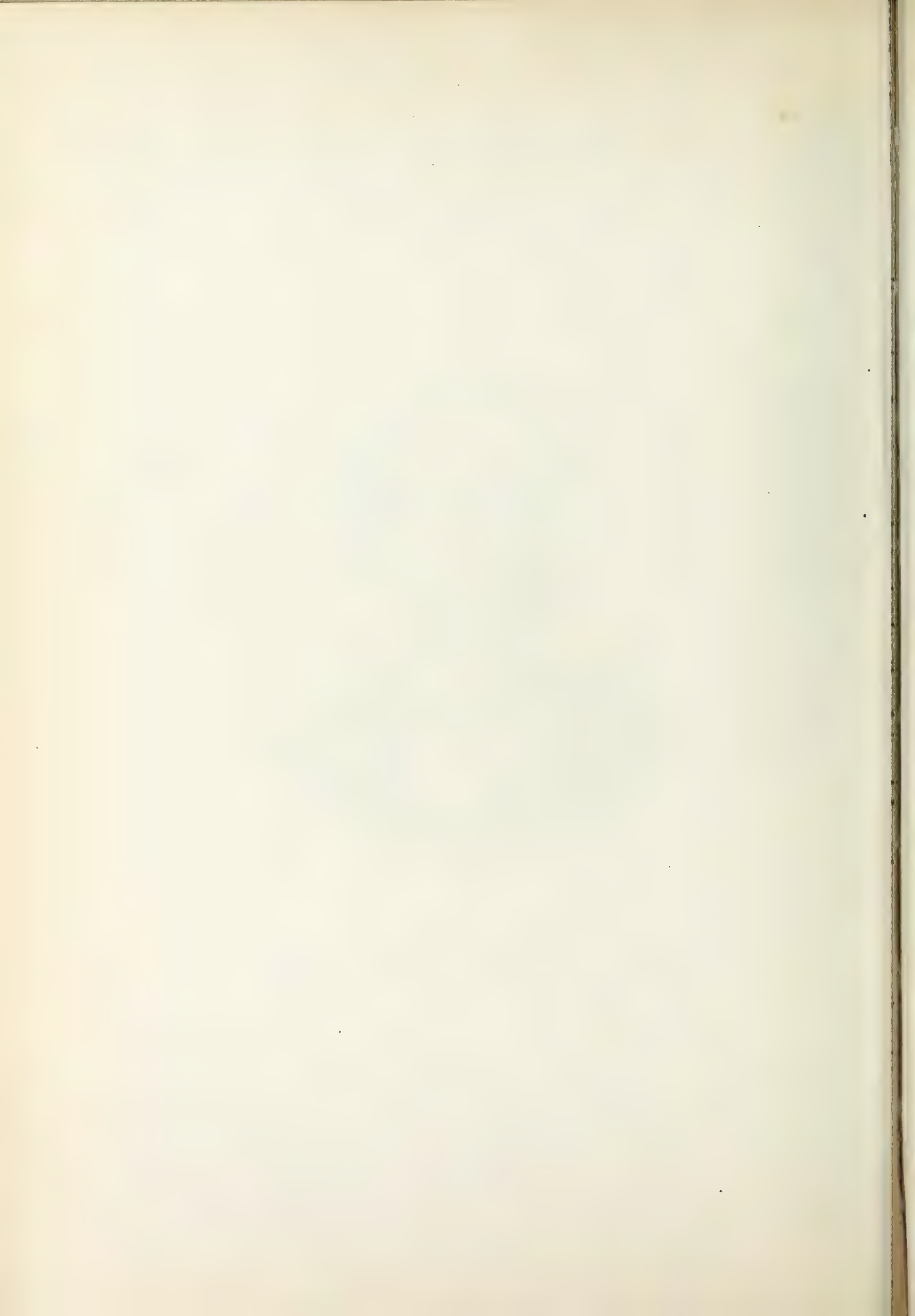
In connection with Henry W. Chatfield, now of New York, Mr. Lacey solicited and raised most of the funds for building the house of worship now occupied by the First Church, and was also a member of the building committee for the erection of the chapel adjoining.

These services are all important in their way, but

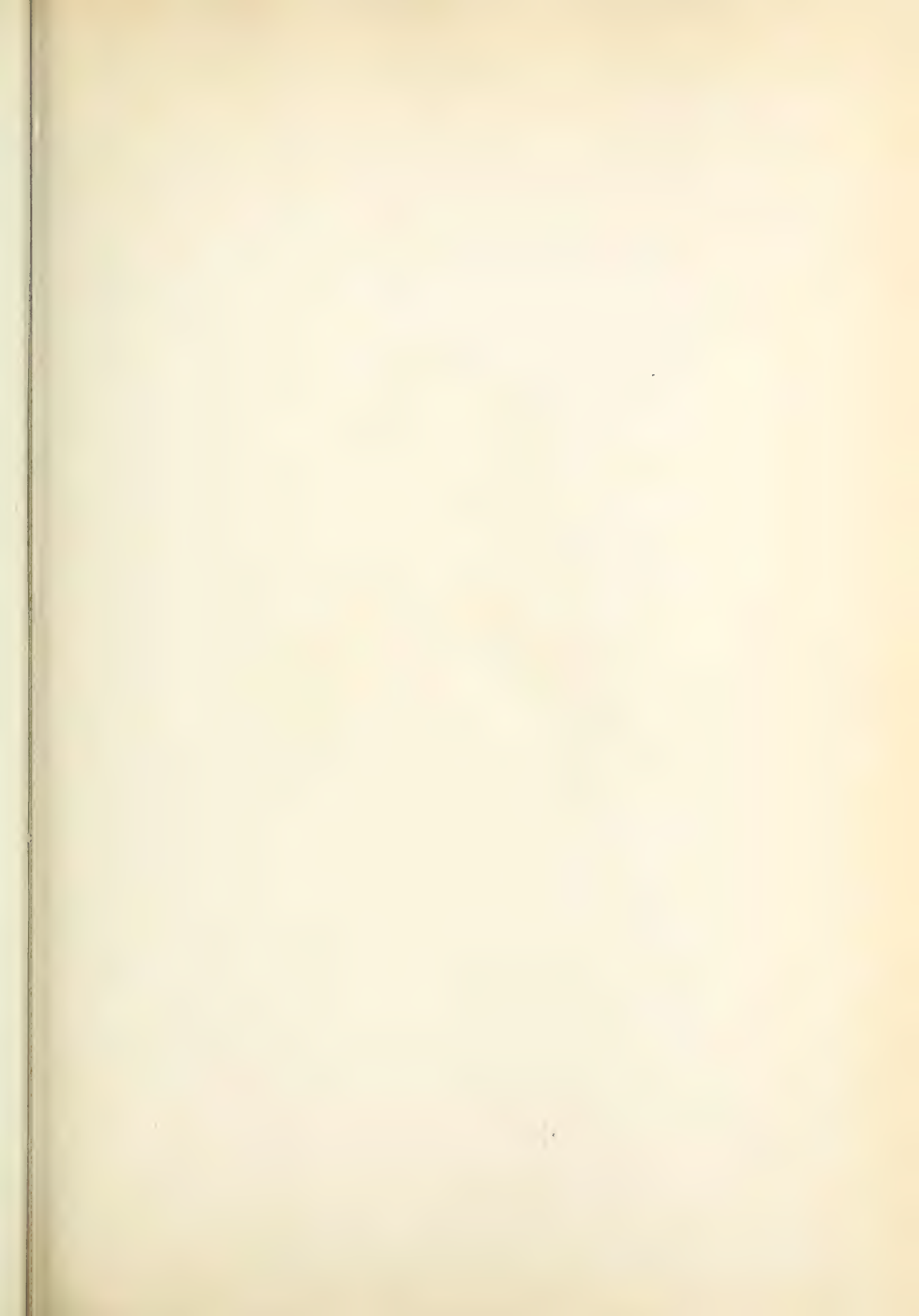




*John L. Wessels*









*A a Pettengill*





more important than any of them is the influence exerted by a constant and devoted, yet unostentatious, Christian life of more than forty years in this community.

Such a life is a more eloquent argument for the Christian religion than any sermon, however able, and such a character, together with

"That best portion of a good man's life,  
His little, nameless, unremembered acts  
Of kindness and of love,"

will at some future day be his legacy to those who bear his name, to the church of which he is a member, and to all who have in any way come within the sphere of his influence.

#### JOHN L. WESSELS.

The paternal ancestors of John L. Wessels were of German origin, and the maternal ones French Huguenots. Mr. Wessels was born in White Plains, Westchester Co., N. Y. He was son of James and Letitia Wessels. His grandfather, Hercules Wessels, was an old-time resident of White Plains, settling on the homestead (which was in the possession of his descendants until a few years ago) before the Revolution. He was a sterling patriot, and served as sergeant of Gen. Washington's body-guard during the entire period of the Revolutionary war, and was wounded at the battle of Yorktown.

James Wessels was a farmer, and John spent his early life at the old home, acquiring the physical vigor so essential to success in life, and also a common school education. When he was sixteen years old he entered his brother's store at Port Chester, in capacity of clerk. After one year's time he was called to take charge of a store in East Bridgeport, and remained there two years, when, seeing a good opportunity to engage himself in business, Mr. Wessels formed a partnership with Elias Hall, and purchased the stock of goods (groceries and hardware), and continued the trade for two years, when William H. Wessels, his brother, purchased Mr. Hall's interest. The brothers continued together in this business until 1877, when they sold the stock and fixtures, and opened a wholesale fruit and produce store on the corner of Wall and Water Streets, Bridgeport, where they are still in trade.

Mr. Wessels married, Sept. 23, 1862, Sarah A., daughter of James and Nancy Merritt, of Port Chester, N. Y.

Brought up by a father who was an old-line Whig and afterwards a Republican, Mr. Wessels has ever affiliated with the Republican party. The first Republican parade in East Bridgeport consisted of eighteen men and one boy. Mr. Wessels was that boy. Believing in the necessity of the prevalence of Republican principles, Mr. Wessels has been active and ardent in their support, a valued leader and coun-

selor, a member of town, county, and State committees, was placed in candidacy for the Legislature in 1878, but defeated with the entire Republican ticket; was elected mayor of Bridgeport in 1879,—the only candidate on the Republican ticket that was not defeated. He was unanimously renominated by acclamation on expiration of his term of office as mayor, but declined to accept on account of the pressure of business, which was rendered much heavier by the ill health of his brother.

Mr. Wessels has also been alderman for the Fifth Ward of Bridgeport for four years, and in the discharge of the duties of that office was chairman of several important committees. He was vice-president of the Republican State convention which met at New Haven in the spring of 1880 to elect delegates to the Republican National Convention at Chicago.

Mr. Wessels is a member of St. John's Lodge of Free Masons in Bridgeport, and for over twenty years has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, holding many offices in its gift, and is at present president of the board of trustees. He is largely engaged in Sunday-school work, and has held various positions in that connection.

Mr. Wessels was a charter member of Battery B, Light Artillery, Connecticut National Guards, organized in 1858, and was commissioned gun-sergeant, but soon promoted to third lieutenant, again to second lieutenant, first lieutenant, and captain. As captain, was senior artillery officer of the State.

As an individual, Mr. Wessels is social and pleasing, is very popular, and is justly considered one of Bridgeport's successful, progressive, public-spirited, and honorable citizens. While active and progressive he is also prudent, and never carried away by any visionary scheme or project, however brilliant it may appear, and is thus a careful guardian of public trusts or private interests and a sound counselor.

#### ALISON AMOS PETTENGILL.

Alison Amos Pettengill, son of Rev. Amos Pettengill, was born in the town of Champlain, Clinton Co., N. Y., Nov. 13, 1808. His father was a Congregational minister, and removed to Morris, in Litchfield County, in this State, when Alison A. was quite young, and here, at the Morris Academy, his education was commenced; and having prepared himself for a collegiate course, entered Middlebury College, Vt. He subsequently entered Yale College, where he graduated in the class of 1829. After graduation, during a period of nine years, he taught private select schools of a high grade in the towns of Stratford, Danbury, Fairfield, and Bridgeport. While conducting the school in this city in 1839, he purchased the materials of the newspaper known as the *Bridgeport Press* and changed the name to the *Republican Standard*, and continued as its editor and proprietor until



the spring of 1868, when H. B. Wildman and J. S. Hanover were admitted to an interest, and the paper was conducted under the firm-name of Pettengill & Co. Mr. Pettengill subsequently purchased their interest, and conducted the paper as sole editor and proprietor until 1863, when he disposed of it to John D. Candee, Esq.

Politically, Mr. Pettengill is a Republican, and was previously a Whig, and, although not an active politician, has held various offices within the gift of his fellow-citizens. He was a senator in 1845, and has also been a representative. He held the office of United States marshal four years, and was the census marshal for this State and appointed the census supervisors for 1850. He has also been a member of the Common Council of this city, and alderman several years. In the early days of the telegraph he was much interested in the matter, and acted as director of the company.

Mr. Pettengill is an earnest churchman, and a member of the vestry of St. John's Parish.

He has been twice married. His first wife was Elizabeth Philipps, of Danbury, who died in 1862. His present wife is Catharine A., daughter of the late Isaac Burroughs. Her grandfather, Stephen Burroughs, opened the second store in this city. He was during a long period a successful merchant.

Since Mr. Pettengill disposed of his interest in the *Standard* newspaper, he has lived a retired private life, and is honored and respected by all.

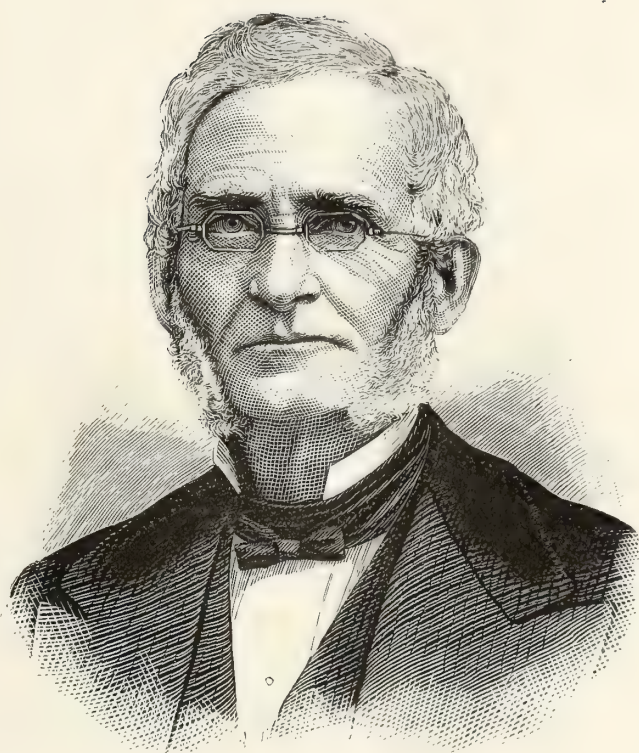
#### PHILO HURD SKIDMORE.

Philo Hurd Skidmore was born in Bethlehem, Litchfield Co., Conn., Oct. 1, 1817, living with his parents to the age of sixteen, enjoying the privileges of the district school during the winter months, and laboring with his father on the farm through the summer, securing thereby a healthy development of body and mind. He then went to New Haven as clerk in the wholesale grocery-store of Henry Oaks, where he served five years, securing the confidence and esteem of his employer. On completing his clerkship he was admitted a partner in the wholesale grocery-firm of Kidston & Hall,—Mr. Kidston retiring. He continued in this connection five years, doing a successful trade. During all these years he was an active member of the Young Mechanics' and Young Men's Institute, and one of the original founders of the latter.

In 1843 he returned to his native town and kept a country store, doing a varied and extensive business up to the year 1853, and by rigid economy and strict attention to business increased his little savings of early days to a moderate competence. Confidence in his ability and integrity gave him during these years the positions of town and parish treasurer, town clerk, collector, etc.

On the organization of the Woodbury Bank he was made a director to represent the Bethlehem stockholders. Its failure from the unwarranted transactions of the president and cashier was the first disaster of his life. Smarting under the chagrin of the failure of anything with which he was connected, in September, 1853, he came to Bridgeport, leaving his store in charge of his brother, and joined James E. Dunham in the dry-goods trade. He remained in this connection but a short time, retiring to accept the position of secretary and treasurer of the Pacific Iron-Works, vacant by the resignation of Hon. H. K. Harral. Wholly ignorant of mechanics, machinery, and manufacturing, it was a new existence to him, but with characteristic determination he grappled with the necessities of the situation, and after a struggle of eight years found the works with nothing to boast but safety from the almost universal wreck of the numerous joint-stock corporations organized at that period. The rising cloud of rebellion loomed a dark shadow over the future. The demand for armed vessels to enforce the blockade led to a contract with government to build and erect the machinery for the gunboat "Kanawha" for forty-five thousand dollars, in 1861. This resulted in a loss of twenty thousand dollars, which crippled the company and brought them to the verge of bankruptcy. At this time he was surety on a large amount of the company indebtedness and bonds to the government. In 1862 he became owner of the entire works by purchase of the stock and assumed the debts. Wrestling with the difficulties that surrounded him for a while, the revival of business in 1863 found him fully prepared to reap the benefit of the tidal wave of success which swept over New England manufactures, and he gathered a rich harvest of profits for the next five years, the works attaining a reputation and extent second to but few in the country. In 1865 he removed to Newtown, where he has since resided, and purchased the fine residence and farm of D. V. T. Baldwin, retiring somewhat from the immediate oversight of his manufactory. He was representative from that town in the Legislature of 1869.

In January, 1870, he visited Florida, making a tour through the Southern States, visiting five State Capitols, in which the Legislatures were in session, composed largely of colored members. In May following he returned to Florida and arranged for the construction of the St. John's Railway, running from the St. John's River to St. Augustine on the coast, furnishing the entire means for building and equipping the same, he and his two sons operating it for five years. In 1875 he disposed of his interest in the road to Mr. Lanier, of Winslow, Lanier & Co., New York. In 1876 he purchased the entire machinery, patterns, and material of the steam fire-engine works of William Jeffers, Pawtucket, R. I., and removed them to Bridgeport, and has since carried on that branch in connection with his other business, producing some of the



*P. H. Skidmore*











*J. M. Knowlton*

finest specimens of steam fire-engines of the present times. Since that year his time has been divided between the care and oversight of his farm and the works at Bridgeport. On the night of May 2d the works were destroyed by fire. His loss was heavy and insurance small, but undaunted by the seeming great disaster, and believing that God rules in the affairs of men, he set to work vigorously, and not only rebuilt but largely extended his works, and has now one of the most complete establishments for the manufacture of machinery of all kinds, boilers, and foundry-work in the New England States.

The fire caused the dissolution of the firm of Skidmore & Moore, and the works are now carried on by himself and two sons, under the firm-name of P. H. Skidmore & Sons. The revival of business has filled their shops with work to their utmost capacity. Rigorous, almost severe, in his habits of diet and sleep, his vigor now at the age of sixty-three is unabated, and his health perfect.

In January, 1880, he visited New Orleans, traveling through Texas and States bordering on the Mississippi River, and was so well pleased with New Orleans, its people and climate, and so fully impressed of its certain future growth and prosperity, that he not only made investments in real estate, but made arrangements for residing there permanently during the fall and winter months, and is at present (fall of 1880) there on his plantation near the city.

Such is briefly the history of one of our successful self-made Connecticut men, based upon self-reliance, industry, and economy.

With a family of seven children, five of whom are living,—three sons and two daughters,—with a reasonable competence, his declining years are the pleasantest of his life, and amply repay the struggles and hardships of his early days.

#### JULIUS W. KNOWLTON.

Julius W. Knowlton was born in Southbridge, Worcester Co., Mass., Nov. 28, 1838. His boyhood until he was seven years of age was passed in his native town. He then went with his parents to Norwich, Conn., where they remained three years and then removed to Bridgeport. He was educated at the public and private schools in this vicinity, giving particular attention to mathematical studies and civil engineering. In 1860 he purchased a coal interest in this city, and was conducting that business upon the breaking out of the Rebellion. He was not one of those to stand idly by when his imperiled country called for brave men to strike at the hideous head of rebellion, and in 1862 sacrificed his business and enlisted as a private in Company A, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, and upon the organization of the regiment was made commissary-sergeant. He subsequently acted as brigade-commissary in the brigade com-

manded by Gen. Dwight Morris, colonel of the Fourteenth Regiment. In all the walks of life Mr. Knowlton has exhibited great executive ability, and at no time has this more conspicuously appeared than on the night of the memorable battle of Antietam, when with the utmost dispatch he pushed his provision-train to the front, and his brigade was the first to receive supplies. He was complimented by his superior officers, and was promised promotion in the commissary department,—a promise, however, which was never fulfilled. He was promoted to second lieutenant of Company C, the color company of his regiment, and was in command of that company at Gettysburg. On the third day of the battle of Gettysburg he was severely wounded, and remained in a hospital on the field eleven days, and was then removed to Baltimore, and soon after came home. Early in the following January he returned to the front, but was unable to perform arduous military duty, and, March 29, 1864, was discharged for physical disability, and at the surrender of Lee was clerk in the provost-marshal's office at Bridgeport.

Upon the close of the war Mr. Knowlton received appointment in the Adams Express Company, and subsequently, in October, 1866, was one of three who purchased the *Bridgeport Standard*, which was organized as a stock company in the following January, with Mr. Knowlton as secretary and treasurer and business manager. He resigned this position in March, 1873, to take the superintendence of the Moore Car-Wheel Company, of Jersey City, N. J., a large establishment doing an extensive business, but that ever-memorable "Black Friday" came and the business was ruined.

Oct. 1, 1874, he accepted the position of chief of the division of dead letters at Washington, which division at that time was in a deplorable condition, the business being fourteen months in arrears. Here Mr. Knowlton's executive ability received a fresh demonstration. He at once reduced the whole business of the division to a system, and in less than three months the fourteen months' arrearages were cleared up and the vast machinery of the office was running smoothly. Postmaster-General Jewell then made him chief clerk of the post-office department, a position which he held until Oct. 15, 1875, when he received the appointment of postmaster at Bridgeport, and November 1st took possession of the office and has since officiated in that capacity.

His genial and courteous manners won him hosts of friends during his stay in Washington, and upon his departure he was the recipient of a vast number of letters both from the heads of the department and his subordinates regretting his departure and expressing the warmest friendship.

Politically, Mr. Knowlton is a Republican, and is active and prominent in the councils of the party. He has served two terms in the Legislature, has been a member of the Republican State committee, etc.,



and was on Governor Jewell's staff with the rank of colonel.

He is also a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and at present is Captain-General of Hamilton Commandery. He still manifests a lively interest in the "Boys in Blue," and has been assistant adjutant-general of the Grand Army of the Republic of Connecticut, and also a member of the National Council of administration of the Grand Army, and this year (1880) was a delegate to the National Encampment of the Grand Army.

Dec. 17, 1866, he united in marriage with Jennie E. Fairchild, a native of Newtown, Conn. They have had two children, both of whom are deceased.

Mr. Knowlton traces his genealogy back to Thomas Knowlton,\* who was the youngest of three brothers who came to the United States in 1632 or 1633 and settled in Ipswich, Mass. He married Susanna —,† and was a deacon in the church in Ipswich. He had two sons,—Thomas, Jr., and Joseph. Deacon Thomas died April 3, 1692, aged seventy years.

Thomas (2) Jr., born 1643-44, married Hannah Green, November, 1668. He was jailer in Ipswich in 1680, and died Feb. 28, 1717, and had children as follows: Thomas (3), Robert, Katherine, Deborah, Ezekiel, Zerubbabel, Susannah.

Thomas (3), born May 11, 1670, married Margery Goodhue, Dec. 9, 1692; married (2) Margery Carter. Children, Robert, born Sept. 7, 1693, married Hannah Robinson; Asher Knowlton, who resides in Stafford Springs, Conn., is one of his descendants; Margery, Sarah, Abraham, Deborah, Joseph, Ezekiel (4).

Ezekiel (4), born March, 1707, married Susannah Morgan in 1728. Ezekiel died March 14, 1774, and Susannah died March 19, 1794. Their children were Mary, Deborah, Luke, Susannah, Ezekiel, William (5), Sarah, Margery, Thomas.

William (5), born April 29, 1741, married Hannah Hastings, Oct. 22, 1764. He resided in Shrewsbury. She was born in Watertown. Dr. William died Sept. 13, 1820; Hannah died Oct. 25, 1832. Their children were Hannah, Asa, Susannah, Artemas, William, Dr. Seth (6), and Joseph H.

Dr. Seth (6), born in Shrewsbury, May 11, 1781, married Relief Howe in 1802. He died April 12, 1832. Children of Dr. Seth were Darwin, Charles, Eunice (died when two years old), Artemas, William S.,—father of the subject of this sketch,—Eunice, Nancy, Calvin, and Dolly.

#### DAVID M. READ.

David M. Read was born in Hoosic Falls, N. Y., Oct. 12, 1832. His parents soon after removed to North Adams, Mass., where most of his boyhood days

were passed. He commenced his education at the district school, finishing it at the old Drury Academy, North Adams, at the age of fourteen, working during the summer vacation for farmers and in stores to help pay for clothes and schooling, as his parents were not able to keep him at the academy. After leaving school he engaged with a farmer at four dollars per month, and his first work was sawing and splitting wood in the hot sun. With blistered neck, but lots of "pluck," he kept at his task until one day the farmer came to him and said, "Now, David, I am going to set you to farming." Never was there a boy more delighted. With a quick step and a light heart he accompanied the farmer away up on the mountain-side to an open lot in the rear of a piece of woods, and was set to *picking up stone*! This capped the climax. If farming for him meant sawing wood and picking stone he was through with it. So he abandoned his dreams of agriculture and went with his older brother Charles, who had taken a cloth-mill in Pownal, Vt., for the manufacture of cloths for men's wear. This business, however, proved unsuccessful, and he was soon out of employment. He afterwards clerked successively in Williamstown, Stockbridge, and Lenox, continuing his studies during this time, and finally, in March, 1852, came to this city, and entered the employ of E. Birdsey & Co., with whom he remained until Aug. 15, 1857, enjoying the entire confidence of the firm in his honesty, judgment, and ability.

Sept. 1, 1857, having saved about one thousand dollars, he was kindly loaned fifteen hundred dollars by the late Hanford Lyon, and, associating with him W. B. Hall, opened a dry goods and carpet-store at 227 Main Street. This firm continued at the old stand until May, 1869, when they removed to the store in Wheeler's block now occupied by Mr. Read. The partnership of Hall & Read continued until Aug. 1, 1877, when Mr. Hall withdrew, and the business has since been continued by Mr. Read. The business of Hall & Read increased rapidly, and at one time their sales amounted to \$500,000 per year. During the panics of 1857, 1861, and 1873 this house remained firm, and at their dissolution enjoyed the distinction of having always paid one hundred cents on the dollar.

Mr. Read, with his brother, Charles A., began the manufacture of ingrain carpets in a small way in Water Street, with two hand-looms. They subsequently purchased their present location on Middle Street, and increased their business until they were operating twenty looms. The business was conducted by this firm—D. M. & C. A. Read—until 1873, when a stock company was formed with a capital of fifty-five thousand dollars, under the name of the Read Carpet Company, David M. being president and selling agent. This company owns the block corner of Fairfield Avenue and Middle Street, with a frontage of one hundred feet on the former and two hundred on the latter, and have now in process of erection a

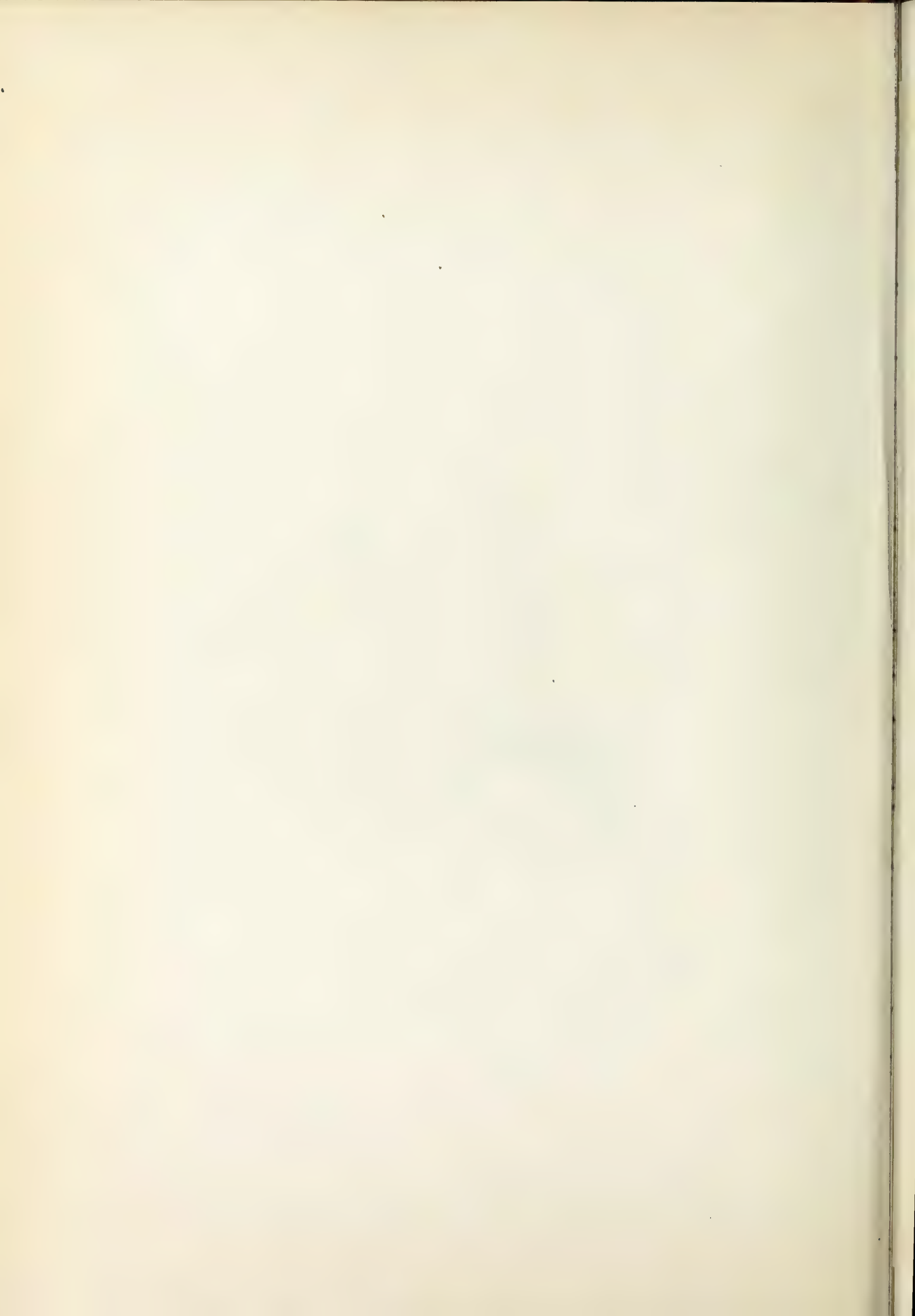
\* They were from Cheswick, Kent Co., England. The father was captain of a bark, and died on the passage.

† Full name not given.



*David M. Read*





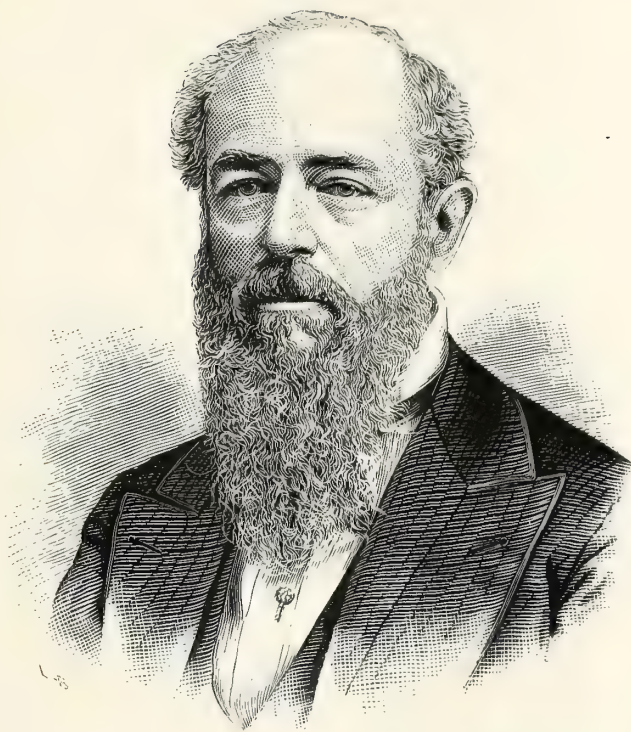
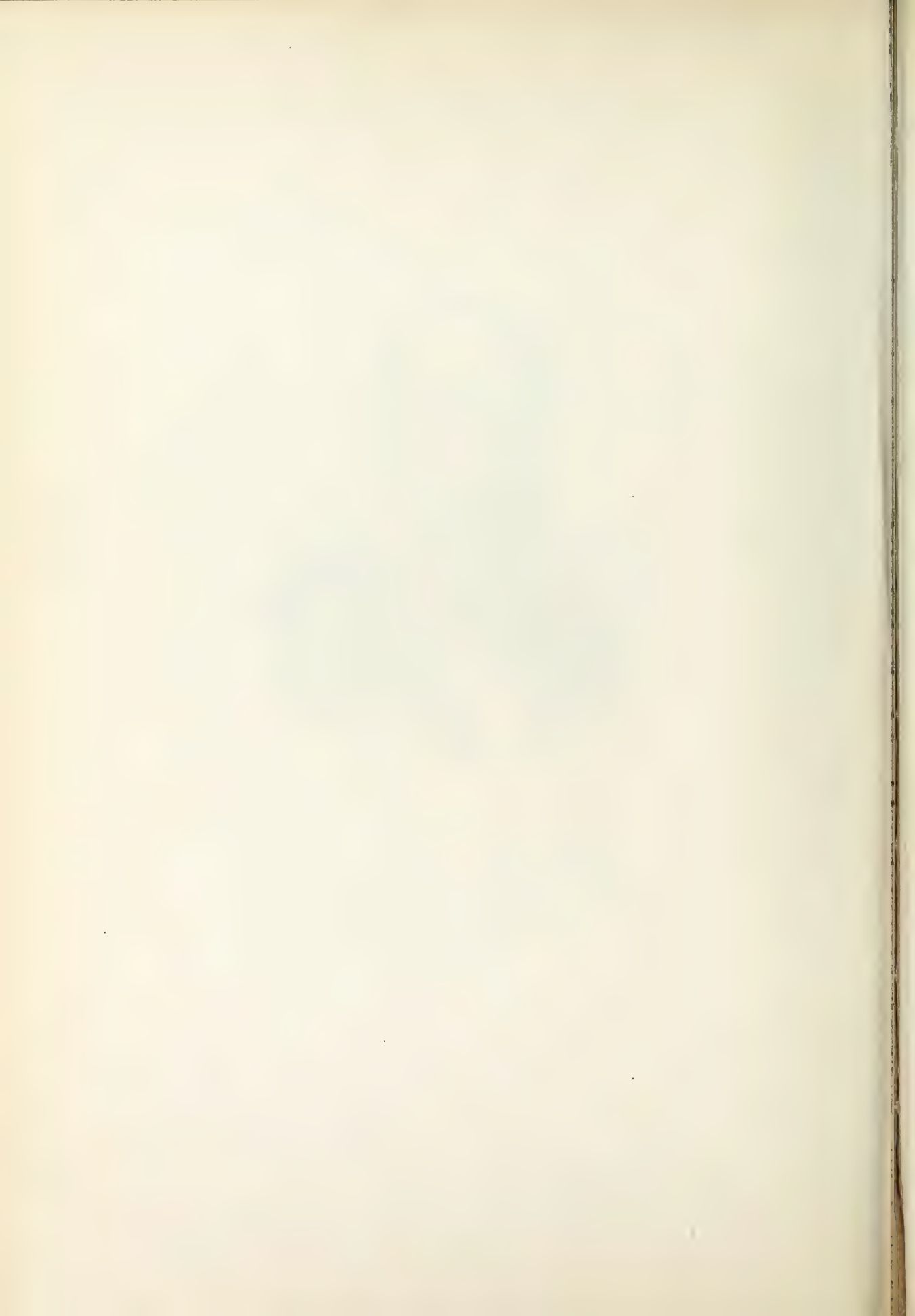


Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

W. R. D. L. S.











*John F. Smith*

block adjoining one hundred and twenty by fifty-six feet. The establishment will be furnished with fifty power-looms, and will manufacture ingrain, Brussels, and Axminster carpets, with a capacity of four hundred and fifty thousand yards per year.

Mr. Read has been a member of the Common Council, first alderman of the city, member of the Board of Education, member of the school committee, is a director in the Bridgeport National Bank, and, with the exception of the first year, has been president of the Board of Trade since its organization; a director in the Mountain Grove Cemetery Association and the Fairfield County Agricultural Society. He was a member of the Connecticut National Guard for eight years as a brigade commissary with the rank of major, and was an efficient officer. He was acting commissary-general at the encampment of the Connecticut National Guard at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876, and was highly complimented by Gen. Trowbridge for the executive ability displayed in the management of his department.

Politically, he was a Republican until 1872, since which time he has been an Independent, although generally voting with the Democratic party. He is a member of the vestry of St. John's Church.

Dec. 3, 1855, he united in marriage with Helen Augusta, daughter of the late Philo F. Barnum. They have two sons—Charles Barnum, who is cashier in his father's business, and David F., who is in Yale College—and one daughter, May Louise. One daughter, Helen A., died Oct. 13, 1872.

That Mr. Read's business career has been one of marked prosperity his large business interests and handsome residence in Park Avenue afford ample proof.

He is a public-spirited citizen, of a genial and social nature, and very popular with the masses.

#### CAPT. ISAAC BURROUGHS.

Capt. Isaac Burroughs, son of Stephen Burroughs, was born in Bridgeport or Newfield, Conn., in 1778, and died at his residence in Bridgeport, Conn., Jan. 8, 1861. His father, Stephen Burroughs, was a native of Stratford, Conn., and was born in the year 1729.

From the personal recollections of an old friend and partner in business, Isaac Sherman, we glean the following. Stephen Burroughs, Esq., a farmer, shipbuilder, Boston coaster, shipmaster, mathematician, astronomer, and surveyor, was a self-made man. He was about five feet eight inches in height, strongly built, never sick during his long life, a cold-water man. He died in the year 1817, aged eighty-eight years. It is related that he and Isaac Sherman sent the first American vessel into the port of Mobile, in June, 1817, after that city came into the possession of the United States. He was an active patriot during the Revolutionary war, raised a militia company

called "Householders," of which he was made captain. He was often a representative to the General Assembly and magistrate of his town for many years.

Besides his extensive business in the shipping trade he owned the parish grist-mill, called Burroughs' Mills, that stood where the Pequonnock Woolen Mills now do.

He was blind several years before his death, when it is said he invented, in 1798, the present system of Federal money.

It is said of him that he was the first man in Bridgeport to take a daily New York paper, called the *Daily Journal of Commerce*, which he took for its marine intelligence, as he was then engaged in trading between New York and Richmond, Va. Upon the arrival of the mail, by the consent of Mr. Burroughs, his paper was considered public property for a short time, and the citizens would assemble to hear the news read by some good reader chosen for the occasion.

His children were as follows: Stephen, Jr., Isaac, David, Abijah, Eunice, Betsey, and Huldah. David died of fever taken from a German while in Boston, and was buried at Martha's Vineyard in 1796, Abijah was lost at sea, Eunice married a Mr. Pendleton, Betsey married Capt. Joseph Sterling Edwards, and Huldah married Joseph Backus, of Bridgeport and Glastonbury, Conn.

Isaac Burroughs, like his father before him, was extensively engaged in navigation, and owned a large number of vessels, which plied between Boston, New York, and nearly all the Southern ports, besides visiting many of the islands of the sea. He was a large owner of real estate in this city. He was a director in the old Bridgeport Bank, of which Isaac Brunson was its first president. He was a life-long Whig and Republican, and as such represented his town in the State Legislature. He was a warden for several years of St. John's Episcopal Church of Bridgeport, Conn., and one of its most liberal supporters. He married Rebecca, daughter of Andrew Hurd, of Old Mill, Conn. Their children were six in number, all of whom are dead except Catharine A., who married A. A. Pettengill, an accomplished gentleman and scholar, of Bridgeport, Conn.

#### WILLIAM R. HIGBY.

William R. Higby, son of Hervey and Charlotte Baldwin, both of whom were natives of Milford, Conn., was born in Bridgeport, Conn., Aug. 6, 1825. His father, Hervey Higby, was born Jan. 27, 1801, and in 1820 located in Bridgeport and became one of the leading and substantial citizens of the town. In addition to the saddlery business, in which he was engaged until 1853, he occupied numerous official positions. His good judgment, ability, and correctness were recognized in the community, and brought



into requisition as appraiser, distributor, executor, or administrator on numerous estates. He was president of the Farmers' (now First National) Bank, and subsequently of the Connecticut National Bank; was special and financial agent of the city and town, and agent and active manager of city and town sinking-funds, trustee and president of the Bridgeport Savings Bank, etc.

William R., the subject of this sketch, was educated at the private schools in this city and in New Haven. He commenced business as teller and book-keeper in the Connecticut Bank, where he remained seven years, and then engaged in the manufacturing business, which was destroyed by a fire a few months later. He then assisted in organizing the Pequonnock Bank, became its first cashier, and officiated in that capacity until 1869, when he resigned and engaged in the business of fire insurance, and has continued in that to the present time. In 1871, T. B. De Forest became associated with him in the business, and the firm has since been Higby & De Forest.

Mr. Higby has ever been alive to the interests of his native city, and has occupied numerous positions of trust and responsibility. He was treasurer of the city of Bridgeport in 1853, '54, '55, '56, and 1857, and town treasurer in 1858, '59, '60, '61, '63, '64, '65, '66, '67, '68, and 1872. He was a member of the Common Council two years; is director, secretary, and treasurer of Mountain Grove Cemetery Association, and has been since 1861; was a director in the Bridgeport Savings Bank about fifteen years; is a director in the Connecticut National Bank, and also in the Bridgeport Gas-Light Company.

Mr. Higby has always manifested a decided interest in Masonic matters, and is one of the highest members of the fraternity in the State, having taken the Thirty-third Degree. He was initiated in St. John's Lodge, No. 3, in 1852, and was the first templar in Hamilton Commandery in 1855. He is one of the two active members of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States. He has also been Commander of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut.

Mr. Higby is a Republican in politics, and attends the South Congregational church, in which his father was for a long time a deacon.

In 1846 he united in marriage with Mary Ann Johnson, a native of New Haven, Conn., and has two children living,—Martha Louisa and Helen Augusta. A son, Henry Cornelius, is deceased.

#### FREDERICK AUGUSTUS BARTRAM.

The Bartram family was among the pioneers of Fairfield County, and has an honorable record from that time to the present. Several of the family served in the Revolution, among them Daniel, grandfather

of the subject of this sketch, who marched to the defense of Danbury when that town was invaded and burned by Tryon in 1777. The Redding branch of this family removed from Fairfield in 1733. This was David Bartram, and he located in Lonetown.

Frederick A. Bartram, son of Gurdon and Lorraine Sanford Bartram,\* was born in Redding, Sept. 13, 1824, and was the youngest of eight sons. He remained with his father on the farm until sixteen years of age, when he entered as an apprentice the employ of Bartram & Wilson, carriage-makers at Redding. In 1848 he removed to Fairfield and commenced the butchering business. In 1854 he established the business of pork-packing in Fairfield, and conducted the business at that place until 1867, when he disposed of his interest in the Fairfield establishment and removed to this city. Mr. Bartram is an energetic and thorough business man, and every year from the beginning of the business to the present time his sales have increased, until from one thousand dollars the first year they now aggregate over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. He conducted the business as sole proprietor until 1874, when George H., a nephew, and Edgar B., a son, became associated with him, and the business is now carried on under the firm-name of F. A. Bartram & Co.

Nov. 11, 1851, he united in marriage with Amelia Burr, a native of Fairfield, and they have four children living,—viz., Edgar B., Lillian Francis, Belle, and Jesse. He is a staunch Republican, and although never an active politician has held various city offices. He has been a member of the Common Council, and is a present alderman. He is in all respects a practical man, and has lent his aid to all projects which in his judgment would advance the interests of the people, and was the prime mover and manager of the movement which resulted in giving the people of Bridgeport the "Rosedale Line" of steamers with New York City, and is now the general manager and agent of the line.

Mr. Bartram is essentially a self-made man, and his great success has been the natural result of an indomitable will coupled with good judgment, keen business foresight, and integrity of character.

#### ASAHEL LEWIS LYON.

Asahel L. Lyon was of Scottish ancestry, and the family trace their lineage back to 1681, when the first of the name in this country emigrated from "old Scotia." He was a son of Hezekiah Lyon and Sarah Hendricks, both natives of the old town of Fairfield. The latter was a daughter of Samuel Hendricks and Catharine Jennings.

Asahel L. was born in Louthbury, Conn., Sept. 26, 1810, and obtained his education at the common

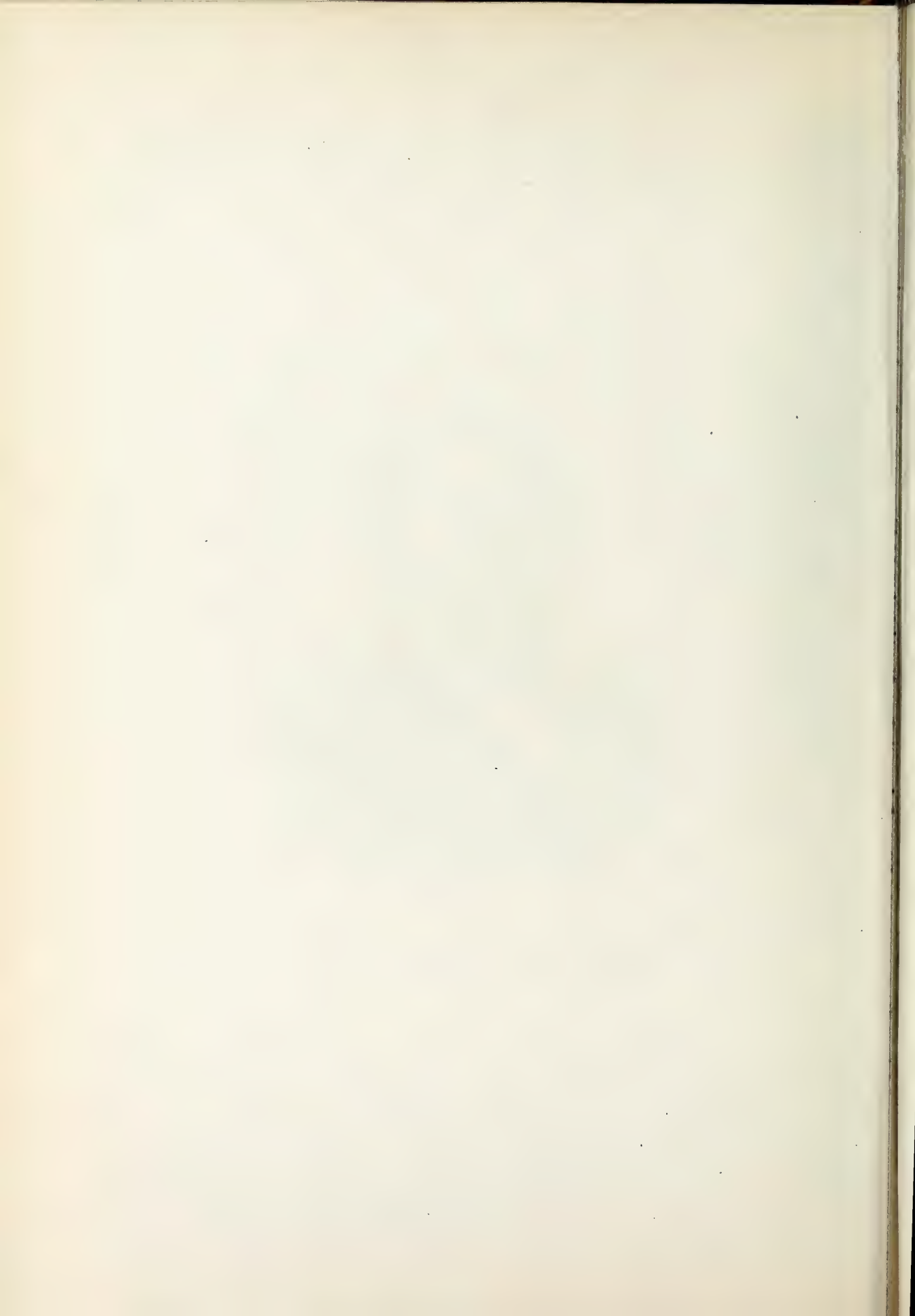
\* See history of Redding, elsewhere in this work.



Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*J A Bartram*

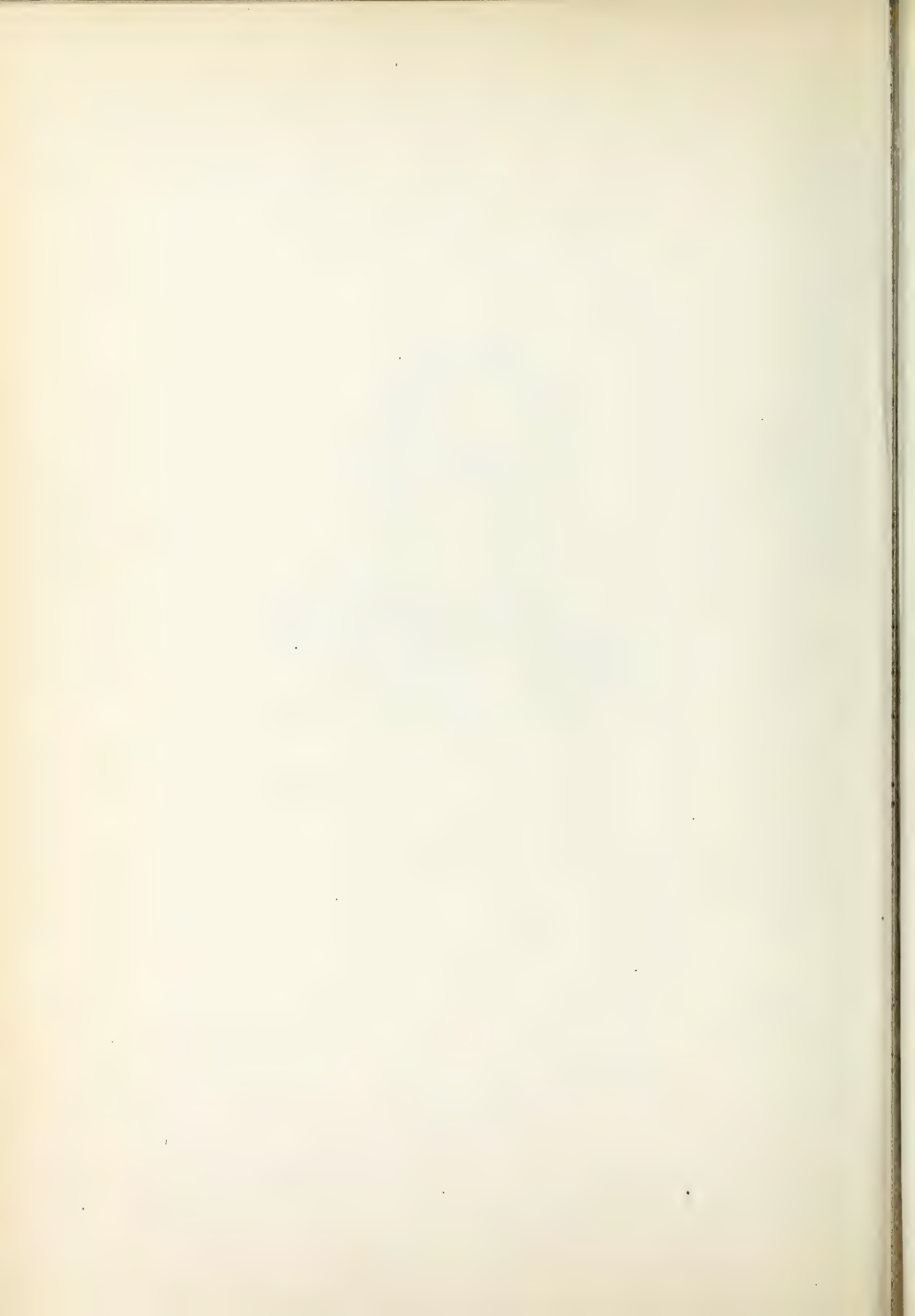






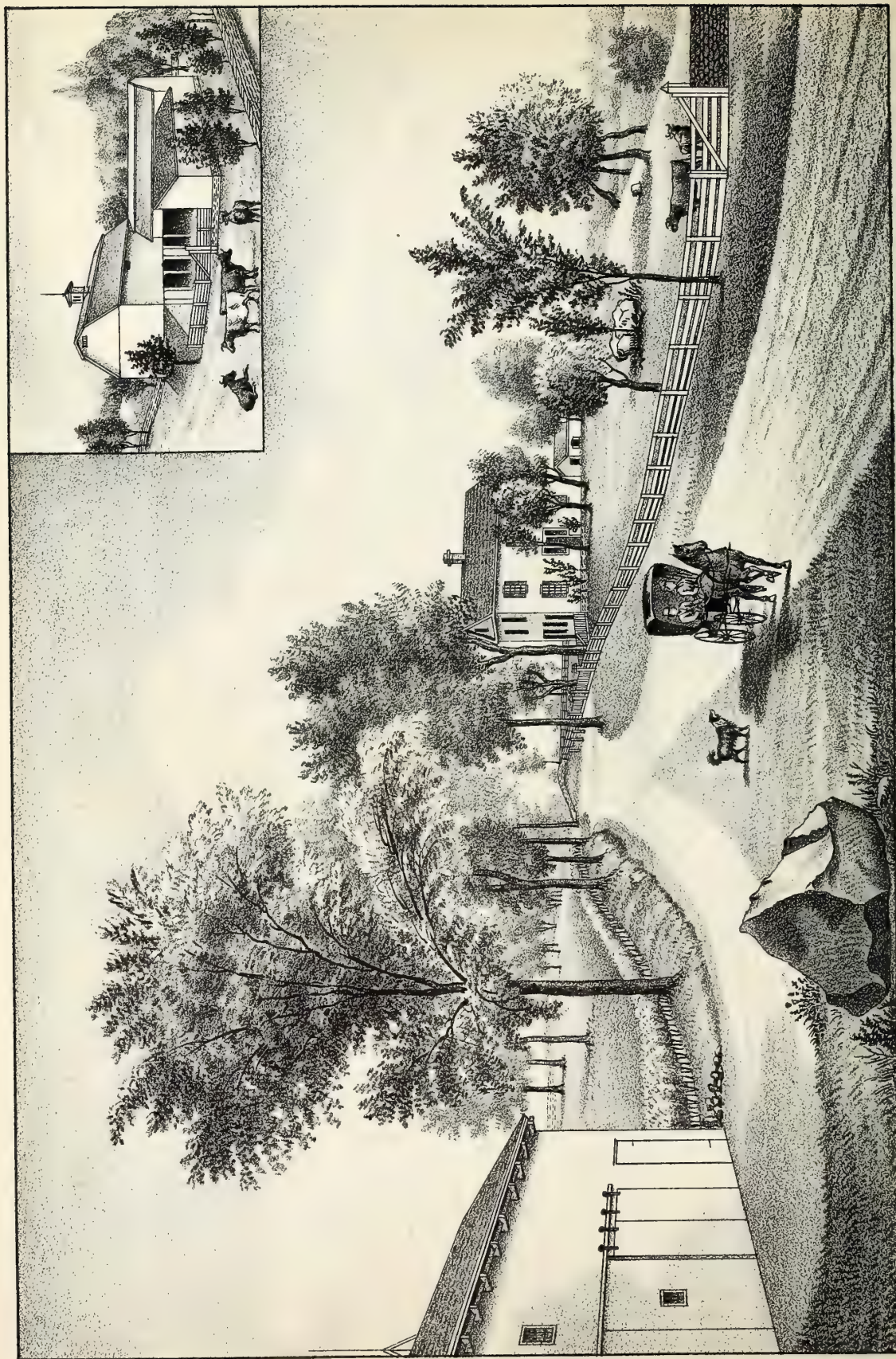
*A. L. LYON.*











ERECTED BY JAMES WALKER IN 1739.  
 RESIDENCE OF JAMES WALKER BEARDSLEY, BRIDGEPORT CONN.



schools. At the early age of sixteen he commenced working at the trade of carpenter and joiner, and continued as an apprentice until he was twenty years of age, when he purchased his "time" and removed to New Haven, Conn., where he formed a copartnership with one Brown, which was continued under the firm-name of Lyon & Brown until 1846, when he came to Bridgeport and entered into business with his brother-in-law, the late Ezra Curtis. This firm built up a large and prosperous lumber business, which is still carried on by their heirs under the firm-name of Lyon, Curtis & Co., and they rank among the largest dealers in the State.

Sept. 14, 1837, he united in marriage with Lucy Loomis, a native of Torrington, Conn., born July 16, 1817, by whom he had one child, Lucy Loomis, born Oct. 15, 1838, and died in 1859. His wife died in 1839, and in 1843 he married Marietta Clarke, a native of East Haven, Conn., born May 20, 1816, and died in 1859. Their family consisted of two children, Marietta Francis, born Nov. 23, 1846, and died in 1863, and Louis H. Lyon, born May 4, 1857, a resident of Bridgeport and engaged in the lumber business. In 1861, Mr. Lyon was married to Louisa, daughter of Frederick P. and Mary A. Whiting, of Torrington, Conn., by whom he had three children, —Louisa K., born July 16, 1868; Frederick W., born May 24, 1872; and Asahel L., born Aug. 26, 1874.

Mr. Lyon was a public-spirited citizen, and one of the substantial men of the city. Although not active in political matters he was an earnest Democrat, and a member of the Congregational Society. He died Oct. 4, 1874.

#### JAMES W. BEARDSLEY.

James W. Beardsley, son of Elisha H. and Betsey Walker Beardsley, was born in Monroe, May 8, 1820. He was educated in the district schools of his native town and at the preparatory school of Samuel B. Beardsley. In 1850 he removed from Monroe to this town and located on the premises where he has since resided. He occupies the old Walker homestead, which was built by James Walker, his great-grandfather, in 1739. (See accompanying view.)

Mr. Beardsley commenced business for himself as a cattle-dealer at the early age of seventeen years, and has since continued in that vocation. He is a generous and public-spirited citizen, and has done much to advance the welfare of the city and town of Bridgeport. As an evidence of the above statement, in 1878 he donated to the city of Bridgeport Beardsley's Park, a tract of land containing one hundred acres, delightfully located in the northeast part of the city, for which he had been offered the sum of twenty thousand dollars. When thoroughly improved it will be one of the finest public parks in New England. He

commenced the ornamentation of the park in 1876 by planting with his own hands two rows, four rods apart, of fine elm-trees, extending a mile in length.

Politically, Mr. Beardsley is a Democrat, who cast his first vote for James K. Polk. He is an Episcopalian and attends service at Trinity church, Nichols' Farms. He has in his possession many interesting relics of "ye olden time," one of the most interesting being a huge clock which originally belonged to the Rev. Mr. Muirson, the first Episcopal clergyman in the State of Connecticut.



STEPHEN NICHOLS.

Stephen Nichols, son of William and Huldah Nichols, was born Sept. 16, 1804, in Trumbull, Fairfield Co., Conn. His great-grandfather, Theophilus Nichols, was one of the early settlers of the county; died April 7, 1774, aged seventy-one years, and was interred in the old cemetery in Stratford. His grandfather, Philip Nichols, was a man of much influence in the county. A magistrate for many years. Was a large landholder; owned several slaves; dealt extensively in horses and mules, many of which he exported to the West Indies, together with produce of various kinds. He owned several vessels, in which he made several trips to the West Indies. William Nichols was a farmer by occupation. He was a member of the Episcopal Church, as was also his father and all of his family; two of his sisters married Episcopal clergymen,—viz., Rev. Philo Shelton and Rev. Mr. Allen. He died July 22, 1837, and was buried in the Pequonnock Cemetery. He was twice married; eight children were born of the first marriage, and



seven by the second. Stephen Nichols was one of the latter. When he was thirteen years old his mother died, and he was forced to seek a home for himself, which he did by coming to Bridgeport, where he had a sister residing, with whom he made his home. He worked by the month for farmers for several years, and then learned the boot and shoe trade, which business he followed as an occupation for about twenty years, and then gradually turned his attention to farming, which business he has since been engaged in. Mr. Nichols has taken an active part in politics. He was a Whig before the organization of the Republican party, but since that time he has been a strong advocate of the principles of the Republican party. He was elected to represent the town of Bridgeport in the State Legislature in 1878, and was appointed a member of the committee on cities and boroughs. He has been justice of the peace, assessor, selectman, and a member of the Common Council.

Mr. Nichols was married March 4, 1829, to Emeline, daughter of Aaron Beardsley, of Trumbull. They have had two children,—viz., Jane E., who died in childhood, and Stephen M., who was born July 10, 1838, and died July 29, 1870. He was in the late war about one year; served as first lieutenant of Co. D, Twenty-third Regiment Connecticut Volunteers; was in the crockery trade in Bridgeport before and after the war. He married Julia G. Hall, of Trumbull, who survives him, and is living with her children, Lizzie H. and Wilbur E., in Bridgeport. Mr. and Mrs. Nichols are members of the North Congregational Church. He is in his seventy-seventh year, genial, hale, and hearty, and is a good specimen of a well-preserved, temperate man.

#### REV. HENRY JONES.

Henry Jones, the son of Maj. Daniel Jones and Rhoda Mather, was born in Hartford, Conn., Oct. 15, 1801, where he spent his early years. He was fitted for college at the grammar school in that city, in company with his eminent surviving college classmates, President Theodore D. Woolsey and Rev. Leonard Bacon, D.D., between whom and the subject of this sketch there was life-long friendship and appreciation.

His father, who was a man of a noble type, died when the son was but three months old. That he was thus deprived of the personal influence of such a father was ever and keenly regretted by him. His mother was the daughter of Charles Mather, M.D., a descendant of the distinguished Richard Mather, of early colonial times. Though crushed and made despondent by her early widowhood, she lived to a good old age.

Mr. Jones entered Yale College at the age of sixteen years, and was graduated in the class of 1820. He pursued his theological studies at Andover Seminary, and was graduated by that institution in 1824.

He was married to Eliza S. Webster, daughter of the late Noah Webster, LL.D., Sept. 5, 1825; was ordained to the gospel ministry, and settled as pastor of the Second Society in Berlin, Conn. (now the First Congregational Society of New Britain), Oct. 12, 1825. This position he filled with acceptance to his people, gaining the respect and confidence of neighboring pastors also, and his ministry was fruitful. Many were added to the church during his pastorate.

Possessing a highly sensitive nature, cultured, conscientious, and exacting, the responsibilities resting upon him as a Christian pastor and teacher, however successfully discharged according to the judgment of others, so oppressed him with a painful sense of his own inadequacy and unworthiness, as to seriously impair his health. This led to an early relinquishment of his ministry at Berlin, and to his entrance upon the work for which he was eminently fitted, and which proved to be *the* work of his lifetime.

He was dismissed from his pastorate Dec. 19, 1827, and the following year opened a select school for young ladies at Greenfield, Mass., which was successfully continued for a period of nearly ten years. In 1838 he removed to Bridgeport, and erected the cottage he ever afterwards occupied, on the western slope of Golden Hill. Here he opened the classical school for young men and boys, so well and favorably known in its day as the "Cottage School," in December of that year. Both this and his first school attracted and enjoyed patronage of the highest order from all parts of the country.

The large list of alumni embraces names distinguished in literature, the professions, in politics, and in business. Mr. Jones was respected and beloved by his pupils, and rarely failed, even in the most unpromising cases, to find and develop redeeming qualities.

After thirty years of successful and almost uninterrupted labor as an instructor, he gradually withdrew, to enjoy in a green old age the competence which he had acquired. Soon after his removal to Bridgeport, Mr. Jones and family united with the First Congregational Church, of which he remained a valued and useful member until his death, Nov. 9, 1878.

While the responsibilities of his school were upon him, his devotion to his professional duties left little time for Christian work in other ranges.

When measurably relieved, in 1858, he was elected to and accepted the office of deacon of the First Church, and fulfilled its duties most acceptably until his voluntary retirement, in March, 1873. Oftener than any other brother, he represented the church in the stated and special meetings of the Council of Consociation. The church was fortunate in so fit a representative, and he was welcomed as a genial and valuable member.

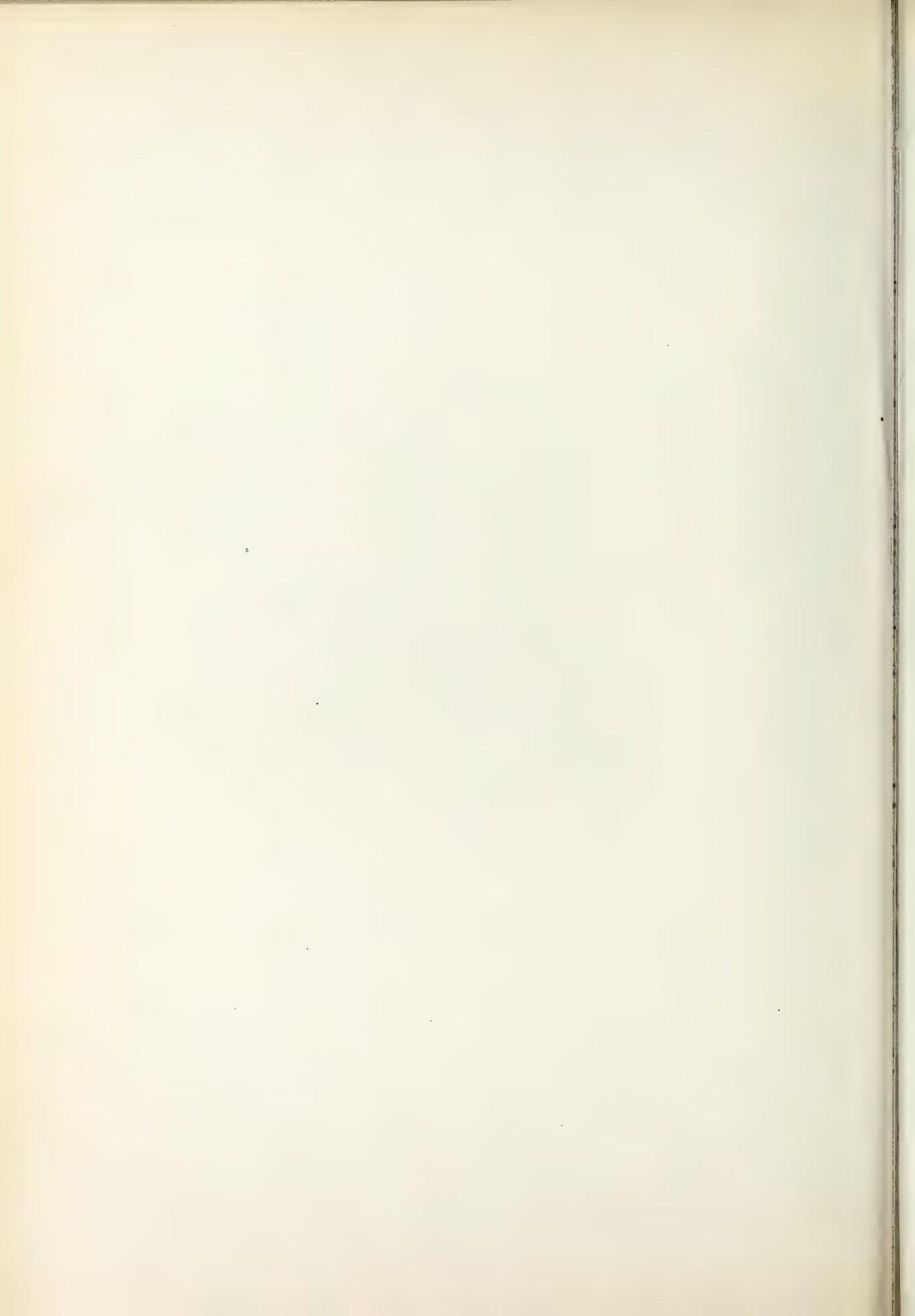
A constant attendant upon public worship on the Sabbath, in heat and in cold, in sunshine and in storm, and upon the other stated meetings of the

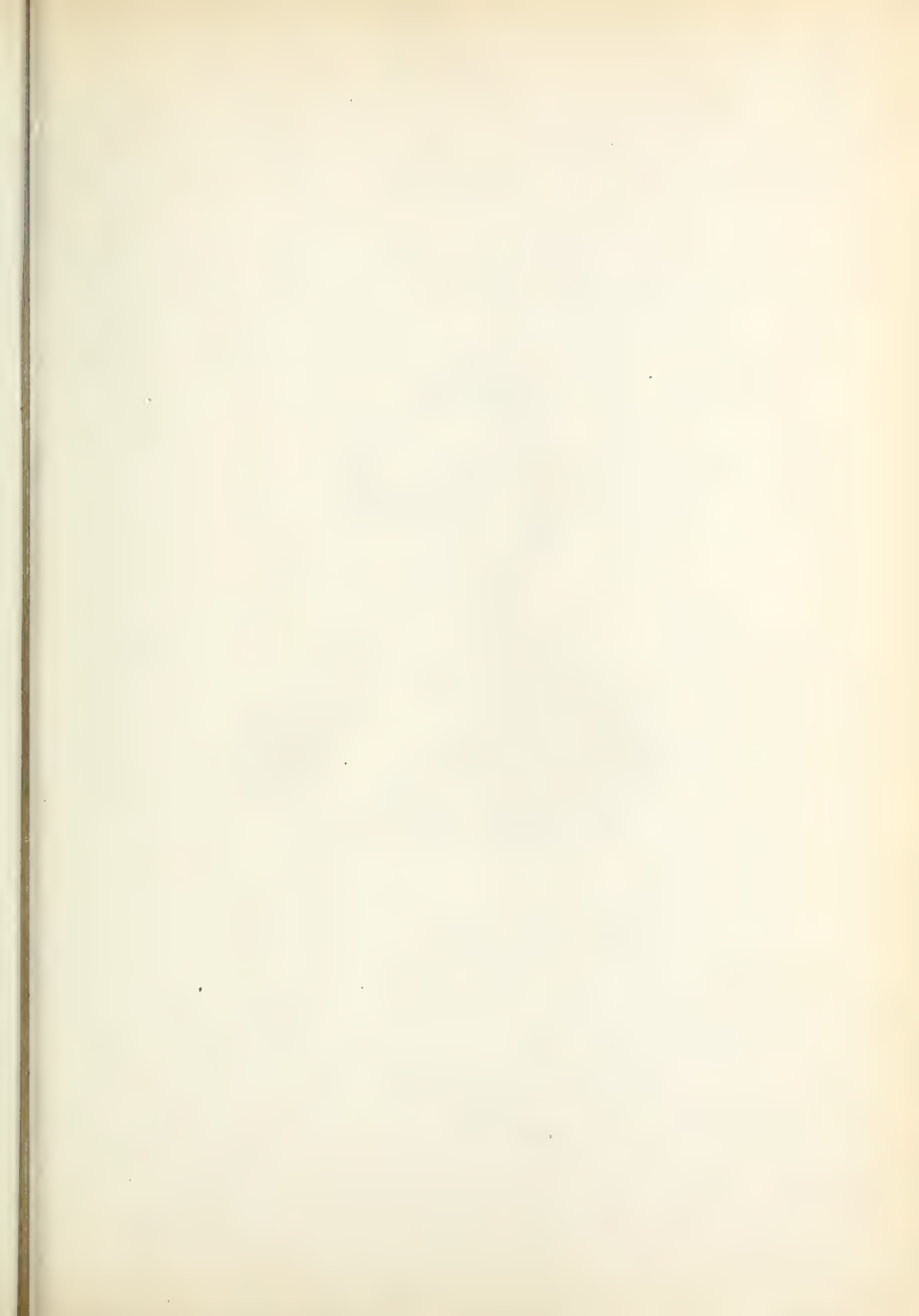


Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*Henry Jones.*









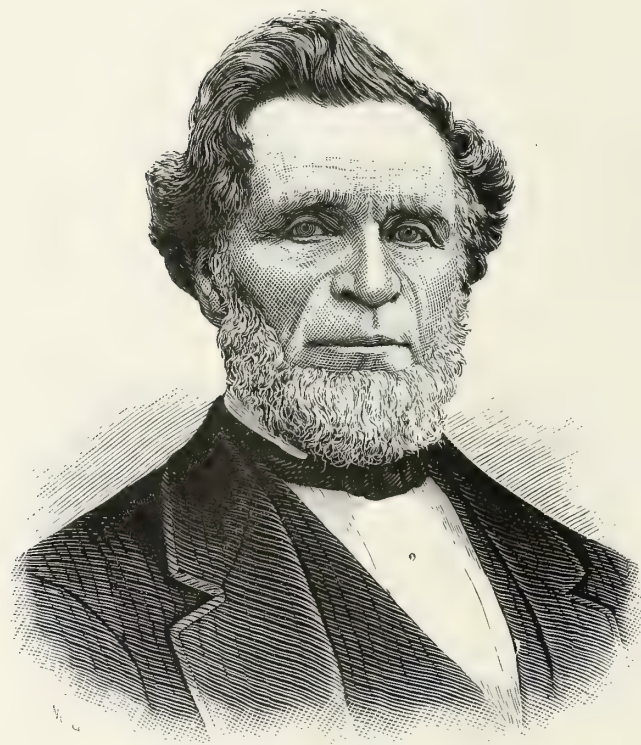


Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*J. W. Parrott*

church, he was ever the appreciative hearer and the faithful, yet unobtrusive friend and ally of his pastor. His presence in the social meetings was always much enjoyed, and his usually brief but beautiful remarks and prayers were prized by and helpful to both old and young.

His generous nature responded quickly to the various calls of charity and Christian benevolence, at home and abroad, and his gifts were only limited by his means. Of Puritan ancestry, orthodox in sentiment, and of sterling integrity, he was yet liberal and genial, eminently social, and a great lover of the beautiful in nature and art. These traits, together with his perfect transparency of character, secured the confidence and love of a large circle of friends. Meety helped by his lovely wife, both young in spirit, even in their old age, his house was a model Christian home, and the many friends, ministerial and others, who have enjoyed its hospitalities, ever carried away pleasant remembrances, and refer to such visits as among the happiest of their lives. Such a home could but leave a deep and abiding impression upon the pupils of the school, and most happily supplemented its otherwise superior advantages.

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Jones occurred in September, 1875, and was a most interesting and memorable occasion. The large attendance, numerous and elegant gifts from old pupils and friends, from far and near, attested the interest felt in the happiness and welfare of the venerable pair.

The names of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Jones are as follows: Frances Julia, born July 15, 1826, married to Rev. Thomas K. Beecher; Emily Ellsworth, born Nov. 8, 1827, married to Daniel J. Day; Eliza Webster, born Feb. 16, 1833, died in infancy; Henry Webster, M.D., born March 10, 1835, of Chicago, Ill.

Emily Ellsworth Day, deceased July 23, 1869, leaving one son, Robert Webster Day,—the only grandchild.

Mr. Jones was much interested in genealogical researches. He searched out and compiled the genealogies of the several branches of his own family, with great fullness and particularity. His library was rich in this department, and his reading and study enabled him to afford valuable aid to others, which he cheerfully rendered. He was a life-member of the New England Historical Genealogical Society of Boston, and a valued contributor to its publications.

Mr. Jones' positive religious convictions dated very early in life. He professed his faith in Christ at the age of twelve years, and united with the old Centre Church in Hartford, then under the pastoral care of Rev. Nathan Strong, D.D., for whose memory he ever cherished a reverent regard.

Though naturally self-distrustful, he possessed and maintained a strong reliance upon the truths of the inspired word, increasing each year of his life. His personal trust in the promises of God through Christ

was unfailing, ripening most beautifully in his closing years, and rendering his end, though attended with extreme physical suffering, peaceful and happy. The sting of death was taken away. Though life to him here was pleasant, and this world and its relations beautiful and attractive, yet he felt that his work was done, and to depart and be with Christ was far better. Mr. Jones was connected with the Ministerial Association of Fairfield East, where, as also in frequent Consociational councils, his presence and co-operation were highly valued, and are beautifully attested by the following minute, extracted from the records of that body:

"Fairfield East Association in annual meeting, Park Street church, Bridgeport, May 27, 1878.

"Whereas, The Rev. Henry Jones, of Bridgeport, for many years a member of this Association, rested from his labors Nov. 9, 1878, in his seventy-eighth year,

"Resolved, That the Association holds in abiding remembrance the character of this departed brother and his services to his generation.

"His unaffected piety, his Christian kindness, his scholarly spirit and varied attainments, his fidelity to his matured convictions, and his diligence in the duties of his vocation, won for him the cordial esteem and the sincere friendship of all his brethren. They make this minute in devout and affectionate commemoration of him as an exemplary Christian, a brother beloved, and a true man."

#### FREDERICK WELLS PARROTT.

Frederick Wells Parrott, one of our oldest business men, was born in Bridgeport, July 25, 1807. His great-grandfather, Capt. Jedediah F. Wells, and grandfather, Jedediah Wells, were also residents of this town, the former being the original owner of the entire lower portion of this city (including Sea-Side Park), and the latter a soldier of the war of 1812.

Mr. Parrott, in 1827, at the early age of twenty years, commenced business as a manufacturer of furniture, and built the first sofa and hearse that was ever used in Bridgeport. It was while engaged in this business that his attention was directed towards the manufacture of varnishes, which he commenced in 1846, and laid the foundation for the present firm known as the Parrott Varnish Company, which was organized in 1869 by his associating with himself his son, Henry R. Parrott, and son-in-law, John D. Whitney. By strict attention to business and the manufacture of the best quality of goods, this industry has increased from a small beginning to its present large proportions. The increasing demand for their varnishes from all quarters of the globe has given them a world-wide reputation. Mr. Parrott has been in active business over half a century, and, so far as can be ascertained, is the only man now still in active life who was thus engaged. Fifty years ago! within this time the city and town, with its entire commerce, has passed into other hands, and has doubled and quadrupled and changed over and over again. Mr. Parrott has always been an active business man, taking great interest in local affairs and prominently identified with our municipal government, in the management of which he served



as alderman, member of Council, and board of road and bridge commissioners. In all these departments he labored faithfully and diligently to subserve the best interests of the city, by his efforts to have its affairs conducted on strictly business principles. His best service to the town was undoubtedly as first selectman, which position he held during our late civil war. His stalwart Republicanism and unbounded confidence in the justice and final success of the cause made him a hearty supporter and worker in responding to the calls for recruits made by the general government,—his plain, unassuming manner and strict business integrity enabling him to fill Bridgeport's quotas for troops rapidly and with great success financially. It would hardly be possible to find any one man so thoroughly identified with Bridgeport growth and progress during the last half-century.

He was married in 1827 to Miss Lucelia A. Remer, of Derby, Conn. At the golden wedding of this venerable couple, which was celebrated May 17, 1877, a pleasant feature of the occasion was the presentation by the Ladies' Charitable Society of a beautiful silver piece, for fruit and flowers, to Mrs. Parrott, she being one of the oldest living members, having joined it in 1828. The occasion was one of special interest and was a marked social event.

#### HON. SHERWOOD STERLING.

The Sterling family date their ancestry back to Jacob Sterling, who was born in England about the year 1677. He emigrated to this country and settled at Haverhill, Mass., a short time before the Indian massacre at that place. He fled to Cape Cod; later removed to Fairfield, and finally located in Stratfield (now Bridgeport). His children were Joseph, Jacob, John, Stephen, and Mary. Upon reaching maturity, John and Stephen located near their father, and Joseph settled in the town of Trumbull. Jacob settled at Newtown.

Stephen was born about the year 1712, and married Eunice Sherman. Their children were Abijah, Stephen, Jr., Sylvanus, and Eunice. Abijah located in Bridgeport and married Eunice Sherwood, and their family consisted of David, Daniel, Abijah, and Sherwood. David also located in Bridgeport. He married Deborah Strong, daughter of Joseph Strong, of Stratfield. Their issue were John W., David, George, Sherwood, Ann, Cornelia, and Cordelia.

The male line in the ancestry of the subject of this sketch died as follows: Jacob, Jan. 9, 1769; Stephen, 1792; David, June 15, 1843, aged seventy-three; and Abijah, June 19, 1862. Deborah, the wife of David, died March 10, 1849, aged seventy-three. She was the daughter of the Hon. Joseph Strong, who was descended in the following line: Selah and Thomas from Elder John Strong. The latter, who was born at Taunton, England, in 1605, sailed from Plymouth,

England, March 20, 1630, and in the following May landed at Nantasket (Hull), Mass.

The subject of this sketch, Hon. Sherwood Sterling, was born in Bridgeport, May 23, 1803, where his entire life was passed. He married Jane Elizabeth Hawley, a lady whose mental and social worth endeared her to all who knew her. Their family consisted of twelve children, ten of whom survive.

Mr. Sterling was closely identified with all enterprises for the religious, moral, and material advancement of his native city. From his youth he was greatly interested in religion, and was always an active, energetic worker in the church, also practically exemplifying his profession in his daily life. He was deacon in the South Congregational Church from 1833.

At different periods of his life he was engaged in commerce, and was chiefly instrumental in establishing the Newfoundland and whale fisheries, which were successfully prosecuted for many years.

One of the originators of the Bridgeport Savings Bank, he was president of that institution from 1864 until his death. He also held the office of president of the City National Bank at the time of his decease, having been elected in 1857.

In politics Mr. Sterling was an old-line Whig, subsequently a Republican, and though never an active politician,—avoiding publicity, and declining office unless convinced it was his duty to accept,—yet his advice was frequently sought and his influence felt in the councils of his party. He was mayor of the city in 1847 and 1848, and was repeatedly elected a State representative, serving with honor and marked ability during the troubled period of the war. He was intimately associated in council with the Hon. William A. Buckingham, then Governor of the State, who, relying upon his sound judgment and discretion, oftentimes advised with him during those gloomy and memorable days.

The iron business established by his father, David Sterling, in 1798, and in which Sherwood continued until within ten years of his death, still remains in a prosperous condition, conducted by his eldest son, under the old firm-name of "S. Sterling's Sons."

Sherwood Sterling inspired all with whom he came in contact with unbounded confidence in his common sense and uncompromising integrity. Possessing great energy and marked business ability, he was frequently selected to act as arbitrator, trustee, guardian, and advisor.

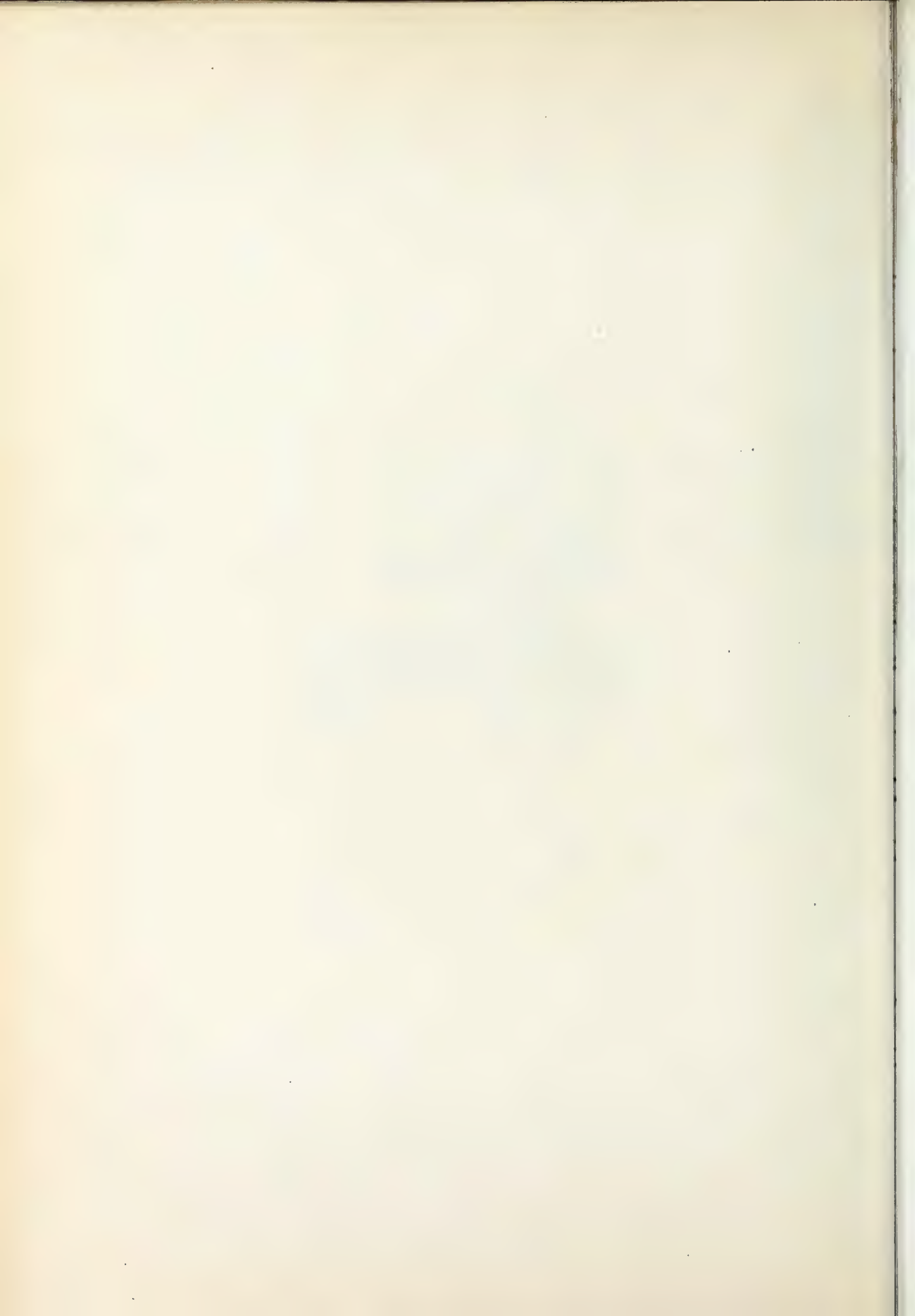
He was a man of fine presence, and commanded universal respect. Of exceptionally even temperament, probably no person ever saw him in an angry mood. Extreme suavity of manner and gentleness of demeanor characterized him at all times. "None knew him but to love him, none named him but to praise."

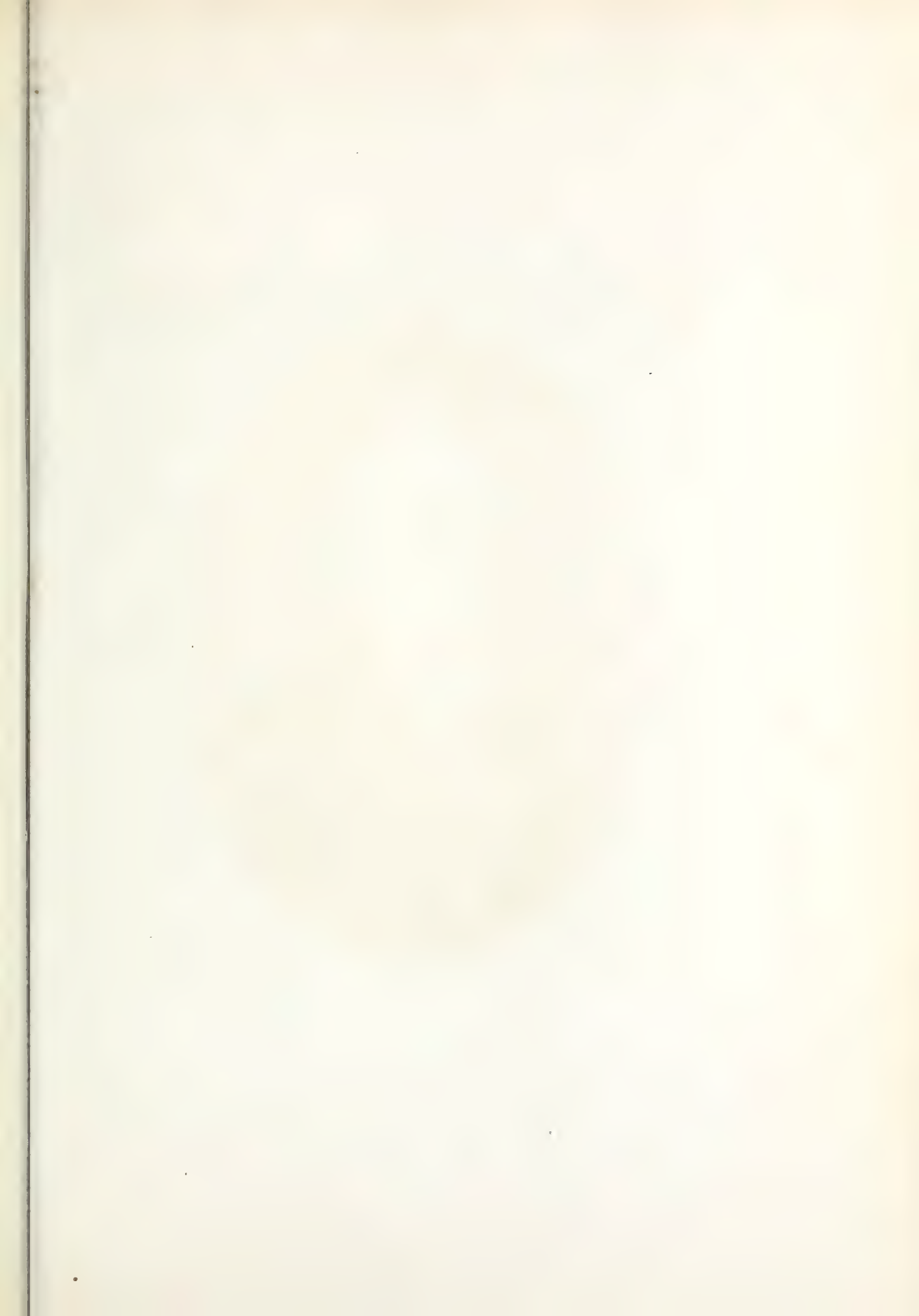
He died Oct. 31, 1869. Upon his decease resolutions of condolence were passed by the directors of



*Samuel H. H. H.*











Nath<sup>l</sup> Hewitt

the Bridgeport Savings Bank and City National Bank, also by the Board of Aldermen and Council of the city. One of the city papers, referring to his death, said, "He was a great and good man, honored by all who knew him."

His was an active and eventful career. Death at last laid his hand upon the strong man, and he passed to that higher life which he had endeavored to exemplify in his daily walk and conversation.

"The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,  
And all that beauty, all that wealth, e'er gave,  
Await alike the inevitable hour:  
The path of glory leads but to the grave."

#### NATHANIEL HEWIT, D.D.\*

This eminent theologian and reformer was born in New London, Conn., Aug. 28, 1788. He graduated from Yale College in 1808, and at first determined to follow the profession of the law, but afterwards chose the gospel ministry. He was licensed to preach Sept. 24, 1811, but, feeling the need of further preparation, repaired to Andover for more thorough training. His first charge was the Presbyterian Church at Plattsburgh, N. Y., over which he was installed July 5, 1815. At that time Plattsburgh was but little more than a military outpost. Its rigorous climate told upon his health, and he was obliged to resign.

He was dismissed Oct. 2, 1817, and on the 14th of the following January was installed pastor of the Congregational Church at Fairfield, Conn., where he continued to labor half a score of years, rejoicing in a rich fruitage of souls born into the kingdom. He was bold in his warnings and denunciations against intemperance, and enlisted multitudes on the side of total abstinence. His fame spread abroad, and the American Temperance Society engaged his services. In 1827 he spoke in the principal cities of Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, and Pennsylvania, and organized many temperance societies.

On the 18th of the following December he was dismissed from his church in order to give himself more effectually to the work, and traveled far and wide for a number of years proclaiming total abstinence. The results were marvelous. Everywhere multitudes were convinced and converted, and without doubt what Luther was to the Reformation, Nathaniel Hewit was to the early temperance movement. After having thus successfully inaugurated this grand reformation, he returned to his first love, and Dec. 1, 1830, was installed pastor of the Second Congregational Church of Bridgeport, Conn.

On the 18th of May, 1831, he sailed for England to give impetus to the temperance cause in the Old World. He arrived in London June 28th, and delivered an address in Exeter Hall the next evening. On the 19th of July he assisted in the formation of the British

and Foreign Temperance Society and then visited Paris, returning afterwards to London, and delivering addresses there and in Birmingham and Liverpool. In the fall of the same year he returned to Bridgeport and resumed his pastoral duties. For more than twenty years he ministered to his flock, his fame and influence as a theologian continuing to increase till he became known and felt as a power in the church.

In 1853 a division arose in his congregation in regard to procuring him an associate. A large number withdrew and formed the First Presbyterian Church, to which they called their "old, revered, and beloved pastor, whose ministrations they could not consent to forego." He was dismissed from his former charge September 21st, and October 31st was installed over the latter, where "he continued to preach the Word and feed the flock of God" till nearly fourscore years of age.

During all these years he retained his remarkable vigor. In stature more than six feet, of imperial form and visage, he bore the impress of a prophet. His intellect was gigantic, his voice of unequalled compass, power, and melody, and his eloquence unrivaled. During the theological controversies that for scores of years agitated the churches he bore a most decided part, holding fast to the Westminster standards. And yet, with all the courage of a soldier and always in the thickest of the battle, his heart was tender as a woman's, and he had the simplicity of a child. Though often subject to fits of despondency, in conversation he was most charming, and the seed sown by the magnetism of personal intercourse will continue to bear fruit through successive generations.

Dr. Hewit was twice married. His first wife, Miss Rebecca Hillhouse, of New Haven, died Jan. 4, 1831. His second wife, Miss Susan Eliot, of Fairfield, died May 1, 1857.

In the fall of 1858, having arrived at the age of seventy years, he tendered his resignation, which his people refused to accept. Four years later, April 1, 1862, he released his salary to the congregation, and in August of the same year Rev. Horace G. Hinsdale was called as associate pastor. To this colleague and successor he cordially handed over his charge, preaching occasionally, until on Sabbath morning, Feb. 3, 1867, he "fell asleep." Of the three children who survived him, one, Henry S. Hewit, M.D., late surgeon of the Army of the Cumberland, has since died; another son, Rev. Augustus F. Hewit, is one of the Paulist Fathers, of New York; the other, Sarah, the widow of the late William S. Bowen, M.D., surgeon U.S.N., resides in New Haven. A marble tablet to his memory, which was destroyed when the church edifice was burned in 1874, has been replaced in the new sanctuary by a handsome memorial baptismal font of carved stone, the gift of the children of the Sunday-school.

To a memorial discourse delivered on the occasion of his funeral, Feb. 6, 1867, by Rev. Lyman H. At-

\* By Alexander Wheeler.



water, D.D., of Princeton, N. J., we are indebted for much of the foregoing sketch. Of him it may be well said,—

“He being dead yet speaketh.”

#### EZRA CURTIS.

Ezra Curtis was born in Monroe, Fairfield Co., Conn., Sept. 24, 1813, and died in Bridgeport Oct. 17, 1879. He was third child of Geo. P. and Sarah Curtis. His grandfather, Dr. Ezra Curtis, was widely and favorably known for his professional skill, as well as his probity and manly worth.

The ancestry of Mr. Curtis was of the English knighthood, and in the time of Charles I. “by grant under the Great Seal, reciting that search having been made in the Register and Records for the true and antient armes belonging to the Curtis name and family, and the same appearing by ould seales and other good testimony and proofs in the custody and keeping of Richard St. George, Clarencieux King of Armes, to be the proper and antient armes thereof, and which they did theretofore beare, they were to them and their issue and posterity in memory thereof forever ratified and confirmed, according to the law of armes and the custom of England.” This coat of arms has been in possession of the American family from the early days when their ancestors emigrated from England.

Mr. Curtis was educated at the common and private schools of Fairfield County; learned the carpenter trade and engaged in business in New Haven, where he remained until 1847 or 1848, when he removed to Bridgeport, and in company with Asahel Lyon, his first wife's brother, established one of the first, if not the very first, lumber firms in Bridgeport, under title of Lyons & Curtis. The business was profitably conducted, and still continues as Lyon, Curtis & Co., S. M. Cate, Sr., and C. A. Grannis having been admitted as members.

Mr. Curtis was a man of far-seeing sagacity in business and practical in attention to details. He attended strictly to his own affairs, taking but few into his confidence, and never intruding himself into matters concerning others, except to quietly and effectually relieve such cases of suffering as came to his notice, and, in passing, we would here note that, although one of the quickest persons to respond to any call for aid, and a liberal contributor to church purposes, his generosity was not proclaimed from the house-tops, but desired by him to be known only by its results.

For years a member of the Baptist Church, he was universally acknowledged a good Christian man, who strived to follow his Master in all respects. He was a deacon for some time, and his counsels were sought and heeded in all important matters.

In the family circle he found his highest earthly pleasure, and was an affectionate husband and a loving

father. He preferred the society of home to that of public life, and never would consent to allow his name to be put forward as a candidate for any public office, although from the time of the organization of the Republican party he gave it his vote and strongest influence. In all the relations of life Mr. Curtis did his work well, and the void caused by his death will not soon be filled.

Mr. Curtis married Miss Mary E. Lyon, of New Haven, in 1839. (She was sister of Asahel Lyon, so many years a partner of Mr. Curtis, and whose biography appears elsewhere in this work.) She died in 1867, leaving no offspring. He married, Oct. 6, 1869, Miss Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth E. (Bishop) Ells, of Norwalk. Their only child, George Ells, was born Jan. 20, 1871.

#### CHARLES B. HOTCHKISS.

Charles B. Hotchkiss was born in the town of Waterbury, now Naugatuck, July 4, 1820. He received the rudiments of his education at the common schools of his native town and completed it at the Middlebury Academy. His father was a manufacturer of buttons and clocks in Naugatuck, and at the early age of eighteen Charles B. assumed the management of his business. About this time experiments were being made at Naugatuck in the manufacture of rubber goods under the Goodyear patent, and the management of the business soon passed into the hands of Mr. Hotchkiss and two others, and it was conducted under the firm-name of The Naugatuck India-Rubber Company. It was continued with varied success about three years, when, in consequence of trouble with the Union Rubber Company of New York, the factory was closed. The establishment was subsequently, however, opened by Mr. Hotchkiss, who continued the business a short time, when he disposed of the whole concern to the National Rubber Company of New York, and, removing to New York City, took charge of the business of the Union Company, and in the following year superintended the erection of the present large factory owned by this company at Harlem, New York City. He remained in charge of the business in New York about four years, during which time he visited Paris to negotiate the sale of rubber patents, and soon after, an American company having decided to commence the manufacture of rubber goods in Paris and in other parts of France and Germany, he removed with his family to that city and took the entire charge of their foreign manufacture. His characteristic energy and determination displayed itself here, and about one year later he became a partner in the establishment, which was known as Hutchinson, Henderson & Co. The business increased with amazing rapidity, and the manufacture was not only carried on in Paris extensively, but large establishments were also located in





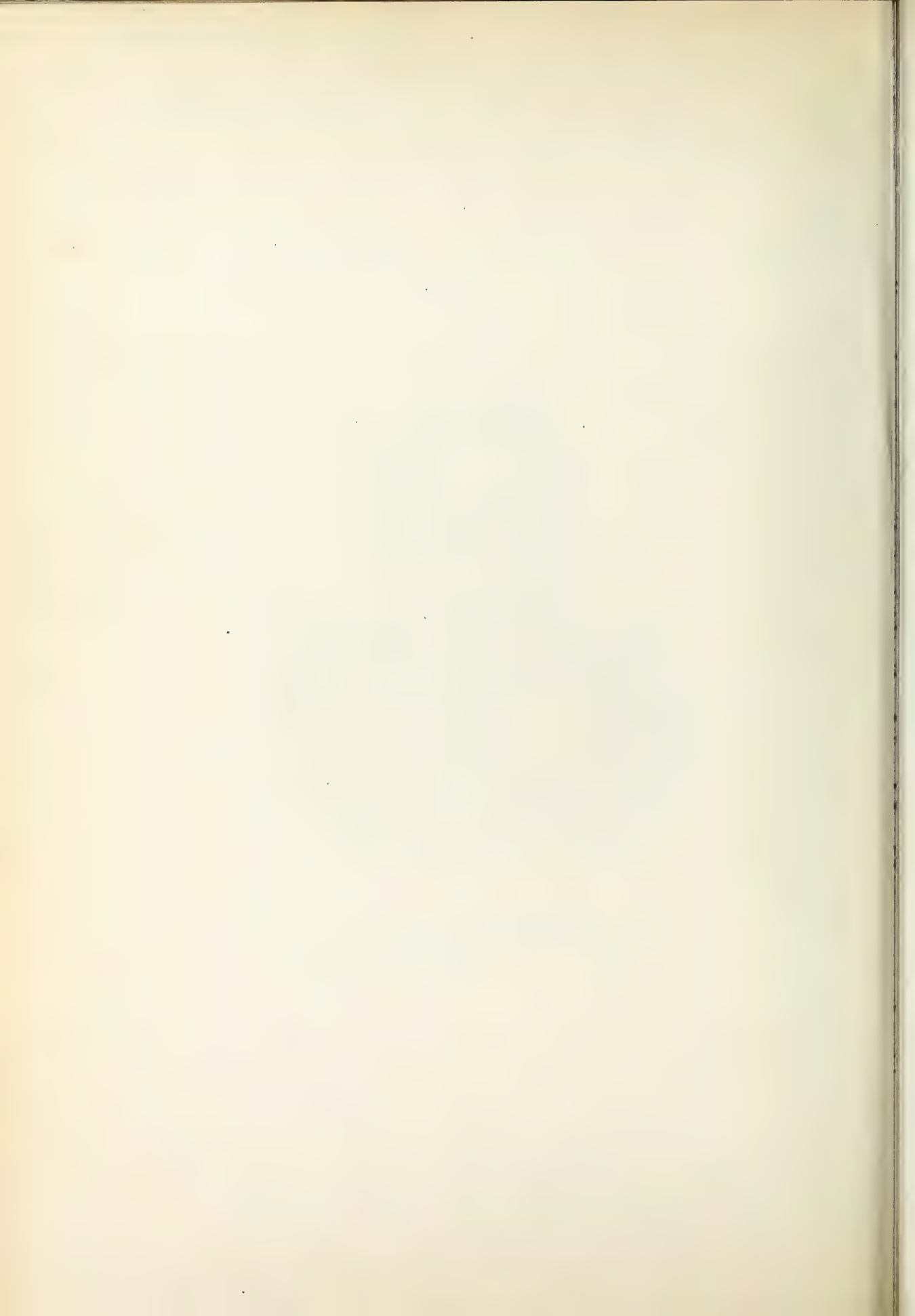


*Ezra Curtis*



*Chas B. Woodhull*





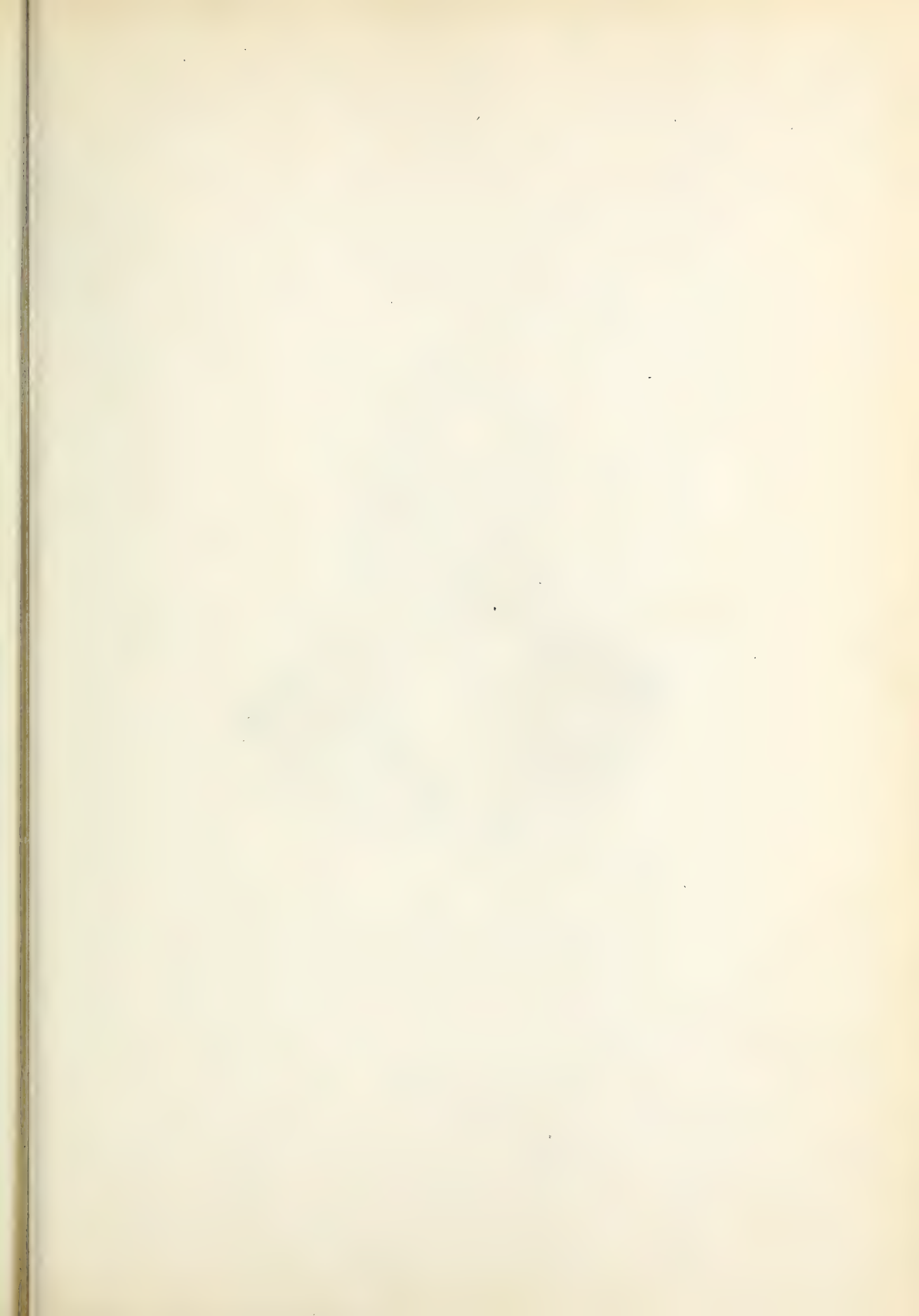






Photo. by Tuttle, Bridgeport.

*S. Clayton Kingman, Jr.*

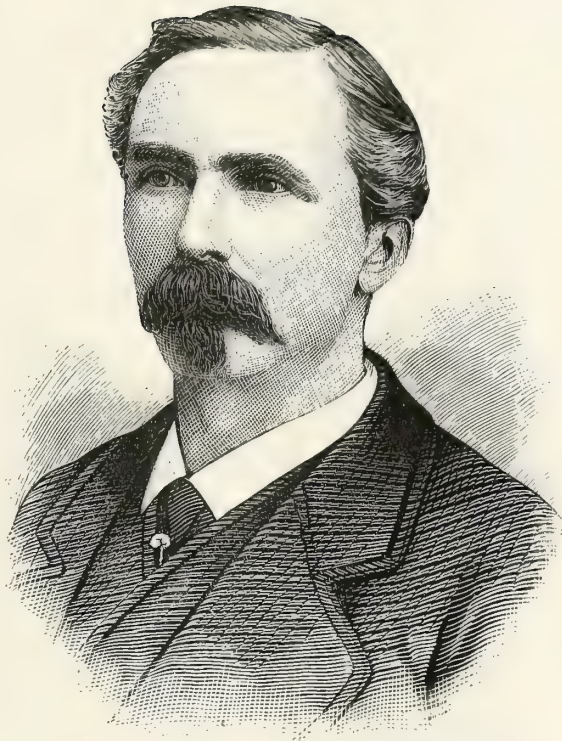


Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*Jacob Kuiper*



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Montargis and in Mannheim, Germany. Mr. Hotchkiss remained in Paris ten years, when he withdrew from the business, and, returning to his native State, located in the city of Bridgeport, where he has since resided.

Mr. Hotchkiss is a public-spirited citizen, and is interested in various enterprises both at home and abroad. In 1867 he purchased an interest in the Pequonock National Bank in this city, and was made its vice-president, and at the next annual meeting was elected president, a position which he has since held. He is still interested in the Union Rubber Company in New York; is a stockholder in the Tomlinson Spring and Axle Company, located at Newark, N. J., in the Derby Gas Company, and various other companies.

In 1879, Mr. Hotchkiss, in company with John Hurd, Esq., of Bridgeport, and Peter McFarlane, of Evert, Mich., purchased the Evert and Osceola Railroad, with the contract to put sixty million feet of logs into the Muskegon River. In addition to this they also purchased a large tract of pine timber-land and commenced operations at once, and up to August of the following year—a period of about nine months—have put into the river about fifty-three million feet of lumber, the largest business of the kind ever done by any firm in the State up to that time. They employ about four hundred men, forty pair of horses, and several yokes of oxen. Although the business is now of gigantic proportions, it will be largely increased during the ensuing year. Messrs. Hotchkiss and Hurd are now also prospecting for the purchase of a very large tract of timber-land located in Wisconsin.

Dec. 24, 1845, Mr. Hotchkiss united in marriage with Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Richard Hine, a native of Seymour, Conn., and their family consists of six children, three sons and three daughters,—viz., Edward M., who resides in Newark, N. J., and is treasurer of the Tomlinson Spring and Axle Company; Marie Louise, wife of John E. Parker, superintendent of a branch of the Meriden Britannia Company, located at Hamilton, Ontario; Nellie A., wife of F. A. Nickerson, superintendent of the Dickinson Hard Rubber Company, Springfield, Mass.; Emma A.; Charles L., who is also employed in the Dickinson Hard Rubber Company; and William L.

Politically, Mr. Hotchkiss is a Republican, and has been since the organization of that party. He was previously a Whig. He is an Episcopalian and a member of the vestry of Christ Church, in this city. Mr. Hotchkiss has never been an active politician, but has given his whole attention and energy to his business. He has a remarkable capacity for large business transactions, and is possessed of social and marked characteristics that make him esteemed by all with whom he comes in contact.

#### JACOB KIEFER.

Jacob Kiefer was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1829. His mother died when he was but one year of age, and three years later (1833) he came with his father to this country.

He received a common-school education at Public School No. 7 in New York City, and in 1839 entered the service of Benjamin Mooney & Co., wholesale hardware merchants in Pine Street, as an apprentice. He remained with this firm about four years, when he commenced the manufacture of guitars in his father's cabinet-shop, under the direction of Signor Bini. The superiority of the workmanship and tone of the instruments made by young Kiefer soon attracted the attention of the musical public, and at the American Institute Fair, held in New York in 1846, his guitars received the first premium, and his competitors were among the best makers in the United States. His father having consented to give him his "time," he came to Bridgeport and began work as a journeyman cabinet-maker. Conceiving the idea of manufacturing furniture by the aid of machinery, in 1850 he commenced business on his own account in a small building, and with the use of steam-power manufactured furniture for his old employers. In 1852, in connection with several business men of Bridgeport, he organized the Furniture Manufacturing Company, and for several years he acted as superintendent and built up the largest furniture business in the Eastern States, employing four hundred hands. Since 1868 he has been the sole proprietor of this immense establishment, and the goods manufactured by him are known throughout the country as the standard of excellence.

Mr. Kiefer is a public-spirited and enterprising citizen, Republican in politics, and was reared in the Dutch Reformed Church.

#### SAMUEL CLAYTON KINGMAN.

Samuel Kingman was the son of John and Hannah Kingman, and was born in Hingham, Nov. 20, 1802, and settled in South Redding, Mass. (now Wakefield), in 1824, commencing business as a tailor, which occupation he followed for thirty years. In 1827 he was married to Sarah Ring Pope, daughter of Jesse and Annie (Hay) Pope. Their children now living are Abner Augustus, William W., Lucy Ellen, Charles E., Orlando P., Annie E., Arthur H., and Samuel Clayton, the subject of this notice. Samuel Kingman was highly esteemed in the community in which he lived. He served the nation, commonwealth, and town in various offices of trust and usefulness. He served as postmaster twenty-one years, as representative in General Court, as captain of the "Washington Rifle Grays," as selectman and assessor, and was justice of the peace for eleven years. His death occurred Nov. 23, 1880. His wife still survives him.



Samuel Clayton Kingman, the second son of Samuel Kingman, was born in South Redding, Mass. (now Wakefield), in 1830, graduated in the high school, and was the valedictorian of his class. The following year he spent at sea for the benefit of his health, after which he served his time as a machinist in the celebrated Lawrence Machine-Shop, with such apprentices as Amos Whitney, Joseph Marble, F. Higgins, and J. A. Taylor, after which he spent one year in the service of Col. Anderson, at the Tredegar Works at Richmond, Va. Upon his return he entered the employ of the Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Company, at Watertown, Conn., organized about that time, and still remains in their employ. He has invented a number of machines for the Company which have resulted in a great saving of labor.

Mr. Kingman was married in 1853 to Miss Emily Eustis Brooks, at Haverhill, Mass., a descendant of Governor Eustis. He has ever been a benefactor to the poor and sorrowing, and his gifts, with those of his companions, have been many. The bell of the Park Street Church, to which they belonged, memorizes the death of a soldier, friend, and brother, Albion D. Brooks, killed at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864. The clock and communion-table presented by them attest their interest in the welfare of their church.

Mr. Kingman resides at Washington Park, in a delightful residence, surrounded by his family, which consists of his wife and five daughters. He has occupied many positions of public trust, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of the citizens of the city in which he resides.

#### THOMAS TILESTON WATERMAN.

In presenting a sketch of one whose activity in life was so remarkable, and whose career of usefulness extended over so large a field, a detailed narrative would be impracticable in a work of this character; but it is proposed to give the salient points in the life of one who was so long identified with the moral and religious interests of the territory treated in this work—the late Rev. Thomas Tileston Waterman.

He was born in Windham, Conn., Sept. 24, 1801, and four years later removed with his parents to ancient *Stratfield*, now the city of Bridgeport. He was prepared for college by his father, Rev. Elijah Waterman, and at Hartford, and was graduated at Yale in the class of 1822. He entered Yale with the purpose of becoming a lawyer, and was led to change his mind from a remark made by an irreligious companion. He studied theology with his father, and was ordained as pastor of the Richmond Street Congregational Church, Providence, R. I., Dec. 13, 1826, Dr. Lyman Beecher, then of Boston, preaching the ordination sermon. In 1837 he became pastor of the Fifth Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia. This pastorate continued until 1843, when he

returned to Providence, and was installed over the Fourth Congregational Church, which soon after came to be called the Free Evangelical Church. After leaving this church he held pastorates in the Second Presbyterian Church at Galena, Ill.; in the Congregational churches at Winona, Minn.; Dannelsonville, Conn.; Spencer, Mass.; and Monroe, Conn.

During Mr. Waterman's pastorate in the various churches mentioned above he preached the doctrines of grace, as taught in the Bible and expressed in confession of faith, with great freedom, earnestness, and power, and left a lasting impression upon the minds of his hearers. His oratory was at times peculiarly effective, and partook somewhat of the manner of an advocate earnest in presenting and pleading for a just cause. At such times his definitions, illustrations, and incidents were so used that he kept the attention with unflagging interest. In 1856 he had been preaching in a series of meetings at Beloit, and on the last Sunday evening had for his subject the immateriality of the soul. He had prepared the sermon for two discourses, but was compelled to deliver it as one. Soon after, Professor Fisk, in his rhetoric class, instanced to the theological students the delivery of that sermon as worthy their careful study, as it was such an unusual thing that a logical sermon of two hours in delivery would find a large and mixed audience regretting that it was ended.

Professor H. S. Osborn, LL.D., of Oxford College, Ohio, in speaking of Mr. Waterman, says, "The first acquaintance we made of the Rev. T. T. Waterman, was as pastor of the Arch Street Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia. No man ever won the regard and warm-hearted confidence of the young men in that part of Philadelphia as he did; and at no period in the history of that church had the congregation shown so large an attendance of the young at its Sabbath and other public services. Mr. Waterman possessed an everlasting spring of enthusiasm, and it constantly overflowed. No one ever caught him unprepared to welcome a friend, sympathize with a stranger, or counsel, in the kindest way, an erring one; and his reproofs, when presented in the most earnest way of which he was capable, were always given so as to leave the impression of loving sincerity. During the writer's stay in Virginia, Mr. Waterman made a visit to that State, and at his invitation made a tour among the plantations. The influence of that visit was most remarkable. The contrasts of society and conditions of life were peculiarly great. The master and slave—the wealthy, educated, and aristocratic, and the poor, ignorant, and prejudiced, in splendid mansion or log cabin—were alike won to him. Persons who were haughtily opposed to all approach on the subject of religious suggestion or instruction were even delighted with his conversation upon the subject. Walking in some elegantly-arranged garden, with a party of gay young people, he could with the most charming adroitness and apparent fitness draw a mo-



*My  
Rev John C. Waterman*





mentary attention to some striking feature of design, or method of arrangement, in some plant, or flower, or shrub, and, with perfect poetry in his purpose, make a winning allusion to the infinite heart of love above all things."

"Mr. Waterman's personal appearance was in itself an introduction at once. His countenance expressed just what we have been describing in character. There was a kind frankness commingled with a sympathizing honesty and intelligent ability expressed in his face which put his hearers into a favorable mood to hear him and disarmed suspicion. He was peculiarly a preacher to the hearts of his audience, and, though at times his appeals to the reason were forcible and pertinent, his great strength lay more in the appeals to conscience, to the claims of duty, and to the emotions of heart, and in these appeals his earnestness, appositeness, and naturalness were singularly powerful. We have known him to address the roughest, ignorant, and almost brutally profane, suddenly, yet with such wisdom and efficiency as to change the man addressed into an apparent friend, and that during the utterance of an ordinary sentence.

"There are many now living whose memories turn from the recollections of many great speeches, eloquent sermons, and masterly intellectual efforts, to the memories of the wonderful power of Mr. Waterman's earnest, plain, and yet remarkable appeals to the heart, to his warm and sincerely beautiful pointings to the eternal Father and to the Saviour, and these memories are as pleasing as the lasting harmonies of those highest beauties with which his soul seemed always in sweet accord."

Politically Mr. Waterman was a Whig, subsequently a Republican, and a vigorous exponent of the principles of that party. He was a powerful champion of the temperance cause, and was practical in his efforts to check this unholy traffic. It is related of him that when he lived in Galena, Ill., the city had a large trade with the upper Mississippi River country, and it was the custom for the wholesale grocers to keep full supplies of liquors to fill the orders of customers, while they might deny that they were liquor dealers. One day one of his sons went into a large wholesale grocery on the levee, when the proprietor said to him, "Your father has just been here and given me a lecture on liquor selling. If it had been any one else I should have sent him off in short order, but you know he can say anything he pleases and one cannot get mad about it."

He possessed in a remarkable degree the power of adapting himself to people and circumstances individually his own. It is related of him that on one occasion he was making a journey of two or three days through Wisconsin. On the return the driver told an acquaintance, "That minister can go anywhere and do anything he thinks right, and the folks think it's all right too. You see, the first night out I didn't

want to stop at the regular place, because I found there was going to be a dance there, but he insisted on stopping there. At last I told him of the dance, and that it wouldn't be pleasant for him, but he insisted; and, if you'll believe me, he actually had the fiddler play Old Hundred, got them all to singing, and at last made a prayer and went up-stairs."

William F. De Wolf, who was a law-student in the office of Mr. Burgess, in Providence, when he first began to preach in that city, says his first recollection of him was his coming into the office and standing for over an hour at the book-case reading, and remarking, as he closed the book, "Upon many points it is important that a minister should know the common law." It was not an unusual custom for him thus to visit the law-office.

Senator Carpenter relates that upon one occasion he was in his office, where a young man was reading for the profession. During a brief conversation he remarked that he trusted in his studies he would recognize the claims and merits of the religious law of the soul. The young man replied he was so occupied with his studies that he had no time for religious subjects. Mr. Waterman said to him, "Young man, you will never know civil law enough to rule out the law of your soul."

In speaking of his power as a Christian worker, an article published in the *Congregationalist* in 1873 says,—

"About the year 1826 or 1827, Dr. Lyman Beecher having become the pastor of Hanover Street Church, Boston, revivals of religion were frequent, and a new energy in religious things was developed. Especially the May anniversaries in Boston, as also in New York, began to assume new importance, to command the attendance of multitudes, and to awaken a much higher measure of interest than had characterized them before, or than has attended them for a few years just past. This year Rev. T. T. Waterman, then pastor of the Richmond Street Church in Providence, lately deceased, was invited to spend the Sabbath, immediately preceding anniversary week at Boston, in that city. He acceded to the proposal, and in three different churches preached a sermon on the especial duties of Christians residents in cities.

"At each delivery attention was marked. The subject was much talked of through the week, and continued to be a theme for remark in conversation and in religious journals for subsequent months. By special invitation, this discourse was repeated in several cities, and the name of the young pastor of Providence became at once well known through New England and the Middle States. I have reason to think that this sermon had appreciable influence in preparing the way in later years for labor in cities to save young men and young women, and for the introduction of the whole work of Christian Associations."

While Mr. Waterman excelled as a sermonizer and a pulpit orator, and was engrossed in the multifarious duties of an active pastorate, still he found time to indulge the poetical promptings of his nature, and the poetry of his soul found vent in many sweet and sacred songs, which clearly indicate that the bent of his mind in this sphere also was of no ordinary cast. The following beautiful lines are from his pen, entitled "The Thrill at Parting:"

"Repress! No, I would not, that thrill of the soul  
Which saddens the moment of parting with friend;  
That thrill, 'tis the strength of affections which roll  
Down the current of time, 'till partings shall end.



"That thrill—let it come, in the might of its power;  
It bids us look upward and onward for peace;  
It hails the glad promise, and welcomes the hour  
When the sorrows of parting forever shall cease.

"O then, when in Heaven, what emotions will rise,  
As hearts which are holy in fellowship rest;  
Nor distance, nor absence, nor tears reach the skies,  
Nor farewell is heard in the home of the blest.

"Then cease thy repining, and chase away gloom,  
By faith 'look aloft' where attachments abide;  
Our JESUS has triumphed o'er sin and the tomb,  
And by parting, we meet to be one at His side.

"This thought, then, shall cheer us when far and away  
'Mid the changes and sorrows of life we are driven,  
We shall soon meet above, and in ecstasy say—  
There was nothing below like the friendship of Heaven.

"The friendship of Heaven!—by blood 'tis made sure,  
Everlastingly strong its raptures shall roll;  
It is union with God and the hearts of the pure,  
In the bosom of JESUS—the home of the soul."

Dec. 11, 1827, he united in marriage with Delia,  
daughter of Dann Storrs, a native of Mansfield, Conn.,

and their family consists of five children,—Thomas S., Alfred T., George I., Lucy M., and Edwin S.

Dann Storrs, mentioned above, was the grandfather of the Hon. O. S. Seymour and Mrs. George C. Woodruff, of Litchfield Hill, Conn.

The Watermans trace their ancestry in this country to Thomas Waterman, who came with his family to Plymouth, Mass., in a very early day.

His son Thomas married Elizabeth Allen, of Groton. They lived at Norwich, and died in their ninety-fifth and eighty-ninth year, respectively, having lived together sixty-eight years.

His son Nehemiah married Sarah Gifford.

His son Nehemiah married Susannah Isham, of Colchester.

His son Elijah married Lucy Abbe, of Windham, whose son was the subject of our sketch. Mr. Waterman died in Stratford, Conn., Aug. 7, 1873, aged seventy-one years.

#### JAMES D. FRARY.

James D. Frary was born at Meriden, Conn., Sept. 20, 1832. He remained with his father, who was a manufacturer of britannia ware, until he was sixteen years of age, when he went to New York City as clerk in the hardware business. Here he remained until 1852, when he returned to his father's factory, taking charge of the business. He was one of the organizers of the Meriden Britannia Co., Jan. 1, 1853. In the following year he disposed of his interest, and purchased the stock of the Meriden Hardware Co. Jan. 1, 1855, he became one of the firm of Frary, Benham & Co., manufacturers of powder-flasks, shot-pouches, game-bags, and a general assortment of sportsmen's goods. In the spring of 1857 he sold his interest to a new company, known as the American Flask and Cap Co., located at Waterbury, Conn., and removed to that city. He returned to Meriden in the fall of the same year, and formed a company known as Frary & Co., subsequently Frary, Cary & Co., manufacturers of hardware. This company was consolidated in the spring of 1861 with the

Landers & Smith Manufacturing Co., at New Britain, Conn., and the name changed to Landers, Frary & Clark, manufacturers of general hardware and cutlery.

In spring of the year 1876, Mr. Frary removed to Bridgeport, Conn., and organized the Frary Cutlery Co., for the manufacture of table cutlery. To this manufacture was added, in July, 1879, the making of pocket cutlery and razors. At the beginning of the business there were about one hundred persons employed. The business has rapidly increased, and at the present time the establishment gives employment to seven hundred and sixty-nine.

Mr. Frary is a public-spirited citizen and a thorough business man. Politically, he is a Republican, and was a member of the Legislature in 1868. Dec. 22, 1852, he united in marriage with Miss Helen A. Peck, of Berlin, Conn. Their children have been as follows: James P., Harry L., Cora A., and Grace R., all of whom are living except James P., who died at Meriden in the spring of 1861. Mr. Frary attends the Episcopal Church.



Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*Dr. L. D. Gray*







*R. C. Tomlinson*

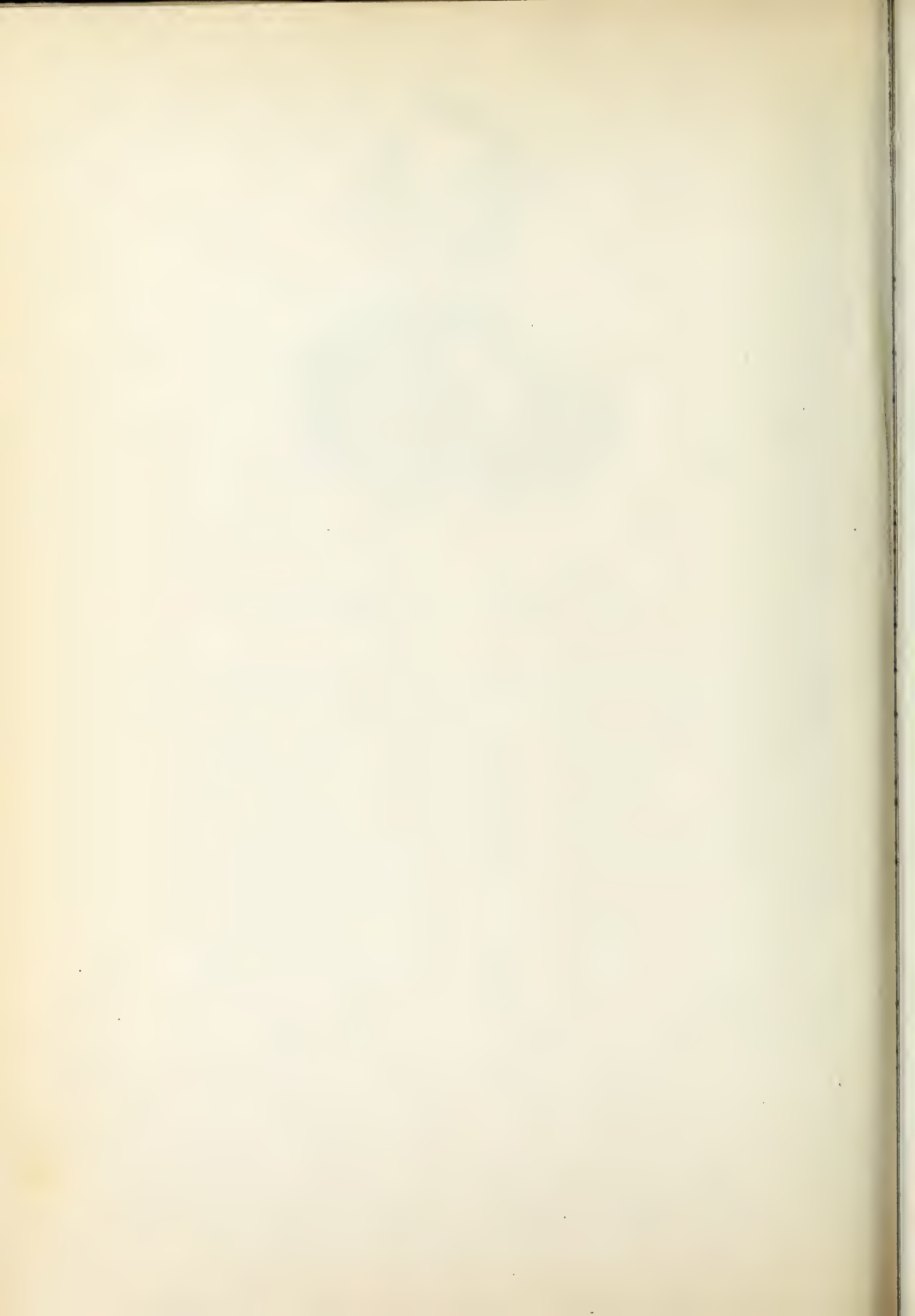
THERE is no prouder or more enduring personal record than the story of a self-reliant, manly, and successful career. It declares that the individual has not only understood his duty and mission, but fulfilled them. The following biography is highly suggestive of these facts.

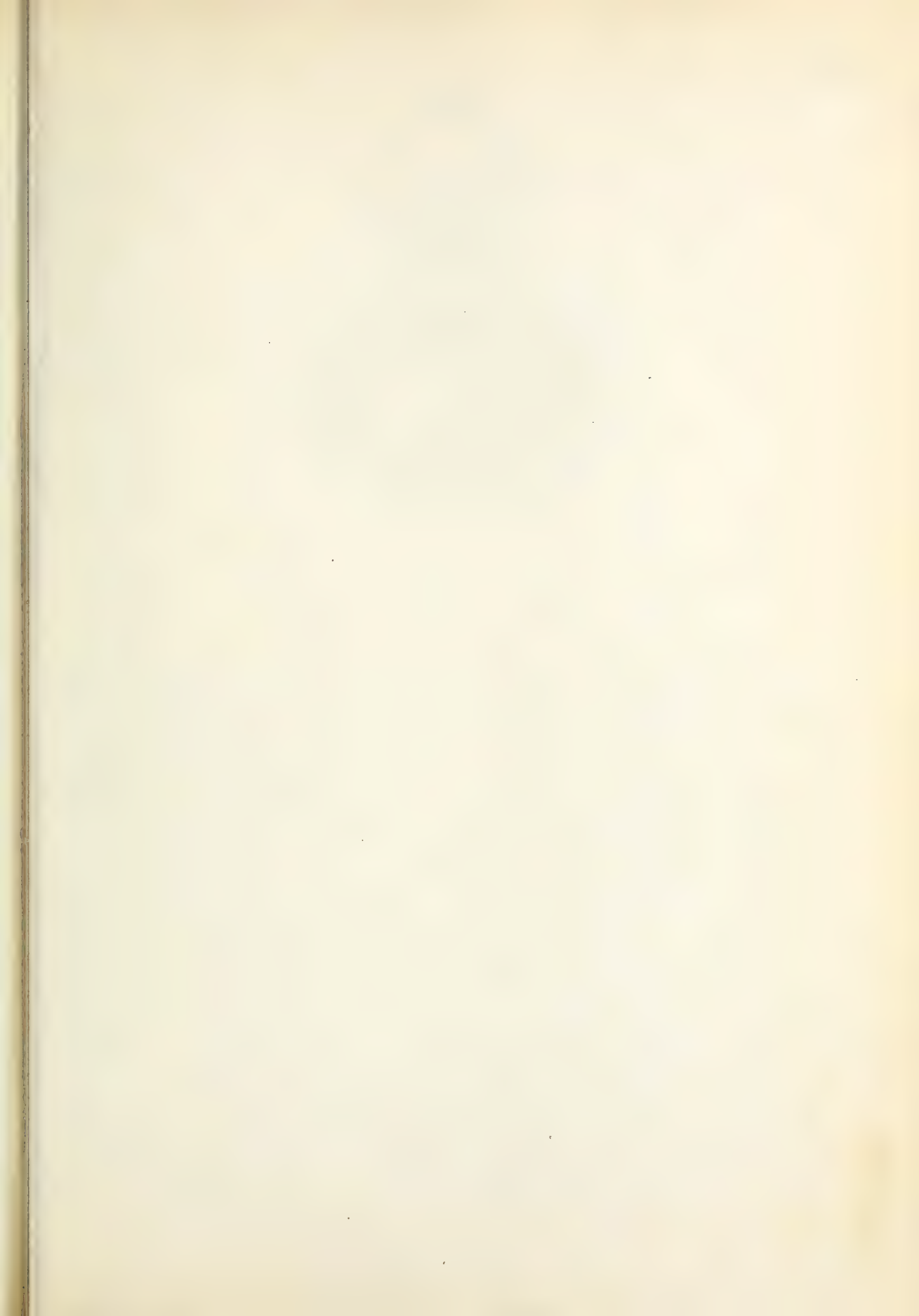
Russell Tomlinson, now a leading manufacturer of Bridgeport, Conn., was born at Southbury, in that State, April 5, 1807. His father was a mechanic, and worked and owned a mill forge at Oxford, but died in 1819, when Russell was only twelve years of age. From the age of eight years he had lived about on the neighboring farms. At fifteen he went to Amenia, in Dutchess Co., N. Y., where he labored on a farm during the summer months, and worked in a blacksmith-shop in winter and at night. Not being well treated by his employer, he left and located in Salisbury, Conn., on what is known as the old Salisbury Ore Hill, where for two years he worked at blacksmithing for the miserable pittance of fifteen dollars a year and board, clothing himself from his earnings. About 1827 he joined one of his brothers, who had established a small factory for making carriages at Bridgeport. He was engaged here for some time at the then wages of one dollar and a quarter a day. At this time I. & L. Shuman had a branch of their saddlery and carriage business at Columbia, S. C., and, knowing young Tomlinson to be a popular and intelligent workman, made an engagement with him to go to that place, and take charge of the blacksmith-shop. He went there, but remained only one winter, when he returned to Bridgeport. He was shrewd enough to see that the best opportunities for success in business were in New England. He opened a small shop, where he attended to blacksmith work of different kinds and made carriage-springs. Having now accumulated the sum of four hundred and fifty dollars, he closed up his affairs in Bridgeport, and went to Derby, Conn., where he built a shop, and carried on the manufacture of carriages in a small way. He continued in this for three years, when he sold out and found himself the possessor of fourteen hundred and fifty dollars. Returning to Bridgeport, he bought a steam-engine, and worked for a year or two making axles and sawing timber. By this time his brother's carriage business had grown into considerable importance, and was conducted under the firm of Tomlinson, Wood & Co. He bought half of his brother's interest, and Mr. Wood sold half of his interest to a brother, thus making four in the firm. Mr. Tomlinson was a member of this firm for about fifteen years. During this period it established a name over

the whole country for the manufacture of all descriptions of carriages. This branch of manufacture has given to Bridgeport much of its importance. The business of Tomlinson, Wood & Co. was conducted in all its departments with great judgment and success. Mr. Tomlinson at length sold his interest, and retired from said business. Not being satisfied with a life of ease, he next turned his attention to the organization of a company for the manufacture of springs and axles, which was in the year 1852. The present flourishing Tomlinson Spring and Axle Company, of Bridgeport, is the result of these efforts. In 1867 he resigned the presidency of the Naugatuck Railroad, an office which he had held for a number of years. The year 1863 saw him elected to the Legislature of Connecticut. In 1878 he was elected to the Senate for two years, and by a vote of the Senate was appointed to fill the position of chairman of the State prison committee, which place he held for two years. He has also filled nearly all the different offices in the municipal government of the city and town of Bridgeport, and during the whole period of the late war was the active and efficient agent of the town in raising troops for the Union army. Though still interested in business enterprises, he has withdrawn from active participation in them. He resides in a fine mansion on Golden Hill, a beautiful locality of Bridgeport. Mr. Tomlinson was a large contributor to the building of Christ Episcopal Church, one of the finest edifices of Bridgeport, which is located in the same select neighborhood. He has always exhibited a great deal of public spirit, and aided in every possible manner the growth and improvement of the city in which he lives. Mr. Tomlinson is about of the average height, and equally proportioned. His face shows intelligence, foresight, and decision as the chief elements of his character. He is practical and reflective in all things, and, when once his plans are formed, is diligent and obstinate in their speedy and complete execution. His success in life has been achieved by economy and industry in its earlier stages, and by a prudent and skillful management of large business interests at a later period.

He has gained nothing by mere luck, but everything by well-digested plans, and the intelligent appreciation of his energies to the end in view. In social life he is a gentlemanly and affable person, and there is a considerable vein of humor in his composition which adds very much to his companionable qualities. His business ability and integrity and popularity have placed him in the first rank of the successful manufacturers and valuable citizens of New England.











*John Brooks*

CAPT. JOHN BROOKS, son of John Brooks and Mary Coe, was born in Stratford, Sept. 18, 1795. His grandfather on the maternal side was Ebenezer Coe, of Stratford, who was a captain in the war of the Revolution. He was in the vicinity of Danbury when it was burned by the British, and lost an eye at the battle of Ridgefield, where the lamented Wooster was mortally wounded.

The subject of this sketch attended school at the old Stratford Academy, which was then under the control of David Plant, subsequently judge of Probate and Lieut.-Governor of Connecticut. In 1810 he was taken to New York City to live with John Vanderbilt. In 1811 he went as clerk with Gershom Smith, a grocer in Peck Slip, but, not being adapted to that business, he left the establishment, and soon after the breaking out of the war of 1812 came home.

About this time Elisha Wilcox built a sloop called the "Arab," to run as a packet between here and New York, and, knowing well the sterling qualities of young Brooks, offered to make him its commander. He accepted the position, and at the age of eighteen years Capt. John Brooks commenced his long career as a steamboat commander. He sailed the "Arab" until 1814, when he was transferred to a sloop owned by his father, called the "Intrepid." In 1815 he was captain of the regular packet "Patriot," owned by Beach & Peck, and in 1816 of his father's sloop called the "Mary Ann." In 1817, Capt. Brooks formed a copartnership with the late Isaac Sherman which lasted about two years.

He continued in charge of one of the line of packets plying between Bridgeport and New York until 1824, when he became captain of the "John Marshall," a steamboat plying between New York and Norwalk. He remained here but one year, and then took charge of the steamer "United States," plying between New Haven and New York, and soon became captain of the "S. B. Hudson," a fine boat built by Montgomery Livingston to run on the Hudson River, but was then plying between New York and New Haven. We next find Capt. Brooks in command of the "Franklin," a steamer running between New York and Poughkeepsie, and in 1827 of the "Governor Wolcott" on the same line. A few weeks after assuming command of the "Governor Wolcott," the boat was chartered by Capt.

Vanderbilt to run to New Brunswick. While running on this line he lived with Mr. Vanderbilt as one of his family. About this time, the winter of 1826-27, he made the acquaintance of Capt. Cornelius Vanderbilt, which soon ripened into a warm friendship which lasted as long as Mr. Vanderbilt lived.

He subsequently commanded the "Emerald," running between Norwalk and New York; the "Bellona," running to New Brunswick; the "Thistle," from New York to New Brunswick; the "S. B. Baltimore," from New York to Norwalk; the "Nimrod," and the "Westchester." Capt. Brooks' long and active business career closed in 1864, when he retired with a competency, and has since lived in the enjoyment and peace of a happy home. Capt. Brooks has a strong individuality and strength of character. Like his friend and collaborer the late Com. Vanderbilt, he was possessed of an indomitable will, which triumphed over all obstacles.

Capt. Brooks never allowed his multifarious business cares to interfere with his duty to Him who had given life, strength, and prosperity, and has ever been a faithful Christian. He was originally a member of the North Congregational Church of this city; subsequently became one of the founders of the South Church, from which he with others seceded and united in organizing the First Presbyterian Church.

Politically he is a member of the Republican party, and has been an earnest exponent of its principles since its organization. He was previously a Whig.

Oct. 14, 1817, he united in marriage with Maria Hawley, a native of this town; hence it will be seen that this venerable couple have enjoyed the marital felicity of more than three-score years.

A prominent characteristic of Capt. Brooks is his benevolence; charitable and religious objects ever find him ready to contribute with his counsel and his means. Warm-hearted and generous, no worthy poor were ever turned empty-handed from his door. He has ever manifested a decided interest in religious matters, and has contributed liberally, and almost lavishly, to the various churches with which he has been connected. He is a kind husband, a devoted friend, and an upright citizen. Although Capt. Brooks is now an octogenarian, he retains in a remarkable degree the vigor and elasticity of youth.



Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

## David B. Lockwood

REUBEN LOCKWOOD, whose father was John Lockwood, was born April 17, 1762, at Fairfield, Conn. His wife, Elizabeth (Raymond) Lockwood, was born Nov. 23, 1761. Their son, father of the subject of this notice, was David Lockwood, who was born at Weston, Conn., April 27, 1791, and his wife, Abigail (Gray) Lockwood, was born at Westport, Conn., Jan. 2, 1802. Their children were Wakeman D., Rhoda Ann, and David Benjamin, the subject of this sketch, who was born Jan. 7, 1827, at Weston, Conn. He attended the Easton Academy, and graduated at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., in 1849; studied law at Bridgeport, Conn., and was admitted to the Fairfield County bar in 1851. He practiced his profession in Bridgeport from 1851 to 1856, and from 1856 to 1861 in New York. From 1862 to 1865 he was first sergeant of Second Connecticut Light Battery in

the war of the Rebellion. During the year 1866 he was assistant editor of the *Waterbury Daily American*. In 1867 he again resumed the practice of his profession in Bridgeport, which he has continued until the present time in connection with his other duties. From 1869 to 1871 he was judge of the City Court of Bridgeport, and in 1875 representative to the General Assembly. The present year (1880) he is city attorney for Bridgeport.

He was married Jan. 11, 1856, to Caroline Amelia Redfield, of Clinton, Conn., who died Nov. 5, 1865. The result of this union is Alice Redfield, born Oct. 2, 1856, and Lester Burchard, born Sept. 25, 1860. In 1868 he married for his second wife Lydia Ellen Nelson. Their children are Harriet Eugenia, born Aug. 18, 1869, Lucy Bettie Josephine, born Nov. 19, 1870, and Sidney Nelson, born Nov. 14, 1872.



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## CHAPTER XV.

## BROOKFIELD.\*

Early History—First Town-Meeting—Parish and Church Organizations—Schools—Burial-Places—Military Record—Representatives—Selectmen.

IN respect to most of the rural towns and smaller communities of New England, back of all recorded history there was a period of formation and incipient growth, interesting, doubtless, in its incidents, but not subject-matter of accurate knowledge to the present generation. No chronicler having certified the facts transpiring or preserved even the names of the great majority of those who bore part in the life that was lived, and traditions handed down being very unreliable evidence of what actually took place, little can be spoken of which is not conjectural, and the most satisfaction we can have in the study of the period is that a field is thus opened for the "pleasures of imagination."

Brookfield is no exception to this general rule. There were beginnings of days and dawns of history concerning which we must consent to remain much in ignorance. Could we successfully interrogate the years of dimness and uncertainty reaching backward from the time when the first settlers of the town (settlers of the English stock) built here their homes and here began their endeavors for thrift and comfort, we should find much, it is easy to believe, which, by its novelty and other elements of interest, would well reward our investigation.

The aboriginal inhabitant doubtless had here his rude cabin, his ties of love and hope, and his rudely-constructed civilization. Doubtless, by the side of Still River and the Housatonic he dextrously cast the spear and threw the hook for fish, trapped by Beaver Brook, and pursued on plain and hillside fur-clad or savory game, the evidence of this being a few Indian names not yet obliterated—as "Whisconier" and "Pokono"—here and there an arrow-head or other stone "relic" picked out of the furrow with a few faded legends, as of the maiden of "Lover's Leap."

Precisely who these aboriginal dwellers were in respect to their tribal connection, how numerous they were, and whither they went are all matters which lie much in the haze of the unchronicled period to which allusion has already been made. The probability is that they were an outlying portion of an Indian settlement, two hundred warriors strong, at New Milford, where a somewhat distinguished chief or sachem, *Werauhamaug* by name, held his seat of government, and where there are still pointed out Indian burial-places and a neighborhood on the western bank of the river known as "Indian Field." But this is scarcely within the limits of veritable history.

When first brought into a separate organization for local purposes, as the support of schools and churches,

the place took to itself the name of the "Society or Parish of Newbury,"—the name derived, presumably, from *Newtown* and *Danbury*, adjoining towns, from which, as will be subsequently seen, the society was largely taken,—and under this appellation it continued from its first organization, in 1754, to the time of its incorporation with town privileges, in 1788,—a period of thirty-four years.

Newbury (now Brookfield) was constituted of portions of three adjacent towns,—viz., *New Milford*, *Newtown*, and *Danbury*, these portions meeting at a common centre near the present residence of Mr. Abel Sherman. A rock, now blasted away, lying within limits now inclosed in Mr. Sherman's doorway, was recognized at the "bound-stone" between these different towns, and of course the different sections of the newly-constructed society.

With reference to the first settlers who planted here their homes, opened the school-house, and set up the altars of religion, it is not now possible to designate them so clearly as perhaps their enterprise and worth deserve. Tradition affirms that they came here from the town of *Milford*. They were probably induced to settle here from the fact that some of their kindred and townspeople had previously located in *Danbury* and *New Milford*. They who came to these neighboring communities not unlikely reported to their former neighbors and friends, as the children of *Reuben* and *Gad* did concerning the land of *Gilead*, "Even the country is a land for cattle," and, allured by the prospect of pecuniary advantage, as well as being in the immediate vicinity of former friends and acquaintances, they came hither into what was comparatively a new country and kindled their home fires.

Exactly when this first settlement took place it is difficult now to determine, there being no authentic record, although, in an old historical sermon preached in *Danbury* at the beginning of the present century by "Thomas Robbins, Candidate for the Gospel Ministry," it is asserted that "the first settlement of *Danbury* was begun in the summer of 1684," and elsewhere the statement is made: "The western part of the town, called 'Miry Brook,' and the eastern part (which now comprises a part of the town of *Brookfield*), were settled within a few years after the Centre," the centre of *Danbury* being evidently referred to.

*New Milford* was settled in 1707, and *Newtown* still earlier; so the inference is warranted that a pioneer population was here not long subsequent to 1700, perhaps still earlier than that, in the *Danbury* portion of the society.

It is equally difficult to determine accurately who the first settlers were; but from the earliest dates found upon tombstones in the various cemeteries, and from some other sources of information, it is evident that among the earliest dwellers in the place were *Tibbals* and *Jared Baldwin*, whose homes were

\* By Rev. A. C. Pierce.



on Long Meadow Hill, near the school-house; Samuel Merwin, whose residence was where Noah Taylor, deceased, lived; Deacon Matthew Baldwin, who lived a little south of Mr. Edwin Smith's; Samuel Sherman, who lived near where Mr. Abel Sherman now resides; and Deacon Amiel Peck, who lived at the corner just east of the Merwin Brook crossing.

Among the earlier, if not the earliest, inhabitants were also Mr. John Dunning and Deacon Michael Dunning, the last of whom came to his death under peculiarly sad circumstances. On his return from a religious meeting one night to his home, now known as the "Benham" place, by some mishap he fell into his own well, and was either drowned or killed by the fall.

Mr. Henry Peck, the Dibbles, of Bound Swamp, and the Smiths and Hurds, of Whisconier, were also early in the field.

The Society of Newbury was, by an act of General Assembly, incorporated as a town in 1788, Mr. Amos Wheeler acting as the society's agent in carrying its memorial to the Assembly and obtaining the act of incorporation. It would seem, from the repeated efforts of the society in this direction before the final success was achieved, that either the people were unduly ambitious for manhood before they had gotten their growth, or else that the then lawmakers of Connecticut, wise and conservative men as they doubtless were, were chary of allowing upstart societies to "put on airs" and have their ambitious notions gratified too hastily. Application was made for town privileges as early as 1772, and the purpose prosecuted through successive years before many sessions of the Legislature until the final victory over opposition, as already stated, in 1788. Hope deferred and endeavors made through sixteen years would certainly indicate a good measure of will on the part of the men then active. It is just a little more than possible that Danbury, Newtown, and New Milford knew something of the reasons why the success was so long in coming.

#### THE FIRST TOWN-MEETING.

The first town-meeting was held on June 9, 1788, and was moderated by Col. Samuel Canfield, who was appointed by General Assembly to "warn" the meeting and preside over its doings. It was evidently regarded as quite an event in the history of the place, and interest was felt in it even in the surrounding towns, as shown by the following vote passed at the meeting:

"Voted, Thanks to the gentlemen spectators from the neighboring towns for the respect shown to the town of Brookfield in attending their first town-meeting, and in particular return thanks to Col. Samuel Canfield, Esq., appointed first moderator for said town of Brookfield by the General Assembly, for his care and service in said office."

The following-named persons chosen at this meeting had the honor of serving the town as the first selectmen: Lieut. Martain Warner, Capt. Joseph

Smith, Capt. Ezra Dibble, Mr. Amos Wheeler, and Capt. Richard Smith. Elijah S. Starr was elected as the first town "clerk."

The name of the town seems to have been adopted as a tribute of respect to the first pastor of the place (for the entire town was under his ministrations and pastoral care). *Brook's field* easily was converted into "Brookfield" as the permanent designation of the place.

Being thus incorporated as a separate town, the people soon appreciated the need of a town-house, their meetings for business for the first few years being generally "warned" to meet at the "Sign Post," and being thence adjourned either to the "meeting-house," a school-house, or to some private residence.

At an adjourned meeting held on Dec. 22, 1794, it was voted "That this town build a house the ensuing year for the purpose of transacting all business in," "that said house be built thirty-four feet long and twenty-four feet wide, two stories high," and "that said house be built convenient for hanging a bell upon." The committee appointed to superintend the building were instructed by vote of the same meeting "to procure the most convenient place near the meeting-house for setting the town-house upon," and the selectmen were authorized to "draw orders upon the town treasurer to the amount of the expenses of said building."

The lower portion of this house was finished and "seated" two years afterwards, so as to become available for town purposes, the upper part remaining unfinished until a later period. A bell was placed upon this house in 1795, and was replaced by another—the one now in use—in 1829.

The house, thus built and appointed, served the annual gatherings of the freemen of the town until the summer of 1875, when, after a somewhat protracted and heated controversy, mainly in respect to the location of the proposed new building, it was torn down, and the present more comely and commodious structure was built upon its foundations.

#### PARISH AND CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS.

In New England, in "the days of old," there was a mingling, as there is not now, of church and town history, of ecclesiastical and civil affairs. In the meeting of the freemen tax-levies were raised for the "support of the gospel" and ministers were chosen. Especially the Congregational Church—the church of the "Standing Order," as it was called—was cared for, every legal voter being responsible for pecuniary support and having a voice in its affairs.

Parish and church organizations, therefore, must be taken into account in any complete town history, as should be the case also on the ground that the Church and the sanctuary are such important factors of influence and destiny in any community.

There is no record now available by which can be

ascertained when religious services began to be held in Newbury, or the exact date when the ecclesiastical society was organized.

We may naturally suppose that in the first years of their settlement the people worshiped in the towns to which they respectively belonged,—some at New-town, where a church was organized in 1715; some at New Milford, where a church was gathered in 1716; and some in Danbury, where the first church began its existence in 1696. It is to be presumed that for some time after separation from these churches the people gathered in private houses for their Sabbath-day devotions,—the people, for these were times in which *all* held it their duty and their privilege to be worshipers on the Lord's day.

A book of society records, supposed to have been lost, but recently recovered, makes it certain that the society was in working order so early as 1755, and two years later—viz., in 1757—the church was organized, the only account of the event being the following entry in the records of Consociation: "A number of this society that came well recommended from neighboring churches appeared before this council, gave their consent to the Saybrook Confession of Faith and Platform of Church Discipline, unitedly consented to a church covenant, and as members of a church gave a unanimous 'call' to Mr. Brooks to be their minister, to which he gave his consent." In this somewhat informal way the living temple began here to be builded. All the facts of its early history have passed beyond present knowledge by reason of the fact, much to be regretted, that no church records were kept prior to the settlement of Rev. Richard Williams, in 1807.

As already indicated, the earliest Sabbath-day services were probably held in private houses, perhaps at the residence of Joshua Northrop, Amos Northrop, or Peter Hubbell, where it is a matter of record that society meetings were frequently convened for business purposes.

While a sanctuary was being prepared the ark of the Lord rested in the "house of Obed-edom;" and we shall not hazard much if we believe "the Lord blessed the house of Obed-edom and all that pertained unto him because of the ark of the Lord."

But a change was at hand: the long-felt need for a church edifice was to be met. "At a lawful meeting, Jan. 21, 1755, of the inhabitants of the established religious society of Newbury, more than two-thirds of the inhabitants of said society then present and qualified by law to vote declared it necessary to build a meeting-house," and either because of differences of opinion concerning the site upon which to build, or through desire to avoid future divisions such as are very likely to grow out of locating public buildings, they made application to the court of Fairfield County "to appoint and fix the place whereon the meeting-house should be erected and built," and the court thereupon appointed a commission "to fix the

place." For reasons not stated, the recommendations of this commission were negatived by the court.

In the following April the court took still further action in the case, and a new commission was appointed, consisting of Increase Mosely, Benjamin Stiles (?), and Gideon Walker, all of Woodbury, in Litchfield County, who were empowered "to fix a place whereon to set a meeting-house." The doings of this commission were accepted by the society and approved by the court, and so the place of the sanctuary was "fixed," and with it doubtless the place of the village itself; and if so, the wisdom of the commissioners must have been more clear to themselves than in the judgment of succeeding generations.

In December the society made appointment of a building committee, and took action with reference to the finances of the undertaking. It was also voted that the structure should be "forty-six feet in length and thirty-six feet in width, and that the posts should be twenty *foots* long." The committee were further instructed "to get cedar shingles, if they can be attained to, to cover the fore-side of the *ruff*, and chestnut for the back-side, and to cover the upright with oak 'clapboards.'" This building seems to have been simply "covered in" at the first, and to have been used for a period without seats other than benches carried in for temporary convenience, and even without a floor, except of loose boards, on which these benches were placed. Seats and pews were introduced into the building in 1759, four years after its erection. In 1769 it was voted that "the society will *oyl* and *culler* the *winders* and doors and corner-*bords*," and a committee was appointed with power "to *git* and *precuer* *oyl* and *stuef* to fulfill the said vote." Four years later galleries were added to the accommodations already existing. The house was internally improved with "plaster" in 1790, and was externally shingled upon "both sides and each end." The structure was at first without a steeple, and this was added in 1824, after the house had been occupied nearly seventy years, though a bell was never mounted upon its deck, the town-house bell, after its purchase, being used for calling the people together for religious services.

Evidently the spirit of improvement was not of very rapid development. The house of the Lord thus builded piecemeal, as we might say,—a kind of accretion of the prayers and endeavors of two entire generations,—gathered the worshipers beneath its roof until 1854, an entire century, lacking a single year, from the time when its foundations were laid, when it was taken down and the edifice now occupied by the Congregational Church and Society was erected upon its site.

This first meeting-house built in the town was a structure in what may be called the *barn* style of architecture, having a door upon the south side and each end, east and west, with a pulpit on the north side, opposite the main entrance, over which was the old-



fashioned "sounding-board" with the "deacons' seat" beneath.

It was creditable to the good taste of the people, and reflected somewhat their good habits at home, that a tax of thirty shillings was assessed annually for the purpose of defraying the expense of sweeping the meeting-house, the sweeping to be done by some competent person "once in three weeks nine months in the year, and once a month for the three winter months." Evidently the people in those times were believers in the sentiment, "Cleanliness is next to godliness."

The house now occupying the same site was dedicated April 12, 1854, the sermon being preached by Rev. Mr. Churchill, of Woodbury, and the dedicatory prayer being offered by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Curtiss. The bell now (1880) in use was purchased the same year.

Quite relevant to what has thus been recorded of the houses of worship occupied by this parish will be some account of its ministry.

In September of 1755 the society voted "to have the gospel preached amongst us," and likewise "to invite Mr. Josiah Sherman, a candidate, to preach the gospel on the Sabbath in this society, to join with New Preston for the term of time as may be agreed upon." It would thus appear that at first there was preaching but part of the time, probably on alternate Sabbaths, and for this service the society paid "fifteen shillings prock or old tenor," or its equivalent in provisions, per Sabbath.

The arrangement of filling the pulpit by supplies as they could be secured continued for about two years, when the society, at their meeting, "manifested their unanimous desire to have a gospel minister settled among them," and a committee was appointed "to crave the advice and direction of the reverend members of the association in so important an affair."

As a result of such advice, or without regard to it, as the case may have been, at a meeting of the society held in June, 1757, it was proposed to vote "whether we will choose ye worthy Mr. Thomas Brooks, who preached with us on probation, to be settled as our minister and pastor," and it was voted in the affirmative, the church, organized three months later, as we have seen, uniting in the "call." The provision made for his pecuniary support was a "settlement" of one hundred pounds, to be paid in three yearly installments, and for yearly salary forty-five pounds for three years, with addition afterwards of forty shillings each year until the amount should be fifty pounds, this sum to be a permanent allowance. This financial basis being mutually satisfactory, on Sept. 28, 1757, the young candidate was duly ordained and installed as pastor of the church and society, Rev. Ebenezer White, of Danbury, preaching the sermon, and Rev. Jedediah Mills, of Huntington, offering the ordaining prayer.

It is creditable to the memory of Pastor Brooks

that his ministry continued through a period of forty-two years, and that the people, as already seen, permanently associated his name with the place as the name of the town. He is remembered by a few persons still living as a man small in stature,—a Zachæus whom Jesus called,—of fair abilities, and of somewhat marked eccentricities, especially absent-mindedness, and a somewhat quick and uncontrollable temper. As evidence of the first of these characteristics, the well-authenticated anecdote is told of him that on one occasion, when he had worn for his comfort two pairs of stockings to a meeting of Consociation, in the morning, when dressing, he was unable to find but a single stocking. His delegate, however, Mr. Henry Peck, coming to his assistance, shortly ascertained that the four stockings were all upon one foot. And, as an illustration of the last peculiarity mentioned, it is told of him that, meeting with provocation from a parishioner, overmastered by his impetuous spirit, he seized hold of the offender and caused him to shake in a manner somewhat different from that in which the Philippian jailer did in the presence of Paul.

This first pastor, on account of impaired health and growing infirmities, was relieved from the active duties of his office (whether formally dismissed or not is uncertain) in 1796, and reached the end of his pilgrimage three years afterwards.

On an unpretentious gravestone in the "Hawleyville" Cemetery there is the modest record:

"In memory of Rev. Thos. Brook, who departed this life Sept. 13, 1799, aged 80 years.

Mors nihi vita est.

(Death to me is life.)

O mortal, wander where you will,

Your destiny is cast;

The rising stone and verdant hill

Proclaim your destiny at last."

The subsequent pastors of the church, with their periods of service, have been as follows: Rev. Erastus Ripley, November, 1800, to November, 1801; Rev. Richard Williams, June, 1807, to April, 1811; Rev. Bela Kellogg, January, 1813, to October, 1816; Rev. A. B. Hull,\* October, 1819, to October, 1820; Rev. Abner Brundage, May, 1821, to October, 1839; Rev. Dan C. Curtiss, October, 1843, to October, 1855; Rev. Thomas N. Benedict,\* April, 1859, to September, 1862; Rev. P. Hollister, December, 1862, to December, 1864; Rev. F. Munson,\* April, 1865, to 1868; Rev. A. C. Pierce, October, 1870.

It is in evidence that the "service of song in the house of the Lord" was duly regarded by the early worshipers of the town that frequently in the records there is statement of special arrangements made for instruction in singing, the town making appropriations of money to defray the expense, and under date of Dec. 24, 1792, there is the entry:

\* Those thus marked stated supplies, but not pastors.

"Voted, That Mrs. Ebenezer Blackman, Isaac Northrop, Capt. Joseph Ruggles, Sergt. Hezekiah Stevens, Junr., Nehemiah Barlow, and Amial Peck be a Committee to mention a number of old Psalm tunes, and to see that said tunes are taught in the singing-school now taught in this town by Capt. Thait."

It has seemed proper that this somewhat extended account should be given of the church first organized in the town,—which was the religious home of all the people for more than a generation, and which was the mother church as related to others subsequently organized,—and proper also that Pastor Brooks, as the first minister and the one whose memory is perpetuated in the name of the town itself, should have more extended mention than those who were subsequent laborers in the same field.

#### PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

But other churches and other ministers have had their place in the history of the town, and are well entitled to a page in the make-up of its historic record.

Almost from the first formation of the society or parish, of which an account has just been given, there were persons residing within its limits whose sentiments affiliated with other forms of worship, as evidenced in the fact that so early as 1757 a vote was passed to memorialize the General Assembly for a "land-tax of twopence on the acre of all ye uninclosed land in Newbury, exclusive of lands of *Church-of-England men* residing among us." It is said that occasional worship was held within the parish boundaries after the Church-of-England type while yet in its civil state the country was in colonial relations, the ministrations probably furnished from Newtown, where an Episcopal parish was organized in 1734.

On Jan. 21, 1785, thirty-five persons, all of whom were males, lodged a certificate with the clerk of the Congregational parish, declaring themselves "to belong to the Episcopal Church," and it is presumable that at about this time separate worship as a regular weekly appointment began, though the first parish meeting, the records of which have been preserved, was not held until 1789.

A movement was made—so, at least, it is said—for a house of worship for the accommodation of those of Episcopal preferences some four years before the Revolution, and the frame of a building was actually reared. But it was never covered in, and finally disappeared, the war bringing defeat to this, as to so many other enterprises.

After the war, though at what precise date it is perhaps now difficult to determine, an edifice was built for Episcopal use upon the triangular spot midway between Mrs. Lucy Northrop's residence and that of Mr. Sherman Foote, where services were held until 1837, when the parish entered the more commodious house still occupied, though in the mean time enlarged and otherwise greatly improved.

The ministrations of the Episcopal pulpit and parish have been conducted as follows: By the rector,

Rev. Philo Perry, from 1785 (or 1786) to 1798; Rev. Daniel Burhans, D.D., 1798 (or 1799) to 1812; Rev. Benjamin Benham, 1812 to 1828; Rev. Joseph S. Covell, 1829 to 1836; Rev. Mr. Shimeal, 1836 to 1837; Rev. David H. Short, 1838 to 1839; Rev. Edward C. Bull, 1839 to 1842; Rev. Edward J. Ives, 1842 to 1844; Rev. Henry D. Noble, 1844 to 1858; Rev. J. E. Goodhue, 1863 to 1869; Rev. Levi B. Stimson, 1869 to 1872; Rev. Frank B. Lewis, 1872 to 1873; Rev. Frederick A. Fiske, 1873 to 1876; Rev. E. L. Whitcome, 1877.\*

The occasional services held, as already stated, prior to the organization of the parish were probably largely conducted by Rev. John Beach, of Newtown, who went over to Episcopacy from the ministry of the Congregational Church in 1732.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

At the time the old house of worship standing on the triangle in front of Mr. Sherman Foote's was abandoned for the new edifice, in 1837, certain Methodist brethren residing at the "Iron-Works" and in the neighborhood united with others of like views living at Southville, and, forming one society, purchased the old Episcopal meeting-house, and there continued services for nearly twenty years, when a portion of the worshipers resumed their separate status at Southville, and the remaining portion began to hold services at the "Iron-Works" village in the edifice now (1880) occupied by the Reformed congregation.

With varying experience the feeble society here held on its way until, by removals from the place and the death of members, its strength was exhausted, and as a separate organization it became extinct in 1865, or at about that date.

#### THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

On Sept. 23, 1846, the Baptist meeting-house, so called, was opened for public worship by exercises appropriate to the occasion, and on the 12th day of November following the "First Baptist Church of Brookfield" was constituted, a society of affiliated sentiments having been in existence since 1843. On the 2d day of December delegates from other churches were present for the public formal recognition of the new organization, and at a "covenant-meeting" held December 5th Elder William Biddle was called to be the first pastor of the church, which office he held until September, 1854, when, at his own request, he was released from his official connection, though even to the end of life he was intimately identified with the interests of the church, and was constant in his labors on its behalf.

Additional to services rendered by him the church

\* The above list is given as furnished to the writer, but, for the accuracy of history, it should be stated that the two first-named individuals were rectors at Newtown during the same or nearly the same periods.



has been under the pastoral supervision of Elders Ganung, Shove, Wilson, and Chapman.

#### THE REFORMED CHURCH.

The Reformed Church began its organic life in 1869 as a mission enterprise under the auspices of the Classis of New York.

Rev. S. W. Roe, Rev. Ransford Wells, D.D., Rev. F. E. Allen, and Rev. F. M. Bogardus have served the church in the ministry.

#### SCHOOLS.

By a kind of law of association, in New England at least, the mention of schools is closely connected with that of churches, and a sketch of Brookfield would be incomplete without some mention of this kind. The fathers were not indifferent to the need of facilities for a higher grade of education than that furnished by the common or district school, and, accordingly, not unfrequently in the town records there is statement of special appropriations from the treasury for the support of "select schools" or to facilitate in some way higher grade instruction. Thus, under date of April 4, 1799, the selectmen of the town were empowered to pay forty-five dollars for finishing the upper room in the town-house "for the purpose of keeping a school in the same," and it was also voted "that a committee of two persons from each school district in the town be appointed as a joint committee to hire a teacher to teach school in the upper room of the town-house, and to regulate such school."

Private enterprise has also engaged in the same laudable purpose. In 1840, Mr. Edward Robbins opened a school at the "Centre" which assumed flourishing proportions, and was continuously kept up for about ten years.

In 1858, Rev. Henry D. Noble, being measurably disqualified for the services of rector of the parish, conceived the idea of establishing a high-class boarding-school for boys, and entered with his accustomed energy upon the accomplishment of the plan. "St. Paul's School for Boys" was the result, and was carried on with growing prosperity until interrupted by his sudden death, which occurred Sept. 14, 1868.

Shortly after this Madame Booraem opened a private school for lads and misses, which continued, with varying patronage, until 1878.

It should be mentioned in this connection that, in 1795, Widow Mary Northrop, at her decease, left for the benefit of the town an estate of which one hundred and forty-seven pounds four shillings sixpence was in the form of promissory notes, and the proceeds of this estate have been regularly devoted to the interests of education, for a portion of the time being expended in the maintenance of select schools, and at other times being divided among the several districts as partial support of the district schools. At the present time the interest of this fund—known as

the "Molly Money"—is counted in as part of the public-school money, and is divided among the districts.

#### BURIAL-PLACES.

It will not be inappropriate that some reference shall be made here to the burial-places to which the departed have been borne as the six generations dwelling here since the first settlement of the town have lived and died.

The Newbury fathers, while united for ecclesiastical purposes, seem to have maintained, not unnaturally, something of the *town* feeling, and hence the cemetery on "the plain" for the New Milford portion of the society, that by the railroad-track, below Mr. David Northrop's, for the Danbury portion, and that near Hawleyville for the Newtown portion, while a spot marked by a few remaining stones by the side of Hop Brook, on the left of the road to "Obtuse," was a resort for those having no preferences, but looking only to convenience as to distance. The cemetery near Mr. Beman Fairchild's, that known as the "Central," west of Still River, and the one at the "Iron-Works" were of later beginning.

In the burial-place referred to by Hop Brook there stands a slab erected "To the memory of Mr. Henry Baldwin, drowned April 4, 1798," with this somewhat singular poetic inscription:

"Here lies interred a blooming youth;  
He lived in love and died in truth.  
Call, and behold, as you pass by,  
As you are now, so once was I;  
As I am now, so you must be;  
Prepare to die and follow me."

For the benefit of such as are always looking into the past for the golden, and upon the present with disparagement, in this connection it may be stated that within the memory of some now living, on funeral occasions within the town, liquors were provided for the "bearers," and as the procession moved, here and there on the route, when the "bier" was changed from the shoulders of one set of men to those of another, the bottle, carried by an attendant, was passed around to strengthen the men helping in carrying the dead. Surely, there is some progress!

The history of a place is inclusive of its outgoing influences, as well as of events which transpire within its boundaries. Emigrant sons and daughters are important factors, therefore, which must not be left out of the account, and of these the following should be enrolled: Rev. William A. Hawley, Rev. William Dibble, Rev. Bennet F. Northrop, Rev. Beebe Stevens, Rev. Oliver Taylor, Rev. Oliver St. John, and Rev. Frank Lobdell. Mr. Samuel Ruggles and Mrs. Lucia Holman, missionaries of the American Board, were also natives of the place. Besides these, a long list might be added of non-professional persons who in various secular relations and pursuits have "obtained a good report."







*A. L. Williams*

## MILITARY RECORD.

Though no distinguished names or exploits adorn the war record of Brookfield, yet this department of its history is not altogether barren of incident, and there are names which ought not to die out of memory, because they who bore them were willing to hazard life for their country's safety.

When the Revolutionary war broke out it found here a company of militia already organized, which did service under Maj.-Gen. Wooster, and probably was present when he received his death-wound at Ridgefield.

It is represented by the older citizens, who gathered their information from the fathers, now passed away, that when Governor Tryon, of "blazing memory," burned Danbury, great excitement swept over Newbury, and that many of the people, their patriotism stirred by the words of good Pastor Brooks, rushed to the aid of their Danbury neighbors; also that in another stage of the conflict royal troops were for a little time quartered here.

In the war of 1812 a "draught" was served upon the people here, and, additional to the men thus raised, Lieut. Ruggles enlisted a company of volunteers, the whole being sent to New London for active duty. But the perils of these men were more dreadful in anticipation than in reality, and their exploits of war were not of such account as to cover either themselves or their country with imperishable glory.

In response to the call of the country for the suppression of the Rebellion, fifty-seven men enlisted from Brookfield, serving for a longer or shorter period, of which number two—Albert Clark and Frank Benson—were killed in action.

The full roll of enlisted men, as they appear upon the books in the State archives, is as follows:

Charles S. Smith, Charles B. Steward, William Turrell, Edwin Wheeler, Samuel Magee, Rockwell H. Smith, Harmon Edgett, Theodore Jackson, Abner H. Johnson, Patrick Sullivan, Benjamin Stebbins, Leonard D. Wilkinson, Frank J. Benson, Charles T. Delevan, Joseph Maddocks, Charles Hayes, Lemuel Peck, Hanford N. Bassett, William R. Hamlin, George W. Anthony, Lewis J. Ives, Henry W. Seeley, Gilbert H. Campbell, James W. Hamilton, Frederic A. Bennett, McAllister Craig, Charles H. Clark, Thomas Sherman, Tallman Simons, William F. Banks, Edwin H. Nearing, Frederic E. Nearing, William Stebbins, Frederic A. Osborn, Edward A. Osborn, Zenas L. Dibble, Daniel Briggs, James H. Case, Edward H. Northrop, Marcellus R. Pishon, Allen Rogers, Clarence Smith, George Squires, Jonathan T. Salmons, Joseph H. Canfield, Daniel McKimmon, Timothy T. Turrell, Albert Clark, John Triel, Joseph C. Goldsmith, William Hamilton, Thomas Hoyer, William D. Hoyt, William H. Hawley, Booth Lattin, John S. Prentice, Thomas Prentice.

Ten died while in the service; their names as follows:

Thomas Hoyer, Thomas Prentice, Edwin Wheeler, Rockwell H. Smith, Abner Johnson, Patrick Sullivan, Lemuel Peck, William R. Hamlin, Thomas Sherman, and Charles T. Delevan.

The most noteworthy items of Brookfield history have thus been passed in review. In closing such a record the thought is quite natural, "How much there is of unwritten—never to be written—history!" and the thought also, "The generation now living is

making history for those who shall come after, and how important that the record, when filled out by some as yet unknown chronicler, shall be spotless and aglow with honorable incident and names to be held in abiding respect!"

## REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1788 TO 1880.

1788, Henry Peck; 1789, Capt. Joseph Smith; 1789-90, Henry Peck; 1790-91, Joseph Smith; 1792, Henry Peck, Daniel Benedict Cook; 1793, Amos Wheeler, Benjamin Bostwick; 1794, Amos Wheeler, Timothy Ruggles; 1795, Daniel B. Cook, Preserve Wood; 1796, Amos Wheeler, Isaac Hawley; 1797-98, Amos Wheeler; 1798, Jesse Noble; 1799, Daniel B. Clark; 1800, Eli Perry, Daniel B. Cook; 1801-2, Jesse Noble, George C. Smith; 1803, Jesse Noble, Riverius Hawley; 1804, George C. Smith, Jesse Noble; 1805, Jesse Noble, George C. Smith, Thomas P. White; 1806, William Meeker, Liverus Hawley; 1807, Riverius Hawley, George C. Smith; 1808, Isaac Hawley, Liverus Hawley; 1809, George Smith, Daniel Tomlinson; 1810, Riverius Hawley; 1811, Riverius Hawley, Liverus Hawley; 1812, Daniel Tomlinson, Joseph Smith (3d); 1813, Daniel Tomlinson, Liverus Hawley; 1814, Liverus Hawley, William Meeker; 1815-16, Noah A. Lacey, Daniel Tomlinson; 1817, Noah A. Lacey, Zerah S. A. Peck; 1818, William Meeker, Heman Burch; 1819, Czar Starr; 1820, William Meeker; 1821, Czar Starr; 1822, William Meeker; 1823, Stephen Gregory; 1824, Eli Ruggles; 1825, William Meeker; 1826, Eli Ruggles; 1827, John B. Sanford; 1828, Daniel Tomlinson; 1829, Stephen Gregory; 1830-31, Zerah S. A. Peck; 1832, Ebenezer Wanser; 1833, Bryant Smith; 1834, Abraham F. Shepard; 1835, Stephen Gregory; 1836, Benjamin Hawley; 1837, John Hawley; 1838, Czar Starr; 1839, Ira Keeler; 1840-41, David Burr; 1842, Charles Hurd; 1843, Eli Ruggles; 1844-45, John Hawley; 1846, Ethiel Andrews; 1847, Alfred Morris; 1848, Ormon Bradley; 1849, Abel S. Hawley; 1850, David W. Northrop; 1851, Bryant Smith; 1852, David A. Foster; 1853, William H. Seake; 1854, John Hawley; 1855, Nathan Turrell; 1856, Ira Keeler; 1857, Hiram Higby; 1858, William A. Randall; 1859, Almon Odell; 1860, John Hawley; 1861, Levi G. Knapp; 1862, Zar Joice; 1863-64, Philo C. Merwin; 1865, Curtis Morris; 1866, S. B. Ruggles; 1867, Edwin G. Turrill; 1868, Harvey Roe; 1869, David H. Meeker; 1870, D. G. Meers; 1871, H. S. Stevens; 1872, Augustus H. Knapp; 1873, John N. Hawley; 1874, Eugene T. Shepard; 1875, Marcus Babbitt; 1876, John P. Wildman; 1877, Ezra N. Somers; 1878, William F. Wildman; 1879, Henry S. Peck; 1880, Benjamin Griffin.

## SELECTMEN FROM 1788 TO 1880.

1788.—Lee Martin Warner, Capt. Joseph Smith, Capt. Ezra Dibble, Amos Wheeler, Capt. Richard Smith.  
1789.—Joseph Starr, Jesse Noble, Dr. Preserve Wood.  
1790.—Amos Wheeler, Preserve Wood, Isaac Hawley.  
1791.—Amos Wheeler, Lee Martin Warner, Amiel Peck.  
1792.—Capt. Richard Smith, Dr. Preserve Wood, Amos Wheeler.  
1793.—Daniel B. Cooke, Benjamin Bostwick, Le Martin Warner.  
1794.—Samuel Merwin, Jr., Ezra Dibble, Timothy Ruggles.  
1795.—Isaac Hawley, Solomon Warner, Levi Bostwick.  
1796.—Liverus Hawley, Dr. Preserve Wood, Hezekiah Stevens, Jr.  
1797.—Liverus Hawley, Elijah Starr, Ezra Dibble.  
1798.—Liverus Hawley, Jesse Noble, Capt. Ezra Dibble.  
1799.—Liverus Hawley, Jesse Noble, Dr. Preserve Wood.  
1800.—Liverus Hawley, George C. Smith, Niram Blackman.  
1801.—Liverus Hawley, Elijah Starr, George C. Smith.  
1802.—Liverus Hawley, Zar Starr, Samuel Sherman.  
1803.—Liverus Hawley, Elijah Starr, Zar Starr.  
1804.—George C. Smith, Wait Northrop, Levi Bostwick.  
1805.—Elijah Sturdevant, Wait Northrop, George C. Smith.  
1806.—Henry Peck, Jr., Andrew Northrop, Ruggles Sherman.  
1807.—Nathan Keeler, Robert B. Ruggles, Samuel Sherman.  
1808.—John Peck, David Osborne, Michael Dunning.  
1809.—Liverus Dunning, Zar Starr, John W. Camp.  
1810.—Henry Peck, Benjamin R. Warner, Wait Northrop.  
1811.—Henry Peck, Robert B. Ruggles, Benjamin R. Warner.  
1812.—Benjamin Lake, Henry Peck, Elijah Sturdevant.  
1813-14.—Henry Peck, Elijah Sturdevant, Zerah S. A. Peck.  
1815.—Walker Lewis, Zar Starr, Elijah Terrill.  
1816.—Peter Hurd, Ezra Dibble, Robert B. Ruggles.  
1817.—Peter Hurd, Robert Ruggles, Steven Gregory.



- 1818.—Peter Hurd, Foster Hurlbert, Eli Ruggles.  
 1819.—Steven Gregory, Zar Nearing, Elijah Terrill.  
 1820.—Zar Nearing, Jabez Hurd, Abel Booth.  
 1821.—Jabez Hurd, Zalmon Goodsell, David Meeker.  
 1822.—Zar Nearing, William Meeker, Samuel Merwin, Jr.  
 1823.—Zalmon Goodsell, Agur Tomlinson, Isaac Babbitt.  
 1824.—Zerah S. A. Peck, Henry Peck, Benjamin Lake.  
 1825-26.—John B. Sanford, Heman Burch, Wait S. Northrop.  
 1827.—Wait S. Northrop, Heman Burch, Eleazer D. Hawley.  
 1828.—Elmore B. Northrop, Eleazer D. Hawley, Wait S. Northrop.  
 1829-30.—Wait S. Northrop, Eli Hamlin, Elmore B. Northrop.  
 1831.—Eli Hamlin, Zar Starr, Jr., Alonzo Beers.  
 1832.—Zar Starr, Jr., David A. Foster, Alonzo Beers.  
 1833.—Zar Starr, Jr., Henry Ruggles, Ezra Osborne.  
 1834.—David A. Foster, Ira Keeler, John Hawley.  
 1835-36.—Ira Keeler, Ormond Lobdell, John Jackson.  
 1837-38.—Curtis Morris, Alfred Morris, Charles Hurd.  
 1839.—Ormond Bradley, Curtis Morris, David W. Northrop.  
 1840-42.—Curtis Morris, John A. Peck, David Bristoll.  
 1843.—Elias Camp, Zar Starr, Jr., Zalmon Goodsell.  
 1844.—Elias Camp, Hubbell Wildman, Benjamin Hawley.  
 1845.—David Burr, Eliud Bristol, Orrin Salmons.  
 1846.—Elias Camp, David W. Northrop, Homer Lake.  
 1847.—Sidney Hawley, Homer C. Brush, Lemuel Northrop.  
 1848.—Elias Camp, Ebenezer Wanzer, Zar Starr.  
 1849.—Ebenezer Wanzer, William A. Randall, Zar Joyce.  
 1850-51.—Curtis Morris, Ebenezer Wanzer, Zar Joyce.  
 1852.—Curtis Morris, Zar Starr, Alonzo Beers.  
 1853.—Curtis Morris, Homer C. Brush, Zar Starr.  
 1854-56.—Homer C. Brush, John Hawley, William H. Lake.  
 1857.—Homer C. Brush, William H. Lake, Edwin G. Terrill.  
 1858.—William H. Lake, Edwin G. Terrill, Philo C. Merwin.  
 1859.—Curtis Morris, Ezra N. Somers, Henry A. Andrews.  
 1860.—Sidney E. Hawley, L. B. Wildman, Ezra W. Wildman.  
 1861.—L. B. Wildman, D. B. Dibble, Alfred Morris.  
 1862.—Homer C. Brush, Philo C. Merwin, Ezra N. Somers.  
 1863-65.—Philo C. Merwin, Ezra N. Somers, Hiram Barnum.  
 1866.—Philo C. Merwin, Ezra N. Somers, Harvey Roe.  
 1867-68.—Ezra N. Somers, Harvey Roe, David H. Meeker.  
 1869-70.—Ezra N. Somers, Harvey Roe, William F. Wildman.  
 1871.—Harvey Roe, William F. Wildman, Marcus Babbitt.  
 1872.—Harvey Roe, Ezra W. Wildman, Marcus Babbitt.  
 1873.—Harvey Roe, Samuel Thornhill, John H. Merwin.  
 1874.—Harvey Roe, John H. Merwin, David H. Meeker.  
 1875-76.—John H. Merwin, Henry D. Lake, Henry C. Gray.  
 1877.—Henry D. Lake, Henry C. Gray, Horace Beers.  
 1878.—Ezra N. Somers, Barzilla T. Jackson, Horace Beers.  
 1879.—Harvey Roe, Ezra N. Somers, Sherman Foote.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### AMOS L. WILLIAMS.

Dr. Amos L. Williams is of Welsh descent, his ancestors coming to America and settling in New England at an early day.

His father, William Williams, was a native of Lebanon, New London Co., Conn., who followed farming, and took to wife Miss Lydia Loomis of Lebanon. Salmon L., William C., Lydia, Harriet, Gilbert, and Amos L. were the names of their children.

Amos L. Williams was born Jan. 11, 1811. His father died when he was but seven years of age. He remained with his mother until he was sixteen, when he took up his residence with his brother, Dr. William C. Williams, at that time a practicing physician in Roxbury, Conn. He remained two years, teach-

ing the district school in the winter, and reading medicine in his hours from school and during the remainder of those two years. In the winter of 1831-32 he attended a course of medical lectures in New Haven, and in March, 1832, was licensed to practice. Locating in Greene Co., N. Y., he practiced there a few months when he removed to Brookfield, Fairfield Co., Conn., where he has lived and followed his profession since March 1, 1833. Eight years afterwards, in 1840, he attended a course of lectures and graduated at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

Oct. 16, 1833, he married Miss Sarah J., daughter of Daniel and Lucy (Gregory) Holley, of Brookfield. The children born to them have been Ellen F., Julia G., William H. H., and Florence H.

It may be truthfully said of Dr. Williams that he is a self-made man. Commencing the practice of his profession under adverse circumstances, he has, by careful study and close attention to his professional duties, won for himself the position of trust and honor which he now occupies.

### EZRA W. WILDMAN.

Ezra W. Wildman, son of Edward and Anna A. (Bennett) Wildman, was born Dec. 2, 1818, in New Fairfield, where his parents were temporarily residing, having lived in Brookfield prior to and returning there soon after Ezra's birth.

Edward Wildman pursued the calling of farming. He was married to Anna A., daughter of Stephen and Hannah (Lacy) Bennett, of Brookfield, by whom he had seven children. Ezra, the eldest son, lived with his father, attending the district school and assisting in the farm-work, until reaching the age of nineteen, when he began the business of manufacturing curriers' knives with Mr. Tomlinson in Brookfield. At the age of twenty-one he entered into partnership with Mr. Tomlinson and his uncle, Mr. John F. Bennett, and did business under the firm-name of D. Tomlinson & Co. This connection lasted until the "big freshet" in 1853, which carried away the firm's dam, when, Mr. Tomlinson retiring, the firm became Bennett & Wildman; the dam was rebuilt and business resumed. In 1867, Mr. Wildman sold his interest in the establishment, and devoted his time to farming.

In February, 1841, Mr. Wildman married Miss Harriet, daughter of Hiram Barlow, of Bridgewater, Conn. Their children were Emily M., Sarah E., Laura A., Henrietta E. His first wife dying in 1850, the following year he married Miss Sarah J., daughter of Albert and Hannah (Rusco) Stevens, of New Canaan, by whom he has had the following-named children: Harriet N., Henry S., Josephine, Ida C., and William E.

The family of Stevens are of English origin. Albert Stevens was a public educator, devoting a long



*Ezra W. Aldman*



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life to the arduous calling, teaching in Patterson, Vista, and elsewhere.

In politics, Mr. Wildman is Republican. He is an attendant at the Reformed church, Brookfield, of which Mrs. Wildman and several of the children are members.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### DANBURY.

Geographical—Topographical—Robbins' Century Sermon—Original Name—Pahquioque—The First Settlers—Date of Settlement—The First Physician—First Survey of the Town—The Patent—"John Reed, the Lawyer"—First Probate Judge—The Pioneer School—The Revolution—First Public Library—Ecclesiastical—Sketch of Mr. Robbins—Danbury in 1770—List of Inhabitants in 1793.

DANBURY lies in the northern part of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by New Fairfield; on the east by Brookfield and Bethel; on the south by Redding and Ridgefield; and on the west by Ridgefield and Putnam Co., N. Y. The surface is diversified with hills and valleys, and the soil is fertile.

In presenting the history of Danbury it is deemed advisable to reproduce, as introductory, a century sermon delivered by Rev. Thomas Robbins, A.M., Jan. 1, 1801, wherein was embodied many facts bearing upon the early history of the town which can be obtained from no other source. Mr. Robbins was at the time temporarily supplying the pulpit of the Congregational Church. He was an enthusiast in matters of historic lore, and in the language of Mr. Bailey, of the *News*, "He builded better than he knew, and delivered a sermon that will live as long as Danbury itself has an existence."

### THE SERMON.

"The original Indian name of this place was Pahquioque. The first settlement of this town was begun in the summer of the year 1684.\* The settlers came that year and begun some improvements in buildings, sowing grain, and other things necessary. Some of the families moved here that summer, and continued through the winter; others did not move till the spring following. It may therefore be said that the first permanent settlement was made in the spring of the year 1685, by eight families. The names of the men were, Thomas Taylor, Francis Bushnell, Thomas Barnum, John Hoyt, James Benedict, Samuel Benedict, James Beebe, and Judah Gregory. They lived near together, at the south end of Town Street. Beginning at the south end, Taylor, Bushnell, Barnum, and Hoyt lived on the west side; the two Benedicts, Beebe, and Gregory on the east. All except James Beebe came from Norwalk; he was from Stratford. They purchased their lands from the Indian proprietors. Mr. Taylor had seven sons, from whom all of that name now in town descended. Mr. Bushnell had a family of seven daughters, but no son. There have therefore been none of the name in this town since, only as it is still borne up in several Christian names. Mr. Barnum had five sons, from whom are the families of that name. Mr. Hoyt left six sons, who are the ancestors of the families of that name now living. Mr. James Benedict left three sons, from whom are a part of the Benedict families which survive, particularly those in which the Christian name James frequently occurs. His eldest son James was the first English male child born in town. The sons of Samuel Benedict were four. From them are those families of Benedicts in which the Christian name Samuel is often found. Soon after these first families settled here, Daniel Benedict, a brother of the other two of that name, came and became a

settler. He was not one of the first, as has been supposed. He left but one son, Daniel.† From him are the families in which that Christian name is often found, of whom there are as many families now in town as from either of the others. Mr. Beebe had two sons,—James and Samuel. From his two sons sprang the families of Beebes now in town. The sons of Samuel moved to Litchfield, and afterwards began the settlement of the town of Canaan. Mr. Gregory had two sons, from whom are the numerous families of that name."

### THE FIRST PHYSICIAN.

"One of the first settlers after the first eight families was Dr. Samuel Wood, a regular-bred physician, born and educated in England. Able and skillful in his profession, he was very useful in the town for many years. From him are the families of that name now in town.

"Mr. Josiah Starr came to this town from Long Island soon after its first settlement. He had six sons, from whom the many families of that name have descended. Joseph Mygatt, from Hartford, afterwards married Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Starr, eldest son of Josiah, and settled in this town, from whom are the families of that name. The families of Picket, Knapp, and Wildman are ancient families in the town, the latter of whom are now very numerous. Some of the grandsons of the original settlers are now living. Mr. David Taylor, of Weston, and Mr. David Benedict, of this town, are grandsons of Mr. Thomas Taylor. Mr. David Shove is a grandson of Mr. Bushnell. Capt. Comfort Hoyt, Thaddeus Benedict, Esq., Mr. Isaac Benedict, and Mr. Joseph Beebe—the two latter of Bethel—are grandsons of the first settlers Hoyt, the two Benedicts, and Beebe. Mr. Abel Barnum, who died about a year ago at New Fairfield, was the last grandson of the first settler Barnum. The last grandson of the first settler Gregory was Samuel Gregory, Esq., who has been dead about eighteen years."

### FIRST SURVEY OF THE TOWN.—THE PATENT.

"The first settlers, having purchased their lands of the Indian owners, became proprietors of the town. The town was surveyed in February, 1693, by John Platt and Samuel Hayes, of Norwalk. The survey bill declares the length to be eight miles from north to south, and the breadth six miles from east to west. At the session of the General Assembly in May, 1702, a patent was granted, giving town-privileges to the inhabitants and proprietors of Danbury. The patentees named are James Beebe, Thomas Taylor, Samuel Benedict, James Benedict, John Hoyt, and Josiah Starr. In this act the boundaries were fixed according to the former survey.

"The first justice of the peace who was appointed was Mr. James Beebe. The first town clerk was Mr. Josiah Starr. For many years after this time there were Indians living in town, who held their lands separate from the English people by known bounds. It does not appear that they were ever troublesome. But in the time of the wars, which were in the early part of the century, in which the French used great exertions to excite the enmity of the natives against the English settlements, it became necessary to provide some means of security. The house of Mr. Samuel Benedict, at the southeast corner of the street, and the house of Rev. Mr. Shove, on the eminence near where the two former meeting-houses stood, were placed in a posture of defense. When they were apprehensive of danger all the families used to repair to these two houses, especially nights. But it does not appear that they ever had any serious alarm. In October, 1708, it was enacted by the General Assembly that garrisons should be kept at Woodbury and Danbury if the council of war should judge expedient. It thence follows that this was then a frontier town. But we have no account that any garrison was ever maintained here at public expense.

"The western part of the town, called Miry Brook, and the eastern part, which now composes part of the town of Brookfield, were settled within a few years after the centre. Many parts in the middle of the town which are now very fertile and prolific were considered by the early proprietors as not worth cultivation. Some of them, therefore, went from four to seven miles for land to raise their ordinary crops.

"One of the early inhabitants in this town was John Reed, a man of great talents, and thoroughly skilled in the knowledge and practice of the law. He possessed naturally many peculiarities, and affected still more. He is known to this day through the country by many singular anecdotes and characteristics under the appellation of 'John Reed the Lawyer.' The first representative from this town to the General Assembly was Mr. Thomas Taylor. He was for many years a useful man in the town, and died January, 1735, aged ninety-two. He continued the

\* In this I am positive, for three separate and independent sources of information all agree.

† Daniel Benedict, Jr., married Rebekah, daughter of Mr. Thomas Taylor.



longest of any of the first settlers. The second justice of the peace was Mr. Josiah Starr. He held the office but a short period. He died Jan. 4, 1715,\* aged fifty-seven. The next to him in office was John Gregory, son of Judah Gregory, one of the first settlers. James Beebe, Jr., was successor in office to his father, who died April 22, 1728, aged eighty-seven. It is noticeable that James Beebe, the father and the son, each bore the several offices of justice of the peace, captain of the militia, and deacon of the church. The father, having commanded the military company of the town for many years (said to be thirty), on his resignation led them to the choice of a successor, which fell upon his son. The fifth justice of the peace was Thomas Benedict, son of James Benedict, a first settler. Samuel Gregory, son of John Gregory, the former justice, was next appointed to that office. The next to him was Comfort Starr, youngest son of Josiah Starr, Esq. These seven justices of the peace are all that have been in town prior to those now living.† It is worthy of remark that in five instances that office has been sustained by father and son. The town clerks have been, in succession, Josiah Starr, Israel Curtis, Thomas Benedict, Thaddeus Benedict, Major Taylor, and Eli Mygatt. The Probate district of Danbury was established by act of Assembly, October, 1744. It then contained the towns of Newtown, Ridgefield, New Fairfield, and Danbury. Redding and Brookfield have since been added. Before that time this town belonged to the district of Fairfield. The first judge was Thomas Benedict, Esq. He held the office until his death, in 1775. The present judge‡ was then appointed.

"Comfort Starr, Esq., who died May 11, 1763, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, left to the town a donation of eight hundred pounds, lawful money, for the support of a perpetual school in the centre of the town: to be under the direction of the civil authority and selectmen, the instructor to be capable of teaching reading, writing, arithmetic, and the Latin and Greek languages. In the general wreck of paper currency during the Revolutionary war, the fund depreciated to the sum of four hundred and eighty-eight pounds twelve shillings and nine pence, which now remains. In April this school was converted into a 'school of higher order,' agreeably to an act of Assembly passed May, 1798. A sketch of this school from the beginning has been lately written, which was copied off by several of the pupils, which they are again requested to preserve as a valuable memoir.

"At an early period in the town, of which the year cannot now be ascertained, a malignant nervous fever prevailed by which numbers of the inhabitants died. Aside from that, there never was any prevalent epidemic in the town till the year 1775; in that year a dysentery raged with great fury in all parts of the town. The number of deaths in the town during the year was about one hundred and thirty, of which eighty-two were within the limits of the first society. Says Mr. Baldwin, in his Thanksgiving sermon of that year, 'No less than sixty-two have been swept away from within the limits of this society in less than eleven weeks the summer past, and not far from fifty in other parts of the town. Much the greater part of this number were small children. A terrible blow to the rising generation!' A remarkable fact occurred that year. A military company of about one hundred men was raised in town and ordered to the Northern army, on Lake Champlain. When they went it was viewed by their friends as next to a final departure. At the conclusion of the campaign they all returned safely, and found that great numbers of their friends at home had sunk in death. The disorder subsided before their return.§

"The town was again visited by the same disorder in the year 1777, but it was far less malignant and mortal than before. In the autumn of the year 1789 the influenza spread through the country. This town was visited in common with others; few persons escaped the disorder, yet in very few instances was it mortal. In the following spring, 1790, the same disease again spread abroad; it was less universal and much more severe than before. Many of the persons died of it in this and most of the towns through the country. In the years 1793 and 1794 the scarlet fever spread considerably, but was not mortal but in a few instances. The smallpox has never been but little in this town, and there are now

few or no towns in the State where a less population of the inhabitants have had that disorder than in this."

#### THE REVOLUTION.

"In the latter part of the year 1776 the commissioners of the American army chose this town for a deposit of a quantity of military stores. Large quantities of flour, meat, and various kinds of military stores were collected and deposited here. In April, 1777, Governor Tryon, of *blazing* memory, set out from New York with a detachment of two thousand men for the purpose of destroying the Continental stores in this town. They landed at Compo Point, in the town of Fairfield, and marched without interruption directly to Danbury. There was in the town a small number of Continental troops, but without arms. They with the inhabitants generally withdrew from the town as the enemy approached. The enemy entered the town on Saturday, the 26th of April, at about three o'clock in the afternoon. They soon began those cruelties and excesses which characterize an unprincipled and exasperated enemy. Several persons were inhumanly murdered. One very valuable house, with four persons in it, was burnt immediately. The utmost inhumanity was committed upon all except the persons and property of the Tories. The next morning, before the King of Day had arisen, the unhappy inhabitants who remained in the town saw the darkness of night suddenly dispelled by the awful blaze of their dwellings. The enemy, fearful of their retreat being cut off, rallied early on the morning of the 27th, set fire to the several stores and buildings, and immediately marched out of town. Nineteen dwelling-houses, the meeting-house of the New Danbury society, and twenty-two stores and barns, with all their contents, were consumed. The quantity of Continental stores which were consumed cannot now be accurately ascertained; accounts vary considerably. From the best information which can be obtained, there were about three thousand barrels of pork, more than one thousand barrels of flour, several hundred barrels of beef, sixteen hundred tents, two thousand bushels of grain, besides many other valuable articles, such as rum, wine, rice, army-carriages, etc.¶ The private losses were estimated, by a committee appointed for the purpose, sixteen thousand one hundred and eighty-four pounds seventeen shillings and ten pence.

"Gens. Wooster, Arnold, and Silliman immediately collected such a party of inhabitants as they were able, and effectually annoyed the enemy on their retreat to their shipping. A spirited action was fought at Ridgefield the same day they left this town, in which Maj.-Gen. Wooster received a mortal wound. He was brought to this town, died on the 29th, and was interred in the common burying-place. Congress resolved that a monument should be erected to his memory, and made the necessary grant; the charge was committed to his son, who has never fulfilled it. His grave still remains, and probably ever will, without a stone to tell posterity where he lies.

"Notwithstanding the public loss of this town, it was still used as a deposit for Continental stores through the war. A guard for security was maintained the whole period. A great hospital was also kept in this town from March, 1777, till the termination of the war, in which great numbers died. In the autumn of 1778 a division of the army, consisting of four brigades, under the command of Gen. Gates, was quartered in this town for a few weeks. Small detachments of the army were here occasionally afterwards.

"The people of this town were united in one society till the year 1754. At that time a part of the town, with a part of the towns of New Milford and Newtown, was incorporated a society by the name of Newbury. The society of Bethel, which is wholly in this town, was incorporated by act of Assembly, October, 1759. In May, 1761, a small part of the town, with a part of the town of Ridgefield, was incorporated a society by the name of Ridgebury."

#### FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY.

"A public library was established in this town in the year 1771, which afterwards consisted of about one hundred volumes. In the conflagration of the town the books, except a few which were out, were consumed. It remained in such a mutilated state till March, 1795, when it was dispersed. In January, 1793, a number of inhabitants formed and signed a constitution for a library company; one dollar and seventy-five cents was paid on each share, and laid out for the purchase of books. An annual tax, generally of half a dollar upon a share, has been regularly applied for the purchase of books, judiciously chosen. The library now contains two hundred volumes; should the same care in enlarging and

\* His tombstone.

† Those who have been appointed to the office of justice of the peace, since those above mentioned, are Hon. Joseph P. Cooke, Daniel Taylor, Thaddeus Benedict, Samuel Taylor, Eli Mygatt, Thomas Taylor, James Clark, Elisha Whittlesey, Timothy Taylor, and Thomas Taylor, Jr. Daniel and Samuel Taylor are since dead, and Thaddeus Benedict is not now in office; the remaining seven are.

Hon. Joseph P. Cooke.

‡ A strong evidence that the disorder was not brought from the army, as was generally imagined.

¶ Dr. Ramsey's account of the losses in this town is certainly far short of the truth.



preserving it continue, it promises to be a respectable and useful collection. A library was founded at Bethel about the year 1793, which now contains one hundred volumes, and is increasing.

"By an act of the General Assembly passed in May, 1784, this town was made a half-shire of the county of Fairfield. From that time to this the courts have met alternately in Fairfield and Danbury. A court-house and jail were built in the town, with some assistance from the neighboring towns, the year following; the sum of three hundred and eighteen pounds was raised by a tax, the remainder by subscription. In the year 1791 the first jail was consumed by fire, after which a second one was built, more valuable and secure. The expense was defrayed by the product of a lottery.

"A census of this State was taken in the year 1756. We know of no earlier enumeration of the inhabitants having been made. At that time the whole number was 130,611; the number in Fairfield County was 20,560; the number in this town was 1527. Another census was taken in January, 1774. The State then contained 197,856 inhabitants; the county of Fairfield, 30,150; the town of Danbury, 2526. By the census of 1790 the population of the State was 237,946; the number in Fairfield County was 36,230; in this town it was 3029. This was after the town was diminished by the society of Newbury being incorporated a town. In the census of the year past, returns from the whole State have not been made; the county of Fairfield is found to contain 38,160, and the town of Danbury 3274, inhabitants. The number of towns in the State in 1756 was 73; in 1774 it was 76; in 1790 it was 98; in 1800 it was 106.

"A printing-office was established in this town in March, 1790. A weekly news-print has been regularly published from that time to this, on demi-paper; it has generally been, as it is at present, respectable for good principles and information. The number of papers issued at first were but one hundred; there have been as many as two thousand; the usual number has been about one thousand. In June, 1793, a second paper was published in town, which continued several months.

"We now proceed to relate in a concise manner a sketch of the ecclesiastical history of the town. The time when a church was first organized in town cannot be exactly determined; it was probably at the ordination of the first minister. The first minister in this town was the Rev. Mr. Shove, a very pious and worthy man, who was very successful in his exertions for the promotion of peace, virtue, and true religion; so that the general peace and union in his time are proverbial at this day. He was ordained in the year 1696, and died Oct. 3, 1735, aged sixty-eight.\* The town was destitute of a settled minister but a short time. In a few months the church and people, in great harmony, invited Mr. Ebenezer White to settle with them in the ministry. He was accordingly ordained March 10, 1736.† Universal harmony prevailed between the people and their minister for more than twenty-five years. The people of the town were considered by all the neighboring towns as eminent for morality and religion, for regularity of conduct, and for constant attendance on the institutions of Christianity, though it is to be lamented that there has never been any special revival of religion in this town from the first settlement. In the great awakening which spread through the land in the years 1740 and 1741, which was probably the most signal effusion of divine grace this country has ever experienced, this town was mostly passed over. In the great revival of religion in two years past, in the northern part of this State and many other places, which is doubtless the greatest display of divine grace, excepting the one before mentioned, which has taken place in this country the past century, this and the neighboring towns seem to have possessed no share. These considerations call for serious consideration and humility.

"It is supposed, on good grounds, that the first meeting-house was built prior to Mr. Shove's ordination; its dimensions were about forty feet in length and thirty feet in breadth. It is remarkable that after the frame was raised every person that belonged to the town was present and sat on the sills at once. The second meeting-house was built about the year 1719; its dimensions were fifty feet in length and thirty-five feet in breadth. In 1745 an addition of fifteen feet was made to the whole front of the house. About the year 1762 religious controversy began in this town, and was carried to a great extent for many years. It is presumed that in no town in this State has there been more religious contention than in this. It is hoped that the flame is now mostly buried, never to break forth again.

"At the time above mentioned, Mr. White having altered his sentiments and preaching in several particulars, some uneasiness arose among his people. The efforts of several ecclesiastical councils to heal the division proving ineffectual, it finally issued the dismissal of Mr. White

from his pastoral charge, March, 1764.‡ A major part of the members of Mr. White's church joined with him in denying the jurisdiction of ecclesiastical councils and renouncing the form of church government established by the churches in this State. The remaining part, who signified their adherence to the ecclesiastical government, were established and acknowledged by the two Consociations of Fairfield County, convened in council, as the First Church in Danbury. Soon after this Mr. White and his adherents separated from the church and society and formed a separate church; they were generally denominated 'Mr. White's adherents.' In October, 1770, a number of the inhabitants of the town individually named in the act, principally those who composed this separate church, were incorporated a society by the name of 'New Danbury.' Prior to this they built a good meeting-house, its dimensions about fifty feet by forty, in the year 1768, which was consumed in the general conflagration of the town. In the same year Mr. Ebenezer Russell White was ordained a colleague with his father over that church.

"In the year 1764, Mr. Robert Sandeman, a native of Perth, in Scotland, a man of learning, of great genius and art, and, according to his views of divine truth, a man of strict piety, who had had some correspondence with Mr. White and some other ministers in this country, came from Scotland and landed at Boston. He came to this town near the close of the year 1764. After tarrying several weeks he returned to Boston, where he soon organized a church. He came again to this town and gathered a church, July, 1765; he died and was buried in this town, April 2, 1771, aged fifty-three.¶ The principal doctrines which he taught were similar to those of Calvin and Athanasius, which have been received in all ages of the Christian Church. His distinguishing tenets were that faith is a mere intellectual belief; his favorite expression was, 'A bare belief of the truth,'—'That the bare work of Jesus Christ, without a deed or thought on the part of man, is sufficient to present the chief of sinners spotless before God.'|| He maintained that his Church was the only true Church then arisen from the ruins of Antichrist, his reign being near to a close.¶¶ The use of means for mankind in a natural state he pretty much exploded. In the year 1772 the Sandemanian Church in this town moved to New Haven. In July, 1774, several persons who had been members of that church, together with a number that belonged to the society of New Danbury, united and formed a Sandemanian Church. That continued and increased for many years, till March, 1798, when they divided into two churches, which still continue. There are also a few individuals at Bethel who compose a third church; they all adhere essentially to the doctrines and practices which were established by their founder.\*\*

"The society of New Danbury continued regularly, though constantly diminishing, till July, 1774, when the Rev. Ebenezer Russell White, with a number of the society, united with the Sandemanians. Public worship was maintained irregularly afterwards for two or three years, till the society finally expired.

"After the dismissal of the Rev. Mr. White, the First Church and Society were destitute of a stated minister till Feb. 13, 1765, when Mr. Noadiah Warner was ordained their pastor. The Rev. Mr. Warner was regularly dismissed from his pastoral charge Feb. 23, 1768.†† The people remained destitute about two years and a half. The Rev. Ebenezer Baldwin was ordained Sept. 19, 1770.‡‡ He officiated with great reputation to the ministry till a sudden death terminated his labors, Oct. 1, 1776, aged thirty-one years,§§ a man of great talents and learning, a constant student, grave in his manners, a constant and able supporter of the sound doctrines of the gospel. He left a legacy of about three hundred pounds to the society, which is carefully appropriated to the support of the gospel. From that time there was no settled minister in the society till the Rev. Timothy Langdon, who was ordained Aug. 31, 1786. The Rev. Ebenezer White died Sept. 11, 1779, aged seventy.¶¶ The deacons of this church have been in the following order: Samuel Benedict, James Beebe, John Gregory, Richard Barnum, Joseph Gregory, James Beebe, James Benedict, John Benedict, Nathaniel Gregory, Joseph Peck, Daniel Benedict, Thomas Benedict, Joshua Knapp, succeeded by those now in office.¶¶¶ The present meeting-house, which is sixty feet in length and

‡ Records of the Consociation.

§ His tombstone.

|| Idem.

¶ According to his calculations, the millennium was to have begun some years ago.

\*\* This church is now extinct.

†† Records of the Consociation.

‡‡ His tombstone.

§§ Idem.

¶¶ Idem. This gives no trait of his ministerial character.

¶¶¶ Hon. Joseph P. Cooke and Samuel Wildman.

\* His tombstone.

† The records of the Eastern Consociation of Fairfield County.



forty-five in breadth, with a steeple one hundred and thirty feet in height, was raised October, 1785; it was inclosed the summer following.

"The society of Bethel built their meeting-house in the year 1760. The Rev. Noah Wetmore, their first minister, was ordained November 25th of the same year; at the same time a church was organized by the Ordaining Council. Mr. Wetmore was regularly dismissed from his pastoral charge Nov. 2, 1784.\* His successor, the Rev. John Ely, was ordained Nov. 30, 1791. In the society of Newbury the Rev. Thomas Brooks, their first minister, was ordained Sept. 28, 1758; a church was gathered at the same time.† In May, 1788, the society of Newbury was incorporated a town by the name of Brookfield. Mrs. Abigail Knapp, now living, aged seventy-five, widow of the late Deacon Joshua Knapp, was the first English child born within the limits of Brookfield. The Rev. Samuel Camp, the first and present minister of Ridgebury, was ordained Jan. 18, 1769. The church in that society was organized on the day of the ordination.

"There were a few professors in this town of the mode of the Church of England as early as the year 1750. They built a meeting-house whose dimensions are forty-eight feet by thirty-six, in the year 1763. In September, 1784, they were constituted a regular Episcopalian society. Sixty-six persons, the most of whom belonged to this town, were then considered as belonging to the society. The society have had occasional preaching, but no minister has been settled over them.

"There were a number of professors of the denomination of Baptists, about the year 1783. A Baptist Church was constituted in the north-west part of the town, November, 1785. The year following they built a meeting-house, which is now standing. Mr. Nathaniel Finch was their minister for several years; their present minister, Mr. Nathan Bulkley, was ordained the 8th of last May. A second Baptist Church was constituted in the western part of the town in the year 1788; the members who survive are now mostly connected with other churches.

"I shall now close with a few general remarks. The present number of schools in town is seventeen,—twelve in the first society and five in Bethel. Much more attention is now paid in the education of youth than formerly, though it is conceived there might be still more to great profit.

"For many years there was but one military company in town; at present there are three of infantry, one of cavalry, and one of artillery, which for accuracy in evolutions, military spirit, and appearance may vie with any military companies whatever.

"There have been but few remarkable instances of longevity in this town, though it was formerly remarked there was a great many old people: that is not the case at present. Mr. William Hamilton, born in Scotland, who lived many years in this town, died in the year 1749, aged one hundred and two; Mr. John Cornwall died in the year 1753, aged one hundred and one; those two are the only persons known to have lived in town over one hundred years of age. Mr. David Hoyt, who lived longer than any person ever born and living in town, died in April last, aged ninety-seven. The family of Mr. Thomas Taylor, one of the first settlers, as a family, was remarkable for longevity. He had ten children; the whole amount of his age and theirs is nine hundred and forty-seven years, the average of which is eighty-six years; but three of them saw less than ninety years.

"The increase of this town in a number of years past, has not been great, owing to very great emigration; which has been the case with this in common with all the towns in the State.

"The general occupation of the people in this town has been farming; within a few years considerable manufactories have been established. In the manufacture of hats this town much exceeds any one in the United States. More than twenty thousand hats, mostly of fur, are made annually for exportation. The manufacture of shoes is also carried on to a considerable extent. At a low computation, fifteen thousand pair of boots and shoes are annually exported from this town. A paper-mill was erected in the town in the year 1792, in which about fifteen hundred reams of paper are manufactured annually. A considerable number of saddles are also made yearly for exportation ‡

"The people in this town have generally been very free from litigation; within a few years it has considerably increased, though it is not yet great. A spirit of litigation is one of the greatest evils which can befall any community.

"In our Revolutionary war the people in this town generally warmly espoused the American cause. Notwithstanding all that is said by the enemies of our government to show that its supporters were enemies to

the Revolution, the people in this town, though they were great sufferers in the war, are almost unanimously firm friends of the present government of the United States.

"The list of the town is not to be obtained but for a few years past. In the year 1788—the first year after Brookfield was made a town—it was upwards of sixty-six thousand; in the year 1799 it exceeded eighty-one thousand.

"We have thus given a sketch of the history of this town from its first settlement to the present time. It is not pretended that some important facts have not been omitted, but, from the materials which can be obtained, this is the best that I have been able to collect. In the review of these things we witness the fading nature of all earthly scenes. How applicable are the words of inspiration, 'Your fathers, where are they? and the prophets, do they live forever?' While it is our lot to be placed on the stage of human action, let it be our constant solicitude to seek an interest in that kingdom 'whose Builder and Maker is God,'—to act our parts worthily in the vicissitudes of human life, that, through grace, we may be approved when called upon to pass in review before the intellectual world; that when the chief Shepherd shall appear we may appear with Him in glory."§

#### DANBURY IN 1770.

Danbury had no trouble with the Indians. There are no traditions of burnings and scalplings. Dr. Peters says that in 1770 there were not four hundred Indians in all Connecticut. Here is his brief glance at Danbury:

"It has much the appearance of Croydon, and forms five parishes, one of which is Episcopal, and another Sandemanian; a third is called Bastard Sandemanian because the minister refused to put away his wife, who is a second wife. The town was the residence, and is now the tomb, of the learned and ingenious Rev. Mr. Sandeman, well known to the literary world. He was the fairest and most candid Calvinist that ever wrote in the English language, allowing the natural consequences of all his propositions. He taught that a bishop must be the husband of one wife,—that is, he must be married before he was ordained,—and if he lost his wife he could not marry a second; that a bishop might dress with ruffles, a red coat, and sword; that all converted brothers and sisters, at their coming into the church, ought to salute with a holy kiss; that all true Christians would obey their earthly king; for which tenets, especially the last, the *Sober Dissenters* of Connecticut held him to be a heretic."

§ Mr. Robbins was born in Norfolk, Conn., in 1777, was educated at Yale, and graduated, in 1796, with Prof. Silliman. In 1845 we find him in Hartford in charge of the Athenæum, in which city he died in 1868. He was a bachelor.

"We are glad to learn," says the *News*, "that this was from necessity, and not from choice. While here he became smitten with the charms of an amiable and accomplished young lady. She did not reciprocate his feeling, however, and refused to become his wife. He never fell in love again, but made antiquarian lore his life-companion and solace. The young lady afterwards married, and was the mother of Mr. Lucius H. Boughton.

"Contemporary with Mr. Robbins were Selleck Osborne and Comfort Mygatt. The former conducted the village paper, and the latter represented the town in the Legislature. During Mr. Robbins' stay one of the village poets bloomed forth in a string of verses calculated to harrow up the feelings. One of these verses could hardly be considered complimentary. It ran:

"Danbury is a thriving town,  
And nobody can prevent them:  
An unfledged Robbin preaches there,  
And a Maggot represents them."

\* Records of the Consociation.

† *Idem*.

‡ A mill has been lately erected for the manufacture of sumach, for dyeing, on a new plan, secured by patent.

## INHABITANTS IN 1793.

The following is a list of the taxable inhabitants of Danbury in 1793:

## DANBURY LIST, 1793.

Andrews, Samuel; Andrews, Isaiah; Andrews, Levi; Ambler, 'Squire; Atkins, Andrew; Ambler, Peter; Ambler, Stephen; Abot, Silas.

Bates, Nathan; Barton, John; Babcock, Nathan; Barnum, Samuel; Barnum, Abijah; Barnum, Noah; Barnum, Nathaniel; Barnum, Jr., Abijah; Barnum, John; Barnum, Oliver; Bears, Daniel; Benedict, Jr., Jos.; Benedict, Cyrus; Benedict, Jr., Ebenezer; Benedict, Noble; Benedict, Comfort; Benedict, Elijah; Benedict, Caleb; Benedict, Abijah; Benedict, Timothy; Benedict, Zadock; Benedict, Jr., Eliakim; Benedict, Jr., Thomas; Benedict, Thomas; Benedict, Phœbe; Benedict, Jr., Asael; Benedict, Elihu; Benedict, Jr., Samuel; Benedict, Joshua; Benedict, Jr., Caleb; Benedict, Jr., Abraham; Benedict, Dorias; Benedict, Nathan; Benedict, Daniel; Benedict, Lemuel; Benedict, Abigail; Benedict, Theophilus; Benedict, Thos. H.; Benedict, Jonas; Benedict, Ebenezer (3d); Benedict, Stephen B.; Benedict, Thaddeus; Benedict, Ezra; Benedict, Eleazar; Briden, John; Beach, L.; Bedient, Eliazur; Beaty, James; Beaty, Daniel; Boughton, Asa; Boughton, Mrs. Susan; Boughton, Ebenezer; Boughton, Abijah; Boughton, Joseph; Boughton, Matthew; Boughton, David; Boughton, Daniel; Boughton, Mrs. Deborah; Besare, Newcomb; Burrit, Philip; Burr, Oliver; Burr & Co.; Baldwin, Samuel; Baldwin, Caleb; Brush, Stephen; Bronson, Ezra; Bronson, Levi; Bronson, Ira; Barber, Benj.; Barber, Simon; Brodrock, John; Beebe, Jonathan.

Cembers, Wm.; Cembers, John; Curtis, Reuben; Curtis, Stephen; Curtis, Eliphalet; Cook, Thos.; Cook, Jos. T.; Cook, Jr., Jos. T.; Cook, Samuel; Crofut, Seth; Crofut, Benj.; Crofut, Levi; Crofut, Matthew; Crofut, Joseph; Coburn, Gilmore, Crany, James; Corbin, Philip; Clark, James; Clark, Sr., Adam; Clark, Joseph; Cummins, Asa; Chappal, Wm.; Comstock, Stephen; Comstock, Seth; Comstock, Daniel; Carrington, Daniel; Carrington & Mygatt; Custer, Peter; Church, Jared N.; Cornwell, Nathan; Cornwell, Hannah; Collier, Levi; Cozier, Benj.; Chapman, Joshua.

Dobbs, Wm.; Durly, Benj.; Dibble, Ezra; Dibble, Nehemiah; Dibble, Daniel; Dibble, Joseph; Dibble, Nathan; Dibble, Peter; Dibble, Elisha; Dixon, Chas.; Dodd, John; Douglass, Nathan; Deforest, Elihu; Deforest, Joseph; Diteman, Thos.; Diteman, Thaddeus; Diteman, Daniel; Dean, John.

Eames, Everit; Ely, Edwards.

Frost, Ezra; Finch, Peter; Finch, Jacob; Foot, John; Foot, David; Ferry, Solomon; Foster, Jesse; Foster, Timothy.

Gorham, Benj.; Gregory, Munson; Gregory, Deborah; Gregory, John; Gregory, Isaac; Gregory, Thos.; Gregory, Nath.; Gregory, Matthew; Gregory, Samuel; Gregory, Jr., Nathan; Gregory, Nathan; Gregory, John; Gregory, Ezra; Gregory, Ebenezer; Glover, C.; Green, Douglass; Griffin, Catharine; Gray, Elias.

Hamilton, Silas; Hamilton, Paul; Hamilton, Joseph; Hamilton, John; Hoyt, Eli; Hoyt, Comfort; Hoyt, Amos; Hoyt, Daniel; Hoyt, Jr., Comfort; Hoyt, Ared; Hoyt, Jonathan; Hoyt, Eneas; Hoyt, Stephen; Hoyt, Elijah; Hoyt, Agur; Hoyt, David; Hoyt, Jr., Daniel; Hoyt, Thaddeus; Hoyt, Noah; Hoyt, Jesse; Hoyt, Daniel D.; Hoyt, Drake; Hoyt, Jr., Noah; Hoyt, Justice; Hoyt, Eleazar; Hoyt, John; Hoyt, Daniel (3d); Hoyt, Nathan; Hubbell, Ezra; Hubbell, Noah; Husted, Andrew; Hayes, Wm.; Hickok, Samuel; Hawley, C.; Hawley, John; Hodges, Ezra; Howington, Peter.

Jones, Isaac; Joye, Jr., John; Joye, John; Joye, Daniel; Judd, Jacob; Judd, Jr., Thos.; Judd, Abner; Jarvis, Stephen; Jarvis, Eli; Jennings, Samuel. Knapp, David; Knapp, John; Knapp, Jr., John; Knapp, Elnathan; Knapp, Daniel; Knapp, Noah; Knapp, Jr., Noah; Knapp, Benj.; Knapp, James; Knapp, Jr., James; Knapp, Joshua; Knapp, Bracy; Kellogg, Eliasaph.

Loveless, Richard; Lawrence, Oliver; Lindsley, Matthew; Lindsley, Samuel; Lindsley, James.

McLean, John; McLean, Alex.; Mygatt, Eli; Mygatt, Filer; Mygatt, Comfort; Mills, John; Morris, Shadrach; Morris, Ethel and Chancey; Morris, Ephraim; Morehouse, Thaddeus; Mansfield, Glover; Munson, Ebenezer; Murow, L.

Nichols, Samuel; Nichols, Jr., Samuel; Nichols, Ebenezer; Norris, Stephen.

Osborn, Moses; Osborn, Daniel; Osborn, David; Osborn, Levi; Osborn, Joseph; Olmstead, Daniel; Olmstead, Joseph.

Peck, Abijah; Peck, Levi; Peck, Luther; Peck, Elakin and Mijah; Peck, Stephen; Picket, Ebenezer; Picket, Jr., Ebenezer; Picket, Seymour; Picket, Darius; Picket, James; Pratt, John; Phillip, Abial; Phillip, Samuel H.; Pell, S.; Patch, Q.; Patch, Thomson; Patch, Ezra; Patch, Elijah; Perry, Major; Peirce, David; Peirce, Joshua; Platt, Jos.; Porter, Jr., John.

Rockwell, Josiah; Rockwell, Jabez; Rockwell, Levi; Robinson, Z.; Robinson, Calvin; Ryder, John; Roberts, Wm.

Starr, Caleb; Starr, Joshua; Starr, Nathan; Starr, Ezra; Starr, Widow Richard; Starr, Nath.; Starr, Peter; Starr, Thos. (3d); Starr, Jr., Thos.; Starr, Widow Rebecca; Starr, Jr., Jonathan; Starr, Ethel; Starr, Jabez; Shove, Jr., Seth; Shove, Daniel; Shove, Jr., Daniel; Shove, Seth; Stalkes, Widow Annie; Sturges, Joseph; Sturges, Simon; Sabins, Jephtha; Smith, Samuel; Sut, James; Shute, Richard; Shute, John W.; Selleck, Nath'l; Sel-



leck, Lewis; St. John, Gamaliel; Scovil, Stephen; Scovil, Eneas; Sanford, Elijah; Scott, Joseph; Stevens, Thos.; Stevens, Eliphalet; Stevens, James; Stevens, Jonathan; Stevens, Widow Esther; Stevens, Nathan; Stevens, Ezra; Stevens, Samuel; Stevens, Forward; Stevens, Elijah; Stone, Levi; Stone, Oliver; Stone, Aaron; Stone, Widow Annie; Stuart, James; Stuart, Miss Eleanor; Stuart, Jacob N.

Tucker, Thos.; Taylor, Timothy; Taylor & Cooke; Taylor, Gilead; Taylor, Ira; Taylor, Major; Taylor, Widow Hannah; Taylor, John; Taylor, Theophilus; Taylor, Salmon; Taylor, Jonathan; Taylor, Najah; Taylor, Lemuel; Taylor, Eliazor; Tweedy, Samuel; Tweedy, Wm.; Trobridge, Isaac; Trobridge, John; Trobridge, Joseph.

Vandusen, John; Vaughn, Wm.

Whittlesey, M. B.; Whittlesey, Elisha; Wood, Elijah; Wood, Benj.; Wood, David; Wood, Daniel; Wood, Jr., Daniel; Wood, John; Wood, Jr., John; Wood, Nathan; White, Jos. M.; White, Widow Mary; White, Ebenezer B.; White, Thos. P.; White, Ebenezer J.; White, Russel; Wildman, Timothy; Wildman, Jr., Thos.; Wildman, Libbeus; Wildman, David; Wildman, Ezekiel; Wildman, Jr., Isaac; Wildman, Elakim; Wildman, Jr., Samuel; Wildman, Abraham; Wildman, Daniel; Wildman, Noah; Wildman, Nirum; Wildman, Jr., Timothy; Wildman, Eli; Wildman, Isaac; Wildman, Nathan; Wildman, Jonathan; Wildman, Samuel; Wildman, Joseph; Wildman, Thomas; Washburn, Ephraim; Washburn, Edmond; Wilks, Matthew; Wilks, Jr., Matthew; Wicks, Benj.; Wildman, Benj.; Wildman, Jr., Abraham; Wildman, Jedediah; Whitney, Nathan; Wylley, Abraham; Whiting, F.; Whittock, Samuel; Weed, Timothy; Weed, Samuel; Weed, David; Weed, Bartholomew; Weed, Eleazor; Weed, Ephraim; Weed, Asa; Webster, Jonathan.

The whole list amounted to £16,863, 12s. 5½d.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### DANBURY (Continued).

#### THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.\*

The Burning of Danbury—Sir William Howe's Official Report—Killed, Wounded, and Missing—The Connecticut *Journal's* Account—The Approach to Danbury—Tryon's Headquarters—Amusing Incident—The Prisoners—Destruction of Rum—Demoralization of Tryon's Troops—The Anxious Generals—Benjamin Knapp's distinguished Guests—The Retreat—The Battle—Gen. Wooster Mortally Wounded—His Death in Danbury—List of Sufferers—Total Loss—Petition for Relief—Roll of Revolutionary Soldiers.

"WHEN this section of country," says the *News*, "was called Pahquioque, or Pahquaige, it presented a

\* The following history of Danbury in the Revolution is reproduced, by permission, from the columns of the *Danbury News* through the courtesy of J. M. Bailey, Esq., "The Danbury News Man."

somewhat different appearance from what it does now. We can easily understand that. But the imagination must be an active one, enjoying very excellent health, to picture our neighborhood as it was in 1684, when, according to Mr. Robbins, the first settlement was made.

"It is reasonable to suppose that the original eight families came to Danbury by what was since the turn-pike between here and Norwalk. It is the most direct and presents less obstacles in the matter of high ground than any other way. So long ago as that there could not have been more than a trail, if as much, to direct and aid them. What must have been their thoughts as they forced their way we cannot know. Judging the aspect of nature to be then considerably more forbidding than it is now, we must admire the courage of the original eight, even if we cannot respect their judgment.

"Presuming there was a trail, its location through here must have been the present Main Street, and would naturally present to the new-comers a place of residence principally because it defined something.

"According to Mr. Robbins' account they located close together, four on one side and four on the opposite side. Their object was to start a village. This with a view to sociability and protection, would demand concentration. The lands on whose cultivation they depended they sought here and there as the richness of the soil made necessary, and these locations varied so much that to reside upon the tracts would have so scattered the settlers as to have made the nucleus of a village 'a barren ideality,' and to have put social intercourse and mutual protection beyond the pale of possibility. It is likely enough that the eight families' homesteads did not cover more than the ground between South Street and the court-house.

"The land was got from the Indians, and some of it remains in the possession of the families to this day, never having been sold or bought since the day the Indians, beguiled by the glitter of new jackknives, swapped it for the bright treasures.

"Mr. Eli T. Hoyt owns a piece in Great Plain District, known as 'Unity Rocks,' which came from the Indians. Mr. Philo White, in the same district, occupies ground that his grandfather, the Rev. Ebenezer, mentioned in the sermon, got from the Indians. The homestead of Mr. Russell Hoyt came into his family from the same source.

"In May, 1684, the General Court empowered Thomas Benedict, Thomas Fitch, and John Burr to plant a town at this point. What Messrs. Fitch and Burr did in the matter we do not know. Mr. Benedict's two sons, Samuel and James, were of the 'original eight.' The Mr. Beebe of the same party was a brother-in-law. The Dr. Wood was also a brother-in-law. Mr. L. Starr Benedict and Mr. Charles Benedict are direct descendants of James Benedict. Perhaps the Danbury man of to-day who holds the most immediate connection with the first families is Mr.

Eli T. Hoyt, who is the great grandson of John Hoyt, of the 'original eight.' Mr. Hoyt has the rare distinction of having lived under the administration of every President, and of having voted for sixteen of them.

"By a careful wrench of the imagination we can see Danbury something as it existed then. We know from the quality of the land that the eminences were full of fir-trees. We deduce, also, from the lay of the land, that along the streams alders grew in profusion, and that in that portion east of Main Street and west of the Town Hill ridge there was a rather considerable swamp.

"We are pretty confident that the swamp must have been a prominent feature in the topography from the fact that the first settlers set their heart upon calling their town Swampfield, and were only deterred therefrom by the arbitrary action of the General Court, which substituted the name Danbury."

#### THE BURNING OF DANBURY.

"The American view of the night of terror which has gone down in history as the burning of Danbury has been already given in Mr. Robbins' sermon, on a previous page. The following is the English version of the affair, being Sir William Howe's official report:

"The troops landed on the afternoon of the 25th of April (Friday), four miles to the eastward of Norwalk and twenty miles from Danbury. In the afternoon of the 26th the detachment reached Danbury, meeting only small parties of the enemy on their march, but Gen. Tryon having intelligence that the whole force of the country was collecting to take every advantage of the strong ground he was to pass on his return to the shipping, and finding it impossible to procure carriages to bring off any part of the stores, they were effectually destroyed; in the execution of which the village was unavoidably burnt.

"On the 27th, in the morning, the troops gutted Danbury, and met with little opposition until they came near to Ridgefield, which was occupied by Gen. Arnold, who had thrown up intrenchments to dispute the passage, while Gen. Wooster hung upon the rear with a separate corps. The village was forced and the enemy driven back on all sides.

"Gen. Tryon lay that night at Ridgefield, and renewed his march on the morning of the 28th. The enemy, having been reinforced with troops and cannon, disputed every advantageous situation, keeping at the same time small parties to harass the rear, until the general had formed his detachment upon a height within cannon-shot of the shipping, when, the enemy advancing seemingly with an intention to attack him, he ordered the troops to charge with their bayonets, which was executed with such impetuosity that the rebels were totally put to flight, and the detachment embarked without further molestation:

"The inclosed returns set forth the loss sustained by the king's troops, and that of the enemy from the best information:

"Return of the stores, ordnance, provisions, etc., found at the rebels' stores, and destroyed by the king's troops in Danbury.—A quantity of ordnance stores, with iron, etc.; 4000 barrels of beef and pork; 1000 barrels of flour; 100 large tierces of biscuit; 89 barrels of rice; 120 puncheons of rum; several large stores of wheat, oats, and Indian corn, in bulk: the quantity thereof could not possibly be ascertained; 30 pipes of wine; 100 hogsheads of sugar; 50 ditto of molasses; 20 casks of coffee; 15 large casks filled with medicines of all kinds; 10 barrels of saltpetre; 1020 tents and marquees; a number of iron boilers; a large quantity of hospital-bedding; engineers', pioneers', and carpenters' tools; a printing-press complete; tar, tallow, etc.; 5000 pairs of shoes and stocking; at a mill between Ridgebury and Ridgefield, 100 barrels of flour, and a quantity of Indian corn.

"Returned of the killed, wounded, and missing.—One drummer and fifer and twenty-three rank and file, killed; three field-officers, six captains, three subalterns, nine sergeants, ninety-two rank and file, wounded; one drummer and fifer and twenty-seven rank and file, missing. Royal artillery, two additional killed, three matrosses and one wheeler wounded, and one matross missing.

"Return of the rebels killed and wounded.—Killed: Gen. Wooster, Col. Gould, Col. Lamb, of the artillery, Col. Hennan, Dr. Atwater, a man of considerable influence, Capt. Coxe, Lieut. Thompson, one hundred privates. Wounded: Col. Whiting, Capt. Benjamin, Lieut. Coxe, two hundred and fifty privates. Taken: fifty privates, including several committee-men."

"The Connecticut *Journal* of that time, after speaking of the landing of the British and their march to Danbury, in which there are no particulars other than those given in the preceding accounts, says,—

"Early the next morning (Saturday) Brig.-Gen. Silliman, with about five hundred militia, pursued the enemy; at Reading he was joined by Maj.-Gen. Wooster and Brig.-Gen. Arnold. The heavy rain all the afternoon retarded the march of our troops so much that they did not reach Bethel (a village two miles from Danbury) until eleven o'clock at night, much fatigued and their arms rendered useless by being wet. It was thought prudent to refresh the men and attack the enemy on their return. Early the next morning (which proved rainy) the whole were in motion: two hundred men remained with Gen. Wooster, and about four hundred were detached under Gen. Arnold and Gen. Silliman, on the road leading to Norwalk. At nine A.M. intelligence was received that the enemy had taken the road leading to Norwalk, of which Gen. Wooster was informed, and pursued them, with whom he came up about eleven o'clock, when a smart skirmish ensued, in which Gen. Wooster, who behaved with great intrepidity, unfortunately received a wound by a musket-ball through the groin, which it is feared will prove mortal. Gen. Arnold, by a forced march across the country, reached Ridgefield at eleven o'clock, and, having posted his small party (being joined by about one hundred men) of five hundred men, waited the approach of the enemy, who were soon discovered advancing in a column with three field-pieces in front and three in the rear, and large flank-guards of near two hundred men in each. At noon they began discharging their artillery, and were soon within musket-shot, when a smart action ensued between the whole, and which continued for about an hour, in which our men behaved with great spirit, but, being overpowered by numbers, were obliged to give way.

"Our loss cannot be exactly ascertained, no returns being made. It is judged to be about sixty killed and wounded.

"The enemy's loss is judged to be more than double our number, and about twenty prisoners. The enemy on this occasion behaved with their usual barbarity, wantonly and cruelly murdering the wounded prisoners who fell into their hands, and plundering the inhabitants, burning and destroying everything in their way."

"According to the above account from the Connecticut *State Journal*, the American troops approached Danbury in a storm of rain. The British must have been more fortunate in their progress, judging from the following incident: Mrs. Stephen Ambler, who died at a ripe old age some years ago, was a girl of sixteen at that time. Her father, whose name was Munson, occupied a house which stood where Mr. E. A. Houseman's place now is, on Deer Hill Avenue. Many of our readers will remember the house. Miss Munson and her mother were engaged quilting on that Saturday when the news of the approach of the British was brought here. She went to an upper window, which commanded a view clear through Bethel, and she saw the moving mass of men, distinguishing their presence by the reflection of the sun on their burnished arms and accoutrements. The spectacle made so vivid an impression upon the mind of the young girl that she never forgot the sensation she then experienced.\*

\* Miss Munson subsequently married Stephen Ambler (who, with his six brothers, served in the war), and became the grandmother of Oliver P. Clark.



"The British reached the village shortly after two o'clock, so it was about one o'clock when Miss Munson saw them. The column had had an uninterrupted march from the water. This is not surprising. The country was full of Tories,—men who were in sympathy with the king's cause and who knew every foot of the country. Through these Tryon knew the condition of defense and offense of the people, and by them was guided along the safest and most direct route. With such knowledge and help, and with troops in fine condition, the march to Danbury was but an excursion.

"Some four miles below here is an eminence called Hoyt's Hill. It is not on the turnpike, but is located by the road to Lonetown, southeast of the pike. It was along this road the British approached Bethel. The hill is on the border of Redding and Bethel, and is not eight miles distant from here, as Barbour in his chronicles states.

"An incident occurred here that has been confused by two or three versions. Hollister, in his 'History of Connecticut,' says that Tryon was confronted on Hoyt's Hill by a presumably insane horseman, who appeared on the crest waving a sword and conducting himself very much as if he was in command of a considerable army in the act of climbing the opposite side of the hill. The British commander halted his force and sent out skirmishers to reconnoitre, when it was discovered that the stranger was alone, and, instead of leading on an enthusiastic army to almost certain victory, was making the best of his way back to Danbury.

"This account is apparently a distortion of an incident that really did occur, although it has the sanction of local tradition, and is repeated (in honest belief) by several aged residents, who got it from their parents, who were living here at the time.

"Joseph P. Cooke, a resident of Danbury, was in command of the few Continental soldiers here at this time, with the rank of colonel. We do not believe the troop was very large,—merely a guard over the government store which was located here.

"When the news of the British approach was learned in Danbury, Dr. John Wood dispatched a young man in his employ named Lambert Lockwood to learn the size and contemplated line of march of the British troops. Young Lambert reached the summit of Hoyt's Hill, when he suddenly and rather unexpectedly came upon the foe. He must have been riding at a smart speed, or he would not have become so helplessly entangled as he turned out to be. When he discovered the enemy he was too close upon them to get away, and in attempting it he was wounded and captured. He learned a great deal of the British and their designs, but the value of it was considerably impaired by this incident.

"Tryon's troops marched through Bethel without (singularly enough, taking in account his 'blood-thirsty' nature) doing any damage to life or property.

After leaving Bethel the ranks were deployed, and Danbury was approached in open order, some of the advance being so far deployed as to take in Shelter Rock Ridge on the right. The father of the venerable Thomas Andrews, of Bethel, with several companions, went on Shelter Rock to see the British column pass, and while there were surprised and shot at by the royal scouts.

"On reaching the south end of our village Gen. Tryon took up his headquarters in the house of Nehemiah Dibble, on South Street. The same building has ever since been known as the Wooster Place, from the fact of Gen. Wooster dying there a few days later. Several years ago it was torn down.



HOUSE OF NEHEMIAH DIBBLE, IN WHICH GEN. WOOSTER DIED.

"It was between two and three o'clock in the afternoon when the British arrived. The leader having selected his headquarters, the quartering of the force for the protection of themselves was next attended to. Tryon's assistants, Gens. Erskine and Agnew, accompanied by a body of mounted infantry, proceeded up Main Street to the junction of the Barren Plain road (now White Street), where Benjamin Knapp lived. Knapp's house stood about where is now D. P. Nichols' brick block, long known as Military Hall, the corner of which is occupied by F. W. Barnum, druggist. The two generals quartered themselves upon Mr. Knapp, taking complete possession of the house, with the exception of one room where Mrs. Knapp was lying ill.

"On this dash up Main Street the party met with two incidents. A man named William Hamilton had a piece of cloth at a fuller's on South Street. When he heard of the approach of the enemy, he got on his horse and rode there in full haste for his goods. He was rather late, however, and when he came out into the street to remount his horse a squad of the force

was upon him. Danbury's horses could not have had the reputation for speed they now enjoy, or Mr. Hamilton was very poorly provided, for the steeds of the military gained on him at every rod of the way. He flew up Main Street with a half-dozen troopers in full pursuit, and on reaching West Street, then a mere lane, turned up it, the hair on his head being very erect. The pursuers followed him, and one of them, being more in advance and close upon him, swung his sword to cleave him in two, when a singular but most fortunate accident occurred. Hamilton lost a part of his hold on the roll, which he had up to this time tenaciously clung to; the cloth flew out like a ribbon, frightening the pursuing animals and rendering them unmanageable.

"The column that came up Main Street were fired at from the house of Capt. Ezra Starr. This building stood where now is the residence of the Hon. D. P. Nichols, corner of Main and Boughton Streets. The shots were fired by three young men. It was an act of reckless daring, and the actors must have been very young, as the shots could not have possibly had any other effect on the invasion than to have exasperated the invaders. These men were Joshua Porter and Eleazer Starr and a negro named Adams, who was in Ezra Starr's employ. Mr. Porter lived in Oblong (Westville District). He was in the village after a gallon of molasses when the enemy came. Starr lived on the corner of Main and Elm Streets, within a few feet of *The News* office. Both men went into the captain's house, and there awaited the approach of the enemy. They were killed on the premises, and the building was immediately fired, the three bodies being consumed with it.

"The skirmish-line of the British as they approached Danbury extended from Shelter Rock to Tom Mountain. Tryon was an able general, and, although pretty well assured that the country was without an organized military force, omitted no proper precaution. The main body came in on the road (now but little used) which skirts the west side of Coalpit Hill. The skirmishers advanced a few rods north of South Street, covering Main Street, and then rested. Gen. Tryon took up his headquarters with Nehemiah Dibble, and Gens. Agnew and Erskine, with a body of the troops, preceded by two pieces of artillery, started up the main street.

"The alarm in Danbury was, of course, considerable. The town was in no position of defense. The news of the invasion was known in New Haven hours before it was received here. Danbury had a company of cavalry under command of Capt. Starr, but the greater portion of them were in New York State, in the Federal army. The number here with the few detachments did not form a total of a hundred and fifty effective men. There were but very few able-bodied civilians present. The whole body of military was under command of Col. Cooke. He withdrew as the enemy advanced, so the only oppo-

sition Tryon's men found came from the few citizens who from every available shelter fired upon the column as it advanced up Main Street.

"As the force reached the present location of the court-house the two pieces of artillery were discharged, and the heavy balls, six- and twelve-pounders, flew screaming up the street, carrying terror to the hearts of the women and children and dismay to the heads of the homes thus endangered. There are probably a number of these balls saved up by our citizens. Two of them, found on Dr. W. F. Lacey's place, are in possession of Col. Samuel Gregory.

"Immediately upon Gens. Agnew and Erskine taking up their quarters in Mr. Knapp's house, a picket was located. One squad of twenty men occupied the rising ground where is now the junction of Park Avenue and Prospect Street. A second took position on the hill near Jarvis-Hull's house. The third was located on what is now called Franklin Street. We have no information of other picket-squads, but it is likely enough that every approach to the village was guarded.

"It is related of a brother of Joshua Porter that, coming into the village to see what the British were doing, he came upon three of the picket stationed on Park Avenue. They commanded him to halt.

"'What for?' he inquired, still continuing towards them.

"'You are our prisoner,' said they.

"'Guess not,' he laconically replied, moving steadily upon them.

"'We'll stick you through and through if you don't stop,' one of them threatened, advancing close to him.

"Porter was a man of very powerful build, with muscles like steel and a movement that was a very good substitute for lightning. They were close upon him. There was a gulch back of them. In a flash he had the foremost trooper in his grasp. In the next instant he had hurled him against the other two, and the three went into the gulch in a demoralized heap. The rest of the squad, seeing the disaster, immediately surrounded and subdued Porter. This little affair, it is said, gave the name of Squabble Hill to that neighborhood.

"Porter and a man named Barnum are believed to be the only prisoners the enemy carried away from Danbury. They were taken to New York City and confined in the infamous Sugar-House prison. Porter was subsequently released and returned home, but Barnum died there from starvation. When found he had a piece of brick in his hand holding it to his mouth, as if to draw moisture from it to cool his feverish throat.

"The main body of the troops remained in the village and shortly engaged in the destruction of the military stores. Those in the Episcopal church were rolled out into the street and there fired, as the edifice was of the Church of England, and so revered by



the English invader. This church stood where is now the graveyard on South Street, which was then its churchyard. The building was years after removed to the corner of Main Street and turned into a tenement.

"Two other buildings contained stores. One of these was a barn belonging to Nehemiah Dibble. The goods were taken out and burned to save the building, as Dibble was a Tory. The other was a building situated on Main Street, near where is now Samuel C. Wildman's place. It was full of grain. It was burned with its contents. It is said that the fat from the burning meat ran ankle-deep in the street. No less free ran the rum and wine, although not in the same direction. The soldiers who were directed to destroy these tested them first, and the result was as certain as death. Before night had fairly set in the greater part of the force were in a riotous state of drunkenness. Discipline was set at naught. King George stood no chance whatever in the presence of King Alcohol, and went down before him at once. The riot continued far into the night. Danbury was never before or since so shaken. They went up and down the main street in squads, singing army songs, shouting coarse speeches, hugging each other, swearing, yelling, and otherwise conducting themselves as becomes an invader when he is very, very drunk. The people who had not fled remained close in their homes, sleepless, full of fear, and utterly wretched, with the ghastly tragedy at Capt. Starr's house hanging like a pall over them. The night was dark, with dashes of rain. The carousers tumbled down here and there as they advanced in the stages of drunkenness.

"Some few of the troops remained sober, and these performed the duties of the hour. One of these was the marking of a cross upon the buildings which belonged to the Tories. This was done with pieces of lime. There was considerable of this property. Sympathizers with the government of the mother-country abounded hereabouts. They were men who honestly believed that colonies had no right to secede from the Crown, and they defended their belief when they could, and cherished it at all times. They were jubilant now. The proper authorities were in possession, the rebel element was overcome, and the Tories believed that Danbury was forever redeemed from the pernicious sway of the rebellion.

"It was two of these people who piloted Tryon into Danbury. They were Stephen Jarvis and Eli Benedict. They were very happy men on this dismal night, and the future looked very bright to them. The next night there was a very big difference in the state of their feeling. They had fled from Danbury. Some time after, Benedict came back, but, being threatened with violence, he left for good. Jarvis went to Nova Scotia, where he made his home. Once he returned on a visit to his sister. He came privately; but, the neighbors getting word of his pres-

ence, they went to the house in search of him. His sister hid him in her brick oven, and when the danger was over he secretly left Danbury for Nova Scotia, never again to return. He lived in the house just east of George Ryder's place, on Wooster Street, and which, remodeled, stands there yet.

"It was not a particularly happy night for the general in command. He had met with a complete success in reaching Danbury and destroying the stores, which was the object of his mission. But the great bulk of his force was helpless in the strong embrace of New England rum, and news had come that a force of the enemy was gathering and marching towards him. They were anxious hours to the three generals and their aids, but especially to him on whom rested all the responsibility of the expedition.

"Besides the approach of Wooster's men, there was the small band of troops under command of Col. Cooke, who were undoubtedly near by, ready to give vigorous help to an attacking force, knowing every foot of the ground, and capable of giving an infinite amount of annoyance if nothing more. Then there were gathering farmers from the outlying districts, who had through the afternoon given substantial evidence of their presence by creeping up as near as possible and firing at the pickets. The darkness that fell about the town after nightfall might pardonably be peopled with many dangers by even a less imaginative person than was the British general.

"In the mean time Benjamin Knapp was having his own particular trouble.

"Mr. Knapp was a tanner. His house stood on what is now White Street, near the corner of Main. White Street was then called Barren Plain Road, and this name was given it because the road ran across the Balmforth Avenue region, which was then pretty much sand. Barren Plain Road was not quite as straight as White Street. It bowed to the south about where Hawley & Sayers' coffin warehouse stands. Back and just east of there, on the stream, Mr. Knapp had his tannery.

"It is very rarely the resident of a humble village has two brigadier-generals come to spend Sunday with him, and the advent of Gens. Agnew and Erskine should have been an unbounded delight to Mr. Knapp, but it is doubtful if it were. The generals made themselves fully at home. There was no stiffness about them. They killed Mr. Knapp's stock and cut up the meat on his floor, and the dents thereof were visible as long as the building stood. Mr. Knapp's wife was a sorely-afflicted invalid, but her inability to attend domestic duties did not in any way embarrass the guests, yet it was very unpleasant for Mr. Knapp. Besides that, the neighboring people, on that eventful afternoon, drew near to the town with their long-barreled guns, and, taking advantage of the heavy growth of alders along the stream, fired at a red-coat wherever he showed himself. There was a picket stationed on the Main Street bridge, and

this party was a special target. All this made Mr. Knapp very nervous, as he could not very satisfactorily show that he was not in league with the ambushed patriots, and he feared his property would suffer. However, it did not. The British generals, in view of the accommodation and illness of Mrs. Knapp, spared the house in the general conflagration that followed. The house was removed twenty-five years ago to make room for the present building. It was the stereotyped house,—side to the street, with back roof sloping down to within a man's height of the ground.

"At midnight the uproar caused by the inundation of two thousand soldiers and the absorption of such a great quantity of New England rum had to a great degree abated. Tryon was fully awake. His position was becoming exceedingly perilous. Shortly after midnight word came to him that the rebels, under Wooster and Arnold, had reached Bethel and were preparing to attack him. This was unexpected to him. He had thought to spend the Sabbath leisurely in Danbury. The word that came from Bethel radically changed his programme. At once all became bustle. The drunken sleepers were aroused to new life by the most available means, and a movement made towards immediate evacuation.

"It was nearly one o'clock Sunday morning when Tryon got word of the Bethel gathering. Up to that hour there had been but three buildings destroyed (already mentioned). As soon as the men were aroused and in place, excepting those detailed for picket, the work of destruction began. This was about two o'clock. In the next hour the buildings owned by Tories were marked with a cross, done with a chunk of lime. The work of burning was then commenced.

"The first house burned stood just west of the Episcopal church on South Street, but some little distance from the street, and where is now the garden of the late Charles Ryder's house. There was a long garden attached to it, and at the opposite end of the garden, almost reaching Main Street, was another house. These buildings were owned and occupied by John McLean, one as a dwelling, and the one on the corner as a store.

"Mr. McLean was commissary of the Continental troops in that vicinity, and the object of the visit of the enemy to Danbury was to destroy the army provisions which he had accumulated in his store and in the Episcopal church, which was then unfinished. They would not burn the church, but rolled the barrels of flour and pork into South Street, and burned them and the buildings, the lard being over shoe deep after the conflagration.

"Mr. McLean had sent off all his working teams towards West Point with supplies, and had nothing at home but a pair of fatting oxen and a saddle-horse. Upon the alarm of the enemy's approach the oxen were put before a cart with a feather-bed in it, upon

which his wife and children proceeded to New Milford, while he remained burying and putting in safety such of his property as he could conceal until the British appeared over Coalpit Hill. They saw and pursued him, calling out, 'Old Daddy,' 'Rebel,' etc., and firing after him when the fleetness of his horse seemed likely to carry him out of their reach. Some of the bullets passed through his coat and hat, but he escaped uninjured, joining his family in New Milford, whence they removed to a farm which he owned in Stony Hill, and remained until the close of the war. They then returned to Danbury and built the house now standing near the foot of Main Street. A few of his descendants still reside in the town, but none bearing his name, the only grandson being Dr. John A. McLean, of Norwalk.

"Capt. Daniel Taylor, Maj. Taylor, Comfort Hoyt, Jr., and Joseph Wildman were also among the sufferers, but the writer knows not where their property was located.

"The second house fired was on the east side of Main Street, a few rods from the corner of South Street, and where the big pine-tree now stands. After that there was no order in the firing, but the flames seemed to burst out simultaneously in all directions.

"Dr. John Wood's place, about where are the places of William Bedient and the late Philander Comstock, was destroyed. There were two wells in this vicinity, each of which was filled with iron, cannon-balls, etc., which could not be burned, and were thus put out of the way. David Wood's house, where William H. Clark now lives, was burned. Across the street from him lived Capt. James Clark, who lost his house. Next to Clark was Maj. Mygatt's home, just south of E. R. Whittlesey's place, also burned. Another contribution to the flames was the house of Rev. Ebenezer White, where G. F. Bailey's house now is. Zadoc Benedict's house stood where Schoppaul's bakery is, north of the depot. Mr. Knapp must have thought the trouble was getting pretty close to him. Capt. Joseph P. Cook's house also went. It stood where Lucius P. Hoyt's house is.

"The record says there were nineteen dwelling-houses burned in all. It is said also that there were several stores burned. They must have been owned by members of this list. We know that Capt. Cook owned one of the stores, and that the Woods owned another. Cook's store stood where he lived, and the latter was where Mr. Bedient's place is. Near Samuel C. Wildman's house stood a blacksmith-shop, which also perished. In it was made a part of the chains with which the Hudson was barricaded at West Point. The meeting-house of the New Danbury Society was also burned. It stood on Liberty Street, between Delay Street and Railroad Avenue.

"As but nineteen houses were burned, it was not so much of a conflagration, after all. Danbury then had a population of some two thousand five hundred. To accommodate these there must have been at least four



hundred dwellings in the township, and nearly, if not quite, three hundred in the village. Historians say that every house was burned except those belonging to Tories. If this be so, then the humiliating reflection is ours that the great bulk of Danbury was Tory. Thank Heaven for the strength to believe that it is not so! It is likely that the British burned only those buildings that were available in their hasty getting together, including those whose owners may have been particularly obnoxious to the loyal heart.

"With the fire well under way the pickets were called into the formed line, and the invading army took up its march in retreat.

"Tryon did not undertake to return as he came. The force under Wooster at Bethel deterred him from that, and he sought to make a *détour* through Ridgefield."

#### THE FIGHT.

"In the light from the burning buildings the British troops took up their line of march from town, passing over Deer Hill by way of the road now called Wooster Street. No sooner had the last man left Main Street than the advance of the American squad, which had hung on the outskirts of the village since being driven out, appeared on the street, and immediately followed after.

"Before the last of the British were fairly out of the village the gray dawn of the Sabbath waved up from the east, and as it advanced into the broader light of the new day it showed the long line of British filing through Miry Brook road, and the straggling but determined rebels, armed with long muskets, carried with both hands, bringing up the rear, and doing their best to harass the foe, and succeeding. Still, with all their patriotic zeal, we are obliged to entertain but a poor idea of their marksmanship, for there is no record that any of the enemy were killed on Danbury soil.

"Among this crowd of daring if not effective persons there was one who was sufficiently rapid in his manual of arms, however short he may have fallen from being effective. He was poised on a fence the afternoon before, and fired *thirty-two shots* at the skirmish-line of the advancing British without being touched by a single one of the many bullets sent after him. When his ammunition was gone he held up his cartouch-box to the enemy to show its emptiness, and then left, shouting as he ran these very patriotic words:

"He that fights and runs away  
May live to fight another day,  
But he that is in battle slain  
Shall never live to fight again."

"A movement of a body of two thousand men could not be made, of course, without the knowledge of the neighbors. The people of the adjoining districts and villages had been apprised of the arrival of the British in Danbury by the families who had fled from the doomed town. All that Saturday night men were

hovering about the place, looking with hungry eyes for every manifestation from the enemy. No sooner had the line taken up its march than these people knew of it, and, determining the route, sought to annoy the march all that was in their power to do. One of their acts was to destroy the bridge over Wolf Pond Run, in Miry Brook District. When the enemy reached this place they were obliged to stop and throw over a temporary bridge of rails. This made a delay, and enabled the forces under Wooster to gain headway.

"One historian says that the British marched through Sugar Hollow. This is plausible enough if the force had been an excursion-party hurrying to Ridgefield to take a railway-train, but no military man would be so insane as to take his men through such a defile, where there was every advantage and ample protection for an enemy.

"Gen. Tryon took his people through Ridgebury, having an open country for his skirmishers. He was confident that by making this *détour* he would mislead Wooster, and escape to his boats without serious interruption.

"But Wooster, at Bethel, soon got word of the move and prepared to meet it. Wooster was a resident of New Haven, and was in that city when the news of the enemy landing at Compo reached him. Immediately he started for Danbury with what force he could get there. He was joined on the way by Arnold and Silliman, and the men under their commands. Poor Wooster! He little realized when he started for this insignificant hamlet that it would become his everlasting home, so far as this world is concerned, and that here the only substantial honor he should ever receive would be given.

"Gen. Wooster sent Arnold and Silliman, as we have already indicated, direct to Ridgefield, across the country from Bethel, while he struck out in a more northerly direction, intending to strike the foe before he reached Ridgefield. In this he succeeded. He came upon the enemy while they were breakfasting, about eight o'clock in the morning of that eventful Sunday. He appeared from a piece of woods, and struck a rear regiment with such unexpected force that he captured forty of the men before the command was fairly aware of his presence. He withdrew as rapidly as he came, but shortly after made another dash, while the enemy were in motion, and it was then the fight took place in which he lost his life.

"There are so many conflicting accounts of this engagement that we are powerless to determine which is right. It is not a matter of any moment, however. Wooster and his two or three hundred men were alone in it, as Arnold and Silliman's force were in Ridgefield Village, barricading the road and waiting for a chance to do their share. Out in the country, amid the rocks and the pine scrub lying between Ridgefield Street and Ridgebury church, the brave and ill-fated man was waging the unequal battle. It was at the

first of the second attack that he received the fatal wound. The British must have been on the retreat, or his friends would not have been able to recover his person, as he fell where he was shot. The great sash\* which he wore was unwound, and, being spread out as a blanket, he was put in it and carried from the field. Then he was placed in a carriage and slowly brought back to Danbury.

"In the Dibble mansion, where Tryon but a few hours before had had his headquarters, the unfortunate general was placed. A local surgeon dressed the wound as well as he was able, and shortly after a more experienced man came from New Haven to attend him. The bullet, which is said to have been fired by a Tory, entered his back obliquely just as he turned to wave on his men, and, cutting the spinal cord, was buried in his stomach. The nature of the wound precluded recovery even had he received the best skill on the moment. His wife arrived from New Haven, but a delirium had seized him, and he did not recognize her. For three days he lay in the old South Street house, suffering untold agony, and then he fell into a stupor. This was Thursday morning of that eventful week.

"It was noted by her who, faithful to the last, unremittingly watched his pillow that during this and the following day (as is frequently the case in the closing scene of an active life) his mind was busied in exciting reminiscence. By the feeble light of flickering reason he was tracing the long and weary pilgrimage, the cruises, sieges, battles, marches, through which he had passed, only to reach his grave. The home of his childhood, the cabin of his ship, the old mansion by the Sound, pass in a blended image before his fading vision. The dash of waves, the rattle of musketry, the roar of cannon, ring confusedly in his deafened ear. His hand cannot respond to the gentle pressure of affection. His breathing grows shorter and shorter, while the icy chill advances nearer and nearer to the heart. As his wife wipes the death-damp from his brow his eyes, hitherto closed, open once more, and in their clear depths, for one glad moment, she discovers the dear, the old, the familiar expression of returned consciousness; his lips gasp in vain to utter one precious word of final adieu, and the last effort is to throw on her one farewell glance of unutterable tenderness and love.†

"On Friday, May 2, 1777, he died. On Sunday the funeral was held. It was a quiet affair, although the body was that of a major-general and of a soldier who for courage and patriotism had no superior. But Danbury was sorely afflicted. Many of the houses were in ruins, and nearly all the able-bodied men were away.

"Miss Betty Porter, aged sixteen, daughter of one of the men killed and burned in Maj. Starr's house, and

subsequently the wife of Capt. Nathaniel Gregory, grandfather of our Col. Gregory, was at the funeral. She says there were but six men present, and they bore the body to its resting place. The remains were buried in the graveyard on Wooster Street.

"Rev. Samuel Peters, in his quaint work 'A General History of Connecticut,' says, 'David Wooster, the rebel general, Benedict Arnold's old friend and mobbing confederate, received a fatal ball through his bladder as he was harassing the rear of the royal troops, of which, *after being carried forty miles to New Haven*, he died, *and was buried at the side of David Deawell*, one of the judges of Charles I.'

"The firing of our people upon the British, with the return fire of the enemy, marked as distinctly as sight could have done to the refugees the progress of the march. Besides, there were messengers, in the person of boys, who kept track of the course and reported hourly. Long before the royal column passed Ridgebury church the people who had fled began to return to the village, some to undisturbed homes, others to smoking ruins. Before night the most of them had got back, although it was not until the next day that all had returned. The parents of the venerable Mrs. Phebe Benedict, who is still abiding with us, went to New Fairfield.

"With the returning Danburians came a host of sight-seers from Redding, Bethel Village, Brookfield, Newtown, New Fairfield, and other places. It was a great spectacle for outsiders, and they flocked here just as people do to the scene of an overwhelming disaster. All that Sunday afternoon the main street and South were full of people, viewing the ruins, sympathizing with the sufferers, cursing the enemy, and delivering opinions of reckless wisdom, as is common with the dear masses in matters they know nothing of. One of these visitors used to relate that the wheels of his wagon sank above their fellows in the cold grease on South Street, which came from the burnt pork. There were three taverns here at the time, and the business they might have done, had they the liquid facilities, would have been immense.

"Dr. Jabez Starr, grandfather of Mr. Fred Starr, kept one of the taverns. His place stood on the corner of Main and Elm Streets, near where is now *The News* building. On the approach of the enemy he moved his goods out of town and harm's way. Mr. Starr was the only doctor in Danbury at the time.

"The house now occupied by Nathaniel Barnum, a few doors south of *The News* office, was a tavern at that time. On a sign swinging from a post it bore a copy of the arms of King George IV., which gave the tavern its name. It was kept by John Trowbridge, who was Mr. Barnum's great-grandfather. Owing to its sign it was saved from destruction, but its furniture was piled up in the street and burned. Mr. Barnum has completely changed the outside appearance of the building, so that to-day it looks but little like it was at that time.

\* The sash and sword are now in Yale College.

† Henry C. Denning's oration at the Wooster monument, 1854.



"Mr. Trowbridge was a lieutenant in the rebel army. He was away with his regiment at the time. His people removed themselves and what furniture they could get together to Nathan Cornwall's tavern, in Beaver Brook District, the tavern standing on what is now Henry Starr's place. The royal troops did not interfere with the property, but the furniture that was destroyed was the work of Tory neighbors.

"Maj. N. M. Taylor in 1777 lived in a house which stood at the junction of South Street with Dimpling Hill road. On the news of the coming of the British he hurried home and told his wife to make ready to fly. She was of the genuine Revolutionary material. She had a baking of bread ready for the oven, and she declared she would not leave until it was done. Before it was done the enemy came into town, and Taylor's tavern was inundated by soldiers. She told them that she had a batch of bread in the oven, and if they wanted some she would give it to them. Hot fresh bread is a toothsome bit to a soldier, and when the bread came out they took it all. Fortunately for Taylor's property, his wife was a good baker, and the soldiers, whose stomachs had been delighted by her skill, left the building undisturbed.

"Ten years later Mr. Taylor put up a guide-stone in front of his place, which contained the following information:

"67 miles to H(artford).

66 miles to N. Y.

This stone erected by N. M. Taylor, 1787."

"Mr. Taylor soon after built the house, now owned by Martin E. Clark, on South Street at the foot of Main, which was used as a tavern. There is not a Revolutionary building in town that shows less change than this building. It is two stories high, with a tremendous garret. His dining-room was then used as the reception-room, with the small bar of those days opening off from it, and now used by him for a milk-room. A part of the second floor was used as a ball-room. Three stone chimneys pierce the roof. One of these at the base is eight by eleven feet and five feet square in the garret. The others are nearly as large. Near to this building stood the house of Comfort Hoyt, Jr., which was burned. John McLean was the most serious sufferer of the lot. His house stood where is now the venerable big double tenement on the south side of Main Street, and which is to-day called by many the McLean place.

"Immediately after the disaster the selectmen were instructed to present a petition to the Legislature for the relief of the sufferers. Hinman, in his 'War of the American Revolution,' says,—

"John McLean, Eli Mygatt, and others, selectmen of Danbury, stated to the General Assembly convened at Hartford on the 8th of May, 1777, that the enemy in their incursion into Danbury burned and destroyed the public records of said town, and they apprehended great damage might arise to the inhabitants unless some timely remedy should be provided. The Assembly appointed Daniel Sherman, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Increase Moseley, Lemuel Sanford, Col. S. Canfield, and Caleb Baldwin to repair to Danbury as soon as might be, and notify the inhabitants of said town, and by all lawful ways inquire into and ascertain every man's right, and report to the next General Assembly.

"This committee reported to the Assembly that the British troops had made a hostile invasion into said town, and under a pretense of destroying the public stores had consumed with fire about twenty dwelling-houses, with many stores, barns, and other buildings, and that the enemy on their retreat collected and drove off all the live stock—viz., cattle, horses, and sheep—which they could find, and that the destruction of said property had reduced many of the wealthy inhabitants to poverty. Having notified the inhabitants, they from day to day examined the losses of each sufferer, on oath and by other evidence, and allowed to each his damage at the time said property was destroyed. They found that by reason of the price of articles the inhabitants had been obliged to pay large sums over and above the value in procuring the necessities for their families, that many of them had their teams forced from them to remove the public stores, etc. They gave the name of each sufferer, with his loss allowed, annexed to his name, which amounted to the sum of sixteen thousand one hundred and eighty-one pounds one shilling and four pence, which report was accepted by the Assembly and ordered to be lodged on file, to perpetuate the evidence of the loss of each person, that, when Congress should order a compensation, to make out the claims of sufferers.

"On the receipt of this communication the pay-table were directed to draw an order on the treasurer for the sum of five hundred pounds in favor of the selectmen of Danbury, as aforesaid, who could not subsist without such relief.

"In 1787 the sufferers in Danbury, having received no further relief, again petitioned the General Assembly of Connecticut, upon which petition Hon. Andrew Adams and others were appointed a committee.

"The chairman of said committee reported that for want of exhibits and documents they were unable methodically and correctly to state the facts or losses and estimate of damages, and also, for the want of proper certificates from the treasurer and secretary of state, to report what had already been done for their relief, but were of opinion that the houses and buildings and necessary household furniture destroyed by the enemy ought to be paid for by the State at their just value, and that the only manner in the power of the State, at that time, was to pay the same in *Western lands*; which report was in October, 1787, accepted by the House, but rejected by the Upper House."

"In 1792 the General Assembly made the award of land. This territory is in Ohio, and has since been known as the Western Reserve.

"This list of sufferers, with the amounts of losses, we herewith give, as awarded by the first-named committee.

Mr. John McLean.....	\$12,462.64
Capt. Ezra Starr.....	11,480.00
Capt. Daniel Taylor.....	4,932.00
Col. John P. Cook.....	4,767.50
Major Eli Mygatt.....	580.30
Capt. James Clark.....	4,112.62
Major Taylor.....	3,504.00
Comfort Hoyt, Jr.....	3,258.77
Thaddeus Benedict, Esq.....	2,010.00
Benjamin Sperry.....	849.00
David Wood.....	2,165.24
Joseph Wildman.....	2,087.00
Dr. John Wood.....	1,970.80
Matthew Benedict.....	1,672.50
Rev. Ebenezer White.....	1,637.60
Jonah Benedict.....	1,547.50
Matthew Benedict.....	1,026.16
Jabez Rockwell.....	1,189.00
Zadock Benedict.....	849.25

"The total loss as thus determined by the committee amounted to nearly eighty-one thousand dollars.

"There were two Matthew Benedicts, father and son, who figure in the list of losers. The latter, who was great-grandfather of Benedict Brothers, the shoe-dealers, lived where is now the homestead of Mrs. Henry Benedict. It is said that he owned a small hat-shop which was burned by the British, although Francis' 'History of Hatting' says hatting was begun in Danbury in 1780, or three years later than the advent of the British. The senior Matthew lived with

Jonah, another son. The junior's estate included the Concert Hall property, which was given by the family to the First Church society for the use of the society. We have not been able so far to locate the residence of either Jonah or Zadock Benedict, who were brothers of Matthew, junior. The former is said to have lived at the lower end of Main Street.

"Still another brother was Noble Benedict, who raised a company of one hundred men at the beginning of the war. He was captured in November, 1776, at Fort Washington. Nathan was captured in the Danbury fight, and taken to the Sugar-House prison. Jonah was in his brother's company at Fort Washington, and was captured there. He suffered from the imprisonment to such an extent that it was believed he was dying, and then he was released, being brought to Danbury on a litter. In the 'Genealogy of the Benedicts in America' it is said he arrived here about two weeks before the burning of the village. He and his brother were taken out of the house that dark Sunday morning and tied to trees in the garden, while the house was burned.

"Joseph Wildman lived where now resides Hon. F. S. Wildman. In the award of land to the sufferers he received fourteen hundred acres in Ohio. So little did he value it that he sold it in exchange for a horse. A part of the flourishing city of Sandusky is on that land, and is now worth millions of dollars. The singular sale was made with the right of redemption within thirty years. About a year or so after the expiration of that time, and when the property began to be quite valuable, Joseph's heirs unfortunately discovered this clause in the deed.

"Benjamin Knapp, who figured so conspicuously as the entertainer of generals, lived until 1834, when he met his death at the heels of a colt in Beaver Brook District. Mr. Amos Morris, who was then in the prime of life and as now a resident there, gave the wounded man shelter. A doctor was called, who saw that the injury was fatal, and recommended that Mr. Knapp be taken home at once. He was comfortably placed in a cart, and Mr. Morris brought him home, where he died at the age of ninety-four years. He built the house on White Street, now owned by Mr. Joseph Bell, for his son, Noah Knapp. Benjamin Knapp is remembered by our older citizens as a little old man in knee-breeches and gray stockings. He owned a number of cows, besides the shoe-shop and tannery.

"Samuel Morris, father of the venerable Amos Morris, was an army-teamster. He was employed in drawing the army stores from New Haven to Danbury. His brother, Jacquin, was not equally eminent for patriotism. In fact, Jacquin took advantage of the presence of the British army to join its ranks. He went away with them, and served through the war. Shortly after that he returned to Danbury on a visit to his mother, who was living in Beaver Brook District.

"The first intimation of his presence was given to a

little niece, who in crossing the bridge over Still River, near her grandmother's house (and where is now the grist-mill), was startled by the appearance of a man's head from under the bridge. The man, learning who she was, told her to call her father. She did so, and then the stranger revealed that he was Jacquin Morris, the deserting Danburian. He was not immediately recognized by the brother, having changed considerably, but on uncovering his head a bare spot on his scalp, well known to the family, was found, and he was received. He was obliged to keep himself secluded, and during his stay was secreted in the garret of his mother's house. Some years later he made a second visit home, but did not remain long.

"As an offset to this loss Danbury gained three citizens—and, so far as we can learn, they were good citizens—in the persons of three deserters from the British army. One of these was Harry Brockleton, who lived in Dumpling Hole, now Mountainville. The others were privates. Thomas Flynn was the name of one of the latter. He settled in South Street.

"The following anecdote of Brockleton is related by Mr. A. B. Hull. He traded a small piece of land for a horse, and the horse for potatoes. His wife, Hannah, said she would make some poetry on the occurrence. Her poetry was:

*"'Elixir proprietatis!*

Harry Brockleton sold his land for a horse, and his horse for potatoes.'

Harry said he would like to make some poetry, which he did, as follows:

*"'As the children of Israel were passing through the wilderness, the Lord sent them manna:*

*When Harry Brockleton wanted a wife, the devil sent him Hannah.'*

"Mr. A. B. Hull, mentioned above, enjoys a distinction which can scarcely be claimed by any other citizen of New England or of the country at large. He is about sixty years of age, and yet is *the son of a Revolutionary soldier*. His father was seventeen years old when the British burned Danbury. He joined in the pursuit of Tryon through Ridgefield, and was in all the fighting. In escaping one of the dashes of the enemy he found himself back of a rock, in company with two boys a trifle younger than himself, who were having their first experience in battle. While waiting there he discovered that a Tory was in a brake near by, watching with ready gun for them to reappear. Putting his hat on the end of his gun, he pushed it out beyond the rock. Immediately the Tory fired, the bullet piercing the hat. The next instant he plunged towards the rock, when the three boys fired simultaneously at him. At the discharge he sprang several feet in the air and came down full length upon his face, but turned in a flash upon his back, and lay there motionless in death. After the battle Mr. Hull's father went over the ground to look for the body. He found it where it had fallen, but it



was stark naked. He saw that the three bullets had taken effect in the Tory's body,—one at the navel, and the two others at such angles as to form the letter V.

"During this catastrophe to Danbury there was an army hospital in existence here. It was established the month before, and was not touched by the British. The location was on what is now called Park Avenue, at the junction of Pleasant Street, on the lot now occupied by Mr. Henry N. Scribner, and just west of his house. All that property was then owned by Samuel Wildman, grandfather of Mr. Samuel C. Wildman, who leased to the government the land for the use of the hospital. Mr. Wildman lived then in the modernized house on the avenue which stands on the east corner, opposite Mr. Scribner. There are several pear-trees in this garden which were set out by Samuel Wildman over a hundred years ago, and which now yield abundantly.

"The soldiers who died at the hospital were buried in a plot of ground now forming the grounds on the south side of George Buell's house on Pleasant Street, near to the corner of the avenue. The soldiers who occupied the hospital were principally French. The place where the dead were buried was held sacred by Mr. Wildman, who would not have it plowed. Some years after it was rented, the tenant, being either ignorant of the burial or extremely practical in his views, cultivated the ground. His plowshare turned up many bones. Relics in metal of the occupancy of the hospital have been found under the soil in Mr. Scribner's garden.

"The hospital itself was a one-storied building, with a large garret in the steep roof. The first floor was divided into four rooms; the garret was one room. The building was torn down many years ago by Mr. Samuel C. Wildman.

"A volume entitled 'Connecticut During the War of Revolution' furnishes some incidents of interest to Danbury. In fact, Danbury largely figures in the book, much of the matter, however, being the same that we have already presented. The book was compiled in 1841 by Royal R. Hinman, who was then secretary of state. The matter pertaining to Danbury was furnished to Mr. Hinman by Reuben Booth. We learn from this book that Danbury's grand list in 1775, at the beginning of the Revolution, was \$142,507.66.

"In May, 1777, the month following the burning, Governor Trumbull issued, at the suggestion of the General Assembly, a proclamation. The document is a sorry confession of man's inhumanity to man, especially to his neighbor. It appears from this paper that a lot of shiftless and mercenary wretches took advantage of the appearance of the enemy here to burn the houses and steal the portable property of Danburians and others who escaped the raid of the British. The proclamation calls upon these graceless offenders to immediately restore such property

and make good such losses, or suffer the severe penalties of the law.

"We have mentioned the death of a young man named Barnum in the Sugar-House prison, in New York. His father, Col. Joseph Barnum, was seriously affected by the deplorable fate of his boy, and became so full of the spirit of vengeance that on the next day after getting the news he loaded his gun and started out to avenge himself on sympathizers with the British. Seeing a Tory at work in a field the half-crazed father fired at him, wounding him severely. 'He had previously been a professedly pious man, but frequently after the loss of his son concluded his devotions in his family by invoking a curse upon "old King George and his hellish crew."'

"Several writers say that Nehemiah Dibble, who occupied the old mansion which entertained Gen. Tryon and received the dying breath of Wooster, did not escape punishment for his Tory sympathies. They tell that shortly after the retreat of the British a number of young men took hold upon Dibble, and, carrying him to Still River, near where is now the railroad, immersed him several times in the water, giving him what they called a 'thorough ducking.'

"In the record of the General Assembly, May session, 1777, there are the following interesting entries:

"Thaddeus Benedict, of Danbury, represented to the Assembly that the British troops, when in Danbury, burned his dwelling-house and several other houses kept for public entertainment, and stated that he had provided a convenient house in the centre of said town, and asked for a license to keep a public house, which was granted by said Assembly.

"Mary Hoyt, the wife of Isaac Hoyt, then late of Danbury, showed to the Assembly that she had ever been a good Whig and a true friend to the rights of her country, and that her husband, when the enemy entered said Danbury, being an enemy to his country, went off and joined the British, by which he had justly forfeited all his estate, both real and personal, and that the selectmen had seized upon all the personal estate of her husband, by means of which she was deprived of the necessities of life, and asked the Assembly to order that one-third part of all the clear movable estate should be given to her, and the use of one-third part of all the real estate, for her natural life, for her support. The Assembly ordered that said Mary Hoyt should have and enjoy one-third part of the personal and real estate during the pleasure of the Assembly.'

"At an adjourned session of the same body in February, 1778, occurred the following:

"John Marsh, of Danbury, stated to the Assembly that when the British troops went into Danbury he through surprise joined them and went away with them, but soon made his escape and returned home, and was committed to gaol, and prayed pardon for the offense, which was granted him, by his taking the oath of fidelity, and paying the cost of prosecution.'

"It appears from an item in the report of the General Assembly that an attack on Danbury was anticipated several weeks before from the Hudson River direction. Two weeks before the attack the Governor sent a letter to Gen. Silliman instructing him to keep a strict watch upon the enemy, who were preparing in New York to go up the North River, with a view, undoubtedly, to destroy the stores at Danbury. On the night of the 27th the General Assembly received word that there were alarming symptoms from the North River, and almost immediately after that Danbury was burned.

"In the March (1778) session of the Assembly occurs the following:

"Hannah Church, of Danbury, the wife of Asa Church, (then) late of said Danbury, shewed the Governor and council that her husband had joined the British army and was then in New York, and that she had no estate to support her, and prayed for liberty to go to New York to her husband. The Governor and council gave her liberty to go to New York, with such necessary apparel as the committee of inspection of said Danbury shall think proper. And Gen. Silliman was directed to grant a flag, or passport, to the said Hannah accordingly."

"The following-named are the prisoners taken from Danbury at the time of the raid: John Bartram, Nathan Benedict, Benjamin Sperry, John Porter, Jonathan Starr, William Roberts, Jacob Gray, and Aaron Gray Knapp.

"In the May (1777) session is the following record:

"Ruth Peck, the widow of Jesse Peck, (then) late of Danbury, stated to the General Assembly that her husband, with three sons, in the spring of 1776 enlisted in the service of the State, and all went through the fatigue of the campaign. Two of the sons were taken prisoners at Fort Washington and suffered the hardships of captivity in New York; one son had the smallpox in the worst manner possible, in the most scarce time of gold, the (then) last winter at New York, who started for home and froze his feet, so that he became a cripple. Another son was sent home by the British about the 1st of January, 1777, infected with the smallpox, of which he soon died, after his arrival; the husband, who had arrived home a short time previous to his son, took the disease, and also died after a long confinement. One other son also took said disease, who by the goodness of God recovered; whereby said Ruth was grievously afflicted, and the town of Danbury expended the sum of twenty-six pounds twelve shillings and six pence in their sickness, and held a claim upon the small estate her husband had left for the payment of it, and, if paid by her, would leave her with a family of small children, and needy indeed; and prayed the Assembly to pay the sum aforesaid."

"In the January (1778) session were given the following depositions regarding the negro who was killed in Maj. Starr's house, and who, we should judge, was a slave whose owner was seeking remuneration. Here are the entries:

"Ebenezer White, of Danbury, of lawful age, testifies and says that on or about the 26th day of April, 1777, at evening, there being a number of gentlemen at his house belonging to the British army; amongst which was one whom he understood was the Earl of Falkland's son, who told him (the deponent) that he was the first that entered Maj. Starr's house, and found a number of men in the house, among whom were two negroes, all of whom they instantly killed, and set fire to the house, and gave this for a reason why they did so,—that it was their constant practice, where they found people shut up in a house and firing upon them, to kill them and to burn the house; and further the deponent saith that the said young gentleman told him that one of the negroes, after he had run him through, rose up and attempted to shoot him, and that he the said Earl of Falkland's son cut his head off himself; which negro, the deponent understood since, was the property of Mr. Samuel Smith, of Reading; and further the deponent saith not.

"DANBURY, Jan. 26, 1778.

"The Rev. Mr. Ebenezer White, the deponent, personally appearing, made oath to the truth of the above written deposition.

"Sworn to before me, Thaddeus Benedict, Justice of the Peace.

"Ebenezer Weed, of Danbury, of lawful age, testifies and says that on or about the 26th day of April, 1777, he being at home across the road opposite to Maj. Daniel Starr's house, he saw a negro at the house, which he knew to be the property of Mr. Samuel Smith, of Reading, about a half hour, as near as he can judge, before the British troops came to said house; and further the deponent saith that in the evening of said day he heard a man belonging to the British army say that they had killed one dam'd black with the whites, in said Starr's house; and further the deponent saith not.

"DANBURY, Jan. 26, 1778.

"Sworn before Thaddeus Benedict, Justice of the Peace.

"Anna Weed, of Danbury, of lawful age, testifies and says that on or about the 26th day of April, 1777, she being at home across the road opposite to Maj. Starr's house, she saw a negro at said house, which she understood was the property of Mr. Samuel Smith, of Reading, but a short time before the British troops came up to the house; and further the deponent saith she heard one of the British soldiers say "Here is a dam'd black in the house; what shall we do with him?" Another answered, "Damn him, kill him," and immediately the house was in flames; and further the deponent saith not.

"DANBURY, Jan. 26, 1778.

"Sworn to before Thaddeus Benedict, Justice of the Peace."

#### ROLL OF REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS.

"It will be remembered that in Mr. Robbins' sermon he spoke of a company of one hundred men being raised in Danbury and ordered to the Northern army, at Lake Champlain. He said that they went away leaving their friends to believe that perhaps they might never return, but they came back safely, while during their absence an epidemic raged in the village and carried off many of their friends.

"The company was raised by Noble Benedict, who was made captain. The men were recruited in May, 1775. It is the only organization contributed by Danbury to the war. It joined the Sixteenth Regiment, commanded by Col. David Waterbury. The following is the list of the company:

"Captain, Noble Benedict.

"Lieutenants, James Clark, Ezra Stephens.

"Ensign, Daniel Heacock.

"Sergeants, John Trowbridge, Eliph Barnum, Elijah Hoit, Nathan Taylor, John Ambler.

"Corporals, Aaron Stone, Jonah Benedict, David Weed, Moses Veal.

"Musicians, Joseph Hamilton, drummer; Russel Bartlett, Nathaniel Peck, fifers.

"Privates, Seth Barnum, Eleaz Benedict, John Barnum, Eli Barnum, James Boughton, Josiah Burched, Samuel Bennet, Lazarus Barnum, Hez Benedict, Gilbert Benedict, Wm. Benedict, David Bishop, Eben Barnum, Abram Barns, Joseph Boughton, John Comstock, Enoch Crosby, Samuel Curtiss, Wm. Combs, Isaac Collier, Thomas Campbell, James Clements, Samuel Cook, Miles Canty, Henry Covel, John Chapman, Elnathan Edy, Eliph Ferry, John Guthrie, Wm. Griffin, Drake Hoit, Thaddeus Hoit, Joshua Hinckley, Jonathan Hayes, John Holcomb, Wm. Hawkins, Francis Jackson, Thomas Judd, John Johnson, Benjamin Gorham, John Green, Henry Knapp, Elisha Lincoln, John Linly, James Lincoln, Nathan Lee, Thomas Morehouse, Thaddeus Morehouse, Done Merrick, John Morehouse, Sylvanus Nelson, Isaac Northrop, Wilson Northrop, Joshua Porter, Wm. Porter, Elkanah Peck, Farrel Picket, Caleb Spencer, Samuel Spencer, Eli Stephens, Samuel Sturdivant, Daniel Segar, Levi Starr, John Stephens, Jabez Starr, James Scovel, Stephen Scovel, Peter Stringham, Isaac Smith, Thomas Starr, Ephraim Smith, Levi Stone, Stephen Townsend, Samuel Townsend, Stephen Trowbridge, Joshua Taylor, Thomas Weed, Samuel C. Warren (or Warden),



Major Warren, Thomas Wheaton, Jonas Weed, David Sturdivant.

"The captain of the above company was father of the late Archibald Benedict, and he lived in the house now occupied by the venerable widow of Archibald, on North Main Street. The captain was a stutterer, and many anecdotes based on this infirmity are related of him. We give one of them. When he was at Lake Champlain with his company the countersign in use one night was the word 'Ticonderoga.' The captain came across a sentry, who, halting him, demanded the countersign. 'T' was a bad letter for the captain to overcome, and in his mad efforts to clutch it he lost all memory of the word itself. In this dilemma he shouted to the sentry: 'S-s-s-say the word, and I c-c-c-c-can tell it.' History does not tell what the sentry did, but, as the captain returned safely to Danbury, it is presumed the matter was compromised satisfactorily.

"James Clark, first lieutenant, lived on South Main Street. His wife, on the coming of the British, sunk her silver-ware and some other articles in the well, and fled with her family to a more congenial latitude.

"Ezra Stevens, the second lieutenant, lived in Pembroke District. He was great-grandfather of Erastus Stevens. His son Eli was in the company as a private.

"First Sergt. John Trowbridge lived at the upper end of Main Street; he was a grandfather of Truman Trowbridge. Second Sergt. Eliph Barnum lived at the south end of the village. Third Sergt. Elijah Hoyt lived where now stands the residence of Charles H. Merritt, on Main Street.

"Corp. Jonah Benedict has already been treated of as far as our information goes. Corp. David Weed lived in King Street District, near to where Aaron Pearce now lives.

"Joseph Hamilton, the drummer, lived in Pembroke District, and a very patriotic portion of this town it appears to have been.

"Private Seth Barnum lived in King Street, opposite the Baptist church. John Barnum and Eli Barnum lived in the same district. Samuel Curtis lived near to where Ezra Mallory & Co.'s hat-factory stands. He was once sexton of the First Church. Drake Hoyt and Thaddeus Hoyt lived in Pembroke District. Thaddeus for a number of years kept the town-poor on contract, as was then the custom. Thomas Judd lived in Great Plain District, his house standing where now Granville Taylor lives. Benjamin Gorham lived in Miry Brook District. John Green lived at the junction of Elm and River Streets. John Lindley lived in King Street District. Thaddeus Morehouse lived on Main Street in a house now owned by George E. Cowperthwait, and standing next north to his residence. Stephen Trowbridge lived, we are told, on the corner of Main and Liberty Streets, where is now Benedict & Nichols' Block.

Levi Stone belonged in the Middle River District. Joshua Porter came home from the Northern campaign all right, but lost his life by Tryon's troops in Maj. Starr's house. John Ambler, the fifth sergeant, was a great-grandfather of Rev. E. C. Ambler, and was at that time a man of advanced age. The grandfather of Rev. Mr. Ambler, Peter Ambler, and two of Peter's brothers, Stephen and Squire Ambler, were in the war, but not in this company. The family lived in Miry Brook District.

"Ensign Daniel Heacock was a grandfather of Col. Samuel Gregory. He lived in Bethel. His home is still standing, being near A. B. Blackman's house. Col. Gregory has in his possession the powder-horn which Henry Knapp, private, carried in the company's campaign. Mr. Knapp lived in the Westville District. Jabez Starr kept the tavern which stood on property adjoining *The News* office. David Weed lived in Westville District, where Mr. Anson Comstock's house now stands. Daniel Segar lived on the Mill Plain road. Stephen Townsend lived near the New York State line.

"Young Lockwood, who went to meet the British on their approach to Danbury to learn their strength, and was captured on Hoyt's Hill, was left there on the flight of the British. It is said that while living in Norwalk, some time before this, he did a favor for Governor Tryon, on the occasion of an accident to the Governor's carriage when he was driving through Norwalk. The Governor was writing a parole for him when the alarm of the approach of the Americans under Wooster came upon him, and the paper was dropped.

"It must not be understood, however, that these men were all that Danbury gave to the war, but the company was the only organization going from here of which there is any record. On a previous page it was stated that two sons of Aaron Gunn, living at the upper end of Main Street, were drafted into the army during the war of 1812-14. Previous to the draft they enlisted and served for several months at New London. When drafted they were assigned to duty at the same place. Uncle Amos Morris and the late Frederick White were drafted at the same time. At New London the command had the choice of messing inside or outside the fort. The Gunn party of Danbury boys chose the outside, and boarded with a widow-woman who gave them a bed and cooked their rations daily for the sum of six cents each. No mess in New London fared so well as the Danbury mess, thanks to the knowledge of the country gained by the two Gunn boys during their previous location in the place.

"One day an officer of the regiment visited their quarters at dinner-time, and was amazed at the sight of their table. One prominent dish thereon was new potatoes, and that before the same were scarcely in the market and totally unknown to the commissary.

"'Why, boys, how's this?' he exclaimed. 'Here

you've got new potatoes! Why, there's not another mess in the command with new potatoes. We can draw nothing but old potatoes. How is it that you draw new ones?"

"I'll tell you, major, how we draw them," spoke up White, in a confidential tone: "we draw them by the tops."

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### DANBURY (Continued).

#### VIEW OF DANBURY IN 1815-20.

IN the following chapter, taken from the *Danbury News*, will be found located all the dwellings and stores which, in 1815-20, stood upon the present site of the village.

#### MAIN STREET.

"It is likely that, with few exceptions, the picture was the same at the beginning of the century. Main Street was then as now the principal thoroughfare. Running from it on the east was North, White, and Liberty Streets; on the west, Franklin, Elm, West, and Wooster Streets; South Street at the foot. The other streets were River and Town Hill. Deer Hill Avenue was then but a lane, chiefly used for the transfer of farm products.

"*East Side.*—The first house, on coming into Main Street at the north, on the east side of the street, was occupied by Aaron Gunn. It was washed away by the Kohanza disaster in 1869. Mr. Gunn had two sons who were drafted in the war of 1812, and entered the army at New London.

"The next house stood on the corner of North Street. It was occupied by Benjamin Barnum, and was a large, roomy building. Some years ago it was moved north on Main Street, and still stands there.

"On the opposite corner, where is now the Porter estate, lived Noah Hubbell, grandfather of Mrs. John Carpenter. Between there and what is now Patch Street there was but one house. It was occupied by William Patch, Jr., father-in-law of its present occupant, Oliver P. Clark.

"Next to him was a small tenement owned by Mary Daniels, an aunt of the late W. A. Daniels, and was then occupied by a family named Barnum.

"John Gregory's house came next. None of his descendants are living here.

"Where Wildman's Lane or Court now is were two houses, since gone. One of these was occupied by Benjamin Cozier and the other by William Patch, father of the William living above, and grandfather of Mrs. A. P. Tweedy and Mrs. G. D. Foote.

"The next premises were those of John Nickerson, a lay preacher in the Methodist church. Nickerson was an active man, and consequently well known to his fellow-citizens.

"Then came another tenant-house, which was occupied by Zar Patch.

"Following the tenement was the home of Archibald Benedict, now occupied by his venerable widow. He was a son of Capt. Noble Benedict, our Revolutionary hero.

"The residence now occupied by Harrison Flint was then the home of the late Enoch Moore. It was built by Amos Stevens.

"Next in order came the home of Abel Gregory, now owned by Mrs. Henry Benedict, and after this a school-house. It stood on the north line of what is now the grounds of E. T. Hoyt's home. Many years ago it was removed to Franklin Street, where it continued to be used as a school until about fifteen years ago, when it was turned into a tenement.

"Deacon Joseph Platt Cook, son of the Revolutionary colonel of the same name who was in command of Danbury when Tryon came, occupied the next house. It stood on nearly the same ground at present occupied by the residence of William Jabine.

"Russel Hoyt lived next to Deacon Cook, in the house now occupied by his son Granville.

"Just south of the house was a store where Daniel B. Cook sold shoes, shirting, sugar, and other groceries. The building was subsequently removed to White Street, and is now occupied by Avery Raymond's market.

"Next came the home of Col. Russel White, which stood on the site of the present residence of his son, William R. White. Col. White was a prominent hat-manufacturer.

"Nirum Wildman lived next, in the house now occupied by his grandson, John W. Wildman.

"Where the residence of Giles M. Hoyt now stands stood the home of Rev. Ebenezer R. White, grandfather of William R. White and Ebenezer R. Whitteley. Between and partly in front of these two houses stood a small building once the store of Burr & White, but at this time occupied by the worshipers in the Sandemanian Church. Previously dissension had arisen in the body because of the second marriage of an elder, and the congregation divided.

"Next came the hat-manufactory of White Brothers & Co. It stood near the banks of the Still River, its site not at present being occupied.

"Across the river, and on the corner of White Street, stood the giant old home of Benjamin Knapp.

"*West Side.*—Going back to the north end of the street and returning on the west side, the first house was the home of Stephen Ambler, the husband of Miss Munson. He was the grandfather of Mrs. A. A. Heath and O. P. and W. H. Clark. He did active work in the war. It is said that he and five brothers, lying down on a thirty-six foot stick of timber, would just cover its length. His house stood under the hill, next to the graveyard, and was long since torn down.

"The graveyard itself was then there. It was not only opened to relieve the Wooster Street grounds,



but to accommodate the districts of Middle River, King Street, and Pembroke; which then, being sparingly settled, had no burial-place in their district.

"Andrew Akin occupied the house now owned by George Downs.

"Next to it was the home of Mary Daniels, who owned property on the other side of the street. The place is now occupied by V. E. Barnum.

"John Foot, father of Mrs. Ezra Abbott, lived in the next house.

"Where Abijah Knapp's home is stood Capt. Foot's hat-shop.

"Adjoining this was a tenement, now owned by Harmon Knapp.

"Following came the home of Asa Hodge, now occupied by George W. Hoyt.

"Thaddeus Morehouse lived next north of where now stands the home of G. E. Cowperthwait.

"Adjoining was a small tenement, which closed its existence in a summary and tragic manner. We do not know who occupied it at the time. It perished in 1836. It was at the time that a strong anti-slave feeling was exhibited in the North. An Abolitionist address in the Baptist church called forth a mob, who stoned the church, breaking the windows, and threatened the life of the speaker, Rev. Mr. Colver, who was visiting here. Danbury's trade was then largely in the South, and it was natural its people should be in sympathy with that section and averse to anything calculated to disturb its peace. The family occupying the tenement were strong anti-slavery people, and had given shelter to runaway slaves. This coming to the knowledge of our citizens, a number of them made a descent upon the house in the night-time and leveled it to the ground. The family escaped.

"The next house was occupied by Knapp Boughton, who distinguished himself by winning for a wife the young woman Parson Robbins wanted. He was father of L. H. Boughton. His place was removed to make room for the spacious residence of S. H. Rundle.

"Mrs. Boughton, mother of Knapp, occupied a house adjoining his. It was afterwards owned by Nathaniel Bishop, and was removed. On the southeast corner of this lot was a brick building occupied by Knapp Boughton as a store. It was removed a long time ago.

"Mrs. Elias Boughton occupied a place where now stands George C. White's residence.

"The next building stood on the corner of Franklin Street, where Burr Roland now lives. It was occupied as a hat-finishing shop by Russell and Eli T. Hoyt.

"On the opposite corner stood the residence of William Cook, who was a prominent member of the Masonic order. Mrs. William D. Morris' dwelling now occupies its site. Mr. Cook's house was removed to Patch Street.

"Next to Mr. Cook lived Starr Nichols, grand-

father of Mr. John Nichols, of Nichols & Hine. He was a large hat-manufacturer, and an active man in all enterprises.

"Following this was a tenement. It was taken down, and the present residence of Judge Lyman D. Brewster occupies its place.

"Next came the residence of Samuel and William Tweedy, father and son. Samuel was the grandfather of Edgar S. Tweedy. They were cutters off of fur, and their shop stood north and in rear of their home.

"Adjoining their house was the place of Gershom Nichols.

"Where Charles H. Merritt's residence now is stood the house of Capt. Elijah Hoyt, grandfather of William and Albert Hoyt.

"Daniel B. Cook, son of Col. Joseph Platt Cook, the soldier of the Revolution, lived where does now L. P. Hoyt.

"Next to this place was a store occupied by E. M. White. It was removed to White Street.

"Following was a house belonging to Najah Wildman.

"Next south of Najah Wildman stood a house where A. N. Wildman's residence now is.

"On the river-bank stood a mill. It was built in the last century by Daniel Comstock for a grist-mill, and occupied by Samuel C. Dibble. Afterwards for many years it served as a hat-forming factory, and was owned by Nirum Wildman. To-day the spot has again become the location of a grist-mill,—that of G. S. Disbrow. For some years it was used as a mill. There was considerable feeling at one time in the community occasioned by this mill. The occupant wanted to build a waste-weir to empty into the stream at a point just below the opposite side of the street, but Mr. Knapp, who lived on the corner and owned the land, would not give him the right of way. The only alternative was to tap Mad River just above its junction with Still River, near to where is the rear of Nichols & Hine's factory. The plan did not work, however, as the grade did not give sufficient fall to carry off the water. As the grist-mill was a matter of considerable importance to the people; public sentiment took a hand, and Mr. Knapp was induced to consent to the emptying of the weir in Still River in the rear of his house. The mill-building was last occupied by Holly & Wildman, wool-hat manufacturers. It was destroyed by fire in 1868.

"The building on the corner of Elm Street now owned by H. N. Fanton was at that time the home-stead of Samuel Tweedy. It has been made into stores and built on to considerable since then. In its rear stood a hat-factory occupied by Tweedy & Benedict.

"*Between White and Liberty Streets.*—There have been more changes in that portion of Main Street between these points than in any other part of the thoroughfare, and far less in Main Street as a whole

than in any other street, except, perhaps, South Street.

"In 1815 there were but eight buildings on the east side of Main Street between White and Liberty, where is now an almost unbroken bank of business places. The space not immediately occupied by these buildings was used for gardens and fields, principally pasturage, while that portion in the neighborhood of the railroad buildings, up as far as White Street, was swamp. Except in front of the buildings the wall the length of the block was a stone fence. Mullein, dock, milk-weed, and brambles were conspicuous products.

"The first building, passing down the street, was a small brown tenement.

"Close to it was the dwelling of Mrs. Betsey Benedict. It stood where is now Schoppaul's bakery. She owned a store-building, which was next in order, and was then rented by Irel Ambler. Previously, Eli T. Hoyt and his brother Russel occupied it. It stood where is now the station of the Danbury and Norwalk Railway.

"There was no other structure until the dwelling of Lemuel W. Benedict was reached. It stood where is now the house occupied by David Pearce.

"Mr. Benedict's neighbor on the south was Samuel H. Phillips. Near his house was a little store run by Mr. Phillips. The same building now stands. It belongs to the estate of the late Sturges Selleck, and is now occupied by Mrs. M. Harris. Mr. Phillips was a well-known character. He was deputy postmaster of Danbury, and kept the office in his store. Consequently, his place was a resort for the various luminaries, and Mr. Phillips perhaps heard more mendacity than any other citizen of Danbury. He was a quiet man, of a studious turn, and, having a well-balanced mind, was rarely surprised into states of undue feeling. One day a woman apparently very anxious for a letter came in and gave her name. There was nothing for her.

"'I wish you'd look again,' said she, 'for I'm sure there must be a letter here for me.'

"He complied, carefully going over the stock-in-hand.

"'There is no letter here,' he said.

"'Well, that's strange,' she muttered. 'I was sure it must be here. When do you suppose I'll get one?' History does not give his answer.

"Another well-known resident was the next neighbor to Postmaster Phillips. He was Eli Mygatt, a heavy gentleman in knee-breeches. His dwelling stood where is now Baldwin Bros.' drug-store, and just south of it he kept a drug-store himself. There must be something in the locality favorable to the existence of the drug-business, as it has been used for that purpose by different parties since the day Uncle Eli began his enterprise. Both his residence and his store have long since passed away. Uncle Eli had charge of the Franklin Library, as it was kept in his store.

He did not do an extensive business, and made no effort to.

"On the corner of Main and Liberty Streets, where now stands Benedict & Nichols' Block, lived Mathew Curtis. Mr. Curtis was a butcher, and had his slaughter quite convenient, it being on Liberty Street, in the rear of his house, and where now stands the Disciples' church. Mr. Curtis did not have a market: no one did in that day. He followed the course lately revived by Orrin Lessey, of selling his meat entirely from a wagon. The slaughter was a favorite resort for the boys of that day, who are now gray-headed men, and it was also a place frequented by frugal housewives of very limited means, where a sheep's-head or pluck could be got for a mere song, and a whole beef's liver for two or three pennies.

"*West Side.*—On the corner of Elm Street, the premises now owned by J. S. Taylor, stood the tavern of Dr. Jabez Starr, a prominent Revolutionist. Dr. Starr's swinging sign bore the simple inscription 'The Inn.' It was the headquarters on training-days of the up-town military companies, which consisted of a cavalry and an infantry organization. The infantry used to parade in the square fronting the tavern. On one of these occasions—in 1812, we believe—a corporal was to be elected. It appears that the ladies, who favored the military, had the privilege of selecting the candidate for this honor. Their suffrage was given in behalf of a blushing youth from Great Plain District, then eighteen years old. On his election being announced, it was incumbent on him to step to the front and pledge himself to faithfully perform the duties of the office. The ladies were assembled in front of the residence of Samuel Tweedy, on the opposite corner, and the youth, in making his acknowledgment, was obliged to face them,—an ordeal that very nearly prostrated him, but he got through with it. The eighteen-year-old boy was Deacon Eli T. Hoyt.

"Peck & Wildman's grocery was then an unpretentious dwelling, little dreaming of the glory it was in time to ripen into, with a gorgeous landscape as a forepiece.

"The dwelling and church in the lane, both the property of the Sandemanian Society, were standing then.

"The St. George Tavern, now the property of Mrs. Urana Barnum, was then occupied by her father, William Dobbs. Long before the period of which we write it had ceased to be a hostelry.

"Next in order was the residence of Moses Hatch,—or Judge Hatch, as he was called. It is now owned by his grandson, Alexander Wildman, and is unoccupied. He had an office built on the street-line, and now moved to rear of the post-office building. Moses Hatch was a prominent member of the bar. He defended Amos Adams, a negro executed in Danbury in 1817 for rape. Mr. Hatch died at the early age of forty-one, at the threshold of what promised to be a brilliant career.



"The residence of the venerable E. Moss White stood where is now the library building reared by the liberality and public spirit of his sons. He was both a successful farmer and merchant of Danbury, a man well known, thoroughly trusted, and sincerely respected by his fellow-townsmen. The old homestead became the residence of the late Col. N. L. White, and after he vacated it it was used by the library association until the present building was started, when it was moved to Library Place, where it now stands.

"Benajah Starr occupied the present residence of Hon. Roger Averill.

"Next to him lived Deacon Thomas Tucker, grandfather of the late Col. White. It is now the residence of Mrs. George W. Ives.

"Next came the residence of Asel Benedict, grandfather of the Benedict Brothers, shoe-dealers. The present residence of Edgar A. Benedict occupies its site.

"Mrs. Huldah Starr's house followed. Her premises took in the corner of West Street. The dwelling and lot were bought in 1864 by J. S. Taylor, who built up the present block of stores and tenements. The old homestead is among these, but its identity is completely lost.

*From Liberty Street to the Court-House.*—Maj. Seth Comstock lived in a substantial residence on the corner of Liberty Street. He was a merchant, and had a store just south of his dwelling. Maj. Comstock was a man in good circumstances, and once in his life created quite a sensation in the community. He had a son doing business in New York City. The son was to be married, and desired the ceremony to take place in his father's home. He sent word to that effect, directing his father to fix up the place in the best possible style, and he would make good the expense. The major accordingly proceeded to make the homestead into a wedding-bower. Carpenters, painters, and upholsterers were set to work, and for days the transformation went on. Summer-houses, arbors, and grottos were put up in the garden. The entire front of the house was changed by elaborate additions placed thereon, and the premises blossomed into the appearance of a small paradise. The place was daily visited by Danbury people, who were filled with pride and admiration as they viewed it. Even abroad went the fame of the change, and people from neighboring towns came to see the Comstock palace. The transformation was all the talk of the day and supplanted every other subject. The wedding was in keeping with the preparation therefor, and filled the street in the neighborhood with curious people.

"Among those who came from out of town was a young man hailing from the extremely rural district of Wolfpits, below Bethel. He was barefooted and timid. He had heard of the grand house and the beautiful garden, and he wanted so much to see them that he walked to Danbury for that purpose. But when he got here and saw how grand was the place

he dared not step on the premises. More than that, he feared to go on the same side of the street, but kept on the opposite side. Even at that he shrunk from stopping in front of the place, so timid was this rural lad. He walked slowly up the street and then back again, feasting his eyes upon the architectural magnificence and bucking against numerous people in his eagerness to look alone at the house. That was fifty years ago, and the barefooted farm-boy so overcome by the display that he dared not stop in front of it is Mr. Charles Hull and the present owner of the property.

"The transformation of the place into a bridal-bower cost a number of thousand dollars. In the place of the residence and his store stands Mr. Hull's block of business places.

"Rachel Barnum's dwelling came next. It stood where is now Almon Judd's store and home.

"Next came the residence of Friend Starr, father of Charles F. Starr, and now occupied by the latter. Mr. Starr had a shoe-store where the Pahquioque Bank now is. The following anecdote is related of Charles F. Starr when he was a boy: One of his duties was to go to the pasture and bring home the cows. He rode a horse for this purpose, and, being of a social turn, generally came home with several playmates perched on the animal behind him. In fact, the horse was full of boys. Old Mr. Starr got out of patience, finally, with making an omnibus of the steed, and he told Charles one day that if he came home at night with any boys behind him on the horse he would severely punish him. When the cows came in that evening, there was the horse as full of boys as ever. But every mother's son of them *was in front of Charles*. That conscientious youth was poised well back on the animal's rump. His father gave up the point.

"Where Martin H. Griffing's residence now is lived Zalmon Wildman, father of Hon. F. S. Wildman. Just north of his house was a small hat-finishing shop, and on the south was a store. The dwelling was removed to the rear, on East Liberty Street, where it is used as a tenement.

"The Pahquioque Hotel was then a private residence, and was occupied by Elijah Sanford, grandfather of Librarian C. H. Sanford. He had a saddlery at the north end of the building. In company with Friend Starr he conducted a tannery, which stood on Liberty Street, at the junction of Railway Avenue.

"Abel B. Blackman lived in the house now occupied by the family of the late Lyman Keeler. Mr. Blackman was a shoemaker, and had his shop on the north side of his house.

"David Foot's house stood on the site occupied by Dr. W. F. Lacey. Mr. Foot was a tailor. His shop stood in the southwest corner of his door-yard, where is now the doctor's drive-way entrance. Mr. Foot was a prominent man in that day, and was for many years a trying justice of the peace.

"Benjamin Smith lived where is now the residence of Samuel Stebbins.

"His neighbor on the south was Horace Bull. He lived where now stands St. Peter's church. His house was removed to the since-opened Centre Street, and is now the parsonage of St. Peter's church. He was the father of the children's great friend, Miss Mary Bull. Mr. Bull was a tailor. He was also a noted singer, and for over thirty years was the chorister of the First Congregational Church. He was the first milk-peddler Danbury had, peddling on the street from a cart and ringing a bell at the customer's door. This was in 1850, we think. Up to that time people bought their milk from neighbors who owned a cow, sending the children for it; and at this time every fourth family had its cow. A tribute to Mr. Bull's musical talent was a remark Judge Dutton, then of the Superior Court, made when in Danbury. He said, 'I heard Mr. Bull ring his bell this morning, and there was really music in it.' Mr. Bull's sales amounted to about forty quarts a day.

"There was no house between his place and what is now the Turner House, but was then a tavern kept by David Wood. The land lying between, and running clear back to Town Hill Street, was a vacant lot, boggy at the front with meadow at the rear. This piece belonged to the First Congregational Society, and the use of it was given to the pastor.

"Joseph Moss White, father of Col. E. Moss White, lived where is now the G. F. Bailey homestead. Mr. White was a surveyor, and held a county office as such.

"Maj. Comstock's store was an important centre of business aside from its traffic in merchandise. In the day of which we write there was no bank here, and the only means of exchange was through an agency of a distant bank. The Phoenix Bank, of Hartford, had a branch in Litchfield, and Mr. Comstock was its agent here. Twice a week the stage plying between Norwalk and Litchfield passed through Danbury and took up the money and bills collected by agent Comstock and carried them to Litchfield. The major did a business also in iron-ore. This was received from the mines at Brewster and piled up on the ground in rear of his place. Mr. Hull has frequently found pieces of this ore in excavating on the premises.

"Where now stands the store long occupied by the late Samuel Stebbins stood a shoe-shop, which as early as 1805 was occupied by Col. Ebenezer D. Starr.

"Zalmon Wildman, who lived where now stands the residence of M. H. Griffing, was a prominent man in the history of the town. He was appointed post-master in 1805, and held the office for a period of thirty years, when he resigned the position on being elected to Congress. This election occurred in the spring of 1835. In the winter following he died. Mr. Phillips was Mr. Wildman's deputy, and to him Mr. Wildman gave the income from the office.

"From West to Wooster Streets.—The first building

was a small one, and stood on the corner. Next to it was a store. Both structures stood where is now the garden of Mr. F. S. Wildman. The first was used for various purposes. Early in the century it was used as a comb-shop by Green & Barnum until 1815; after that it was occupied by a party named Leggett for fur-cutting. It also was used as a barber-shop, a school, and a stone-cutting-shop. Subsequently, William Gray used it as a tailor-shop. It now stands on the Danbury and Norwalk Railway line, opposite the freight-depot, where it is occupied as a tenement. The store was built in 1800 by Col. Timothy Taylor, who occupied it. In 1818 it was rented by Amos and Samuel Stebbins, who did business there until 1839, when the building was torn down. Amos died some years before this, and the business was conducted by his brother Samuel. When this place was removed, Mr. Wildman put up the building across the way, where the late Samuel Stebbins did business until his death.

"Next to the store, and where is now the Methodist parsonage, stood the home of Alanson Hamlin. He was a lawyer.

"Between this and where is now Mrs. Amos Stebbins' residence there was no building. It was an open meadow with a pond at the front. In 1830 or thereabout Thomas T. Whittlesey put up two buildings where now stands the Baptist church. One of these was built for a conference-room for the First Congregational Society. In 1838 it was occupied by Benedict & Nichols, who remained there until 1842, when they took the building now occupied by Almon Judd. In 1852 they built on the corner of Liberty Street, which they now own. After they vacated the conference-building it was bought by Judge Homer Peters, who removed it to the foot of Liberty Street, where he now occupies it. The other building was used at one time for the publication of the *Danbury Recorder*. It stood on part of the ground now occupied by the Baptist church, and when it was built the building was moved south, where it still stands.

"*West Side*.—Where the house of Mrs. Amos Stebbins stands stood at the beginning of the century a house occupied by Dr. Daniel Comstock. He was the physician of the village then, and a man of considerable mental attainments. There was an addition to the house in which, from 1812 to 1815 or thereabout, was published a paper by Nathaniel Skinner. In the last-named year he removed his office to Bridgeport.

"The next house was the house of Maj. Ezra Starr, who distinguished himself in the Revolution. It was built on the site of the one burned by Tryon's troops. In 1830 the property came into the possession of Starr Nichols, who moved back the major's house and built the one now owned and occupied by Hon. D. P. Nichols. Maj. Starr had a large family, but none of its members have a residence in Danbury now.

"The next house was occupied by Col. Elias Starr,



and is now the residence of Edward Allen. The colonel was a teacher, and his school (private) was in the next building, now a tenement, and twenty years ago occupied by L. H. Boughton as a shoe-store.

"There was no other building until near the corner of Wooster Street, where stood the 'Academy,' a public school of the higher order. It is now a tenement belonging to St. Peter's parish, and adjoins on the north Vaughn & O'Brien's carriage-factory (the old church). For many years the lamented Irwin taught there, and a number of our gray-haired citizens drank in knowledge at that fountain.

"*East Side.*—The present court-house was built in 1823-24. Its predecessor was a box-shaped affair of two stories, with a little chunked cupola on its roof. The first floor was used for some time as a place of worship for the Universalists and until they built the structure across the way that in later years became the church of St. Peter's parish. In front of the old court-house stood the whipping-post and stocks, and both institutions passed away with the building. The stocks fell into disuse a long time before the whipping-post was abolished. Whippings were frequent in the early days of the century. The punishment was inflicted by justices' decisions as well as by court decrees, although much lighter in the former cases. The whipping was generally done by the deputy sheriff. The late Aaron Seeley and Samuel Wildman as deputy sheriffs, and Levi Starr as constable, presided at the post.

"The principal whipping-day was that which followed the close of the court session. The victims were relieved of their upper clothes in the jail. Then a blanket was placed over their bodies, and they were marched across the street to the post. The prisoner's hands were tied about the post above his head, the blanket removed, and his suspenders let down. Then the sheriff took position with the whip, carefully measuring the distance so the lash would just lay across the back in the stroke and not lap around the side. The number of blows adjudged the culprit, varying from five to twenty-five, were then administered. Blood was rarely drawn by the lash, but the stroke made heavy marks. These were red on the backs of white persons, and white on the persons of negroes. The whipping over, the victim's suspenders were put up, the blanket replaced over his back, and he was taken back to jail. There were cases where the hands were not tied to the post, but simply clasped to it. The whippings were conducted in public, but were not largely attended, there being but few present to witness the performance, and those being mostly young boys and idlers.

"The last known case of whipping in this section was in Brookfield. The victim was a Danbury man. There was a reunion in Brookfield of the veterans of the war of 1812-14, and the attendance from neighboring towns was quite large. The village store, which

sold New England rum as well as other groceries, was doing an immense business. There were two openings in the counter above the money-drawer,—one for silver, and the other for bills. When the money was received it was put through these openings. The Danbury man (whose name it is not necessary to mention) lounged about on the counter, a most innocent-looking party. He had in his possession a bit of stick with tar on the end of it. When the merchant and his assistants ran to the door to look at the doings outside, he would push the stick down into the opening for bills, and by the help of the adhesive tar would draw up one. At night the merchant discovered the loss. The Danbury man who had lounged on the counter was suspected. He was followed to Danbury, arrested, and the money with tar-marks found in his possession. He was taken to Brookfield, confessed his crime, and was publicly and severely whipped.

"*West Side.*—The present handsome jail-building was erected in 1872. Its predecessor was of stone, and was built in 1830. The building before that was a frame structure with barred windows, out of which a modern housebreaker would have made his exit in less than no time.

"There was no building between the jail and the present estate of the late Aaron Seeley. The 'saddle-factory' was not built until 1836. At the time it was put up it was considerable of a building, and its business bade fair to be an extensive industry. It was occupied by Elias S. Sanford and William B. Fry in the manufacture of saddles and harness. The firm had a store in New Orleans. The manufacture was carried on for about four years, when the failure of the firm broke up the business. In 1840, or thereabouts, Stone & Wadhams rented the front of the building for a store, and remained there three or four years. James S. Taylor and his brother Granville did business there after that, and when they left the building became a tenement. Several years ago the greater part of it was destroyed by fire.

"The store on the Seeley estate stood where is now the residence. It was at one time occupied by Amos and Samuel Stebbins.

"Next to that was a tavern built of brick. It is now the residence of Mrs. George Meeker. The tavern was built by Maj. Whiting at the close of the last century. Henry S. Whiting, a son of the builder, kept the tavern until 1816, or thereabouts, when the late Aaron Seeley became its host, and remained in charge some fourteen years. The hotel was a popular resort, and a stopping-place for the stages that ran from New York to Litchfield. In those days its capacious yard and stabling were the scene of much activity. Henry Whiting went to Herkimer, N. Y., from Danbury, engaged there in the tavern business, and died there. There is none of the family in Danbury.

"The house next to the tavern, and now known as

the Bedient place, was, until 1830, occupied by two brothers, Darius and John Starr.

"The next building stood where James Doran now lives. It was occupied by Nathaniel Wood, who was a shoemaker and had a shop in his yard.

"Just north of William H. Clark's residence, and on his property, is a brick dwelling which was built by Fairchild Wildman, who kept a store there for many years, and it was also occupied by Warden Clark and Nelson Crane for this purpose. In 1865 it was converted into a dwelling. On its site stood a building owned by Zachariah Griswold, who occupied it about 1820 for a suspender-manufactory. It was not a successful venture, although Mr. Griswold did quite a business at one time.

"The present residence of Mr. Clark dates back from the last century. At one time in the last decade of the eighteenth century a room in it was used as the office of the village paper, and the building itself was the dwelling of one of the proprietors. Mr. Clark retains a door in which are the nails that held the various prints which it was once customary to tack on the printing-office door. For many years the place belonged to Hiram Barnes, the famous stage-man, and from its gates his four-in-hands have gallantly trotted, to the great delight of the village youth.

"The house now occupied by Charles H. Hoyt was long the residence of Everett Ames, grandfather of Mrs. Hoyt. At the beginning of the century it was occupied by Joshua Benedict, who was a saddle-manufacturer and made saddles in the building.

"His neighbor on the south, and in the house now occupied by Charles Bigelow, was Dr. Daniel M. Carrington. Mr. Carrington had an addition to his residence in which he dispensed drugs, and which business gave him the title of 'Doctor.' Dr. Carrington was a prominent citizen, and was several times sent to the Legislature.

"In the time of which we write Town Hill Avenue had but three houses. It was not an avenue then, but simply a lane, running around from Liberty Street, as it does now, and connecting with South Street. It was then commonly known as 'Niggers' Lane,' although the hill itself bore its present name. Why it was called *Town Hill* we do not know. Perhaps because there was no town on it, nor any likely to be.

"One of the three houses was owned and occupied by Agur Hoyt, father-in-law of the venerable Amos Morris. He lived on the east side of the street, where I. W. Stillman's house now stands.

"There was a low-browed house which stood across the way. It was occupied by Aunt Liz Henry. Aunt Liz was an aged maiden, of decrepit form, popularly supposed to be a witch, although no more direct evidence of this than mere surmise hatched from the brain of the superstitious was ever laid at her dingy door. Her house stood where Lawrence Smith now

lives, and a part of it is, we believe, incorporated in his building.

"Near to where Turner Street now intersects Town Hill Avenue stood a building occupied by a negro named Peter Stockbridge. It is remarkable what a great matter a little fire kindleth. As near as we can get at it, the disagreeable name of the lane came from this single family of colored people. Peter was a prolific man, and he had a large family of interesting children. He was commonly known among the people of that day as Peter Goathead.

"There were no more buildings until the foot of Liberty Street was reached. There, where is now Railway Avenue, stood the extensive tannery of Starr & Sanford. Of both of these men we have already spoken. The business of the tanner, like that of the fuller, has concentrated at prominent centres since that day. Then tanneries and fulling-shops were distributed throughout the land, Danbury having several of each. The Starr & Sanford tannery, with its vats and bark-buildings, extended almost to where is now the railway-track.

"The only dwelling on Liberty Street then was occupied by Mrs. Betsey Starr, widow of Col. Ebenezer Dibble Starr, who was a shoemaker. He died in 1816. It stood where is now Burr Rockwell's place.

#### WEST STREET.

"*North Side.*—The first house was the dwelling of Elijah Gregory, where L. S. Benedict now lives. He was a blacksmith, and had his shop in one corner of the yard. Mr. Gregory was a somewhat prominent man, and was sent to the Legislature. The house was a large frame building. It now stands on George Street, where it has become a tenement.

"The next house was that in which John Fry lived, and where now stands Dr. W. H. Rider's residence. He was a hat-manufacturer, and had his shop on the premises. Prior to his occupancy Benedict Gregory owned the premises. This was in 1812. In 1827, Fry, Gregory & Co. occupied the shop. After this Mr. Gregory went to Dayton, Ohio, where he died. Ohio, and especially Dayton, called away a number of people from Danbury in the first years of the present century.

"Next came the place of Ezra Gregory, grandfather of Mr. L. P. Hoyt. He lived where C. H. Reed now does, and had a small tannery in the rear of his house. He was a shoemaker.

"Next to him was the home of Uncle Mathew Gregory, now occupied by the family of the late Ephraim Gregory; he was a farmer. Between the two places is now New Street. This street was opened mainly through the exertions of Thomas T. Whittlesey, and it was named after him, but the name was subsequently changed by a borough-meeting.

"Nathan Gregory lived where is now the large double house owned by Mrs. Charles Benedict. He was a fuller of cloth, and the buildings used for



fulling stood on the premises. The manufacture of cloth in those days was strictly a domestic industry. The wool or flax (linen) was bought of the stores. The housewife spun it into threads on her spinning-wheels. It was then woven into cloth, and after that taken to the fuller, who dressed and colored it. The process was something similar to the making of rag carpets in a later day. There are fine linen sheets preserved in Danbury to-day which were made from the flax seventy years ago.

"Rev. Israel Ward owned the place now occupied by Uncle Ira Dibble. He was the pastor of the First Congregational Church, and lies buried in the Wooster cemetery. He died in 1812. After his death the house passed into the possession of Samuel Dibble, the father of the present occupant. He was a miller, and his first mill was on Main Street. His second and last mill stood where is now White's fur-factory, on Beaver Street. Mr. Dibble was 'always noted for taking honest toll.' In those days people got their flour principally from the mills, buying or raising the grain and giving a portion of it to the miller for grinding. Rye-flour was the staple, although corn-meal was considerably used. Benjamin Knapp, who figured as a caterer to several of Tryon's officers, was remarkably fond of Indian meal, and it was said of him that a pudding of that meal graced his dinner-table every day in the year. Wheat was not a common grain then, and its flour was used principally for pie-crust and the finer grades of pastry.

"The remaining house on that side of the street was occupied by Caleb Starr, grandfather of Charles F. Starr and Mrs. F. S. Wildman. His house stands at the junction of Harmony Street with West. He was a farmer, and owned a great deal of land.

"*South Side.*—Col. Taylor, merchant, lived where now stands the residence of Mr. F. S. Wildman. It was a story-and-a-half house, of double pattern, and had a long sloping roof, although the roof did not run so near the ground as was common in the houses of that day. Subsequently the house passed into the possession of Seymour Wildman, uncle of Frederick. The latter tore it down in 1842, and built his present place. Before this the old house was occupied by several families. Judge Reuben Booth lived there at one time, and Miss Eunice Seeley kept a school there for young women. She subsequently moved to Rochester, where she died. There was no other house until that of Andrew Beers was reached. He lived where Charles Hull does now. Mr. Beers was a delver in astronomy and a prominent cultivator of weather. For several years he prepared an acceptable almanac, which had a circulation throughout the United States. Andrew Beers (Philom) was a familiar address to many families. His almanac was the origin of the 'Middlebrooks.' A remark attributed to him and in general currency seventy years ago was the information that 'grass wouldn't start to grow until thunder shook the earth.'

"Mr. Beers lies buried in the old Episcopal church-yard, in South Street. There is the following inscription on his headstone:

"In Memory of  
Andrew Beers, Esq.,  
Born in Newtown,  
August 10, 1749,  
Died in Danbury,  
Sept. 20, 1824,  
75 years, 1 month.

Life and the grave  
Two different lessons give:  
Life teaches how to die,  
Death how to live.'

"The next house was that of Joseph Benedict, who was a tailor. His house stood where now S. A. Barnum lives. It was moved back on George Street, where it still stands.

"Next came the dwelling of Joseph Hoyt Gregory, where Allen McDonald now lives. Mr. Gregory was a hatter, and had his factory by his house. He moved to Indiana in 1830, and there died.

"Farther on, and where now stands L. Wildman's place, lived Abial Phillips. Samuel Dibble lived there before he bought the Ward place. The house was removed years ago. Division Street was then an open road containing no dwellings.

"The last house on West Street stands there now, close to the pond. Sixty years ago it was occupied by Ezra Boughton; it now belongs to Mr. A. M. White. Mr. Boughton was a dresser of cloth, and had his works by his home.

"The house owned and occupied by William H. Clark was once owned by Stiles Nichols, and the paper printed in the building was the *Republican Farmer*, which at one time was published by Mr. Nichols.

"David Wood owned the house now occupied by George B. Benjamin, Jr. Sixty years ago it was a tavern under his management. He subsequently kept the tavern where now stands the Turner House.

"Next to his place were the dwelling and hat-factory of Ezra Wildman. The house is now occupied by Berlin St. John. The hat-shop is a tenement.

"Next was the dwelling of Miss Ann Bennett.

"Following it came the residence of Eliakim Peck, father of S. S. Peck. It still stands. Mr. Peck was a blacksmith, and his shop stood on the corner where is now the old Episcopal church tenement. He was a strong Episcopalian, a man of marked hospitable traits, and his shop and home were the resort of people fond of entertainment and given to discussion. In those days there were no fires in churches, and the worshipers in the Episcopal church (then on South Street) used to go to Mr. Peck's home Sundays, between service, to get warm."

#### MAIN STREET.

"*East Side.*—The first building on the south of the court-house was the dwelling of Jesse Skellinger. He had a carriage-shop next to it. The place was

subsequently occupied by John Rider, father of George E. Rider. The carriage-factory is gone. The residence is at present occupied by Dr. S. G. Griffin.

"Next to it was a small building owned and occupied as a silversmith-shop by John S. Blackman, father of F. S. Blackman. The building, in an enlarged form, is still used for this purpose, and is conducted by the son. The senior's wares were of the genuine metal, without doubt, and many of the spoons he sold sixty years ago with his name upon them are now in the possession of the older families. His dwelling is now the property and home of Fred Tweedy.

"Next came the residence of Matthew B. Whittlesey, father of E. B. Whittlesey, and the site is now occupied by him. Mr. Whittlesey was a lawyer.

"The present dwelling of George Bates, which comes next, was the property of E. S. Sanford, the tanner, who had a shoe-shop there.

"Next came a dwelling, whose occupant's name we do not know. It still stands.

"Capt. John Rider lived where now George St. John resides.

"Samuel Wildman and Fairchild, his son, lived in the house occupied by Samuel C. Wildman, son of the latter.

"The store and dwelling of John Dodd came next. It is now the property of Mrs. Edwin Taylor and Mrs. William H. Rider.

"Following this was the house of Epaphras W. Bull, a promising young lawyer, who went to Ohio in 1810, to grow up with the great West, and shortly after died there of a fever. The house was later owned by Curtis Clark, and is now owned by Mr. Murphy.

"Capt. James Clark owned a small dwelling next south, which is at present the property of Patrick Burke.

"Following this was the residence of Philo Calhoun, father of the president of the Fourth National Bank in New York City.

"Next came the McLean place, a Revolutionary house, which still stands.

"On the corner of South Street, in the yard of the house occupied by the late Charles Rider, stood, fifty or more years ago, a store kept by a man named Griswold. It was burned down, and was not rebuilt."

#### SOUTH STREET.

"*South Side.*—The most prominent house on the street then, because in full view of Main Street, was the residence of Daniel Taylor at the beginning of the century. Mr. Taylor was a hatter. The house was a relic of the Revolution. It is now occupied by Myron Clark, and has changed but little in the past century.

"Going south, the dwelling of Eliakim Benedict, farmer, came next. It still stands.

"Third was a small dwelling, which is at present occupied by Reuben Tompkins.

"Following was another small dwelling, the name of whose occupant we do not know. It belongs to the estate of E. S. Griffin, and adjoining was the home of E. S. Griffin, who recently died at an advanced age.

"West of Samuel Brunker's place was the dwelling of Comfort Hoyt, who was a farmer.

"Beyond that was meadow-land until where is now the home of Mrs. A. N. Sharp. Then stood the residence of Walter Dibble, farmer.

"On the corner of the street leading to Stephen Bates' place and Coalpit Hill road stood a house occupied by Thomas Flynn, which was torn down.

"Next came the home of Harry Taylor, which stood a short distance east of the house occupied by his grandson, Charles Taylor. Mr. Taylor was a farmer.

"His next neighbor was Lemuel Taylor and next to him was Joel Stone, who did not appear to have any particular occupation, but at one time carried the mail between Danbury and New Haven.

"*North Side, going west.*—Capt. Ezra Dibble lived where is now the residence of Stephen Bates. He was grandfather to Miss Mary Bull. He was a large farmer, and owned nearly all the land in that neighborhood. He was noted for his generous help of the needy.

"There was no other house until the place of Amos Hoyt was reached. He was a tanner and shoemaker and a deacon. The widow of his grandson, E. C. Hoyt, now occupies the place.

"The present home of Ira. Morse was then occupied by Capt. Peter Starr, grandfather of Mrs. Morse. He was a blacksmith and a prominent citizen of that day.

"East of Capt. Starr's place was the residence (since removed) of Daniel Frost.

"The old Dibble house came next. It was built before the Revolution, and became famous in local history as the house where Wooster died.

"Next came the home of Wm. Chapel. He was a cabinet-maker, and carried on a small business. His place is now the property of Mrs. Roff.

"No other building occupied the interval between his place and the old Episcopal church which stood in the west end of the present graveyard, which was its churchyard. The South Centre District school stood close by, as at present.

"Deer Hill Avenue was a lane then. It was not one-half the width it is now, and the most travel was done by farm-teams and cattle. The only house in its entire length was occupied by Munson Gregory. It stood where E. A. Housman now lives, and was torn down some years ago. Rev. William Andrews lived here during his pastorate of the First Church.

"Wooster Street was not considered a street, but a road. It had no house until that of Eli Jarvis was reached. It still stands, and is owned by George E. Rider. Nearly opposite lived Eli Wildman, a farmer. The place is now owned by Wilson Small.



"Lovers' Lane contained one house,—a small one. It stood near to where is now Beach Wilson's place. Lovers' Lane was a popular name for this road many years ago, and everybody in Danbury knew of it. As late as twenty years ago a good part of it was shaded by overhanging branches. It is not now a walk for the sentimental, and perhaps not more than half of our citizens know where it is.

"The house now owned by Mrs. B. Crofut, on the Mountainville Road, was in that day occupied by Benj. Griffin.

"There were but three houses on White Street. White Street runs through a section called Barren Plain. It took this title from its sandy soil, which was not fit to cultivate. The bridge over the Still River, although generally known as the White Street Bridge, is yet called by many, especially older citizens, 'Bar'n Plain Bridge.'

"There were no dwellings on the north side of the street, unless we count the place of Mr. Knapp, corner of Main Street. On the south side the first house was a small dwelling, owned by Abel B. Gregory, who was a farmer. It is now occupied by Michael Ziegler, and stands on the corner of Canal Street.

"Next came the large house of Noah Knapp, son of Benjamin Knapp. It is supposed to have been built on the close of the war, if not before it. Noah was a farmer. The place is now the property of Joseph Bell.

"There was no other dwelling on the road until where is now Nursery Avenue. A large dwelling, the property of Zalmon Wildman, father of Frederick S., stood there."

#### ELM STREET.

"At the east end of this street, on the north side, the first house was the dwelling of Zelotes Robinson. He was a butcher, and began the peddling business with a wheelbarrow. He was among the first peddlers of meat in Danbury. Alvin Hurd also lived there. He was a hat-manufacturer. The house stood where is now Darius Stevens' place. Mr. Hurd's factory stood on the river, where Conductor A. Pulling lives.

"On the corner of River Street was the next house. It was occupied by Dorastus Green, a laborer.

"On the south side there were but two buildings. One of them was the dwelling of Rory Starr, father of George Starr, the present occupant. The other was his shop, and is now Daniel Starr's box-shop. Mr. Starr was a builder, and a very extensive one, too. He did most of the building in those days, when houses with their gable-end to the street began to make their appearance here. Many of our older substantial residences were constructed by Mr. Starr, the most conspicuous being the residence of Mr. F. S. Wildman, which we believe was the last he put up. Mr. Starr was elected to the Legislature, serving in both the House and the Senate. He was a Methodist, and an active member of the local church.

"That portion of Elm Street which runs over Rabbit Hill contained but four houses. These were small, and it is not known who occupied them. Two of them were tenements, belonging to Col. Russel White. One of them is now occupied by John and Charles Meeder. Another stood where F. McCready lives, and the other is G. S. Disbrow's.

"In one of these houses lived a man who was noted in the village as shiftless and improvident. He was a wagoner by profession, but scarcely by practice. His wife was entirely opposite in nature. She was both industrious and frugal, and, like such people, had an ambition. Hers was to have a home of her own, or a homestead, as she termed it. Her want was frequently, if not daily, presented to her husband. Finally, becoming impatient with her demand, he told her one day,—

"My dear, I would get you a homestead in a minute if I had anywhere to put it."

"This covered the subject completely, and the poor woman never again put in her petition for a homestead.

"Rabbit Hill was thus called because its gravel pits and clumps of brush were the home of that animal.

"Gallows Hill is the mass of rock at the head of the street, near the pond."

#### RIVER STREET.

"The classical name of River Street, in the early days of the town's history, was Pumpkin Ground. The hill which skirts its west side was in spots devoted to the culture of that plain-looking but excellent vegetable.

"River Street was a mere lane, and ran to the east of its present location. Dorastus Green's house, which stood on the corner of Elm, had a well within eight feet of the front door. The present roadway now covers the well. Rabbit Hill was so steep in that day that a half-cord of wood was about all a team could haul up it. Mr. Green's house sat perched upon a high bank. The street was opened by Col. Russel White for the convenience of his factory business. A good part of the hill on the west side belonged to Rory Starr. The house now occupied by the venerable widow of Monmouth Lyon stood there then.

"Richard Lovelace, who was a miller, lived opposite S. C. Holly & Co.'s factory. The house still stands.

"Next to him lived Wm. Earle. His place also remains.

"There were but two more houses, both of them opposite E. S. Davis' factory. One of them was occupied by Jonathan Leggett, a fur-cutter. The other was the dwelling of Sergt. Joseph Moore. Both yet remain.

"At the farther end of the street, near White's factories, lived Anthony Buxton."

## BEAVER STREET.

"There were but two houses on this street (which is popularly known as Rose Hill). One of these was occupied by Ephraim Benedict, and is now owned by his granddaughter, Mrs. E. Polley.

"Lower down the hill lived Samuel Curtis. His house has been gone for years. He was for a long time sexton of the First Church, and was known to the young and old of his day as simply 'Sam.'"

## NORTH STREET.

"There were but two houses on North Street seventy years ago. One of these stood where now lives Mrs. Patience Stratton. It was the property of Ezra Barnum, a farmer. The second house was a small building, since removed, which stood on Mrs. Benedict's lot.

"At a later day, fifty years ago or thereabouts, there was a hat-factory on the street. It stood near the bridge, on the north side."

## FRANKLIN STREET.

"There was but one house on the north side of this now pretty well built-up street. This was the dwelling of Stephen Gregory, and is now occupied by Harris L. Crofut.

"On the south side the first house was that now owned by Mrs. Betsy Rosebaum, on the corner of Rose Street. In the rear stood the Methodist meeting-house of that day.

"George Lovelace lived next, where George W. Wilson now lives.

"The third and last house on that side was occupied by Darius Barnum. It stood nearly opposite Mr. E. S. Davis' place."

## CHAPTER XIX.

## DANBURY (Continued).

Internal Improvements—Canal from Danbury to Westport—The Fairfield Railroad Company—New York to Albany *via* Danbury—Interesting Figures—The Danbury and Norwalk Railroad—The Ridgefield Branch—Miscellaneous.

"As the town grew and its business grew the demand for a better means of transportation began to make itself felt. There are in every age and in every community, fortunately, progressive spirits who are always restless, because they are always looking for something better than what is already possessed. Danbury was blessed with this element, and those who composed it chafed under the limitations of the stage-coach and the slow-plodding road-wagons.

"In 1825, when the Erie Canal project was being agitated, the public attention throughout the country was directed to the subject of inside water-communication, and the agitation reached Danbury, being drawn here by the progressive spirits of that day. It was proposed to run a canal from Danbury to the tide-

water. The point on the Sound was Westport. A survey was even made, the line following near to that of the present railroad as far down as Redding, where it crossed over to the Saugatuck Valley and thence to Westport. It was proposed to use Neversink Pond as a feeder to the canal. The levels taken showed Main Street at the Wooster House to be three hundred and seventy-five feet above tide-water, and Neversink to be twenty feet above Main Street. Much was said and done about the canal project, but it was finally deemed to be inexpedient because of the heavy locking that would be necessary, and was abandoned.

"The next project under consideration was a railroad. This agitation began in 1835,—the same year of the survey of the Hartford and New Haven road,—and in that year the charter was obtained from the Legislature. The charter was granted to 'Ira Gregory, Russell Hoyt, Eli T. Hoyt, Edgar S. Tweedy, David M. Benedict, Ephraim Gregory, Curtis Clark, Frederick S. Wildman, Elias S. Sanford, George W. Ives, with such other persons as shall associate with them for that purpose.' These were to be incorporated as 'The Fairfield County Railroad Company,' with a capital stock amounting to two hundred thousand dollars, or three hundred thousand dollars if necessary, and the following-named were authorized to receive subscriptions: Russell Hoyt, Jarvis Brush, Aaron Seeley, Ephraim Gregory, Starr Nichols, George Clapp, Starr Ferry, Isaac H. Seeley, Nathaniel H. Wildman, William J. Street, and Henry Sherwood. The road was authorized to run from Danbury by the most direct and feasible route to some suitable point at tide-water in either the town of Fairfield or the town of Norwalk.

"This was all down on paper and looked nice enough, but the trouble had not begun. The charter was got and a survey made, and everything seemed to indicate a speedy completion of the road. But a generation was to pass before the hopeful projectors should see a railroad from Danbury to tide-water, and before that glad consummation a mountain of worry, opposition, and discouragement was to be painfully scaled. As in the case of all enterprises benefiting a community, a few only of its professed friends were left to do the work, while the mass either stood idle or suggested obstacles with a fertility of resource that was as amazing as it was exasperating. Conspicuous among the workers for the project were Eli T. Hoyt and the late Aaron Seeley.

"The road as it was first contemplated and as it finally took shape were two different projects. Most of our readers are not aware that in Danbury's first inception of railway communication with the outer world the somewhat colossal project of a through-line from New York to Albany by way of this place was entertained, and that the Danbury and Norwalk Railway is to-day part of that scheme, and all, in fact, that is left of it. The proposed route was to run from New York by boat to Wilson's Point, on the Sound,



four miles below Norwalk. The harbor there was the best in that section, and would be accessible for the greater part of the most severe winter. From the Point to Danbury the rail was to run, and thence to West Stockbridge, Mass., where the line would connect with what is now the Boston and Albany road, and which was then building from Albany to West Stockbridge. This, of course, was before the day of the Harlem road and in the beginning of railway enterprise in this country,—at a time when railways were mainly opposed on the very substantial grounds that cattle would get on the tracks and be killed.

"We shall speak first of the line from Danbury to tide-water, known in the charter as 'The Fairfield County Railroad.' The survey was made by Alexander Twining, of New Haven, in the summer of 1835.

"Two surveys were made,—one along the Saugatuck River to Compo Point below Westport, and the other along the present route to Belden's Neck (Wilson's Point). The distance on the Saugatuck route was about twenty-three miles, and on the Norwalk route to Belden's Neck it was twenty-six miles. In point of distance to New York, however, the latter route had the advantage in that it was seven miles nearer to that city by the channel than the former. It is not necessary to speak further of the Saugatuck route, as it was abandoned.

"The Norwalk survey, as first made by Mr. Twining, was considerably changed before the work on the road commenced. At this end of the route it was first designed to leave Bethel out, running the road through Mountainville along the line of Simpaug Brook, and coming into the borough across South Street and parallel with Main on the east to Turner Street, where it was designed to have the station. Mr. Twining recommended, however, that, instead of following the Simpaug, the road branch to the east and run through Grassy Plain into Bethel, and thus secure an important station with but a little increase in distance. The suggestion was accepted so far as Bethel was concerned, but the route at the south end of the village was not materially changed. Some one did speak of the line which is now occupied, but it was scouted at the time. The great flat between the lower bridge and Bethel was a bog, and some very wise citizen said at the time that two twelve-foot rails could be pushed down into it their full length without touching bottom. The route along the east of Main Street was strongly opposed by the owners of seventeen homesteads, who gloomily anticipated destruction to their cows and pigs by crossing the track. Mr. Twining hinted that the difficulty in building the road at Hubbell's Hill could be avoided by following the Norwalk valley into its extension Sugar Hollow and thus come into Danbury on the west side; but this was not further considered.

"While these surveys were going on the friends of the project had their heads full of a through New York and Albany line, and, although their charter

provided for a road from Danbury direct to tide-water only, they dreamed of the through-line and worked for it. It was, to speak mildly, a stupendous enterprise for a town of less than six thousand inhabitants to take hold of and attempt to carry through, for as yet there was no organized effort in this direction outside of Danbury. But the progressive ones of that day worked hard for success, and earned it even if they did not receive it."

#### FROM NEW YORK TO ALBANY VIA DANBURY.

"As we have said, during the project of a road from Danbury to tide-water the projectors never lost sight of the feasibility of a through winter route from New York to Albany. This was a crying demand in both cities, and the Hudson River for a railway-line was not thought of; neither, in fact, was the route through Putnam County, now known as the Harlem road. And a railway-line between the two cities by way of Danbury was not so much out of the way, after all.

"The distance by the Hudson River, the most direct route, is one hundred and fifty miles; by way of Danbury it is but fourteen miles greater, as the following will show:

	Miles.
From New York by steamboat to Belden's Neck.....	40
By railway to Danbury .....	26
From Danbury to West Stockbridge.....	68
From West Stockbridge to Albany.....	30
Whole distance.....	164

"Mr. Twining recommended this through-route, and Messrs. Aaron Seeley, Eli T. Hoyt, and Jarvis Brush, to whom the surveyor made his report, published a card indorsing the same.

"It may not be uninteresting to our readers of this day to know what were some of the grounds on which was based a calculation in favor of a railway-line from Danbury to New York, and we herewith give the views of the gentlemen above named, as well as their estimate of the through-business. It presents most interesting reading, we think, to this generation, and the figures contemplated and those realized make entertaining comparisons. The committee advance these views in favor of direct rail-communication with tide-water:

"The town of Danbury\* contains a population of about 6000, and the village of Danbury is the central point of business for a fertile and densely-populated territory of 200 square miles. The present amount of transportation from this and the adjoining towns, as ascertained by inquiry of persons engaged in business, is 7000 tons. This amount has actually been transported during the past year. Much, however, has been necessarily overlooked in the estimate, and the amount has been for the last ten years, and is now, gradually increasing. These considerations alone, without taking into the estimate the impulse which experience has shown will be given by a railroad to all branches of business, enable us to state with confidence that the transportation upon this road, upon its first opening, will be 10,000 tons. The regular price now paid for freight to those exclusively engaged in transportation from Danbury to Saugatuck and Norwalk is \$5 per ton. Assuming the minimum price for transportation upon the railroad to be \$3 per ton, the annual revenue from this source alone will be \$30,000, to which may be added for freight from the towns south of Danbury, which will probably be nearly equal upon either route, \$2000,—making in the whole \$32,000, and the difference between that amount and the price now paid, being \$20,000, will be

\* This included Bethel.—EDITOR NEWS.

a clear gain to the public. The present number of passengers from New York to Danbury, as ascertained by a reference to the books of the proprietors of the stage-lines and other sources, is 10,000. The price of passage now paid, and which it is not proposed to diminish, is one dollar. The number of passengers from the intermediate towns we estimate 1000 more, for which there is now paid from fifty to seventy-five cents; estimating the fare at the average price of sixty-two and a half cents, the amount is \$625,—making the amount of revenue to be derived from passengers, \$10,625. These estimates are based upon the facts as they now exist; but when we take into consideration the increased amount of transportation and travel to be created by the increased facilities for communication, it may safely be assumed that the income from all sources of revenue will be greatly increased. For instance, we have stated that the present annual number of passengers from Danbury to New York is 10,000. This includes very few from the towns east of Danbury, and none from the southern portions of Litchfield County and the eastern part of the counties of Dutchess and Putnam, in the State of New York. But the proposed road would undoubtedly draw to itself all the travel from the entire region, which, it is not unreasonable to suppose, would increase the number of passengers to 20,000,—thus yielding from passengers alone an income of \$20,000 per annum. A rapid extension of business along the whole line of the road, and throughout the portion of country within the sphere of its influence, may also be confidently anticipated. In the instance of heavy articles also the increased amount of transportation will, in our judgment, far exceed the estimate here made. We refer especially to the articles of coal and plaster, the former of which is now used in the interior to a very limited extent, but would, upon the opening of the proposed road, be extensively substituted for wood. In relation to the annual expenditures, the experience of other roads enables us to present an estimate upon which we may safely rely. The annual expense of repairs may be put at \$2500. The cost of transporting freight to the amount with which this road will commence will not exceed thirty-five cents per ton. One trip and one return-trip per day will be sufficient to accommodate all the passengers with which the road will open, which, at \$7.50 per trip, for 313 days, makes for the year \$4695. The salaries of the officers in the employ of the company may be set down at \$3000 per annum, the expense for drivers and keeping horses,\* for freight-wagons, etc., exclusive of passenger-cars, \$3500, making in the aggregate, for all expenses of the company, \$13,695.

“We present the following recapitulation :

Income from freight .....	\$32,000
Income from transportation of passengers .....	20,000
	<hr/>
Deduct annual expenses of repairs, etc.....	\$52,000
	13,695
Net annual profit.....	\$38,305

Thus yielding a dividend of nearly ten per cent. to the stockholders.\*

“Of the route through to Albany the committee further say :

“There is, however, another and more enlarged view which we take of this subject. The road, according to the original design of its projectors, ends at Danbury, and the company, by their charter, are authorized to construct it to that place only. But in the course of their inquiries, the undersigned have become convinced that *this road is in the line of the very nearest practicable route for a railway between the cities of New York and Albany*, and that by extending it northward through the valley of the Housatonic to West Stockbridge,—a distance of sixty-eight miles only,—and intersecting at that place the railroad from Albany to West Stockbridge, already commenced, the great object, so long desired, of effecting an open winter-communication between the commercial and political capitals of the Empire State will be accomplished. With a view to this object, Mr. Twining, the engineer by whom our road was surveyed, has examined the country between the northern termination of the Fairfield County Railroad and the proposed point of intersection with the Albany and West Stockbridge Railway. The result of his examination will be found in his report.

“Actual surveys have demonstrated that a railroad between the two cities must, for a portion of the distance, pass through the valley of the Housatonic. And it has never been proposed, nor is it indeed possible, to enter the valley with such road at any point farther north than at or near Canaan Falls, forty-four miles north of Danbury. It is immaterial, however, at what point any other practicable route enters that valley, because it being true that it must be brought thus far east proves that

in regard to distance no other route ever can possess any material advantage over the present.

“That the business of this portion of country which the extended road would intersect will afford an ample remuneration to the stockholders there can be no reasonable doubt. Of its value as a channel of intercourse between New York and Albany no estimate has been or can be made. When we look at the immense numbers daily passing between the two cities, and reflect that this number, great as it now is, is daily augmenting by the increase of population and wealth throughout the country and by the opening of new lines of communication to an indefinite extent at the north and west, we are admonished that its value cannot be calculated, and that all attempts to make an estimate must fail.”

“There are some figures in the report of Mr. Twining’s survey from Danbury to tide-water which are of full as much interest to us of to-day as they were to those who watched the progress of the scheme. It must be borne in mind that this was not a steam-railway, but really a horse-railway. In that day locomotives were in but little use in this country, and nothing, comparatively, was known of them in New England. Mr. Twining’s estimate for the grading of the road was \$7869 a mile, or \$203,389 for the entire distance.

“In his estimate for the superstructure—that is, the track—is an item, ‘Horse-path,’ which was to cost \$123 a mile. The horse-path was to be of plank. The following is his estimate for the appointments of the road :

Six carriages for passengers.....	\$4,500
Fifteen wagons for burdens.....	5,250
Thirty horses.....	3,000
Harness .....	600
Two depots, with carriage-houses and stables.....	8,000
One half-way station, with ditto .....	2,750
Total.....	<hr/> \$24,100

“It will be seen by the above that passenger-cars could then be bought for \$750 apiece, and freight-cars were in the market at \$350 each.

“It was proposed to make two trips a day each way. The cars were to be drawn by horses, two to each car. The time required to make the trip was estimated to be three hours. As to how the freight-wagons were to run, or how many to a train, was not determined on, as the road was but then in its inception, and before matters progressed to any degree locomotives came into use.

“While these estimates were being made the ‘through-line’ was worked at. Mr. Twining and the originators of the road were firmly convinced that the line would pay and that it was a necessity. There was no rail-route between New York and Albany, and in the winter, when navigation was closed in the river, there was no communication between the two cities except by stage. The Danbury people sought to stir up enthusiasm at points along the proposed route.

“In December, 1835, a public meeting was held in Kent, the next town above New Milford. It was a large meeting. Delegates were present from all towns along the proposed line from Danbury to West Stockbridge. A proposed charter (granted the following year) had been drafted, giving to the company char-

\* It was designed to run the road by horse-power.



tered the right to construct a road to Bridgeport, or to the New York State line in the town of Ridgefield, or to Danbury. The Kent meeting determined on the route to Danbury, and appointed Aaron Seeley, Peter Pierce, and Jay Shears a committee to employ an engineer and have a survey made and an estimate of cost prepared.

"In March following the committee secured the services of E. H. Brodhead, an experienced civil engineer, to make the survey. He entered upon his duties as soon as possible, and was accompanied along the course by Mr. Seeley, of the committee.

"Twenty-one days were employed in this work. Not only the line proposed, but several diverging routes, at the suggestion of citizens living off the line, were looked after. The line was carried, also, south of Danbury to the New York State line in Ridgefield, at the place of E. Bouton, a distance of about eleven miles from here. The line in Danbury began at the Main Street Bridge across Still River, and Mr. Brodhead's survey ran it through Beaver Brook District, thence along the line of the Still River to its confluence with the Ousatonic (Housatonic) at New Milford. From there it followed pretty much the line now occupied by the Housatonic road to West Stockbridge, where was met the railway known as the Boston and Albany.

"The route from Danbury to the New York State line followed the course of the Still River, passed through Miry Brook District and entered the Sugar Hollow. The ascent through the Hollow was, according to Mr. Brodhead, thirty-five feet to the mile. At Sugar Hollow Pond the line diverged to Bennett's Ponds, and thence passed through Titicus to the neighborhood of South Salem. This route was not, however, an important item in the consideration of the road. The main thing was to get the line to Danbury through the Ousatonic Valley, where it would connect with the Fairfield County road, to tide-water. The line from Ridgefield to West Stockbridge was eighty-one miles; from Danbury to West Stockbridge, seventy miles. Mr. Brodhead estimated the entire cost of the road, the longer distance, to be \$1,247,509.

"These figures exceeded the expectation of the committee, but did not dampen their ardor. They made up their report and presented it to the convention, and with it a circular which was to go before capitalists who were looking for investments.

"The circular assumed that, viewed in connection with manufactures, the unusual water-power, and the cheapness of the land thereto, the Ousatonic route was to be preferred to any other route, especially one nearer to the Hudson River (this referred to the Harlem and Albany scheme). But the committee, wishing to make no uncomplimentary comparison, simply say that, feeling confident that while the counties of Putnam and Westchester undoubtedly surpass the Ousatonic Valley as an agricultural country, yet they feel confident it is manufactories that must give busi-

ness to a railway and profit to the stockholders, and so, without comparing this route with the one farther west, they invite capitalists to examine for themselves.

"The committee were very much in earnest, even to the extent of using italics. 'Should the capitalists of the cities of Albany and New York prefer the western route,' say the committee, 'we appeal to the people of the Ousatonic Valley to come forward in all their strength, and, relying upon their own resources, to construct a road to tide-water.'

"The people of the valley eventually came forward in all their strength and constructed a road to tide-water, but not as the committee expected, and certainly not as they desired.

"Messrs. Hoyt and Seeley attended a big railroad meeting in Albany just previous to the Kent meeting. They went there to present the Ousatonic Valley route, and to learn what could be learned of the condition of the railroad pulse. Hi Barnes drove them there in a carriage. While in Albany a heavy snow-storm fell, and made it impossible for them to get back as they went. Mr. Barnes was equal to the emergency, however, and very soon succeeded in trading off his carriage for a sleigh, by which the return-trip was made. At any gathering of railway sympathizers which presented an opportunity to ventilate their favorite scheme these two men might be found.

"While these movements were being made, Bridgeport, which was not thought of by any one as a railroad point, began to realize that there was danger of losing something. The something in question was all the business of the Housatonic Valley.

"When Bridgeport got on high ground where it could look off some other direction than seaward, it saw that by way of Danbury and Norwalk was so much more direct for a line to New York than by way of itself that should the road be built there would never be the ghost of a chance for it to get the business of the upper Housatonic Valley. It would all go the shorter route.

"Danbury as yet had no road to tide-water. If Bridgeport could build a road from New Milford to itself, then it would stand a very good chance to take the business of the Housatonic Valley should a road be put through it. Alfred M. Bishop, father of William D. Bishop, was considerably interested in the proposed road, and came to Danbury to talk over the matter with our people. He offered to carry through the Fairfield County railway if Danbury would raise one hundred thousand dollars for that purpose. There were those in favor of doing it, of course; but there were so many more opposed to it that the scheme fell through. He next tried Bridgeport, and that city, being a trifle more awake than we, or a trifle less honest,\* we are not sure which, pledged two hundred

\* When the time came for this money to be paid Bridgeport sought to repudiate, and the law was called in to force it to keep its word, which appeared to be equally as good as its bond.

thousand dollars for a road from there to New Milford.

"This practically killed the Danbury route from New York to Albany. In 1840 the railway from Bridgeport to New Milford was completed and opened for use. Two years later it was extended to the State line, and became the winter-route from Albany to New York, *via* the steamer 'Nimrod,' Capt. Brooks, to Bridgeport, and as such was occupied for a number of years. It was ten years later before the Danbury and Norwalk road took form.

"The reader remembers, perhaps, that there were two objective points at tide-water,—one at Westport and the other below South Norwalk. This end of the line was rampant for the road, but there was not so much interest taken below. It was desirable to get one hundred thousand dollars from the other end, and our railway committee made several journeys with that object in view. Westport wanted the road, but its anxiety was not a hundred thousand dollars' worth. Norwalk felt the same. Year after year passed away in this state of affairs, and then Norwalk people awoke up to the full importance of the line, and the money was subscribed.

"Work on the road was begun in the fall of 1850. Beard, Church & Co. were the contractors, Deacon John F. Beard being the senior of the firm. The total cost of constructing and equipping the road was three hundred and seventy thousand eight hundred and twenty-one dollars. The equipment consisted of three locomotives, four first-class and two second-class passenger-cars, eight box-, sixteen platform-, and three hand-cars. On the 1st of March the road was so far completed as to run trains. The station in Danbury was a subject of considerable discussion. The down-town subscribers wanted it in that neighborhood, while the up-town subscribers wanted it where it now is. As the latter's stock was much more than the former's, they carried the day; whereupon the dissatisfaction was so great among the disappointed that the successful ones took their stock off their hands.

"We of this day, enjoying the completed line, little realize what the founders endured and had to contend against to get the road through. There was trouble in securing the right of way, in the construction, and in the payment of the subscriptions. One notable case in the last-named class is worthy of mention. Down at Belden's Neck lived a New York merchant, and in Norwalk village lived another. The former we will call W., and the latter S. S. subscribed five thousand dollars. W. was then seen, and was told what S. had done. He said S. could take twenty thousand dollars' worth of stock just as well as not, and, if he did so, he, W., would guarantee him six per cent. from the earnings of the road, providing S. would let him vote on his stock. W. then took five thousand dollars' worth. S. was seen, and told what W. had said. Upon that he made his sub-

scription twenty thousand dollars. When the money was called for the eager W. refused to pay, and suit was brought by the company to force him to keep his word. W. claimed that the directors had violated the terms of agreement in several particulars, and believed he could annul the subscription; but he failed, and the company recovered.

"The following were the officers of the new road, as recorded in the first printed report of the company:

"Directors, Eli T. Hoyt, Jonathan Camp, Frederick S. Wildman, Charles Isaacs, E. S. Tweedy, Wm. C. Street, L. P. Hoyt, Wm. K. James, Wm. A. White, Ebenezer Hill, Frederick Belden, D. P. Nichols.

"President, E. T. Hoyt; Treasurer, Geo. W. Ives; Secretary, E. S. Tweedy; Superintendent, Harvey Smith.

"The president, treasurer, and secretary were of Danbury; the superintendent was of Ridgefield.

"Mr. Hoyt served as president of the company until Aug. 25, 1864, when he was superseded. He determined his salary, fixing it at two hundred and fifty dollars a year, and refusing any increase. Edwin Lockwood, of Norwalk, was chosen president, and served until June 18, 1873, when R. P. Flower, the present incumbent, was elected.

"Mr. Tweedy continued as secretary until Aug. 25, 1864, when Harvey Williams was elected to the office. Mr. Ives served as treasurer until that period when the two offices were merged in one, Mr. Williams being both secretary and treasurer, and continues as such at this writing.

"Mr. Smith served as superintendent until prostrated by a paralytic stroke in 1859. John W. Bacon was appointed in his place July 14, 1859, and served until Jan. 1, 1876, when L. W. Sandiforth, the present incumbent, was chosen.

"When the road was opened the rails for some distance this side of Redding were laid on the ground, the earth being frozen so hard as to bear the weight of the train. This was done because the completion had been delayed for a considerable time beyond that set for its finish, and people were anxious to see a train go through.

"The first conductor was Henry Banks, who died some years ago. He was a man of marked suavity of manner and speech. Many anecdotes are told of him illustrating this pleasant quality. On leaving Norwalk he would observe, 'Those who are about to proceed on the train will please take their seats.' Now-a-days it's 'All 'board!'

"When coming to Norwalk station it was his custom to notify the passengers of the fact by impressively remarking, as if in the presence of some great mechanism, 'The train will presently reach Norwalk Bridge.' After leaving Bethel he would explain, 'We are now approaching the village of Danbury, which is the terminus of the road.'

"The citizens of Winnipauk were very much



offended by his pronunciation of their station, which he unfortunately called *Winnepauk*.

"In 1844 the New York and Hartford road was projected. It was to pass through Danbury and thence to New York *via* White Plains, N. Y. We can now see what a splendid piece of property it would have become had it lived. But it fell through, and a goodly portion of the contemplated line between here and Hartford is now occupied by the survey of the New York and New England Railway.

"The committee appointed to secure the survey of the road made an estimate of the business in the circular to the public which they issued. Our readers remember it. These figures, made in 1835, are interesting compared with what the road did the first year after it was finished, 1852-53. The circular estimated its first year's business in freight to be \$32,000. The passenger-traffic the circular fixed at \$10,625, making a total of \$42,625. The first report of the business of the road showed that the earnings for the first fifteen months of its existence were \$51,237.70. So the authors of the circular had made a remarkably close estimate. The second report covered a period of eleven months, in which the earnings were \$52,706.68. The through-fare was seventy-five cents.

"It is not often a new road so fully answers the expectation of its projectors as did the Danbury and Norwalk road. The directors, in the report referred to above, say,—

"The result of the experience of the company since the commencement of the operations upon the road has been fully to corroborate the opinion uniformly expressed by the directors, that the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad will prove a successful and profitable enterprise, and the favorable increase of the past year demonstrates that, but for the disastrous floods and the unusual expenditures rendered necessary thereby, the net earnings for the year would have warranted two dividends of three per cent. each, paid interest and taxes, and left a surplus of \$3348."

"The floods referred to were three in number. These occurred in the fall of 1853 and the spring of 1854. They were disastrous in effect, delaying travel for sixteen days, and causing an expense of four thousand dollars for temporary repairs, and nine thousand dollars in addition for a thorough reconstruction of the damaged portions.\*

"*Ridgefield Branch*.—In 1870 a branch road from Branchville to Ridgefield Village was built, with a view to accommodating the business of that place. Heretofore the connection had been made by stage. The distance is four miles.

"In 1872 another branch was built, running from Bethel to Hawleyville, to connect with the Shepaug Railway, which runs from Litchfield to Hawleyville. This was done to control the business of the Shepaug valley. The length of the branch is six miles. The cost of both these extensions was at the rate of forty thousand dollars a mile.

"The business of the road increased from year to

year, and the careful management that signalized its course made it one of the soundest corporations in the State."

## CHAPTER XX.

### DANBURY (Continued).

#### ECCLIASTICAL HISTORY.†

The First Baptist Church—The Second Baptist Church—Mill Plain Baptist Church—The Methodist Episcopal Church—The First Congregational Church—The West Street Church—St. James' Episcopal Church—The First Universalist Church—The Sandemanian Society—The Catholic Church—The Disciples of Christ Church—The German Methodist Church.

#### THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

THE following sketch of this church is taken from the minutes of the first session of the Fairfield County Baptist Association, in October, 1838:

"The First Baptist Church in Danbury was constituted Nov. 16, 1785, with thirteen members,—seven males, six females. There were formerly two branches connected with this church,—one in New Milford, the present New Milford Church; the other in Fredericksburg, N. Y., the present Patterson Church. In 1790 the church had about one hundred and twenty members; from 1815 to 1830 its average number was from fifty to sixty; but after this period a division threatened the destruction of the church. In July, 1837, there were only twenty-two members,—five males, seventeen females. Their present pastor was ordained with them Nov. 15, 1837. Since that time there has been added twenty-six. Their prospects are now very encouraging: whole number, forty-eight. They have licensed three to preach the gospel,—Noah Sherwood, now in Western New York; Nathan Benedict, now in Northern Connecticut; John Mitchell, now in Michigan. They have had five pastors,—Brother Ferris, ordained in 1788; Brother Norton, ordained in May, 1789; Brother Wadhams, ordained in February, 1791; Brother Bulkly, ordained in May, 1800; and their present pastor, Brother Lucius Atwater."

The following additional history of this church was furnished by Rev. S. G. Silliman:

"The following is a list of the members of the church in September, 1798: Matthew Wilkes, David Pearse, Benjamin Bearss, William Rundle, Joseph Hamilton, Jr., Oliver Knapp, Joseph Bearss, Nathaniel Barnum, Israel Stevens, Matthew Wilkes, Jr., Gabriel Barnum, Benjamin Bearss, Jr., Joshua Pearse, John Bebee, James Knapp, Jr. Their first moderator, September, 1798, was Israel Stevens, and clerk James Knapp, Jr. That is the first meeting of which any record can be found.

"June 26, 1842, it was 'Voted, that we pull down the old meeting-house for the purpose of erecting a new meeting-house, and work in as much of the old one as is thought proper.'"

According to old minutes of Associations, "Brother Ferris was ordained in 1788," and "Elder *Enoch Ferris*" was present from that church in 1791; "Brother Norton was ordained 1789;" "Elder Nathanael Norton" was present at the Danbury Association in 1791. But I judge that neither of them was pastor, for their

\* The camp-meeting grounds at Brookside Park, in Redding, are owned by this company.

† This chapter, excepting the history of the First Baptist Church and the German Methodist Church, is taken from the columns of the *Danbury Republican*, through the courtesy of its editor, Mr. F. W. Bartram.

names are preceded in the minutes of the Association that year by the name of "Elder Nathanael Finch." Rev. Nathan Bulkly was ordained in 1800, and was pastor till 1830; Rev. John Mitchel was pastor in 1831; Rev. Lucius Atwater, in 1838, and till 1847; Rev. Fred L. Barlow, in 1851; Rev. Henry M. Barlow, in 1852; Rev. D. F. Chapman, in 1875 and 1876. The remainder of the time since 1847 they have had occasional supplies, or unordained men have occupied the pulpit. Alanson A. Hoyt is church clerk; George W. Wilkes is society's clerk. There are now thirty members,—ten males, twenty females.

In 1790 there were present, as messengers from the First Baptist Church of Danbury, Elder Nathanael Finch, Elder Nathaniel Norton, Elder Enoch Ferris, in the above order, and in 1790 none of them were present, and as "Deacon David Pearse" is the only officer among the delegates of that year, they were doubtless then without a pastor.

In 1790 reported one hundred and twenty-five members, and in 1791 they report only fifty-two members and no pastor.

#### SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH.

Just after the conclusion of the treaty of peace which terminated the war of the Revolution, on Nov. 18, 1785, the first Baptist church within the limits of the town of Danbury was constituted in the district of King Street. For years this church was prosperous, new members from time to time being added. The mother-church still maintains its visibility, and, though reduced in membership, is still struggling to strengthen the things which remain.

There were residing at this time, in the western part of the town—Miry Brook District—a number of persons who were attached to this faith. Among these were Peter Ambler, Bracey Knapp, and Benjamin Shove. Meetings were occasionally held, before a church was organized, in the dwellings of some of the members of the faith. Revival influences converted many who have long since departed this life.

About the year 1788 a church was organized under the name of the Ridgefield and Miry Brook Baptist Church. The Second Baptist Church of Danbury was constituted from this, April 3, 1790. Soon after, it was admitted into the Hartford Baptist Association. The number of constituent members was about twenty.

The first regular pastor was Rev. Thaddeus Bronson, who continued from the organization until 1793, when he removed to Schoharie Co., N. Y. The first deacons were Benjamin Shove and Daniel Wildman, who were appointed Oct. 2, 1790. In March, 1793, Calvin Peck was added to the number.

The first meeting-house was erected in 1794, on a lot presented to the society by Bracey Knapp, and was situated in Miry Brook District, about two miles and a half west of Danbury. The building was twenty-four feet square, with galleries. Its architec-

ture and interior arrangements were of the most primitive style. It had no steeple, and no permanent seats inside. Loose boards made a floor. The gallery had no railing or stairs, and was reached by means of a ladder. The seats below were boards resting on logs and stones. The pulpit was made of oak boards, and was elevated two steps above the main floor. People came to the church on foot or horseback, with the exception of an occasional ox-cart.

Rev. Mr. Bronson relinquished the pastorate of the church in 1793, after which, during five years, they were probably without a pastor. Among those who ministered to the church during this period were Revs. Daniel Wildman, Justus Hull, and Elias Lee. The King Street pastors; Revs. Finch and Bulkly, were also accustomed to visit and encourage the new interest.

The name of Rev. Justus Hull deserves special mention. He was then a young man of unusual mental vigor and ministerial gift. He dispensed the Word with great power, and his service was long kept in fresh remembrance.

When, subsequently, the college-bred preachers came among them, the old people felt, in some instances no doubt without reason, that while the college and seminary had given polish and stronger grasp of truth, their graduates had lost the freshness and convincing energy of their predecessors. When a precise young man read an elaborate discourse to them the remark used to be made, "Brother Hull would take off his coat and beat that."

In the year 1798, Rev. Bennett Pepper, then a licentiate, came to Miry Brook. He preached from that time until November, 1807, without ordination, at which time he was ordained to the gospel ministry, and continued his services to the church. On the occasion of the ordination Rev. Nathan Bulkly was designated to give the charge, Rev. Jacob St. John to make the ordaining prayer, Rev. Daniel Wildman to preach the sermon, and Rev. Ezra Fountain to make the concluding prayer. The churches of Franklin, Carmel, North Salem, Bedford, Milton, First Danbury, Newtown, and Bristol were represented in the council.

About the year 1803 the church was called to pass through a season of trial and darkness, growing out of an attempt to modify the accepted articles of faith. The original articles, bearing date of Jan. 24, 1795, as to their subject-matter and form of statement, are not different in any essential particular from those now received by the church. The records do not show the name of the mover of the proposed change. The new articles proposed were, however, rejected. They asserted that Christians should be unlike the world even in "politeness of behavior," forgetting that the very term "gentleman" owed its origin to Christianity. They contained erroneous doctrines in the statement, "We believe that civil government is by providence and permission, and not of divine origin or appoint-



ment, and that we find neither precept nor example for the disciple voluntarily filling office in earthly states." It reflects credit upon the little church that they recorded their faith in the refining influences of our holy religion, and in the truth that "the powers that be are ordained of God," by rejecting these innovating articles and adhering to their original standards of faith and practice.

In the early part of Mr. Pepper's ministry there were large accessions to the church. This period is the first revival season succeeding the outpouring of the Spirit in which the church had its origin.

Shortly preceding the ordination in 1807 some improvements were made in the meeting-house. The side walls were plastered, a railing and stair made for the gallery, and the floors were nailed down. A better pulpit was also constructed, and new seats were introduced with backs to them.

Mr. Pepper's pastorate closed in 1809. At one period during his connection with the church his conduct was considered unbecoming. But on the whole his ministry was a success. One difficulty arose during this time on account of the course taken by Eli Gregory, who had been made a deacon in 1806. Deacon Gregory was opposed to a distinctive ministerial order, who should appropriate all the time allotted to the service of the sanctuary on the Lord's day. He claimed that God, having called different gifts into the Church, they should have expression, without regard to, or rather ignoring, any other pastor or teacher. He asserted in addition that any male member of the church might with propriety be appointed to administer the ordinances in the absence of a settled minister. He objected to the payment of a salary to a minister, claiming that the support of those who labored in behalf of the church would be contributed by free-will offerings of the members. These opinions were disapproved of by a majority, and, Deacon Gregory still tenaciously adhering to them, a council of churches was called, which council convened June 3, 1807. The council did not coincide with Deacon Gregory's views, and passed resolutions not acceptable to him. They were accepted by the church, and he was excluded.

The resignation of Mr. Pepper was followed by another period of destitution, the church depending on supplies for about four years, until May, 1813, when Rev. Oliver Tuttle, a licentiate from Bristol, Conn., was called to the pastorate. His ordination took place in May, 1814.

Towards the end of the year 1815 "a reformation broke out in the community." It marks the second revival season of the history of the church. Deep seriousness pervaded the hearts of many who were out of Christ, which issued in a transformation of heart and life.

Mr. Tuttle's ministry extended over a period of nine years, from 1813 to 1822. In August of the latter year he resigned his charge and removed to

Meredith, N. Y. During his pastorate Deacon Peter Barnum was baptized into the fellowship of the church. He, with Deacon Benjamin Ambler, was baptized the same date, July 28, 1816.

Timothy Weed and Thomas Wildman were elected deacons Dec. 13, 1816. George Benedict was baptized by Mr. Tuttle, Sept. 21, 1817. Some statistics of the membership of the church at this date may be of interest. From the minutes of the Union Baptist Association, which convened at Danbury in 1817, it appears that the membership of the church was then seventy-eight. In 1818 it was seventy. In 1820 there was a marked decrease, the reported number being fifty-six.

George Benedict was licensed to preach the gospel on the 12th of May, 1822. In August of the following year he was ordained as pastor of the church. His eminent gifts in prayer, exhortation, and Christian conversation are testified to by a cloud of witnesses in this and other churches which enjoyed his ministrations. Mr. Benedict resigned the pastoral charge of the church in May, 1831, to accept a call from the church then worshipping at the corner of North and Forsyth Streets, New York, now known as the Stanton Street Baptist Church.

The labors of Mr. Benedict were very successful in New York. Nearly twelve hundred persons were baptized by him, and nearly as many funerals were attended, during his ministry in the city, extending from 1831 to Oct. 28, 1848, at which time he passed away in the calm triumphs of faith. The scripture employed by Rev. Dr. Cone upon the occasion of his funeral was an epitome of his character and life: "He was a good man and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith; and much people were added to the Lord."

Dec. 7, 1823, Peter Barnum was elected deacon of the church. The membership had increased from fifty-six, reported in 1820, to one hundred.

During Mr. Benedict's ministry, Aug. 31, 1823, Edward C. Ambler was baptized. On the same day John Jennings and James St. John received the ordinance. Mr. Ambler subsequently entered the ministry, and was ordained at New Milford, Conn., Oct. 1, 1840. He has since served the following churches as pastor: New Milford, Conn.; Fishkill, Patterson, and Pleasant Valley, N. Y.; Mount Bethel, Millington, Westville, Woodstown, and Columbus, N. J. He was appointed chaplain of the Sixty-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers during the first year of the Rebellion, and filled the position with great efficiency until compelled to resign from the effects of imprisonment and exposure. His services on the field during the war, and those of his wife in the hospital, deserve the grateful remembrance of all. Mr. Ambler, after the war, was for a time pastor of the Baptist church at Stanford, N. Y., but afterwards returned to Danbury, and has since supplied the pulpits of the King Street and Mill Plain churches.

Rev. John Jennings, who was received into mem-

bership at the same time with Mr. Ambler, was licensed to preach June 17, 1826, and was ordained at Beverly, Mass., which was his first regular pastorate. He was subsequently settled at Grafton, Worcester, and Fitchburg, Mass. He left the latter place and served the American Tract Society for some years. Afterwards he became pastor of the Baptist church in Westfield, Mass., and there continued until his death, which occurred some five years ago.

During the latter part of Mr. Benedict's ministry the subject of the removal of the location of the meeting-house was discussed, the second generation feeling that a more central location should be chosen, reasoning that the church must follow the people, and the Word of Life be dispensed where the streams of population have their confluence. These ideas prevailed, and in the year 1829 the foundations of a new house were laid on Deer Hill. A lot sixty by forty feet was donated to the society by Peter Ambler. A neat and convenient building, with gallery, steeple, and bell, was erected, and was dedicated Sept. 28, 1831, the Rev. Thomas Larcomb preaching the dedicatory sermon. In July of the following year Mr. Larcomb was called to the pastorate. A general revival was prevailing in the church at the time, and eleven converts were baptized the first Sabbath of the month following his settlement. Mr. Larcomb resigned the pastoral charge in the early part of the year 1833. He removed to Saugerties, N. Y., and from thence to Philadelphia, where for a number of years he continued his usefulness. He has entered upon his rest.

Rev. Robert Turnbull, a native of Scotland, succeeded Mr. Larcomb in Danbury. He was a graduate of the University of Glasgow. He arrived in New York in 1833, and soon after accepted the call of this church. At the end of one year and a half he accepted a call from the Home Mission Society to occupy a field in Detroit, Mich. About thirty members were added under Mr. Turnbull's ministry. Nehemiah Gillett and Benjamin Ambler were appointed deacons Jan. 25, 1834.

The next regular pastor was Rev. Orson Spencer, who entered upon his charge in May, 1835. His resignation followed after a few months' service. After leaving Danbury he became a convert to Mormonism.

After the resignation of Mr. Spencer the church had no pastor until April, 1836, when Rev. Jonathan G. Collom accepted their call. He continued with the church three years. During the second year of his pastorate over seventy persons were converted, among them being Starr Hoyt. Mr. Hoyt died Sept. 18, 1849.

During Mr. Collom's ministry Rev. Nathaniel Colvin visited Danbury for the purpose of pleading in behalf of the brethren of different color who were in bonds. Mr. Colvin was one of those champions of the slave who argued that a peace which rested on injustice to millions of his fellow-creatures ought to be disturbed. Danbury was largely concerned in the

Southern hat trade, and Mr. Colvin's lectures evoked open opposition, and in one instance mob violence was the result. An attack was made upon the church during service, and stones were freely thrown, windows broken, and Mr. Colvin narrowly escaped personal injury. He lived to see slavery overthrown, and to preach to hundreds of freedmen. He gave theological instructions to a large number of colored ministers in a building formerly used as a slave-pen, and which has since been occupied by a theological school named in his honor,—Colvin Institute. Mr. Collom resigned during the fourth year of his pastorate, and entered upon the charge of the Baptist church at Pemberton, N. J. From thence he removed to Wilmington, and again to Mount Holly, N. J., where he died.

The Rev. Addison Parker was Mr. Collom's successor. He accepted the call of the church in August, 1839, and continued three years in the pastoral office. During this time the church enjoyed a good degree of prosperity. The resignation of Mr. Parker was accepted with great reluctance by the church.

The Rev. Daniel H. Gilbert was next called to the pastoral charge, and entered upon it in June, 1842. After a few months' service he was compelled to relinquish it on account of an attack of bleeding at the lungs. He sought a Southern climate, which, however, proved insufficient to arrest the work of death.

Mr. Gilbert was young and gifted, and his brief ministry was not without results.

In the following September the Rev. William R. Webb accepted a call. His ministry covered one year and a half, and was marked by eminent tokens of divine favor.

After the resignation of Mr. Webb, Rev. Rufus K. Bellamy was called to the pastoral charge. He was then ministering at Rondout, N. Y., and signified his acceptance of the call May 9, 1844. His gifts both as pastor and preacher were peculiarly acceptable. During his ministry the question of a removal of the church from Deer Hill was agitated. There seemed a necessity for more room, especially for the accommodation of the Sabbath-school and Conference meetings. Arrangements were at first made to add to the old building. It was, however, decided to purchase the present site and build a larger edifice.

April 19, 1847, negotiations were made with Thos. T. Whittlesey to purchase the present site, being lots south of his dwelling, for \$1800. The Deer Hill property, excepting the burying-ground, was sold for \$2500. The present building was erected at an expense of \$6836. The subscriptions and property of the church amounted to \$4505, leaving at the completion of the building a debt of \$2351. The building committee were Thomas Ambler, William Montgomery, Levi S. Benedict, Charles Hull, Samuel G. Raymond, and Joseph L. Ambler.

The new edifice was dedicated Jan. 5, 1848, with



the following order of exercises: Reading of Scriptures, by the pastor, Rev. Rufus K. Bellamy; Prayer, by Rev. Wm. Reid; Sermon, by Rev. John Dowling, D.D.; Concluding Prayer, by Rev. Wm. Dennison. In the following April Mr. Bellamy tendered his resignation and accepted a call from the Baptist Church at Chicopee, Mass., and has remained there since.

The retrospect from this point is in the highest degree encouraging. Times of trial and discouragement followed, but the period, taken as a whole, was one of steady and substantial progress. The Sabbath-school grew to a permanent and vigorous condition.

The Rev. Aaron Perkins accepted the call of the church while ministering at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and entered upon his duties in May, 1848. Many were added to the membership of the church during his connection with it. His resignation was accepted March 7, 1852.

The Mill Plain Baptist Church was constituted during Mr. Perkins' pastorate. A meeting was held in the Danbury church, Sept. 11, 1851, to consider the matter, and it was voted expedient for the brethren residing in Mill Plain and vicinity to call a council for the purpose of organizing a church at that place. At a subsequent meeting nineteen persons were granted letters to form the new interest, which was duly recognized, under the name of the "Baptist Church of Mill Plain," by a council which convened Sept. 24, 1851.

Deacon Thomas Wildman died during Mr. Perkins' pastorate. His death occurred Feb. 28, 1852. Nathan Seeley and Eli Barnum were elected deacons Aug. 4, 1849.

The Rev. W. S. Clapp next received the suffrages of the church in a unanimous call to the pastorate, extended April 11, 1852, and which was accepted on the 16th, he then being ministering to the Mount Olivet Baptist Church, New York City. He occupied, during the more than five years which he stayed in Danbury, a place in the affections of the church and community which it is the lot of but few pastors to obtain. A great revival occurred during his ministration, and Mr. Clapp gave the right hand of fellowship to the largest number ever received at one time since the church was organized. He resigned Aug. 9, 1857.

The next successor to the pastoral office was the Rev. Henry K. Green, who was called Oct. 3, 1857, and soon afterwards commenced his ministry. He resigned in February, 1850.

G. M. Hoyt was elected deacon Feb. 6, 1850. March 4, 1860, Henry Crofut and L. S. Benedict were elected deacons. The latter, however, never served the church in that capacity.

From the time Mr. Green resigned until August the church was without a settled pastor. During the interval Mrs. Anna Moore died, her death occurring in May, 1859. She was baptized at Suffield, in this

State. For many years she was the only one in the village of Danbury professing this faith. Both the churches in the town—one at King Street and the other at Miry Brook—were remote from her. She frequently walked to King Street church on Sunday. She died highly esteemed.

After Mr. Green's resignation the church was supplied for several weeks by Rev. O. W. Briggs, who afterwards declined a call to the pastorate. Rev. M. S. Riddell also received and declined a similar invitation. In the autumn of 1859, Rev. Geo. M. Stone, then at Madison University, spent four months with the church as a supply. At the expiration of that time he received a unanimous call to assume the duties of the pastorate. It was declined at the time, but in 1860 a renewed invitation was accepted. He entered upon his duties in August, and was ordained on the 19th of September, Rev. Mr. Turnbull, of Hartford, preaching the sermon. He married Miss Abbie B., daughter of Nathan Seeley, in April, 1861. His pastorate embraced a period of unusual interest, including the four years of conflict for the restoration of the Union. The record of the church during this period was one of honor. Elliott Taylor, Charles Osborn, and Col. Henry Stone died in the service of their country while members of the church. Others served honorably and returned. A daily morning prayer-meeting was held for months during the darkest period of the struggle, in the Conference-room of the church. The summer of 1862 was spent by the pastor in Europe. June, 1862, Jabez Amsbury and John Green were elected deacons. The seven years embraced by his pastorate were signalized by displays of divine grace.

In the summer of 1860 extensive repairs and changes were made in the church edifice. The building was lengthened, the side galleries were taken away, and the interior walls frescoed. In July, 1866, through the efforts of a few of the brethren, a beautiful organ was given to the church. The Sabbath-school was sustained with an interest and enthusiasm which increased every year.

The removals by death during Mr. Stone's pastorate included many of the most worthy and efficient members of the church. From August, 1860, to August, 1866, the number of deaths was thirty-six. Deacon Ambler died April 16, 1867. His wife survived him but a few days.

In August, 1866, Mr. Stone was attacked with bleeding of the lungs. He partially resumed his duties after a little rest, but was compelled in the following spring to request a respite for the summer.

While spending the summer in Minnesota he became convinced of the desirableness of spending some time in that climate, and in July, 1867, tendered his final resignation, which was reluctantly accepted. Mr. Stone gained the love of the entire community. His removal to the West was attended with beneficial results to his health. He was settled for two years at

Winona, Minn., three years at Milwaukee, Wis., and seven years at Tarrytown, N. Y. He is now pastor of the Asylum Avenue Church, Hartford. For a period of fifteen months following his resignation the church was without a pastor.

Minor R. Deming became a member in March, 1861, and afterwards became pastor of the Baptist Church in Marlboro', Mass. June 16, 1868, Victor W. Benedict was licensed by the church to preach, and has since preached for the King Street and Mill Plain churches, and is now pastor of the church at Croton Falls, N. Y.

At a covenant-meeting held Oct. 1, 1868, it was unanimously voted to extend a call to Rev. A. C. Hubbard, then pastor of the First Baptist Church of Cincinnati, Ohio. The invitation was accepted, and he entered upon his labors Nov. 15, 1868.

The pastorate of Rev. A. C. Hubbard has been one of great success. From the time he took charge of the church up to the present the membership has steadily increased, the financial affairs have been managed with ability, and all things have, in the main, been prosperous. Mr. Hubbard is a born minister. He has the talent for conducting the work; he has ability, learning, and, above all, that quality which attracts and attaches to him all with whom he comes in contact. He is popular outside of his own church, and all people honor him for his upright carriage, his integrity, and his straightforwardness.

The tenth anniversary of his pastorate was celebrated on the 17th of November, 1878. In his sermon that morning he gave a few statistics which will serve for closing the history of the church. The additions to the church during the ten years were 272, of which 179 were by baptism. These numbers may now be given, up to to-day, as about 300 and 200 respectively. There have been dismissed by letter in that ten years at least one-third more than were received by that agency. The smallest number upon the roll in the past eleven and a half years was 398; the largest, 466. The present number is 460.

Of the financial condition of the church Mr. Hubbard spoke in his sermon on the above occasion as follows: When he assumed the pastorate there was a debt upon the church of \$4000. This was afterwards increased by over \$1000 more. This has been cleared off by the most earnest effort. He estimated that at least \$5000 more had been raised and expended on improvements. The average annual current expenses in the ten years was \$2768; the debt and improvements, \$10,000; benevolent operations, including those of the Sunday-school, \$5700, making a grand total of \$43,390.

The Sunday-school of the church has been equally prosperous. The present superintendent, Mr. J. Amsbury, with his able co-workers, have the proud satisfaction of knowing that no school in the village has had a more prosperous time. The records of the school up to 1871 are missing. Since that time they

have been faithfully kept, and they show the largest attendance at one time to have been 327, in 1879; the largest average attendance was, in 1880, 287. The number of scholars on the roll is 475. The collections in the school have aggregated nearly \$3300. The library of the school now numbers six hundred volumes. This has grown from a few books purchased for \$6.35, which money was raised by Rev. E. C. Ambler, who started the first Sunday-school of the church in 1817.

#### MILL PLAIN BAPTIST CHURCH.

The Baptist Church at Mill Plain was constituted during Mr. Perkins' pastorate. Members living in that vicinity had long desired a church at Mill Plain. A meeting was held in the church at Danbury, Sept. 11, 1851, with special reference to the subject. It was then voted expedient for the brethren residing in Mill Plain and vicinity to call a council for the purpose of organizing a church at that place. At a subsequent church-meeting nineteen persons were granted letters to form the new interest, which was duly recognized, under the name of the "Baptist Church of Mill Plain," by a council which convened Sept. 24, 1851.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

In the month of June, 1789, the Rev. Jesse Lee, known as the pioneer of Methodism in New England, visited Danbury. His sojourn was but for a day. He improved his time, however, by preaching two sermons in the court-house. Only a few were willing to hear him, and most of them out of curiosity. He was probably the first Methodist to set foot in Danbury. Subsequently other Methodist itinerants occasionally found their way to the village, usually preaching a sermon in the court-house and then passing on to other fields.

It was not an easy matter for them to find entertainment in Danbury. Dr. Jabez Starr is supposed to have been the first who would allow a Methodist preacher to sit at his table or sleep in his house. Some of the surrounding towns were more willing to open their homes to these men of "strange doctrine," and thither they were obliged to go for food and shelter.

Some time in the year 1808 a society was formed in the centre of the town. Hitherto there had been a "class" in the southwest part of the town, now known as Starr's Plain. This society was organized under the pastoral charge of Rev. Noble W. Thomas and Rev. Jonathan Lyon, whose large circuit embraced this region of country.

During the following year, under the earnest labors of Levi Bronson, a local preacher and class-leader, together with the preachers of the circuit, the little society succeeded in building a small and plain house of worship. The deed of this property locates the church on land bounded as follows: "Northerly by Joseph Robertson and Daniel Scofield, including the



lane running from the highway to the meeting-house; easterly by William Tweedy and Justice Barnum; southerly by said Tweedy; and westerly by Joseph P. Cook, Jr." The "highway" spoken of is now called Franklin Street, and the "lane" is the road leading to the Tweedy factories on Rose Street. Among the trustees of the society were Jabez Starr, Peter Hack, Charles Boughton, Levi Bronson, and Caleb Benedict.

For nearly thirty years the little church on the hill was the centre of Methodism. Some are still living who speak with enthusiasm of the good times enjoyed in the humble house of the days gone by. Those were certainly noble men and women who stood as the representatives of Methodism when she was despised by the masses.

Among those who bore the burden and heat of the day may be mentioned Revs. Rory Starr and John Nickerson, local preachers connected with the church from its early history. By their upright living in the community, by prudence and zeal in the church, they gave character to the denomination they represented.

Many are the pastors who came and went during that period of Danbury Methodism; but the rule of the denomination demanding a change every two years made it impossible for any of them to become identified with the general interests of the town. Their names linger in many households as precious memories.

In the year 1835 a new site was purchased on Liberty Street, and soon the church now owned by the Disciples was erected thereon.

At the Conference of 1836 Danbury Methodism ceased to form a circuit and became a station. Hitherto her ministers had given only a part of their service here, but the Rev. Jacob Shaw was appointed to Danbury with the intent that he should live here and work, and he did this with great success. At the beginning of his pastorate the whole membership numbered one hundred and fifty-eight. At the close of his first year he reported over three hundred.

The revival of 1837, just referred to, was probably the most effective and abiding ever experienced by the society. The current of religious thought and feeling ran deeply; men and women were strangely awakened, and were brought out into a positive religious life. Much of the fruit abides to this day, and many more have gone up higher.

At this time the officers of the church were as follows: Local preachers, John Nickerson and Rory Starr; exhorters, Alvin Hurd, Stephen H. Barnum, John Comes; leaders, George Andrews, William Hill, George Starr; stewards, Wm. T. Scofield, Jonathan Couch, Underhill Nelson, Joel Sanford. Among the trustees were John Nickerson, Rory Starr, Jesse Crofut, Philo Wildman, Underhill Nelson, and Thomas Stocker.

Rory Starr departed from the church militant to the church triumphant on Thursday morning, Feb. 27, 1845. John Nickerson ceased his labors on earth and

entered into rest on the 20th of March, 1848. As was fitting, the records of the church make special mention of these two worthies: "Being dead they yet speak."

The pastors who served the society during its stay in Liberty Street were Rev. Jacob Shaw, two years; Rev. H. Wing, who after a few months sickened and was obliged to resign; Rev. J. Crawford, who supplied the pulpit the remainder of the Conference year; 1840-42, Rev. Sylvester H. Clark; 1842-43, Rev. James Floy; 1844-45, Rev. Fitch Reed; 1846-47, Rev. John Crawford; 1848-49, Rev. Robert Jessup; 1850-51, Rev. John B. Merwin; 1852-53, Rev. W. C. Hoyt.

During the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Hoyt the building now occupied by the society was erected, and the old building sold to the Disciples.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church held Wednesday, April 27, 1853, to act upon proposals for building the new Methodist Episcopal church of Danbury station, there were present Sturges Selleck, Samuel Stebbins, William T. Scofield, Allen McDonald, William W. Stevens, George Hull, Thomas S. Barnum, and James W. Nichols, Joel B. Sanford being absent.

On motion of W. T. Scofield, it was voted that the board accept the proposals of Barnum & Starr for erecting the new church, seventy-four by fifty feet, for nine thousand three hundred dollars, provided the money can be raised to meet the several payments as they become due in said proposals. It was further voted that Samuel Stebbins and George Hull be a building committee, with power to make the contracts with Barnum & Starr, to superintend the erection of said church, and to do any other business to be done by the trustees in relation thereto. It was also voted that Sturges Selleck and Rev. W. C. Hoyt be a committee to circulate the subscription-paper drawn up this day for five thousand dollars. At a subsequent meeting the size of the church was enlarged to seventy-eight by fifty-six feet.

At the opening of the new church the society numbered about three hundred, including probationers. The Sunday-school was in a prosperous condition, under the superintendence of George Starr, consisting of nearly forty officers and teachers and one hundred and fifty scholars.

The pastor, Rev. W. C. Hoyt, in his report to the Quarterly Conference, says, "The numbers gradually increase. The Bible-classes are interesting. The infant class is well sustained. The teachers are generally in their places, and labor faithfully for the good of their scholars. The friends of the school have much to encourage them."

In the spring of 1855 the New York East Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, consisting of nearly two hundred ministers, held its annual session in Danbury. The changed feelings of the people towards the preachers of the denomination was beau-

tifully illustrated by the cheerfulness with which the homes and churches were opened for their entertainment and service. The Conference passed resolutions highly complimentary to the town and the hospitality of its citizens. "What hath God wrought" in behalf of Methodism!

Since the erection of the new building now occupied the following pastors have officiated in the order named: Rev. E. E. Griswold, recently deceased; Rev. George W. Woodruff, a man *sui generis* and successful in his pastorate; Rev. John Miley, now professor in the Drew Theological Seminary; Rev. John Pegg, Jr.; Rev. John Crawford, whose home is with us still; Rev. W. T. Hill, now presiding elder of the New Haven District, who under the extended pastoral term remained three years; Rev. Thomas H. Burch; Rev. W. F. Hatfield, who was removed in the spring of 1873 to White Plains, N. Y. Rev. J. L. Peck succeeded Mr. Hatfield, and remained three years. Rev. P. Pilsbury followed Mr. Peck, and remained one year. The present pastor is the Rev. Spencer H. Bray.

At the last report, rendered in April of this year, the membership numbered six hundred and fifty full members and eighty-five probationers, making a total of seven hundred and thirty-five.

The church was enlarged and improved during the year 1876, and now has very pleasant Sunday-school rooms and a fine auditorium.

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

On Sunday, July 9, 1876, Rev. J. J. Hough, then pastor of this church, preached a historical sermon, from which the following is taken:

"The history of this church stretches back over a period of a hundred and eighty years. For more than three-quarters of a century had the First Church of Danbury been in existence at the time of the American Revolution. Two generations had received instruction and guidance from its pastors, while as yet there was no thought among the colonists of a separate nationality. Could the founders of the church now return, they would find no trace of the work of their hands. Not a familiar house, or even a forest-tree, would greet them. The landscape they might recognize, for the everlasting hills, the valleys, and the streams are unchanged, but everything else would be to them new and surprising. The luxurious homes, the busy factories, the stores, the railroads and telegraphs, the schools, the present temples of worship, the altogether new and changed life of their descendants, the different styles of clothing worn, would all be to them subjects of wonder and surprise.

"In the year 1696—the year of the formation of this church—Danbury had been organized as a town but three years, although its earliest settlement was in 1684, when it was known by the Indian name of Pahquioque, or, as I find it in the old colonial records, Paquiage.

"From the records of a General Court held at Hartford, May 14, 1696, I take the following extract: 'Upon the petition of the towne of Danbury this court granted them liberty to embody themselves into church estate in an orderly way, with the consent of neighbour churches.' Previous to this act of the court a meeting-house had been built, probably on the theory that the logical order was the procurement of a cage before catching a bird. The site of the first meeting-house was on 'the Town street' (now Main Street), a little north of where the court-house now stands. Its dimensions were about those of an ordinary farm barn,—thirty by forty feet. It is recorded that 'every person belonging to the town was present at the raising and sat on the sills at once.' It is supposed that Mr. Seth Shove was ordained pastor at the time the church was organized, in 1696. The court grant quoted above is the only record in existence respecting the origin of the church, not even the number of the original members nor their names being known. 'Robbins' Century Sermon,' preached in 1801, characterizes the first pastor, Mr. Shove, as a 'very pious and worthy man, who was very successful in his exertions for the promotion of peace, virtue, and religion.'

"By a council of the colony authorities assembled at Hartford, Feb. 6, 1707, a time when the French were trying to excite the Indians to hostility against the English, it was 'Resolved, That for the preservation of the frontier towns of Symsbury, Waterbury, Woodbury, and Danbury, order be sent to the inhabitants of those towns to provide with all possible speed a sufficient number of well-fortified houses for the saftie of themselves and families in their respective towns.' In obedience to this order the town put in posture of defense the house of Rev. Mr. Shove, which stood on an eminence near the church, and the house of Mr. Samuel Benedict, at the lower end of the street. The colonial records show that the sum of 'five pounds in country pay' was granted the town of Danbury the following year 'in consideration of the charge of said town in fortifying.' In connection with the defenses provided, obedience to the following order by the council, of the same date, may have contributed to the 'safetie' of the people: 'Resolved, That these towns do every of them maintain a good scout out every day of two faithful and trusty men to observe the motions of the enemy.'

"Mr. Shove's pastorate was terminated by his death, Oct. 3, 1735. The inscription upon his tombstone is: 'Here lyes buried ye body of Rev. Mr. Seth Shove, ye pious and faithful pastor of ye church in Danbury 39 years, who died Oct. 3d, Anno Domini, 1735, ætatis sue 68.'

"The church records were consumed when the town was burned by the British in 1777, consequently there are no writings to acquaint us with this early period in the history of the church; but we may infer an increase of population and the growth of the church



under Mr. Shove's ministry from the fact that the first meeting-house gave place to a larger structure in 1719. Its dimensions were thirty-five by fifty feet. It occupied the same site as the building it replaced. The continued growth of the town and of the church is further indicated by the enlargement of this new meeting-house in 1745, during the ministry of Mr. White, fifteen feet being added to the front, making its dimensions thirty-five by sixty-five feet.

"March 10, 1736, five and one-half months after Mr. Shove's death, Mr. Ebenezer White was ordained pastor. In Robbins' sermon this commendatory statement appears: 'Universal harmony prevailed between the people and their minister for twenty-five years. The people of the town were considered by all the neighboring towns as eminent for morality and religion, for regularity of conduct and constant attentions on the institutions of charity.'

"During the pastorate of Mr. White, the Fairfield East Association, in session in Danbury, July, 1745, licensed as a preacher of the gospel David Brainard, who was then under censure of Yale College, having been expelled for saying of Tutor Whittlesey, 'that he had no more of the grace of God in him than that chair.' (As Tutor Whittlesey was afterwards pastor of the Centre Church, New Haven, it is to be hoped that Brainard was mistaken in his harsh utterance.) The Association justified itself for its action in a lengthy document; but if this were needed, a better vindication was the very useful work done by Brainard in his ministry. In a short career of five and one-half years he gained renown as a missionary apostle to the Indians. He died in 1747 at Northampton, in the family of President Edwards, by whom shortly afterwards his biography was written.

"After preaching acceptably to the church for twenty-five years, Mr. White changed his theological views, adopting substantially the Sandemanian belief. He was complained of to the Association in 1763, 'as holding and teaching false doctrine, and presented to the council of the Consociation for trial.' The council met at Danbury Aug. 1, 1763. The church (a majority of whom sustained Mr. White) objected to the authority of the council on the ground that it was a Congregational Church, and not amenable to any outside body. The objection was not allowed; from which we may infer that councils in those days (at least in Connecticut) were something more than 'advisory.' After a five days' session the result reached was 'that Mr. White should have a three months' probation to see if he would not preach to the acceptance of his hearers.' He did not, however, give satisfaction, and on Jan. 3, 1764, a joint council of both the Fairfield Consociations met to consider his case. Mr. White, with a majority of the church, denied the jurisdiction of the council and renounced the platform; but the council went forward and found him guilty of heresy, and put him on probation again until the last Tuesday in March. At that time the

council met again and dismissed him from his pastorate under censure. The majority of the church still adhering to Mr. White, the council recognized the minority as constituting the First Consociated Church in Danbury, and left the seceding majority to themselves. At the solicitation of Mr. White the council convened again the following September to state upon what terms he could be relieved from censure. The terms given were declined by Mr. White, and he was never restored to fellowship.

"The seceding party, declaring themselves independent of Consociation, formed a new church organization, which received the name of the 'New Danbury Church.' Retaining Mr. White as pastor, they built a meeting-house in 1768, which nine years later was burned by the British. The church was greatly weakened by the loss of their meeting-house and by defections to the Sandemanians, among which was that of Rev. Ebenezer Russell White (son of Rev. Ebenezer White), who in 1768 had become colleague pastor with his father. In 1779, Rev. Ebenezer White died, and shortly thereafter the 'New Danbury Church' became extinct.

"The name White has been a prominent and honored name in Danbury for the last century, the line of Rev. Ebenezer White's descendants having been continuous to the present, and finding its representatives in Danbury to-day in the families of Mr. William R. White, Mr. Philo White, and Col. Nelson L. White.

"This church, weakened by the secession of a majority of its members, did not secure another pastor after the dismissal of Mr. White until two years had elapsed. In February, 1765, Mr. Noadiah Warner was ordained pastor, but his pastorate was brief and much interrupted by efforts that were made to secure the return of the seceders, he on two occasions consenting to relinquish his pulpit for several months that candidates might be listened to by both parties, it being understood that if a man was found upon whom all could unite Mr. Warner would resign in his favor. Variances about pecuniary matters and a lack of the spirit of concession thwarted these efforts, but they disturbed the relations of Mr. Warner to the church to the extent that he sought a dismissal at the expiration of the third year of his pastorate.

"From the *society* records, which date back to 1755, it appears that on April 3, 1769, a call to the pastorate was given by the church and society to 'the worthy Jeremiah Day,' who had for a few weeks supplied the pulpit, but, the vote of the society standing twenty-eight opposed to the call to forty-seven in favor, and the vote to give him a yearly salary of seventy-five pounds, with a settlement of one hundred and fifty pounds standing forty-six in favor, opposed forty-three, he did not accept. Doubtless this result seemed disappointing at the time, but Providence was not altogether unkind, as by his brief connection with the church he gained for himself a wife, he being

married the following year to Miss Lucy Wood, one of the young-lady members of the church.

"In the summer of 1770, Mr. Ebenezer Baldwin accepted a call to the church. The earliest records of the church in existence begin with the minutes of the council that convened for his settlement, Sept. 19, 1770. The sermon upon the occasion was preached by President Daggett, of Yale College. The brief statement of Robbins' sermon respecting Mr. Baldwin is that 'he officiated with great reputation to the ministry till a sudden death terminated his labors, Oct. 15, 1776,—a man of great talents and learning' (he was the second scholar of his class in college), 'a constant student, grave in his manners, a constant and able supporter of the sound doctrines of the gospel.' (After the defection of Mr. White, *soundness in the faith* would beyond question be the first qualification demanded in a pastor.) During his ministry of six years there were added to the full communion of the church fifty-four. Ten were admitted to the half-way covenant.

"The practice of the churches of that day was to allow baptized persons who did not profess conversion to assent to the church covenant, which act brought them into connection with and under the jurisdiction of the church, although they did not join in communion.

"Mr. Baldwin married sixty-eight couples. He baptized one hundred and thirteen children, and attended one hundred and forty-nine funerals. The summer of 1775 was a period of great mortality in Danbury, and of the one hundred and thirty deaths in town that year eighty-two were within the limits of the First Society, and sixty-two funerals were attended by Mr. Baldwin in the three months of June, July, and August.

"The pastorate of Mr. Baldwin covered those exciting years in the national history that preceded and marked the commencement of the Revolution. At that day no class of citizens was more conspicuous for patriotism, or more powerfully contributed to arouse the spirit of resistance to the despotic acts of the British government and to prepare the minds of the people for the great struggle of the Revolution, than the Congregational clergy of New England, and among them Mr. Baldwin was conspicuous by his zeal and signal ability. Almost all the writing for the public prints at that day was done by the clergy. In 1774 he prepared and published a spirited address to the people of the western part of the colony to arouse them to a sense of the danger in which their liberties were involved. In November, 1776, on the day set apart for Thanksgiving in the colony of Connecticut, at a period which he regarded as the most calamitous the British colonies ever beheld, he preached a sermon designed to wake up the spirits of the people in the important and dangerous struggle in which they were engaged. This sermon had at the time great celebrity. So excellent, encouraging,

and appropriate was it that it was called for and printed at the expense of a leading member of the Episcopal Church. A copy of it is preserved in the archives of the New York Historical Society. Mr. Baldwin, with the other ministers of the Association, arranged a series of circular fasts in the churches of Fairfield County, in the spring of 1776, on 'account of the threatening aspect of the public affairs.'

"A memoir of Mr. Baldwin, prepared by his brother, Hon. Simeon Baldwin, formerly judge of the Supreme Court of Connecticut, may be found in Sprague's 'Annals of the American Pulpit.' Mr. Baldwin's brother Simeon and James Kent, afterwards Chancellor Kent, of New York, and author of 'Kent's Commentaries,' were members of a class of young men who studied under the direction of Mr. Baldwin while pastor of this church. Chancellor Kent, in a Phi Beta Kappa oration given at Yale in 1831, paid a beautiful tribute to the memory of Mr. Baldwin. Speaking of the tutors in that college, he said, 'And suffer me for a moment to bring to recollection from among this class of men the Rev. Ebenezer Baldwin, of Danbury, for it is to that great, excellent man that the individual who has now the honor to address you stands indebted for the best part of his early classical education. Mr. Baldwin was tutor in this college for the period of four years, and he settled as a minister in the First Congregational Church of Danbury in the year 1770. He was a scholar and a gentleman of the fairest and brightest hopes. He was accustomed to read daily a portion of the Hebrew Scriptures, and he was extensively acquainted with Greek and Roman literature. His style of preaching was simple, earnest, and forcible, with the most commanding and graceful dignity and manner. His zeal for learning was ardent, and his acquisitions and reputation rapidly increasing, when he was doomed to fall prematurely in the flower of his age and while engaged in his country's service. Though his career was painfully short, he had lived long enough to attract general notice and the highest respect by his piety, his learning, his judgment, and his patriotism. He took an enlightened and active interest in the rise and early progress of the American Revolution. In the gloomy campaign of 1776 he was incessant in his efforts to cheer and animate his townsmen to join the militia which were called out for the defense of New York. To give weight to his eloquent exhortations he added that of his heroic example. He went voluntarily as a chaplain to one of the militia regiments, composed mostly of his own parishioners. His office was pacific, but he nevertheless arrayed himself in military armor. I was present when he firmly but affectionately bade adieu to his devoted parishioners and affectionate pupils. This was about the 1st of August, 1776, and what a moment in the annals of this country! There never was a period more awful and portentous. It was the very crisis of our destiny. The defense of New



York had become desperate. An enemy's army of thirty thousand men, well disciplined and well equipped, was in its vicinity, ready to overwhelm it. Gen. Washington had, to oppose them, less than eighteen thousand men, and part of them were extremely sickly. Nothing could have afforded better proof of patriotic zeal than Mr. Baldwin's voluntary enlistment at this critical juncture. The militia, much reduced by sickness, after two months' service were discharged. Mr. Baldwin fell a victim to the sickness that prevailed in the army, having only strength sufficient to reach home, where he died on October 1st, 'honored by the deepest sympathies of his own people, and with the public veneration and sorrow.'

#### WEST STREET CHURCH.

This church originated with Mr. Horace Bull. He was impressed by reading a series of letters, published in the *New York Observer*, on the duty of large churches to colonize. They were written by Rev. Dr. Humphrey, of Massachusetts. He claimed "that the activity of a church would be increased by such a lessening of its members, and that new churches would draw in strangers, and thus increase the number of church-goers." Mr. Bull had a little property, and he gave one-third of it to start the enterprise. He had been for many years a member of the First Congregational Church, and contributed to its permanent fund, but was in no way distinguished except as a leader of singing. It was no part of his wish to deprecate other churches, but only to extend more widely the influence of a joyful gospel. Twenty members joined him in leaving the "old hive;" one came from the Methodist Church, one by letter from Poughkeepsie, and another from New York City.

"At a meeting of individuals in favor of forming a new organization for religious worship, held in the basement of the First Congregational church in Danbury, May 20, 1851, on motion, Horace Bull was appointed chairman, and a committee of two, consisting of Henry Lobdell and L. C. Hoyt, were appointed to confer with the Universalist Society to engage their house of worship, now St. Peter's Hall, for one year, and were authorized to correspond with Mr. William C. Scofield, of New Haven (Theological Seminary), and, if they deemed it necessary and expedient, to engage his services as pastor for the term of two months from the first day of June."

At a meeting held on the evening of May 23, 1851, the committee reported that they had hired the Universalist church for one year, and that Mr. Scofield would preach eight Sabbaths. Permission having been obtained from the First Church, by a vote of fourteen yeas to seven nays, to attempt the experiment of forming a new church, it was resolved to go forward notwithstanding that the First Church granted its permission only with the condition that it was not to be held responsible "either for its success or support." After voting to hold the first religious services in the

new place of worship, June 1, 1851, the meeting adjourned. In 1851, July 9th, the church was organized by a Congregational Ecclesiastical Council, meeting in First Church. Oct. 15, 1854, the corner-stone of a church edifice was laid. This building is now in the possession of the Catholic Church, west of the park. May 6, 1852, the new church building was dedicated. On June 18th of same year rules of government were adopted and a resolution passed to organize an ecclesiastical society.

Mr. Scofield was ordained to the gospel ministry and installed pastor of the new church on Sept. 15, 1852. Thus it will be seen that within about a year from the preliminary meeting the infant society had attained to a formal and regular ecclesiastical organization, built a house of worship, and obtained a settled pastor. April 26, 1854, the pastoral relations of Mr. Scofield with the church were dissolved by mutual consent. From this time until the spring of 1858 the church was without a settled pastor. During the interim, however, the pulpit was supplied for more than two years by the Rev. E. S. Huntington, a friend of the church and a resident of Danbury.

In 1857, from July 1st until September 17th of the same year, Rev. William Page supplied the pulpit. From November, 1857, until April 1, 1858, Rev. S. H. Howell made the supplies. The Rev. David Peck, of Woodbridge, received a call March 26, 1858. On June 23d, Mr. Peck was regularly installed. Mr. Peck served acceptably until Jan. 2, 1861, when he was dismissed at his own request. Rev. Ezra D. Kenny was invited to supply for three months. Mr. James Robertson, a licentiate of Union Theological Seminary, New York City, also was engaged to supply for a time. On Dec. 20, 1861, the church voted to engage Mr. Robertson for twelve months. His services were so acceptable that the church voted to have Mr. Robertson ordained March 30, 1862. As the congregation grew and their wants increased, the necessity of a larger and more commodious building became apparent. Measures were taken to construct such edifice, and the result was that in May, 1865, the new West Street church was dedicated. July 1, 1865, Mr. Robertson severed his connection with the church. The Rev. Henry Powers was immediately called, and began his duties as acting pastor. He was installed April 15, 1868, and was dismissed at his own request after serving about nine months. May 30, 1869, Mr. D. A. Easton, a licentiate from Andover Theological Seminary, Massachusetts, began to supply the pulpit. On June 3d he received and accepted a call as stated preacher. Mr. Easton was finally called to the pastorate and accepted, and Dec. 29, 1869, he was ordained to the gospel ministry, and installed pastor of the church Oct. 10, 1870. Mr. C. A. G. Thurston, a licentiate of Andover Theological Seminary, Massachusetts, and more recently stated preacher at Bradford, N. H., began his duties as associate pastor and preacher with Mr. Easton, whose health, being im-

paired, rendered him unable to perform the duties of the pastorate without assistance. Sept. 20, 1871, Mr. Easton was dismissed as pastor on account of ill health, but, preserving membership of the church, he often supplied the pulpit and greatly aided in clearing off a funded debt which was burdening the church. The Rev. S. B. Hershey, the present pastor, was installed Oct. 27, 1874.

#### ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The earliest records of St. James' Church, Danbury, now in possession of the church go back only as far as the year 1812. The second missionary sent to this State by the venerable "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts,"—a society still in vigorous existence in the English Church,—the Rev. Henry Canes, a graduate of Yale in the class of 1728, and who went to England for holy orders in 1727 and became missionary to Fairfield late in the autumn of the same year, sought out the churchmen scattered in the contiguous regions. In his first report, made to the society in 1728, he speaks of a "village northward of Fairfield about eighteen miles, containing twenty families; the name of it is Chestnut Ridge (Redding), and where I usually preach and lecture once in three weeks." He also visited Ridgefield and Danbury as often as his duties would permit, and stated that there were in most of these places seven, ten, or fifteen families professing the doctrine of the Church of England.

About 1763 the first Episcopal church was erected in this place, and opened, on its partial completion, by the Rev. Ebenezer Dibble, a native of Danbury, and missionary at Stamford and Greenwich. Occasionally ministrations were held here by the Rev. Mr. Leaming, and by the Rev. Mr. Beach, of Newtown. A charitable layman, Mr. St. George Talbot, residing in the province of New York, who presented the church with a Bible and Prayer-book and had assisted the people here towards the erection of their church, was one of the gratified congregation at the opening services. In 1769 the faithful missionary at Newtown, reporting his occasional services in the newly-erected church at Danbury, speaks of the edifice "with a decent steeple" and large enough to accommodate from "four hundred to five hundred people." In 1777, Gen. Tryon, commanding a detachment of two thousand of His Majesty's troops, penetrated to Danbury, a place which the commissioners of the American army had selected for depositing military stores; and while both church and meeting-house there were used as depositories, his troops are said to have taken the stores out of church and burned them in the streets, saving the sacred edifice, but they devoted the meeting-house to the flames. In 1784 the Rev. Samuel Seabury, D.D., was consecrated Bishop of Connecticut in Aberdeen, Scotland, the first American prelate. In 1794 the Rev. David Perry, of Ridgefield, resigned the pastoral charge of the parishes of Ridgefield, Red-

ding, and Danbury, and in due time the Rev. David Butler succeeded him in the cure, and the Rev. Elijah G. Plum from 1808 to 1812. Bishop Jarvis consecrated the church here Oct. 6, 1802. Bishop Hobart, of New York, officiated in Danbury on a Sunday in August, 1817. In 1809 there were reported 70 families and 22 communicants. In 1816, 41 communicants. In 1822, 44 communicants. In 1824, 49 communicants.

The Rev. Reuben Hubbard was instituted rector, Sept. 1, 1812, to 1819; the Rev. Ambrose S. Todd from 1819 to 1823; Rev. Samuel B. Hall from 1823 to 1836. In 1836 only 40 communicants and 5 families of the original churchmen were remaining. Up to this time the parish had had clerical services once in three or four weeks, and from 1808 had always been associated with Christ Church, Redding, and part of the time also with Ridgefield. The Rev. Mr. Hull confined himself to Danbury and Redding, and after the chapel, now St. Thomas' church, Bethel, was built, in 1835, the services were divided between the two alternately once in four weeks. The year 1836 was the first time that the parish of St. James' Church and St. Thomas' Chapel had attempted to have the services of a clergyman the whole time, and this came near failing for the want of means. From Easter, 1838, to Easter, 1839, Dr. Short officiated half the time in Brookfield and the other half here, and the Christian Knowledge Society aided in the payment of his salary. The Rev. David H. Short was rector from 1836 to 1840, and the Rev. Thomas T. Guion from 1840 to 1847. In 1844 the first church built at the lower end of Main Street, a wooden building, the frame of which has been converted into a dwelling-house, was abandoned, and a new church was erected in a central position on West Street near Main. The Rev. Henry Olmstead and the Rev. John Purves were associated with the Rev. Mr. Guion, residing in Bethel and having charge of the chapel there. In 1844 the whole parish, including Bethel, reported 100 families and 130 communicants, with 80 Sunday-school scholars and 20 teachers. In 1846, on the separation of Bethel from this parish, Rev. Guion reported 75 families, 65 communicants, and 45 Sunday-school scholars, with 9 teachers. From 1847 to 1854 the Rev. William White Bronson was rector. In 1853 he reported 70 families and 77 communicants. From 1854 to 1864 the Rev. I. Leander Townsend was rector. In 1855 he reported 70 families and 107 communicants. In 1859 the church was enlarged by the addition of a chancel and new furniture, the latter being used in the new stone church. In 1863 he reported 130 families and 189 communicants. The Rev. Mr. Townsend was also rector of "Deer Hill Institute," a church boarding-school for boys. The Rev. Dr. Hawley entered upon his duties on the 1st of March, 1864. He reported this year 145 families and 278 communicants. In 1867 the present chapel and the chancel and the first bay of the nave of the new



stone church was erected, and in 1872 the nave and the tower were completed all save the stone spire.

An ex-editor of the *Church Review* speaks of this sacred edifice as "one of the most beautiful churches in the country." The memorial and other windows were made by Messrs. Moore, Doremus, Henry E. Sharpe, Morgan & Bros., Slack & Booth, and are among the finest specimens of their best workmanship. The present rector, Rev. Arthur Sloan, assumed charge May, 1875.

#### FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

On the 9th day of December, 1822, a little company of men, twelve in number,—as were the earliest disciples,—met at the school-house in Great Plain District, in the town of Danbury, to organize a Universalist society.

These twelve men were Ebenezer Nichols, William Patch, Miles Hoyt, Philo B. White, Stephen Ambler, Zadock Stephens, Ira R. Wildman, Thomas P. White, William Peck, Joel Taylor, Andrew Andrews, Stephen Gregory.

Previous to this time Universalism had taken root in Danbury, in consequence of the preaching of itinerant ministers, or missionaries, who traveled through this part of the country from time to time, holding services in towns where opportunity offered, speaking in public halls, in school-houses, private dwellings, and, when no other place could be found, in barns or in the open air. In 1807, probably in September of that year, the Rev. Hosea Ballou, one of the fathers of the Universalist Church in America, having journeyed into Connecticut for the purpose of attending the annual meeting of the United States Universalist Convention, which was held at Newtown, September 15th, 16th, and 17th, conducted religious services in Danbury, preaching in the court-house. This was the first service ever conducted in Danbury by a Universalist clergyman of which any record has been found. There are traditions to the effect that the Rev. John Murray, a disciple of Wesley, who first planted Universalism on the shores of the New World, preached once in Danbury before the beginning of the present century, but of this service the present pastor can find no written record.

After 1807 occasional services were held in the town by various itinerant ministers, among others the Rev. Solomon Glover, of Newtown. At this time the social ostracism, amounting in some cases to actual persecution, which had been meted out to the Methodists in England, to the Baptists and Quakers in America, and to every religious sect at some period of its history, fell to the lot of the American Universalists. Their testimony was not taken in court; they were pronounced little better than atheists; were charged with being haters of religion and teachers of immoral doctrines. One of the twelve men who organized the society in 1822 attended the meetings for some time in secret, "going across the swamp to the court-house,

in order not to be seen," as he often afterwards confessed. Such a profound impression was, however, produced upon his mind by the new truths which he believed he had heard that he was no more ashamed, but proud, to be seen going to the Universalist meetings. Those were the days when good, pious, Christian souls, not doubting that Universalists were infidels and were doing the work of Satan, prayed that the Lord would "uncover the bottomless pit and shake the Universalist minister over it until he repented of his errors." It was the retort of one of the Universalist pioneers that even in this prayer, seemingly so profane and merciless, there was, after all, a recognition of divine goodness, in the admission that a pit without bottom should yet be provided with a cover.

After the organization of the Universalist Society it was for a year or two without a regular pastor. Visiting clergymen on preaching tours spent the Sunday here on frequent occasions, and preached, sometimes in the court-house, occasionally in other places. Sometimes a clergyman would arrive late Saturday evening, and messengers would be sent out notifying the little band that on the morrow they were to have a minister.

Some time in 1824 the Rev. Thomas F. King, father of Rev. T. Starr King, was engaged to preach a portion of the time in Danbury, preaching also at Norwalk during his engagement, which continued about two years. In 1826 the Rev. Zelotus Fuller preached occasionally at Danbury, and was succeeded by the Rev. Daniel E. Morgan, who preached one sermon every Sunday for six months. Then, for a period of four years, occasional services were rendered by the Revs. Geo. Rogers, Solomon Glover, Menzies Raynor (a convert from the Episcopal Church), T. J. Whitcomb, Theophilus Fiske, Gilman Noyes, and Nehemiah Dodge. Dec. 29, 1830, the Rev. John Boyden was called to become the pastor, and preached in Danbury about six months, when, finding his various duties more than he could longer undertake, and desiring that a pastor should be engaged who should give his entire time and attention to the Danbury congregation, he asked to be released from his engagement, and the request was granted. During the ministry of Mr. Boyden a choir was gathered under the leadership of the late Stephen A. Hurlburt, who served as chorister for many years with zeal and faithfulness.

The subsequent pastors of this congregation have been as follows:

1831.—Rev. G. W. Brooks, for two months only.

1831.—Rev. L. F. W. Andrews, for about the same length of time. Mr. Andrews was subsequently engaged with Hon. P. T. Barnum, as editor of a paper which Mr. Barnum published. Mr. Barnum was for several years the clerk of the Universalist Society.

1831-32.—Rev. G. W. Brooks, re-engaged.

1833.—In August, Rev. L. W. F. Andrews was

called, and declined a re-engagement, Mr. Brooks' engagement having expired.

1834.—Rev. Albert Case.

1835.—The church was without a pastor.

1836-38.—Rev. S. C. Bulkley.

1838-40.—Rev. James Cook.

1841-43.—Rev. S. B. Brittan.

1843-45.—Rev. J. K. Ingalls.

1847.—Rev. Heman Burr.

1846.—In the latter part of this year the pulpit was supplied for a time by Rev. R. P. Ambler.

1847.—No settled pastor.

1848.—Rev. Timothy Elliott.

1849-51.—Rev. Geo. H. Deere.

1852-56.—Rev. S. C. Bulkley.

1856.—Rev. Mr. Bulkley's engagement closed early in the year. Rev. Edward Smiley was engaged early in June, ordained in July, but remained only till November. For two years following the church was weakened by the general prostration of business, and during this time was shepherdless.

1859-60.—Rev. Robert C. Brown.

1861.—No settled pastor.

1862-65.—Rev. J. H. Shepard.

1866-67.—Rev. Abel C. Thomas supplied the pulpit.

1868-70.—Rev. William G. Haskell.

1870-80.—Rev. D. M. Hodge, the present pastor.

A church edifice was erected for this congregation on Main Street, corner of Wooster, in 1833, and dedicated in September of that year by the Rev. Matthew Hale Smith, assisted by other clergymen. This building was afterwards sold to the Catholic Society, and is still owned by them. The edifice on Liberty Street now occupied by this congregation was built in 1851-52, and dedicated in the spring of the latter year.

The first deacons of the church were William Patch and Zadock Stevens.

Nearly all the members of the original church organization are now dead or have removed from town. In fact, the church has been unusually subject to loss by these causes, especially the latter, notwithstanding which it has had a slow but steady growth; during the ministry of the present pastor a goodly number have been added to the membership of the church, and many children have been baptized.

This church observes one Sunday in June of each year as *Rose Sunday*, when the church audience-room is profusely decorated with flowers and children are chrismened or baptized.

The officers of this church at the present time are: Pastor, Rev. D. M. Hodge; Deacons, Stephen Bates, N. B. Dibble, Timothy H. Foster, Luman L. Hubbell; Clerk and Collector, Foster Jarvis; Treasurer, A. A. Heath; Executive Committee, Joseph T. Bates, T. H. Foster, Andrew J. Williams.

The church at the present time is united and prosperous, and is doing a good work in the community. It strives to work in harmony and peace with all who love the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### THE SANDEMANIAN SOCIETY.

Barber, in his "Connecticut Historical Collections," published in 1836, says,—

"In 1764, Mr. Robert Sandeman, a native of Perth, in Scotland, a man of learning and superior abilities, who had some correspondence with Mr. White and some other ministers in this country, came from his native land, landed at Boston, and came to Danbury near the close of the year. After tarrying several weeks he returned to Boston, where he soon organized a church. He returned to Danbury and gathered a church, July, 1765. The principal doctrines which he taught were similar to those of the Christian Church. His distinguishing tenet was, 'that faith is a mere intellectual belief;' his favorite expression was, '*A bare belief of bare truth.*' He maintained that his church was the only true church, then arisen from the ruins of Antichrist, his reign being near a close. The use of means for mankind in a natural state he pretty much exploded.

"Mr. Sandeman died in 1771. The next year his church moved to New Haven. Here it appears they were in a flourishing condition for three or four years. The house in which they worshiped is still standing on Greyson Street.

"When the Revolutionary war broke out the Sandemanians, who were royalists, became objects of suspicion. They were brought up before the civil authority on several occasions, and at one time were imprisoned. These proceedings had the effect to break up their church in this place; nearly, if not quite, all their people moved away.

"In July, 1774, several persons who had been members of that church, together with a number who belonged to the society at New Danbury, united and formed a new Sandemanian Church. That continued and increased for many years, till March, 1793, when they divided into two churches."

The following is from a more recent account given of the Sandemanians:

"They meet on the Sabbath and the Thursday afternoon of each week to exhort and to explain the sacred word. Their church is provided with a large circular table, which occupies nearly half the area of the building, at which the several members seat themselves, each one provided with a copy of the Scriptures, and as they individually feel disposed they read and comment thereon, the females not partaking therein, being but indifferent spectators of the proceedings. They also add to their former exercises prayer and singing; and after which they assemble at one or the other of the brothers' or sisters' houses, where they partake of a feast. . . . There are probably at present about twenty primitive followers, of strict morals and chaste deportment, even to a proverb. It appears that none have joined them latterly.

"This sect, like most others, have divisions among them, one party of which go by the name of 'Osbornites,' from Mr. Levi Osborne, their present teacher. These are very few in number, reduced by deaths, and from the circumstance of none uniting with them. The other party go by the name of 'Baptist' Sandemanians, from their belief in, and practice of, baptism. The Osbornites appear to have been the most numerous of the two classes, having had formerly a considerable number of members, consisting of some people of influence."

There are said to be but four hundred persons of this denomination in the world, forty of whom are in the United States. Those of this belief in Great Britain are known by the name of "Glassites."

The following is copied from the monument of Mr. Sandeman, in the burying-ground opposite the court-house:

"Here lies, until the resurrection, the body of ROBERT SANDEMAN, a native of Perth, North Britain, who, in the face of continued opposition from all sorts of men, long boldly contended for the ancient Faith, that the bare work of Jesus Christ, without a deed or thought on the part of man, is sufficient to present the chief of sinners spotless before God. To declare this blessed Truth, as testified in the Holy Scriptures, he left his country, he left his friends, and after much patient suffering finished his labors at Danbury, April 2, 1771, *Æ*. 53 years.

"Deign'd Christ to come so nigh to us  
As not to count it shame  
To call us Brethren, should we blush  
At aught that bears His name?"



"Nay, let us boast in His reproach,  
And glory in His Cross:  
When He appears, one smile from Him,  
Will far o'erpay our loss."

Rev. Nathaniel West, in his "Analysis of the Bible," says,—

"SANDEMANIANS.—Followers of Mr. Sandeman, who was himself a disciple of Mr. John Glass. The Sandemanians now usually include the Glassites, or followers of Mr. Glass. Place, chiefly Scotland, there being a few in England, the United States, and British North America. Numbers in all, about 2000."

"GLASSITES.—A body of dissenters from the Scotch Church, named after their founder, Mr. John Glass or Glas. Mostly in Scotland, where they number 2136."

We went to what is now called the Wooster Street Cemetery, and after a long search through the sadly-neglected ground found the grave of Mr. Sandeman in a good state of preservation, located west of the jail and near the fence which incloses it. From the appearance of the stone we should judge that it must have replaced an older one. The inscription thereon is not, in some respects, correctly quoted in Barber's "History." We give it verbatim.

As near as we can ascertain, after the death of Mr. Sandeman, the church was presided over by Elder Nathaniel Bishop, who died in 1857. After the death of Elder Bishop, Mr. William B. Ely, an esteemed citizen of Danbury, filled the position until his death, which occurred in 1869. Mr. Ely was an active member of the church for upwards of fifty years. Since his death the church has had no regularly-appointed elder. Although the members do not number as many as formerly, the services are kept up with the old-time regularity.

#### THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The first mass said in Danbury was at the house of James Doyle, in Grassy Plain, by the Rev. Father Smith, of New Haven, in the year 1838, and services were held at irregular intervals from that date until the years 1845 and 1846. The next mass said was by the Rev. Father Brady, then in charge of the mission of Norwalk and Stamford, at the house of John Hart, on Franklin Street, in the years 1847 and 1848.

At the next mission, in 1849, mass was said at the house of John Spain, then living in South Street. At the next mission, in 1850, mass was said at the house of James Croal, on Deer Hill. The same year mass was celebrated by Father Ryan in the court-house. The services in the court-house were disturbed by some American people. The academy owned by Rev. John Irwin, Second Congregational Society, was obtained for the use of the Catholics for the rest of the year. The next mission was in 1851. Rev. Father Ryan purchased the Universalist church, corner of Morris and Wooster Streets, at a cost of three thousand dollars. Some improvements were made the same year. The Catholic Cemetery was purchased in 1853, at a cost of two hundred dollars.

In 1857 a lot was purchased at the corner of Main and Centre Streets, and a parsonage erected thereon.

In 1858 or 1859 a piece of land on the west side of Main Street was purchased for two thousand dollars. In 1861 some improvements were made on the old church, now known as St. Peter's Hall. In 1862 the present church was purchased of the Congregationalists for two hundred dollars, and remodeled at a cost of two thousand dollars. In the following year improvements were made on St. Peter's Hall.

During the pastorate of Rev. P. Sheridan he instituted two Catholic schools,—one for boys and one for girls,—and the attendance was about two hundred. He also purchased a piece of land and added it to the cemetery, and also improved it materially.

In the fall of 1864, the debt of the church having reached about six thousand dollars, Father Sheridan resolved to liquidate at least a portion of it, and consequently inaugurated a grand fair at Concert Hall, from which the net proceeds were three thousand dollars. He then commenced collecting funds for building a new church. The church was commenced in 1869, and in September, 1871, the corner-stone was laid by the bishop, Right Rev. F. P. McFarland. The sermon on the occasion was preached by the Rev. Father Hewitt, of the Paulist Fathers, Fifty-ninth Street, New York. It is a singular fact that the walls were built before the laying of the corner-stone, in consequence of the absence of Bishop McFarland at the Ecumenical Council at Rome. The church is a massive structure, and pleasantly located on Main Street, near the park.

The following is a list of the pastors from 1851, when Father Ryan was here, to the present time: Rev. Father O'Farrell, 1852-53; Rev. John Smith, 1853-57; Rev. Peter Kelly, 1858; Rev. Thomas Drea, 1858-61; Rev. Ambrose Manahan, D.D., 1861-62; Rev. P. Sheridan, 1863-July, 1874; Rev. John Quinn, 1874.

The present officers are the following: Rev. M. P. Lawlor, pastor; Rev. Michael J. Burns, associate pastor; Michael Darragan, Thomas Moran, trustees, elected annually.

The St. Patrick's Library Association was established in 1858.

The St. Peter's Catholic Benevolent Society was organized in July, 1865. Thomas Johnson, President; Thomas McCue, Vice-President.

St. Vincent De Paul Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society was organized August 6, 1866, with twenty charter members. The present membership is seventy-five. Charles Doran is the president, and Michael J. Griffin the vice-president.

The Young Men's Father Mathew Temperance Society was organized in 1878 with about sixty members present.

#### THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

This church dates its origin back to 1817, when Levi Osborne and wife and Uz Wildman and wife left the Sandemanian Society, in consequence of some differ-

ence of religious opinion, of which they had been honored members, and formed the nucleus of the present society.

Mr. Osborne, hearing of a society in New York called the Disciples, visited their church and was baptized by Henry Errett. Returning to Danbury, he baptized his wife and Uz Wildman and wife, and their services were held in Mr. Osborne's house. Mr. Osborne officiated as elder from this time until his death, in 1851. He was the leading spirit of the enterprise, and for many years the members of the church were called "Osbornites."

The society soon began to increase in numbers, and a room over Mr. Osborne's weaver-shop was fitted up for a place of worship. In 1840 a church building was erected on White Street. In 1853 the church belonging to the Methodist Society on Liberty Street was purchased, and occupied in January of the following year.

The following ministers of this faith have preached here: Porter Thomas, A. G. Comings, Matthew S. Clapp, William Tichenar, Ephraim A. Smith, Francis M. Craig, E. B. Osborne, J. M. Yearnshaw, W. W. Belding, N. W. Eaton, Theodore Brooks, Alfred N. Gilbert, Joel A. Headington, W. L. Hayden, W. R. Spindler, W. B. Craig, and J. L. Darsie, present pastor.

The elders have been as follows: Levi Osborne, John Benedict, Edward B. Osborne, Starr Benedict, John Abbott, Abel Foote, E. A. Mallory, Lewis B. Stevens, Edgar S. Morris.

In 1854 a division occurred in the church, and thirty-five members withdrew and met in a hall on Main Street, known as Christian chapel, calling Leslie R. Gault as pastor. The congregations were, however, reunited in 1869. The church is now in a prosperous condition, and has a membership of over two hundred.

#### GERMAN METHODIST CHURCH.

This church was first established, under the leadership of Henry Stapleburg and Henry Grabert, in the year 1875, in Benedict & Nichols' block, corner of Main and Liberty Streets. The need of a German church society had long been felt by the Protestant Germans of Danbury, that they might hear the gospel expounded in their own tongue, as many of them were unable to understand and fully comprehend the word in the English tongue, and the English church was the only church they were inclined to attend. By the efforts of the above-named leaders, about thirty Protestant Germans were brought together and organized a society at the above place in 1875, and Mr. Grabert was appointed by the pastor of the nearest German church (then located at New Haven) as a local preacher, and filled the pulpit three Sundays in each month, the fourth being the visit of the pastor, Rev. Mr. Hendiges, and who as often as possible sent ministers and tried to supply the pulpit every other Sunday. The society flourished in interest, although not rapidly in numbers, for the first

year, the expenses being paid by the liberal donations of its members. A Sabbath-school was established at the same time of the church opening, and numbered about twenty-five scholars.

The pressure of the times and expense of sustaining the church caused the society to give up their undertaking in the year 1877. Its members then resumed their places again in the English churches, principally the Methodist.

In the spring of 1878, Henry Stapleburg built a small two-story dwelling-house on the rear of his lot and residence, corner of Rose Hill and Henry Street, the lower part occupied by a German family and the upper story to be used as a church. The dimensions were about twenty by twenty-five feet, and the room was comfortably fitted up for a chapel. This was a new opening for the society, as Mr. Stapleburg gave them the use of the room for the purpose of worship, which expense was quite an item to the little band, who were trying to worship under their own vine and fig-tree in their own tongue.

Early in the fall of 1878 the room was completed, and once more an effort was made to establish a church on a firmer footing. Other Methodist German families were induced to come to Danbury to work at hatting, and so increase the membership of the church society. Mr. Grabert filled the pulpit every other week, and other ministers from abroad were sent by the pastor at New Haven, Conn., to fill it at other times, he coming once a month and administering the sacrament.

Signs were evident that the growth of this church was more rapid than at any period since its formation, in 1875, and the little room was too small to accommodate them longer than through the winter of 1878-79, and on the first Sunday in April, 1879, the society again occupied their old rooms, corner of Main and Liberty Streets.

Mr. Grabert, in the winter of 1879-80, found his labors through the week in the factory and in the pulpit on Sunday were too arduous. He called a meeting of the society in the beginning of the month of March, and submitted to the pastor and people the necessity of a regularly established church with a permanent pastor. Application to the German Conference held at New York in the second week of April was made for a permanent minister and organized society, and the Conference, hearing the reports from this mission and its pastor, appointed to the German Church of Danbury the Rev. Jacob Kindler, then residing in Mount Vernon, N. Y., where his family still resides. Mr. Kindler was a chaplain in a New York regiment during the early part of the war, and is an old cavalry officer. At the battle of Bull Run he sustained injuries through the falling of his horse, breaking the chaplain's hip-bone.

The church is now regularly ordained, and has a membership of about fifty and a Sunday-school of about the same number.



## CHAPTER XXI.

## DANBURY (Continued).

Organization of this Town—Paquage—Swampfield—Records of 1777—First Town-Meeting after the Revolution—First Officers Elected after the Revolution—The Borough of Danbury—Organization—First Officers—Wardens from Organization to 1880—Extracts from Records, etc.—Ear-Marks.

THE town of Danbury was constituted at a General Court held Oct. 13, 1687. The following is an extract from the records:

"This Court named the new towne at Paquage\* Danbury, and granted them a freedom from county rates for fewer years from this date; and this Court grants that the bownds of the said towne of Danbury shall be six miles square, provided it doe not prejudice any former grant to any particular person made by this Court.

"This Court grants the Danbury brand shall be two eyes as followeth II." (Col. Rec.)

The early town records† were destroyed when the town was burned by the British, hence we are unable to give anything of a documentary character prior to that time.

## RECORDS OF 1777.

The following is the first record which appears in the old town-book after the destruction of the town:

"At a town-meeting legally named, held in Danbury, Oct. 1, 1777, Cap. Daniel Taylor chosen moderator. S<sup>d</sup> meeting was by vote adjourned to the 6th instant at four of the Clock in the afternoon.

"MAJOR TAYLOR, Clerk."

The next entry is as follows:

"TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF DANBURY:

"GENTLEMEN,—It being represented to the General Assembly of this State at their Sessions in May last that the public Records of your Town were consumed by Fire, and said Assembly appointed us the Subscribers to look into the Matter and Ascertain the right of every individual owning Lands in said Town, to facilitate its matter, beg leave to recommend to you, Gentlemen, to call a Town-meeting and appoint a Com. in the several parts of your Town, who shall as soon as may be collect all the necessary Deeds and Surveys and other Conveyances of Lands in said Town, and where any Deeds or other Conveyances are lost or consumed by fire, so that the title cannot be otherwise ascertained, then the Committee, with the assistance of those whose title is thus lost, do bound out said Lands, mentioning who it adjoins upon; also to notify the persons on whom such lands do adjoin to be present at the Time of bounding out the same, and to adjourn your Town-meeting to the 29th day of December, and when said doings of said committee shall be publicly read in their cases where there is any Dispute, at which time and place we will attend.

"DANIEL SHERMAN,

"I. MOSELY,

"NEHEMIAH BEARDSLEY,

"LEMUEL SANFORD,

"CALEB BALDWIN, JR.,

"Committee.

"DANBURY, NOV. 12, 1777."

\* A petition was presented "in behalf of the plantation of Paquage that the same may be constituted to be a towne and to be named Swampfield," their south bounds to be "by the north bounds of Fairfield and Norwalk, the north bounds Halfway to Weantinucke, the east bounds, half way to Stratford river, the west bounds by York line." The petition, dated October 6th, is signed by Thomas Fitch, Jehu Burr, John Burr, and Thomas Bennydict. They state that "there are twentie families inhabiting at Paquage, and more desirable persons a coming." Samuel Hayes, of Norwalk, was deputed to present the petition to the court. The name substituted by the court for that proposed by the petition was probably adopted from Danbury, a village in Essex, five miles from Chelmsford. (C. J. Hoadley.)

† The Probate records were saved.

At a town-meeting "legally named," held Nov. 18, 1777, the following were appointed a committee, as recommended by the General Assembly, to assist persons in collecting the necessary conveyances, etc.: Daniel Taylor, Comfort Hoyt, Benjamin Sperry, Nathan Gregory, David Boughton, Joseph Wildman, Benjamin Boughton, Jr., David Wildman, Samuel Nichols, Alexander Stuart, John Starr, David Hoyt, Jr., John Dunning, Benjamin Stevens, John Gregory, Richard Shute, Noah Hoyt, Ezra Stevens, Jos. Barnum, Matthew Linley, Richard Barnum, Samuel Benedict, David Perce, Samuel Weed, Thomas Stevens, Thomas Starr, Eli Segar, Benjamin Shove, Lemuel Benedict, Daniel Wildman, Daniel Wood, Thaddeus Brownson, Daniel Wood, Jr., Thomas Taylor, John Benedict, Isaac Benedict, Joseph Starr, Ephraim Barnum, Nathaniel Hoyt, Jos. Beebe, Nathaniel Benedict, Thomas Benedict, Benjamin Benedict, James Seely, and Nathan Taylor.

At the same meeting it was also voted "to have one committeeman in each School District to procure clothing for their quota of men in the Continental Army, viz., Major Taylor, Silas Hamilton, Justus Barnum, Elisha Dibble, Nathaniel Starr, Benjamin Dunning, Matthew Dilks, Nathaniel Gregory, Nathaniel Benedict, Thomas Stevens, Theophilus Benedict, Daniel Wood, Andrew Comstock, Ephraim Barnum, and James Seely."

At said meeting it was also voted "that the Selectmen draw money of the Collector to pay for the aforesaid Articles and give him their obligation therefor."

Then "the meeting by vote adjourned to the 29th Day of December next at nine of the Clock in the morning. Test, Major Taylor, Clerk."

## THE FIRST TOWN-MEETING AFTER THE BRITISH INVASION.

The first town-meeting held after the burning of the town at which town officers were chosen was on Dec. 15, 1777, when the following officers were elected:

*Constables*.—Comfort Hoyt, Jr., and to collect the county-rate, Thomas Taylor and Justus Barnum.

*Grand Jurors*.—Zadock Benedict, Eliphalet Barnum, Andrew Comstock.

*Selectmen*.—Major Taylor, David Hickok, David Boughton, Elijah Hoyt, Ezra Dibble, Jr., Capt. Comfort Hoyt, Joseph Benedict.

*Listers*.—Benjamin Hickok, Oliver Benedict, David Wood, Daniel Comstock, Jonas Benedict, Nathaniel Starr, Paul Hamilton.

*Tythingmen*.—Joshua Knapp, Ebenezer Picket, Jr., Nathaniel Gregory, Joseph Elmore, Ezra Dibble, Matthew Starr.

*Surveyors of Highways*.—Comfort Hoyt, Jr., Joseph Wildman, David Boughton, Jr., Eliakim Starr, Samuel Benedict (4th), Timothy Benedict, Ebenezer Hickok, Joseph Starr, John McLean, Alexander Stuart, Samuel Nichols, Samuel Stevens, Lemuel Linley, Eleazer Benedict, Eli Segar, B. Knapp, Thad-

deus Brownson, Lemuel Wood, Jr., Benjamin Stevens, Jr., Samuel Sturdevant, and David Weed.

*Fence-Viewers.*—Daniel Hoyt, Thaddeus Barnum, Caleb Church, Josiah Vining, Nathaniel Hoyt, Matthew Barnum.

*Sealer of Weights.*—Jared Patchen.

*Sealer of Leather.*—Joseph Benedict.

*Sealers of Measures.*—Ezra Dibble, Thaddeus Brownson.

*Pound-Keeper.*—Daniel Church.

#### THE BOROUGH OF DANBURY.

The charter of the borough of Danbury was granted upon the application of Moss White and others at the May session of the Legislature in 1822. The first borough-meeting was held at the court-house, Wednesday, June 26, 1822, when the following officers were elected: Darius Starr, Clerk; Daniel B. Cook, Warden; Samuel Tweedy, Moss White, Elijah Gregory, David Foot, Samuel Wildman, Willan Patch, Burgesses; Alanson Hamlin, Treasurer; Matthew Curtis, Bailiff.

At a meeting held July 5, 1822, S. P. Clark, Samuel C. Dibble, John Foot were appointed haywards.

At a special borough-meeting held May 8, 1823, Reuben Booth was appointed agent to oppose the petition of Comfort Hoyt and others praying the General Assembly to repeal the whole or in part the resolve incorporating the borough of Danbury.

The following is a list of the wardens and clerks from its incorporation to 1880:

#### WARDENS.

1822-23, 1826-31, D. B. Cooke; 1824-25, 1838-39, Samuel Wildman; 1832-35, Eli T. Hoyt; 1836-37, Chandler Smith; 1840-41, Samuel Tweedy; 1842-43, Edward Taylor; 1844-45, Elias S. Sanford; 1846-48, 1850, 1852, Samuel W. Jennings; 1849, Oliver Stone; 1851, 1854-55, Stephen A. Hurlburt; 1853, David B. Booth; 1856, Ezra P. Bennett; 1857, Samuel Mallory; 1858-59, Wm. H. Tweedy; 1860, Geo. E. Cowperwait; 1861, Wm. T. Lacey; 1862-65, J. Amsbury; 1866-68, 1874, Edward S. Davis; 1869-73, 1878, Oliver P. Clark; 1875-77, 1879, James Fry; 1880, Levi P. Treadwell.

#### CLERKS.

Rotation in office does not seem to have been the rule so far as the office of borough clerk is concerned, for there have been but five from the incorporation of the borough, in 1822, to the present time, viz.:

1822-38, Dana Starr; 1839-71, W. P. Comstock; 1871-74, 1876-77, A. B. Hull; 1875, 1880, A. C. Seeley; 1878-79, W. T. St. John.

#### EXTRACTS FROM RECORDS, Etc.

#### DANBURY.

The following is a copy of the title-page of an almanac published here in 1792:

#### THE FARMER'S DIARY;

OR, THE  
UNITED STATES  
ALMANACK

For the Year of our Lord Christ  
1792.

Being Bissextile or Leap Year,  
And 16th Year of American Independence till Ju'y 4:

Calculated for the Meridian of DANBURY, in the STATE of CONNECTICUT, Lat.  $41^{\circ} 51'$  north, Lon.  $72^{\circ} 54'$  west; but will serve indifferently for any of the adjacent States.

CONTAINING, besides all that is usual and necessary, many things which are unusual and not necessary,—things which were never before published and probably never will be again,—which, if not read within a year, will be nowhere to be found but in an old Almanack the last resort of superannuated rubbish.

BY JOSEPH LELAND, PHILOM.

Published in Danbury. By DOUGLASS & ELY; and sold Wholesale and Retail at their Printing-Office.

In the *Farmers' Journal*, Jan. 18, 1791, Timothy Taylor announces the dissolution of the firm of Cooke & Taylor.

In the same issue, an advertisement of a "Scheme of a Lottery for the purpose of extending and improving the Woolen Manufactory in the city of Hartford."

Joseph Clark "informs his customers and others that he continues the business of clock- and watch-making at his shop in Danbury."

Eliakim Peck advertises an "ax-manufactory," and "warrants his axes to be as good as any ever made in this country."

Carrington & Mygatt state that they have "molasses for sale cheap;" John Dodd will give the "highest price for Continental Loan-Office Notes, etc.;" and Eliakim Benedict, Jr., will pay the "highest price for all kinds of hatting-furs at his shop, a few rods from the church in Danbury."

The following advertisement also appears:

To be sold: Twenty years' time of a likely NEGRO BOY, five years old. Inquire of the Printers.  
Danbury, Dec. 21, 1790.

The "institution" of slavery was not unknown among the good people of Danbury, for under date March 1, 1791, appears the following notice:

#### TO BE SOLD.

#### TWO NEGRO SERVANTS, VIZ.:

A man and woman. The man is an able and willing fellow, well acquainted with farming business, and is exceeding handy with a team. The wench, his wife, is neat, and understands all manner of house work. Any person desirous of purchasing the above-mentioned servants may call on the Printers for further information.

March 1, 1791.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS OF 1792.

The following advertisements appeared in the *Farmers' Journal* of Dec. 22, 1792:



*The SUBSCRIBERS to the*  
DANBURY LIBRARY,

ARE requested to meet at the house of Mr. *Fairchild White*, on Tuesday evening, the first of January next, prepared to pay in the amount of their Subscriptions, and transact the necessary business of the Company.

TIMOTHY LANGDON, } Com-  
NATHAN DOUGLAS, } mit-  
LAZARUS BEACH, } tee.

Danbury, Dec. 1, 1792.

O. BURR, & Co.

Have just received the following articles, which they will sell on the lowest terms for cash or country produce, and all sorts of yarn, rags, thrums, &c. paid in hand, as it is not their wish to sell on credit:

Twill'd and plain Coatings.	St. Croix Rum,
Ladies ditto.	Brown and Loaf Sugar,
Scarlet & other colored Cloths.	Gin, by the cask,
Wildbores, Camblets,	Bohea Tea,
Twill'd & plain Velvets,	Pepper, Allspice,
Linnens,	Ginger, Allum,
Cambricks and Muffins,	Copperas,
Calicoes and Chintzes,	rod. 8d. & 4d. Nails,

Together with a variety of other articles of Dry Goods: Also an assortment of

SADDLERY AND HARD WARE,  
and

CAMEL'S HAIR, FOR HATTERS.

The highest price given for

MUSKRAT, CAT, & RABBIT SKINS.

Danbury, Nov. 15, 1792.

41

CARRINGTON and MYGATT,

Have entered into partnership with  
NAJAH TAYLOR, in the GOLD and  
SILVER-SMITH BUSINESS,

Under the firm of

Mygatt, Taylor, & Co.

WHERE may be had any work in that line, on the most reasonable terms, and made in the newest and most approved fashions and neatest manner.

CASH paid for Old Silver, Brads and Copper.

Danbury, December 8, 1792.

44

N. B. A good workman at CLOCKS, will meet with good encouragement at said shop.

NOAH HOYT, jun.

HAS a large and beautiful store of GOODS on hand. Said Hoyt wishes to purchase 1,000 runs of LINEN and TOW YARN, for which nine pence per run will be given for linen yarn, and six pence per run for tow yarn.

All kinds of HATTING FUR will be received in payment for Goods.

Danbury, Nov. 24, 1792.

42

THOSE persons who are indebted to the Subscribers on Note or Book (whose accounts are become due by agreement) will do well to notice this advertisement, and call and settle (or at least make some pay) in order to prevent cost which will positively be made in case of neglect, without the trouble of writing 3 or 4 Dunning Letters upon the occasion. All kinds of country produce received in payment at the full value, if not more.

HOG'S-BRISTLES taken in at said Store, and Twenty Shillings per hundred paid in Cash for COTTON and LINEN RAGS in quantities not less than one hundred weight.

CARRINGTON & MYGATT.

Who have for Sale, as usual,

An assortment of

Goods, Drugs & Medicine, and

Painter's and Dyer's Colours,

On reasonable terms.

Danbury, Dec. 8, 1792.

44

LELAND'S  
ALMANACKS,

FOR 1793, FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.

LOST, last Monday night, a red and white silk HANDKERCHIEF. Whoever will return it to the Printers, or to Mr. Major Taylor, will oblige a poor Woman, who has nothing but thanks to offer as a reward.  
Danbury, Dec. 15, 1792.

PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER 15.

PRICE OF STOCKS.

6 per cents,	20/3.
3 per cents,	12/.
Deferred do.	12/6.
Final settlements,	20/.
Shares Bank of United States,	36

ALL persons who owe STATE TAXES to the Subscriber, are hereby notified, that unless they settle with him within a week from this date, either by giving their notes of hand for the same, or otherwise making full payment of the balances due to him, must depend upon paying him full travelling and levying fees; as he is determined his Rate bills shall be fully closed in a very short time.

JOSEPH M. WHITE.

Danbury, Dec. 15, 1792.

45 2

A WATCH LOST.

LOST yesterday, between the top of Elwell's-hill, and the hill by Mr. Oliver Stone's, a silver Watch—maker's name George Clark, a steel chain, with links and rings, the seal was lost out of its case—Whoever shall find said Watch, and will deliver it to the Printers hereof, or to Mr. Deforest, at Elwill's hill, shall be generously rewarded for their trouble.

ELIJAH HAWLEY.

Danbury, Dec. 8, 1792.

44 3

TAYLOR & COOKE,

ANXIOUS to make a settlement with their customers, without putting them to cost, they once more take this method to call upon all persons indebted to them, either by note or book, whose accounts have become due by agreement, to make a settlement by the 10th day of January next; and as the present prices of produce cannot with propriety be pleaded as a delay of payment, those who neglect to make a settlement by the time mentioned, must expect to be put to cost, without further notice. All kinds of merchantable produce will be received in payment, at its full value.

N. B. Cash, and the highest price, will be given by them for good WHEAT, PORK, &c. and a generous price for HOG'S BRISTLES.

Danbury, Dec. 15, 1792.

45

FOR SALE,

THE STORE, formerly occupied by NICHOLS and DIBBLE.—It stands in Danbury, in Bethel society, about three miles S. E. from the town, on the public road to Fairfield—is an excellent stand for business, and is built convenient for HATTING and TRADING—will be sold with or without the Hattings Tools. For further particulars enquire of ZAR DIBBLE.

N. B. All those indebted to the late partnership of NICHOLS and DIBBLE, either by note or book, must depend on settling with them by the 1st day of January next, or their accounts will be put into an Attorney's hand to collect, without further notice.

Dec. 10, 1792.

45 3

Eleazer Taylor,

PRESENTS his compliments to those gentlemen whom he has supplied with the *Farmer's Journal*, and informs them he is now ready to receive the balance due him to the 5th inst.—and while he returns his thanks to those who have made payment according to agreement, he is under the painful necessity of requiring of others an immediate settlement—otherwise he shall be forced to have recourse to an expensive mode of collecting his arrearages.

Danbury, December 22, 1792.

## EAR-MARKS.

The following are specimens of ear-marks used in the early days to distinguish sheep:

"Justus Barnum's ear-mark is a crop in each ear and a nick under the near. Entered August 31, 1778."

"Abijah Barnum's ear-mark is Step under the off ear, and half-penny foreside the same, and half-penny foreside the near ear. Entered Decem<sup>r</sup> 5th, 1778."

"John Gregory, his ear-mark is a crop on the near ear and two half-pennys under the same. Dec. 9, 1778."

"Eben<sup>r</sup> Gregory's ear-mark is a crop on the near ear, and a half-penny under the same. Dec. 9, 1778."

"Robert Benedict's ear-mark is a step under each ear. Entered Dec. 28, 1778."

"Andrew Comstock's ear-mark is a half-penny foreside the near ear, step under same. Dec. 28, 1778."

"Nathan Starr's ear-mark is a swallow fork on the near ear. Entered January 5, 1779."

"Eleazer Taylor's ear-mark is a half-penny under near ear, a crop on the off, and a nick under the off. Entered May 30, 1778."

"Ebenezer Whitlock's mark is a spade in the end of the right ear. Entered Dec. 23, 1779."

## ROADS.

At a regular town-meeting held in 1800 it was "voted that men's labor on the highway should be rated at seventy-five cents per day, and the same for a good and sufficient team, except from the 20th of September to the 20th of December, when it should be but fifty-eight cents per day." This provision was undoubtedly intended to save the town from being cheated by the short days.

## CHAPTER XXII.

## DANBURY (Continued).

## MISCELLANEOUS—THE PRESS, Etc.

The Danbury Press—The Farmers' Journal—The Republican Journal—The Farmers' Chronicle—The Religious Monitor and Theological Scales—The Sun of Liberty—The Farmers' Journal and Columbian Ark—The New England Republican—The Danbury Recorder—The Herald of Freedom—The Herald of Freedom and Gospel Witness—The Connecticut Repository—The Danbury Gazette—The Danbury Chronicle and Fairfield County Democrat—The Danbury Times—The Hatters' Journal—The Junta—The Jeffersonian—The Danbury News—The Danburian—The Danbury Globe—The People—The Danbury Democrat—The Danbury Republican—The Gas-Light Company—Wooster Council, No. 28, R. and S. M.—Crusade Commandery—Eureka Chapter—Union Lodge—Washington Division, No. 1, S. of T.—Memorial Lodge, No. 191, I. O. G. T.—Samaritan Lodge, No. 7, I. O. of O. F.—Agricultural Society—The National Pahquioque Bank—Danbury National Bank—The Savings Bank of Danbury—The Union Savings-Bank—The Fire Department—The Water-Works—The Kohanza Disaster—Elmwood Park—Wooster Cemetery—Population from 1756 to 1880—The Danbury Library.

## THE DANBURY PRESS.

THE *Farmers' Journal* was established in March, 1790. The publishers were Edward Ely and Nathan Douglas. It was published in a building near the court-house. In January of 1793 the firm separated, and Mr. Douglas commenced a paper under the title of the *Republican Journal*. This venture does not seem to have proved altogether a profitable one to either party, for in December of the same year Mr. Douglas disposed of his paper to Mr. Ely, who then

consolidated the two papers and issued the result as *The Farmers' Chronicle*. How long he continued its publication is not known. Mr. Douglas, after disposing of his paper, made a specialty of job-printing.

*The Religious Monitor and Theological Scales*, a monthly religious magazine, was started in 1797 by Douglas & Nichols, and was continued for several years. The copies extant show it to have been well edited, and it probably reached a large circulation.

The *Sun of Liberty*, a Republican paper, edited by Samuel Morse, Danbury, was established in July, 1800, and continued until October 8th, when it was removed to Norwalk.

*The Farmers' Journal and Columbian Ark*, an eight-page weekly paper, was started in February, 1803, by Stiles, Nichols & Co. This paper does not seem to have had a long run, as soon after we find that Mr. Nichols went to Bridgeport and published the *Farmer* of that place.

*The New England Republican* was established by John C. Gray in July, 1804. This paper was exceedingly neat and good-looking, but there is no record of the length of time it was published, although it must have continued for several years, as the copy in the possession of the writer is No. 41 of Vol. III.

*The Danbury Recorder* was established in 1826 by Orrin Osborn; it was in after-years published by W. & M. Yale in the building just south of the present Baptist church. It was a small paper, but handsomely gotten up and ably edited.

*The Herald of Freedom* was started in Bethel, then a part of Danbury, in October, 1831, by P. T. Barnum. We may note here that Mr. Barnum, for an alleged libel on a citizen of Bethel, was tried in October, 1832, found guilty, and sentenced to imprisonment for sixty days and fined one hundred dollars. The sentence, so far as imprisonment was concerned, was immediately carried out, Mr. Barnum being confined in the jail, from whence he continued to edit his paper. His release was made the occasion of a grand ovation by his friends. It is but fair to state here that the jury, in finding Mr. Barnum guilty, did so on mere technical grounds, believing that the utmost punishment he would receive would be a small fine, and were as much astonished as was Mr. Barnum at the severity of the sentence. The fine of one hundred dollars was subsequently collected from Mr. Barnum by the State attorney, Mr. Ferris, of Stamford. In 1832 a theological department was added to the paper, under charge of Rev. L. F. W. Andrews, a Universalist clergyman, and the name changed to *Herald of Freedom and Gospel Witness*. In 1833 the paper was moved to Danbury proper, and the religious department of the paper and the latter portion of the name dropped. Its publication was continued here till November, 1834, when the paper was removed to Norwalk and published by other parties under a new name. The office of publication in Danbury was on the east side of Main Street, opposite the park.



*The Connecticut Repository* was established in 1832 by Alanson Taylor. It lived but a short time.

*The Danbury Gazette* was started in 1833 by Wilmot & Lobdall. This paper lived only three years.

In May, 1836, *The Danbury Chronicle and Fairfield County Democrat* was started by Edward Layden. In 1837 he disposed of his paper to Mr. E. B. Osborne, who in July of the same year established *The Danbury Times*, its office being the same as that which had been occupied by the *Recorder*. Mr. Osborne continued its editor and proprietor till 1845, when he disposed of the paper to his brothers, Harvey and Levi, and removed to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where he published *The Daily Press and Weekly Telegraph*.

*The Hatters' Journal* was started in 1855 by Granville W. Morris, but it was continued only a few months.

*The Junta*, a small campaign sheet, was published here for a short time in 1846 by Edward Taylor.

*The Jeffersonian* was established in 1860 by a number of gentlemen as a Republican paper, with W. A. Croffut as editor. The office was in Hull's brick block, near the Wooster House. In about a year Mr. Newtown obtained an interest in the paper, and the previous owners sold out to Mr. B. F. Ashley, who took the editorial charge. He conducted the paper alone till December, 1865, when Mr. J. H. Swertfaeger purchased an interest. In 1866, Mr. Ashley retired, and Mr. Swertfaeger continued the paper alone till March, 1870, when he sold out to the publishers of *The Times*. *The Jeffersonian* was from the first a seven-column, twenty-four by thirty-eight, paper.

In March, 1870, *The Danbury Jeffersonian* was purchased by James M. Bailey and Timothy Donovan, the proprietors of *The Danbury Times*. The two papers were consolidated and became *The Danbury News*, with Mr. Bailey as editor. The paragraphs which gave the paper its reputation originated in *The Times* a year or two before the consolidation. Mr. Bailey continued this style of writing in *The News*, but not to the extent he subsequently followed it. *The News* started with a circulation of nearly fifteen hundred copies, which on the 1st of January, 1873, had reached nineteen hundred,—all this being strictly of a local class. In the beginning of that year the paper was sought by outside parties, and in February found its way to city news-stands. In August, 1873, the circulation reached its highest figure,—thirty thousand. In October, 1873, the office was moved to a building erected for its uses, and a special edition for outside circulation was then begun, and continued until the close of the year 1879. In February, 1878, Mr. Bailey bought the interest of his partner, and became the proprietor of the business. *The News* is in a highly-prosperous condition, and has attained a national and almost world-wide reputation. As a paragrapher Mr. Bailey stands without a superior, and *The Danbury News* ranks with *The Detroit Free Press*, *The Burlington Hawkeye*, and other journals of its class in the

United States. As a local journal, also, it is unsurpassed.

*The Danburian* appeared in 1874, but its stay was of short duration.

In October, 1878, *The People*, a Greenback campaign organ, was started by T. Donovan, but was discontinued after the November election.

*The Danbury Globe* was started by W. Frank Page, May 4, 1874, and was conducted by him until his death, in January, 1879. It is now edited by J. A. Wilcox. It was Republican in politics until July 13, 1880, when it became an independent paper. It is a good local journal, and justly merits its success.

*The Danbury Democrat* was started June 1, 1877, by Levi K. Wildman, who still conducts it. Mr. Wildman set his first type in the office of *The Herald of Freedom*, a paper published in Bethel—which at that time was a part of Danbury—by P. T. Barnum. *The Democrat* is a local sheet of merit, and an advocate of Democratic principles.

*The Danbury Republican* was established by W. B. Bartram, March 22, 1879, as an independent Republican journal. Much energy and good judgment must have been used during the first year of its existence, for it at once advanced to a prominent place in provincial journalism, gaining a wide circulation and a large advertising patronage. Although a sheet of large proportions when started, it was a few months later considerably enlarged, and on Aug. 3, 1880, was changed to a semi-weekly. It is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and the able editorial management of Mr. Bartram has placed it in the front rank of the provincial press in the State.

#### GAS-LIGHT COMPANY.

The Danbury Gas-Light Company was organized in 1857 with Henry Benedict president, and gas was first used in Danbury in November of the same year.

#### SECRET SOCIETIES.

*Wooster Council, No. 28, Royal and Select Masters*, was chartered by the Grand Council of Connecticut, June 6, 1865, with the following charter members: Edmund Tweedy, Joseph Treadwell, Wm. F. Barnum, L. K. Mansfield, John M. Hart, Charles W. Skiff, Abijah Abbott, Amos N. Stebbins, Charles Benedict, D. B. Booth. The present officers are as follows: James H. Welch, T. I. M.; C. H. Gunn, R. I. D. M.; F. R. Nash, I. P. C. of W.; E. D. Taylor, C. of G.; E. D. Ritton, Comp. Treas.; W. G. Randall, Comp. Rec.; P. W. Ambler, Comp. Cond.; Milo Dickens, Comp. Sen.

*Crusade Commandery, No. 10, Knights Templar*, was chartered by the Grand Commandery of Connecticut in March, 1871. The present officers are as follows: James B. Wildman, E. C.; Charles H. Gunn, Gen.; P. W. Ambler, Capt.-Gen.; F. R. Nash, Prelate; F. S. Blackburn, Rec.; E. S. Davis, Treas.; O. H. Swift, Senior Warden; J. D. Stevens, Junior Warden; E.

D. Ritton, Standard-Bearer; A. F. Clark, Sword-Bearer; E. D. Taylor, Warder; E. Eaton, 3d Guard; D. H. Miller, 2d Guard; James Coles, 1st Guard; Milo Dickens, Sentinel.

*Eureka Chapter, No. 23, R. A. M.*, was dedicated June 14, 1857, with the following charter members: Miles Hoyt, Starr Perry, John Foot, John Gregory, Joel Taylor, George Seeley, D. P. Shepard, Matthew K. Gilbert, Alva Taylor, Frederick S. Wildman, Ebenezer Nichols, Ira R. Wildman, Eleazer Taylor, Daniel Doble, Joseph Hitchcock, John Ferguson, Martin Mead, Charles Dart, James Beebe, Comfort Whitlock, Thomas P. White, Zar Taylor, Oliver Shepard.

Ebenezer Nichols was the first High Priest; Oliver Shepard, first King; and Ira R. Wildman, first Scribe. The present officers are as follows; C. H. Gunn, M. E. H. P.; F. R. Nash, K.; C. I. Allen, Scribe; E. C. Oakley, Capt. of Host; M. W. Scott, P. S.; E. D. Ritton, Sec.; E. S. Davis, Treas.; J. D. Stevens, R. A. C.; C. A. Crawford, Master 3d Veil; A. M. Steele, Master 2d Veil; S. S. Bedient, Master 1st Veil; P. W. Ambler, Sentinel.

*Union Lodge, No. 4, F. and A. M.*, was organized during the troublous times of the Revolutionary struggle, its charter being issued March 23, 1780, upon application of twelve members, whose names are given in the same. They were Sallu Pell, William Joyce, James Clark, Lamberton Lockwood, John Berrien, F. Wainwright, Christopher A. Babcock, William B. Alger, Joseph Willsea, Christopher Duycknick, Thaddeus Benedict, and James Scougall.

The present officers are M. W. Scott, W. M.; A. B. Holley, S. W.; J. Y. Stetson, J. W.; J. H. Welch, Sec.; S. C. Holley, Treas.; A. O. Knapp, Senior Deacon; J. Noble, Junior Deacon; T. Scofield, Senior Steward; S. M. Versory, Junior Steward; Robert Tappan, Tiler.

*James E. Moore Post, No. 18, G. A. R.*—The charter of the post was signed Sept. 27, 1867, by Edward Harland, the present Adjutant-General of Connecticut, as Department Commander. It was first known as Post No. 4, District No. 4, Department of Connecticut. The name was afterwards changed to Steadman Post, No. 4, Department of Connecticut, and later to the present name. Seventeen members signed the application for a charter.

The first officers were: Commander, Capt. Samuel G. Bailey; Senior Vice-Commander, Samuel M. Petit; Junior Vice-Commander, Grandison D. Foote; Adjutant, J. Bradley Ridge; Quartermaster, E. K. Carley. The present officers are: Commander, Gen. James Ryder; Senior Vice-Commander, Col. Samuel Gregory; Junior Vice-Commander, William Henry Hitchcock; Adjutant, Charles J. Bennett; Quartermaster, William B. Sharp; Chaplain, George Roff; Surgeon, Albert A. Nash. The membership numbers one hundred and fifteen.

Capt. James E. Moore, after whom the post was

named, was killed July 1, 1863, at the battle of Gettysburg.

*Washington Division, No. 1, S. of T.*—April 10, 1843, the Grand Division of the State of New York granted a charter for the first division of this order in the State of Connecticut, and April 25th the officers of the Grand Division of the State of New York instituted, at Danbury, Washington Division, No. 1, Sons of Temperance, with the following charter members: Wm. Adams, Elbert Birdsall, Juda P. Crosby, John T. Earl, Ira Hodges, John D. Raymond, John Scribner, Amos Bishop, Robert Browning, Joel Clark, Joseph P. Foote, Charles Meader, Hiram Sturdevant, Thurman Trowbridge. May 11, 1844, the Grand Division of Connecticut was organized, and in 1845, by unanimous vote, Washington Division surrendered to New York and was reorganized under the banner of Connecticut. Until Jan. 1, 1853, it continued in a most flourishing condition, when all traces of her records are missing until Aug. 8, 1864. Some time during this period she surrendered her charter, and on the 8th day of August was reorganized with the following charter members: Juda P. Crosby, Peter M. Holms, Samuel G. Raymond, Amos Purdy, Aaron Morehouse, Charles Burr, Charles Hinman, Rev. W. T. Hill, H. W. Hinnman, John Whittlesey, Elias B. Stevens, Joseph Robinson, William S. Crosby, Henry Hinnman, Silas Tyrell, Alfred Short, M. D. Smith, Rev. J. H. Shepard, Benj. C. Cables. From this time until the present she has continued harmonious and prosperous. From organization to date she has admitted 1761 members. The first Worthy Patriarch was Juda P. Crosby. The present (July, 1880) Worthy Patriarch is John Clapp.

*Memorial Lodge, No. 191, I. O. of G. T.*, was instituted Friday evening, March 22, 1878, by Mary F. Peck, State Deputy, assisted by W. W. Perkins, J. P. Blackman, C. B. Taylor, E. H. Bennett, and Ella Peck.

There were twenty-four charter members initiated. The charter members were Ira Wildman, James Hyatt, Joseph Brown, Robert Davis, Charles H. Moffet, Frederick A. Brush, Andrew J. Frazer, Vincent King, Henry Polley, Mrs. William Knowls, Mrs. John Smith, William Knowls, Edward Scofield, Frederick Bailey, Charles S. Bray, Frederick Hull, Samuel A. Clark, William Wildman, Charles Cables, Mrs. Ira Wildman, Mrs. James Hyatt, Mrs. Joseph Brown, Mrs. J. W. Corsie, Mrs. A. B. Hull, Miss Emma Squire, Miss Julia Hoag, Miss Nancy Russell. The Worthy Chief Templars since its organization are Ira Wildman, James Kelly, Joseph Brown, William Knowls, Frederick Brush, John Benton, and L. W. Godfrey.

*Samaritan Lodge, No. 7, I. O. of O. F.*—This lodge was organized April 14, 1842. It surrendered its charter in 1859, but was reorganized Sept. 1, 1873, with the following officers: D. B. Booth, N. G.; S. G. Barley, V. G.; Charles Bennett, Sec.; John P. Abbott, Treas. The present officers are C. T. Anson, N. G.; William C. Hart, V. G.; H. E. Comes, Sec.; John H. Cosier, Treas.



## AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Danbury Agricultural Society was organized in the summer of 1869, and has since held annual fairs for the exhibition of stock and farm-produce as well as articles of useful and ornamental industry. The society has been very prosperous. It is free from debt, and receives annually from admission-fees and disburses for premiums a greater sum than any other similar organization in the State. More than sixteen thousand admission-tickets have been taken at the gates during the continuance of a single fair. The grounds are pleasantly located and supplied with all the necessary buildings. There is also an excellent half-mile track. Much credit is due the enterprising progenitors and those through whose influence it has been sustained and prospered.

## BANKS.

## NATIONAL PAHQUIOQUE BANK.

This bank was organized as the Pahquioque Bank, May 1, 1854, with the following board of directors: Aaron Seeley, William Montgomery, Charles Hull, Hiram L. Sturdevant, L. H. Boughton, W. F. Taylor, Oliver Stone, Frederick S. Wildman. Capital, \$100,000. Aaron Seeley was the first president, and his son Augustus was the first cashier. It was voted that subscribers should pay fifty per cent. on subscribing and ten per cent. every sixty days afterwards until paid. Oct. 25, 1854, the capital was increased to \$200,000, and in 1857 to \$250,000. Augustus Seeley resigned as cashier in January, 1857, when his brother, William P. Seeley, succeeded him, and is the present incumbent. Aaron Seeley remained president of the bank until his death, in 1872. Barnabas Allen then became president, and continued in the office until January, 1879, when he was succeeded by the present incumbent, Barzillai B. Kellogg. It was reorganized as a national bank March 25, 1865, with the following directors: Charles Hull, B. B. Kellogg, A. S. Pearce, James E. Hoyt, Aaron Seeley, W. F. Taylor, Barnabas Allen, W. F. Lacey, Nathaniel Selleck. The present board of directors are as follows: B. B. Kellogg, M. H. Griffing, Henry Crofut, S. C. Holley, B. A. Hough, C. F. Starr, Benjamin Selleck, Charles Hull, and Barnabas Allen.

## DANBURY NATIONAL BANK.

The Fairfield County Branch Bank, located at Danbury, was organized for business on the 24th day of August, 1824, by the election of Zalmon Wildman, Esq., as its first president, the several directors being elected by the mother-bank at Norwalk, Conn. The election of cashier was delayed until Sept. 20, 1824, when Curtis Clark, Esq., was chosen and began his duties immediately. The business of the bank was conducted in the house of Dr. Daniel Comstock, who then lived in the building now occupied by Mrs. Amos N. Stebbins. July 25, 1825, action was taken by the directors in regard to building a banking-house, and

Aug. 29, 1825, David Foot was appointed a committee to procure the necessary stone for the vault, hearth, steps, and underpinning, and on Nov. 17, 1825, he was appointed the agent to superintend the building of the banking-house, which was done, and is now the residence of Mrs. Charles E. Andrews, corner of Bank and Main Streets. May 20, 1826, Zalmon Wildman resigned the office of president, and June 22, 1826, Samuel Tweedy, Esq., was elected president, and was re-elected each year as president till July 7, 1834, when David Foot was elected and served that year, and June 20, 1835, Samuel Tweedy was again elected president, and was re-elected to the office each year until the Branch was merged into the Danbury Bank, July 1, 1844, and was re-elected as president of the Danbury Bank each year until June, 1864, when the infirmities of age required his declination as a director of the bank.

June 12, 1827, the following-named persons were elected directors of the bank (the record of the election of directors previously being at Norwalk): Samuel Tweedy, Elijah Gregory, Elijah Sanford, Thomas T. Whittlesey, Samuel Wildman, Richard Randall, and Henry Beers. The following names appear as directors of the Branch Bank for a year or more: Abel B. Blackman, Reuben Booth, David N. B. Baldwin, Friend Starr, John F. King, Isaac H. Seeley, Abner Gilbert, Starr Ferry, Samuel Stebbins, Starr Nichols, James Brush, William Hawley, Chandler Smith, Russel B. Botsford, Russel Hoyt, Eli T. Hoyt, Edgar S. Tweedy.

Curtis Clark remained as cashier until 1837. June 20, 1835, Geo. W. Ives was appointed assistant cashier, and remained as such until 1837. Aaron Seeley, Esq., was then appointed cashier, and remained such until the Branch Bank was merged into the Danbury Bank, in 1844, and as cashier of that bank until June 1, 1854, when he organized the Pahquioque Bank. He was president of that bank until his death, in 1872.

On Dec. 12, 1842, it was unanimously resolved by the directors of the Branch Bank to appoint Starr Ferry, Esq., a committee and agent to do all the necessary business of obtaining signers to a petition to dissolve the Branch Bank and attend to the appointing of commissioners, and do everything necessary to effect and complete a separation of the Branch from the bank at Norwalk.

The above action was successful in the obtaining of a charter for the Danbury Bank at the session of the State Legislature in 1844, and the appointing of Nelson Brewster bank commissioner, and E. B. Bennett and Harvey Smith committee to divide the stock and assets of the two banks.

The first board of directors of the Danbury Bank was as follows: Samuel Tweedy, President; Russel Hoyt, Isaac H. Seeley, Eli T. Hoyt, Starr Ferry, Samuel Stebbins, Edgar S. Tweedy. Hours of business, 9 to 12 A.M. and 1 to 4 P.M. Discount days, Monday and Thursday.

The following names appear as directors, for one or more years, of the Danbury Bank until its reorganization as a national bank, April 1, 1865: Samuel Tweedy, Isaac H. Seeley, Starr Ferry, Edgar S. Tweedy, Lucius P. Hoyt, Judge Brownson, Daniel N. B. Baldwin, Charles F. Starr, Lyman Keeler, Pierce A. Sutton, Russel Hoyt, Eli T. Hoyt, Samuel Stebbins, Reuben Booth, Abner Gilbert, Niram Wildman, Smith Tweedy, William Wildman, Charles Hull, Henry Benedict, Frederick S. Wildman, Amzi Rogers, Samuel C. Wildman, Levi S. Benedict, George Starr, George Hull, Oliver Stone, Elias S. Sanford, W. R. White, Roger Averill, David P. Nichols.

Lucius P. Hoyt was elected vice-president of the bank Dec. 27, 1862, and continued as such until his election as president, June 18, 1864, and continued as such until the reorganization as a national bank, April, 1865, and has annually been re-elected as president to this date, July, 1880, the bank having had but four presidents since 1824, viz.: Zalmon Wildman, two years; Samuel Tweedy, thirty-seven years; David Foot, one year; Lucius P. Hoyt, sixteen years.

The bank has had but four cashiers in its history since 1824, viz.: Curtis Clark, thirteen years; Aaron Seeley, seventeen years; Ephraim Gregory, one year; Jabez Amsbury, twenty-five years. George W. Ives was assistant cashier, appointed June 20, 1835, and resigned 1837, and Augustus Seeley, Dec. 1, 1852, and continued as such until his appointment as cashier of the Pahquioque Bank, June 1, 1854.

The original capital of the bank was \$75,000, of which amount but seventy per cent. was called in until June 20, 1836, when ten per cent. was called for, payable Aug. 1, 1836, ten per cent. Oct. 1, 1836, and ten per cent. March 1, 1850.

In 1851 it was voted to prosecute a petition for an addition to the capital stock of the bank at the next session of the Legislature of the State, which does not seem to have been granted; but in June, 1854, we find they successfully prosecuted the petition, and the capital stock was made up to \$200,000,—the Wooster Bank having been merged into the Danbury Bank at that time,—and in June, 1857, it was again increased \$100,000, so that its chartered capital paid in at that time (1857) was \$300,000, which, with the funds belonging to ecclesiastical societies, which all became stock in the Danbury National Bank in 1865, was \$327,000, at which figure (July, 1880) it remains. The surplus of the bank is \$73,000, thus making its capital and surplus \$400,000, July, 1880.

The average dividend paid by the branch bank is not known, as all dividends were declared at Norwalk by the mother-bank. The average dividend declared by the Danbury Bank from 1844, when it was chartered, to April, 1865, when it became a national bank, was  $8\frac{2}{100}$  per cent. per annum and one extra dividend of  $11\frac{1}{4}$  per cent., or, in all,  $8\frac{9}{100}$  per year. From 1865, when it became a national bank, until July, 1880,

the average dividend has been  $11\frac{9}{100}$  per cent. per annum.

The first board of directors of the Danbury National Bank was: Lucius P. Hoyt, President; Oliver Stone, Lyman Keeler, Roger Averill, George Starr, George Hall, Samuel C. Wildman, Frederick S. Wildman, David P. Nichols; Jabez Amsbury, Cashier; Robert Hoyt, Teller. Its present officers are Lucius P. Hoyt, President; Directors, Lucius P. Hoyt, Roger Averill, George Hull, Wm. R. White, George Starr, Samuel A. Rundle, David P. Nichols, Henry T. Hoyt, of Danbury, and Henry S. Peck, of Brookfield, Charles H. Merritt having also been a director for two years since its being a national bank; Jabez Amsbury, Cashier; George H. Williams, Teller.

The present banking-house was erected during the fall of the year 1855, and the business of the bank commenced to be done in the new bank Jan. 10, 1856. The building committee was Edgar S. Tweedy, Lyman Keeler, and George Hull, and the structure was built from plans made by Mr. Austin, of New Haven, who had a short time before planned the building known as the Wooster House.

#### SAVINGS BANKS.

*The Savings Bank of Danbury* was incorporated June 25, 1849, and the following were the first officers and directors: Frederick S. Wildman, President; Eli T. Hoyt, John Irwin, Vice-Presidents; George W. Ives, David P. Nichols, Lucius P. Hoyt, Aaron Seeley, Mathew Seeley, Jr., Edgar J. Tweedy, Directors; Henry Benedict, George W. Ives, Secretary and Treasurer. William Jabine was elected secretary and treasurer March 30, 1861, and Henry C. Ryder, the present incumbent, Aug. 1, 1873. The first deposit was made by Reuben Booth Pearce, July 14, 1849, of \$25. Present amount of deposits, \$1,796,646.08.

The present officers and directors are as follows: Frederick S. Wildman, President (Mr. Wildman has been president of the bank since its organization); E. S. Tweedy, William R. White, Vice-Presidents; Roger Averill, John W. Bacon, George Raymond, George Starr, William Jabine, Lyman D. Brewster, Henry C. Ryder, Directors; Henry C. Ryder, Secretary and Treasurer; George B. Benjamin, Jr., Teller.

*The Union Savings Bank of Danbury* was incorporated in June, 1866. The following is the list of the original incorporators: John Shethar, Secretary; Charles Hull, Martin H. Griffing, Samuel C. Holley, Almon Judd, Lucius H. Boughton, Elijah Sturtevant, William H. Clark, Amos N. Stebbins, James Baldwin, William S. Peck, James S. Taylor, George C. White, Norman Hodge, Orrin Benedict, Alfred A. Heath, Francis H. Austin, William F. Taylor, Levi Osborn. James S. Taylor was elected president, and Charles Hull vice-president, but declined, and Martin H. Griffing was elected instead. First trustees: William S. Peck, F. H. Austin, A. N. Stebbins, W. F. Taylor, John Shethar, Samuel C. Holley, Lucius H.



Boughton; W. F. Olmstead, Treasurer and Secretary.

W. F. Olmstead continued as secretary and treasurer until 1873, when L. P. Treadwell was elected, and has been re-elected up to the present time. Samuel Stebbins was also re-elected president, and continued to 1873, when S. C. Holley was elected, and is the present incumbent.

The first deposit was made by Mrs. Margaret Pepper, of Sherman, on July 23, 1866, of \$140. The deposits during the first year amounted to \$32,200, and now aggregate about \$435,000.

The present corporators are M. H. Griffing, F. H. Austin, Henry Crofut, Samuel C. Holley, A. A. Heath, Norman Hodge, William F. Taylor, William H. Clark, Almon Judd, James Baldwin, William G. Street, E. P. Bennett, M.D., William C. Bennett, M.D., William J. Rider, George E. Ryder, F. A. Hull, C. H. Merritt, Luman L. Hubbell, A. T. Clason, M.D., James B. Wildman, D. G. Penfield, Ed. M. Baldwin, L. P. Treadwell.

Present officers: S. C. Holley, President; Henry Crofut, Vice-President; L. P. Treadwell, Secretary and Treasurer; Almon Judd, George E. Ryder, William J. Rider, Luman L. Hubbell, F. H. Austin, Norman Hodge, David G. Penfield, Trustees.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The first reference to a fire department in Danbury we find in the *Republican Journal*, under date Nov. 11, 1793, being an advertisement, as follows:

##### FIRE ENGINE.

A SUBSCRIPTION has been set forward in this town for the purpose of procuring a FIRE ENGINE, and which has met with the warmest approbation of every gentleman to whom it has been presented. The Engine proposed to be purchased will discharge 80 gallons per minute and throw it 100 feet in height.

As soon as three hundred dollars are subscribed for (about sixty of which are now wanting) a meeting of the subscribers will be held, and a committee appointed to purchase said engine, and for such other purposes as may be deemed necessary.

To suggest to the enlightened inhabitants of this town the usefulness of a Fire Engine, and to expatiate on the invention of a machine which under Providence has saved the lives and property of millions, would be justly deemed an insult to their understanding.

The subscription is still to be seen at the store of Messrs. Cunningham & Mygatt, where those who are desirous of subscribing are requested to call.

Danbury, Nov. 11, 1793.

At a borough-meeting at the court-house, Monday, July 14, 1823, a by-law was passed to appoint one or more fire inspectors, to hold the office until the annual borough-meeting, and their duties were defined.

At the annual meeting, May 10, 1824, it was

"Voted, That Samuel Tweedy, Johnson Wildman, and Niram Wildman be a committee to inquire into the probable expense of an engine or engines, and to devise the best method to procure one or more for the benefit of this borough, and report at a future meeting of the borough all the facts with their opinion thereon."

At the annual borough-meeting, May 8, 1826, Nathaniel Bishop, Moss White, and Jesse Crofut were appointed fire inspectors.

At a borough-meeting Oct. 6, 1828, it was

"Voted, That Russel Hoyt and Samuel Tweedy be a committee to correspond with the proprietor of the engines built at Canaan, for the purpose of ascertaining on what terms one or more can be purchased, and report at a future meeting."

The meeting was adjourned to December 1st, when it was

"Voted, That the warden and burgesses be directed to send to Canaan for one or more engines to be tried."

At a borough-meeting, Jan. 20, 1829, it was

"Voted, That a tax of two and a half cents on the dollar be laid on the polls and taxable property within the borough, on an assessment-list lately made out by direction of the borough, payable by the 10th day of February next, to purchase two fire-engines.

"Voted, That Elias S. Sanford be and is hereby appointed collector of the above tax at two per cent. premium, to be paid into the treasury by the 20th of March next.

"Voted, That the warden and burgesses be directed to make such regulations as to the locality of the engines, and also as to forming companies to take care of and manage the engines, and also to lay out the surplus of the tax, if any after paying for the engines.

At the session of the General Assembly held at Hartford in 1829, upon the petition of Daniel B. Cook, and warden, and burgesses, the borough was authorized a second fire company, not to exceed sixteen men, and at a meeting of the warden and burgesses, July 13, 1829,

"Voted, That two fire companies be formed and organized within said borough, to be denominated Fire Company No. 1 and Fire Company No. 2.

"Also voted, That Company No. 2 shall consist of twenty-five men, including officers, and No. 1 of sixteen men, including officers."

At a meeting of the warden and burgesses held July 13, 1829, the following persons were appointed officers of Fire Company No. 2; Moss White, Foreman; William Patch, Assistant Foreman; Eli T. Hoyt, Secretary. The following persons were appointed firemen and attached to said Company No. 2, and to be deemed members of said company: John Foot, Daniel Anderson, Samuel Barber, Rory Starr, Thomas M. Gregory, Alfred Benedict, John F. Baird, Stan Nichols, Edward Tweedy, Enoch Moore, Sands Perkins, Edward Holmes, Underhill Nelson, Stephen T. Gregory, David P. Abbott, Samuel J. Downing, Henry C. Lobdell.

The following persons were officers of Company No. 1: Elias S. Sanford, Foreman; John Fry, Assistant Foreman; Ephraim Gregory, Secretary. The following persons were appointed Firemen, attached to said Company No. 1, and to be deemed members thereof: Samuel Stebbins, Moses Yale, Lucius H. Boughton, Thomas F. Whittlesey, Timothy B. Hickock, Alfred Gregory, Samuel C. Wildman, Darius Starr, Nathaniel Wood, Gilead G. Taylor, Hubbell Wildman, Frederick S. Wildman, Benjamin Smith.

Aug. 22, 1829, the following persons were added to No. 2: Samuel G. Boughton, Henry Benedict, Darius Dikeman, Zar Stone, Russell Dobbs; and August 27th Charles A. Jump added to No. 1; Sept. 3, 1829, Emery Shadbolt to No. 2.

The present organization is as follows: Matthew

W. Scott, Chief Engineer; George T. Oakley, First Assistant; Jesse W. Day, Second Assistant.

*Washington Hook-and-Ladder Co.*—Nathan Benedict, Foreman; Frank E. Moore, Assistant; William H. Stott, Secretary; G. Frank Bailey, Treasurer.

*Kohanza Hose Co., No. 2.*—John Scott, Jr., Foreman; Thomas A. Hull, Assistant; Edward Lobdell, Secretary; Lester Comes, Treasurer.

*Humane Hose Co.*—Thomas Deakin, Foreman; Augustus Parsons, Assistant; Augustus Hurgin, Secretary; William Small, Treasurer.

#### DANBURY WATER-WORKS.

The subject of introducing water into the borough for domestic and other uses early engaged the attention of the citizens, and in 1834 the Danbury Water-Works Company was inaugurated. In 1851 a committee was appointed by the borough "to inquire into the expediency of supplying the borough with water for fire and other purposes, and report to a future meeting." This committee made an examination of "Mountain Pond," and reported the "source of supply unreliable, and the project of bringing water therefrom entirely impracticable."

The first movement which accomplished any practical results was begun in the spring of 1860, when a communication from J. W. Bacon was published in the *Jeffersonian*, calling attention to Kohanza Brook as a water-supply, and stating results of experiments made by him as to quantity of water, together with details of plan of proposed reservoir and system of pipes for introducing water from this source. Mainly through the exertions of Mr. Bacon, a charter was obtained from the Legislature early in the season of 1860, which was accepted by the borough on the 17th of May. Contracts for the entire works were signed on the 22d of May, and in the following December water was let into all the pipes, and the utility of the works for fire or other purposes fully shown to the satisfaction of all. Over nine miles of pipe were laid during the first year, and a supply-reservoir of about six acres constructed, the whole at a cost of about thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars.

In 1866, the storage capacity of the small reservoir being found insufficient, a larger reservoir, flooding over thirty acres, was built farther up the stream at an expense of about seven thousand dollars. Both of these reservoirs were swept away on the evening of Jan. 31, 1869, causing a great destruction of property and loss of life. The reservoirs were rebuilt the same year.

The water-supply of Danbury is one of the best in the country, and to Mr. John W. Bacon is the credit due for its successful introduction.

#### THE KOHANZA DISASTER.

The following account of this terrible disaster is taken from the *Danbury Times*:

"At a quarter to seven o'clock, on Sunday evening, Jan. 31, 1869, the dam to the upper reservoir of the Kohanza Water gave way, and the vast

body of water was hurled down upon the lower pond, sweeping away the dam and bringing their united strength down into the valley below, carrying with it huge masses of ice and scattering destruction along its course. At Flint's dam the tide obtained fresh impulse. The dam was swept away in an instant; the large body of water there contributed its power to the destruction. The water, ice, and broken timber swept down the line of Mill River through the village, and created the most appalling disaster ever happening in this vicinity. Ten lives were lost and fifty thousand dollars' worth of property was destroyed. The Main, North, and White Street bridges were destroyed, and the bridges on Patch Street and Balmforth Avenue were badly damaged, the latter by the water and ice setting up the creek which it spans. The bridge crossing the Still River, opposite Lacey, Hoyt & Co.'s factory, was badly racked and displaced. Five buildings were swept from their foundations or demolished. Of these, two were dwellings, standing on the north side of Main Street, near the stream. The one nearest the stream was owned by Oliver Stone, and was occupied by James Bothwell, wife, and two children, and by Edward Clark, wife, and three children. The other building was owned and occupied by Mrs. Betsey Husted, who rented the upper story to John Chambers and family, who were absent at the time of the disaster. Mrs. Husted and the occupants of Mr. Stone's house were drowned. With the Bothwells boarded two sisters (who were also sisters of Mrs. Clark), Fannie and Betsey Humphrey, who were away from home at the hour of the disaster. One of them, Miss Fanny, in attempting to cross White Street bridge, nearly a mile below her home, was overtaken by the flood, and shared the fate of the rest. The lost were Mrs. Husted, Mrs. Bothwell, Ida Bothwell, aged eight years, Edward Clark, Mary Clark, aged eight years, George Clark, aged two years, — Clark, aged five years, and Fannie Humphrey, aged twenty-eight years, Mrs. Clark and Nettie Bothwell, aged ten years. Starr's slaughter-house, Chase's factory, and Sunderland's carpenter-shop were demolished. Two tenements belonging to Hendrick Barnum, situated on North Street and occupied by the families of Perry Disbrow and Daniel Hoyt, were considerably damaged by the ice. The water-work dams are ruined. The upper dam lost one hundred feet of earth, and the lower dam was entirely carried away. In the valley west of Clapboard Ridge, and northwest of the town, are the receiving and supplying reservoirs of the Kohanza Water. The natural stream at this point is about four feet wide and has an average depth of about four inches. The lower dam is about three miles from the centre of the village, and the upper is about a mile and a quarter beyond. The lower dam was built upon the inauguration of the works in 1860, and the upper in 1866. The lower pond contained about 7½ acres of water, and the upper about 26 acres. The greatest depth of water in both places was about 23 feet, or the average depth about 8 feet. The length of first dam was 40 feet; height, 26 feet; cost, \$1700. Length of second dam, 600 feet; height, 22 feet; cost, \$4500. Each dam was built of earth sloped 1½ to 1 on outside and 2 to 1 on inside, and the whole of inside lined with stones. The thickness of the dams at the lowest point was 90 to 100 feet; at the water-line, 20 to 22 feet."

#### ELMWOOD PARK.

The beginning of the pleasant trysting-place known as Elmwood Park was made in 1801. At that time the road passed on the east side of the park and formed a bow, and in the year 1801 a petition was presented to straighten the street at this point. Maj. Ezra Starr, of Revolutionary memory, who lived on the premises where now is located the residence of Hon. D. P. Nichols, and who owned the land from here down to Wooster Street, generously donated the land along his premises, on the condition, however, that it should ever after remain a "common." The "park" henceforth became a spot of considerable importance, as here were held the trainings of "ye olden time." There were two military organizations in Danbury at that time,—an artillery company and a company of cavalry, the former of which rendezvoused at the tavern kept by Ebenezer White, which stood on the site of the present Turner House, and the latter on the corner of Elm and Main Streets.



The little park remained with no particular attention being paid to it in matters of improvement or ornamentation until 1851 or 1852, when a movement was started for making it a central park by running a road on the west side. This project was stoutly opposed by the residents in the upper portion of the town, but finally succeeded. Two thousand dollars was subscribed for the purpose, and in 1853 the work begun. Among the leading citizens who manifested a lively interest in the matter are mentioned the names of Augustus Seeley, W. P. Seeley, and Aaron Turner. The trees were given by Mr. James Harvey, and were dug by Noah Atkins and Fred. Bevans.

After a few years interest in the park waned, and, as predicted by those who opposed it in the beginning, it passed back to the borough. It, however, proved to be comparatively inexpensive, as the fence fairly rotted away, and it became "a mere irregular entanglement, uncared for, unsightly to the eye, not useful for any purpose." Finally, however, after about a score of years of inattention and neglect, a movement was started for the improvement of the little spot, principally by A. P. Sturges. The good work inaugurated by Mr. Sturges went on, and on July 19, 1879, the place, beautified and improved, was reopened as Elmwood Park. It is finely shaded, has a band-stand and an immense fountain, and, taken all in all, is one of the finest parks to be found in any village in the county. What Bushnell Park is to Hartford, Seaside to Bridgeport, is Elmwood to the present village of Danbury.

The following anecdote is related by the *Danbury News*:

"When the late Uncle Sam Jennings was warden he got a crop of hay from the ground. He had previously issued a proclamation forbidding the obstruction of the highways of the village. One afternoon he loaded his cart with the hay, but, it being late, he left the load in the street for the night. A number of unknown parties, in the fear of the law and with a most commendable regard for its integrity, drew the cart to the pound in the night, pitched the hay over into the inclosure, then took the cart to pieces and passed that over, and then finished up by reloading the hay and leaving the whole within the pound.

"The feelings of Warden Jennings when he discovered the location of his hay the next morning can easily be imagined. But he issued no manifesto nor offered any reward for the apprehension of the actors. He remembered where he had left his cart the night before, and silently went to work to pitch the hay outside, to take the cart apart and get that over, and then to put the machinery together again and reload the hay.

"That was in the 'good old times.'"

#### WOOSTER CEMETERY.\*

The visitor to Danbury is impressed with two things in its favor,—first, its good care of the living; second, its good care of the dead. The first is demonstrated in its facilities for educating the young and in providing for the helpless; the second is shown in the beautiful appearance of its cemetery.

Perhaps there is no place in Connecticut that can show a burial-place having so many advantages, both natural and artificial. The general contour of the

ground is a ridge running the length of the place in part circle from east to north, inclosing a basin within the circle and a terrace outside. There are several small ridges surrounding the main ridge. The basin is flooded by a neighboring stream and divided into miniature islands covered with trees. From points on the main ridge the lake of islands is in plain sight, and presents a very picturesque view to the observer. There is also a drive around the water.

In laying out the roads and grounds for burial purposes, the taste displayed by the architects is admirable. Advantage has been taken of all the points presented by nature, and art has smoothed the rough places and developed them into beauty. The great bulk of those owning lots have been equally jealous of their appearance, and in many instances these spots have been made very beautiful. The great wealth of foliage in the cemetery strikes the visitor as being remarkable. The most hardy variety of trees and shrubs have been selected, and, while the shade is abundant, it does not entirely hide many of the other attractive features of the place in a distant view. The grounds are within the village, and are consequently visited quite frequently, especially on a pleasant Sabbath, when there is a large number of visitors.

The Danbury Cemetery Association was organized in November, 1850, under a law of the State relating to cemeteries, with sixty shareholders at twenty-five dollars a share. The first purchase of land was made in December of that year, of William K. Clark, the piece containing sixteen acres, for which three hundred dollars was paid; and another piece, five and one-fourth acres, for eighty dollars, of Col. E. Moss White. Additions were made from time to time, and there are now about fifty acres in that part of the cemetery which is improved.

In the spring and summer of 1851 the grounds were laid out, roads made, and trees secured. Most of the evergreens were obtained from William Mann's nursery in Bangor, Me., some of a suitable size to transplant, others, from six to twelve inches in height, set out in a nursery and transferred to the grounds when of a suitable size. Beneath the surface the soil is good and free from stones. Many of the knolls were quite barren and forbidding in exterior, but by the free use of muck, ashes, and manure a thrifty crop of grass appeared thereon. It was predicted by some that trees would not grow on this land, so naturally poor did it appear.

Where the lake now is was a muck-swamp filled with bogs and bushes. These were collected and burned, and the muck removed to cover the barren soil. The water which forms the lake sets back from the North Meadow stream, and, during a freshet, fills the lake. A dam at the outlet keeps the water at a proper height. There is a fine spring, which never fails, on the east border of the lake.

The improved grounds are nearly inclosed by a

\* Contributed by Edgar S. Tweedy.

substantial stone wall, which is banked on the inside. Most of the material in the wall was brought from "Tamarack Woods."

On April 27, 1854, the Wooster Monument, whose top is conspicuous from a distance, was finished, and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies to perpetuate the memory of Gen. Wooster, of Revolutionary fame. The occasion was one of uncommon interest in this part of the State. There were fully ten thousand people present as witnesses of the ceremonies. The Masonic lodges of the State and neighboring States were represented. His Excellency, the Governor, with notables from abroad and military organizations from Bridgeport, New Haven, and Hartford, participated in the affair. The Masonic display was the most imposing ever made in the State. Hon. Henry C. Deming, of Hartford, delivered the oration.

In 1862 the reception-vault was built, and four years later the massive stone columns at the entrance to the cemetery were erected.

In November, 1867, the association purchased of the late William Augustus White about twenty-five acres, at thirty-five dollars per acre, lying on the east side of the road leading to North Meadow and opposite the improved grounds. No improvements have been made on this plat, but the setting out of evergreens and other trees in places that will not be accepted for burial purposes.

The grounds were laid out and improvements made by and under the direction of George W. Ives and Edgar S. Tweedy. Mr. Ives died in 1862. His remains rest in the northern point of the main ridge, and are marked by a massive granite cross of simple design, in the base of which is inscribed the following testimony from his fellow-citizens:

"This monument is erected to George W. Ives by his friends as a testimonial of his services in laying out and beautifying this cemetery, and in remembrance of his public and private worth."

Since his death Mr. Tweedy has had the supervision of the grounds.

#### POPULATION OF DANBURY.

1756.....	1,527
1774.....	2,526
1782.....	2,747
1790.....	3,031
1800.....	3,180
1810.....	3,606
1820.....	3,873
1830.....	4,311
1840.....	4,504
1850.....	5,964
1860.....	7,234
1870.....	8,753
1880.....	11,619

#### THE DANBURY LIBRARY

as it exists to-day, with its commodious and elegant building on Main Street, the dwelling-house adjoining, its books and other property, including its invested funds, is substantially the gift of one family,—that of the late E. Moss White, of Danbury. The late William Augustus White, of Brooklyn, son of E. Moss White, by his last will and testament bequeathed the sum of ten thousand dollars, to be paid

five years after his decease, for the establishment of a public library in his native borough of Danbury. The Legislature of Connecticut, at its session in 1869, passed an act incorporating the Danbury Library, which act was approved by the Governor, June 5, 1869.

On the 1st of June, 1870, Alexander M. White, of Brooklyn, brother of William Augustus White, and sole executor of his will, placed at the disposal of the trustees of the library the house on Main Street, in which he was born and in which his parents died, to be used for library purposes until a suitable building could be erected upon the premises. At the same time, Mr. White also notified the trustees of his willingness to give a plot of ground fifty feet on Main Street by one hundred and fifty in depth, on which to erect a suitable building, and also the sum of five thousand dollars, besides an equal amount to be given by his brother, George Granville White, towards the erection of such a building, so soon as the citizens of Danbury would join in erecting, free of debt, a suitable building upon this ground. At this time Mr. White directed that repairs be made upon the house so given, and that suitable furniture be purchased at an expense not to exceed five hundred dollars, the cost of such repairs and purchases being paid by him.

In 1871, Alexander M. White made a further donation of five hundred dollars for the purchase of books. A donation of five hundred dollars by the late Charles H. Merritt and of fifty dollars by Miss H. E. Merritt for the purchase of books was made and accepted.

The library continued to occupy the house formerly the residence of E. Moss White till the fall of 1876. In May of that year Mr. Alexander M. White notified the trustees of his desire to see a suitable building erected upon the site for library uses, and of the offer of his brother, George Granville White, to contribute five thousand dollars for this purpose. To this amount Alexander M. White generously offered to add fifteen thousand dollars, making twenty thousand dollars in all. Mr. White subsequently offered to remove the old dwelling-house to the rear of the library lot at his own expense and to fit it up for rental, also to donate additional ground on the south side and rear of the library lot, and directed that plans be obtained for a building costing from twenty thousand to twenty-five thousand dollars.

Of all these several gifts and donations the trustees have thankfully availed themselves. Not only the twenty-five thousand dollars placed at their disposal by the Messrs. Alexander White and George Granville White has been, in accordance with their wish, expended upon the building, but in October, 1878, Mr. Alexander M. White, to insure the utmost possible perfection in the completion of the new structure, made a further donation of fifteen hundred dollars. Upon receiving a vote of thanks from the trustees for this amount, he added three thousand five hundred dollars for finishing, furnishing, and purchase of



books. These contributions, Mr. White desires it understood are, like others coming through him, from the family of the late E. Moss White.

The present building was erected from plans furnished by Messrs. Lamb & Wheeler, of Newark, N. J. It was begun in 1877 and completed early in 1879. The first story is rented for offices, leaving the entire second story for library uses. It is heated by steam throughout, and has received the approval and admiration of some of the best architects and authorities upon architecture in the country. It is a monument to the generosity and philanthropy of a single family, and a public benefaction of which all the inhabitants of Danbury have every reason to feel proud.

### CHAPTER XXIII.

#### DANBURY (Continued).

Hatting in Danbury—Other Manufactures—Present Manufactures—The Execution of Anthony—Trial and Execution of Amos Adams.

#### HATTING IN DANBURY.

THE following history of the hatting business in Danbury is condensed from W. H. Francis' History of Hatting, published in 1860, and continued from that time to the present by Mr. Bailey, in the *Danbury News*:

"It is said to be a sober fact in history that the first building ever erected in this country as a hat-shop was built in Danbury, and the first hat ever made in these United States was made in this town. Be this as it may, certain it is that in the days of the Revolution, when the town was but a hamlet, when provincial's blade was crossed with that of royalists and a little phalanx of stout hearts were contending for the inborn rights of man, when the seeds of future glorious empire were being planted in the furrows plowed by the cannon-ball, harrowed in deeply by the iron war-horse, the tramp of wheeling and charging columns, moistened and enriched by the generous flow of the life-blood of patriots, we find that in 1780 Zadoc Benedict was making hats in a small red shop standing near the grounds now the site of the depot, in Main Street. With limited resources and capital, he kept up the fire under his solitary kettle and employed to work up his 'stock' the services of *one journeyman and two apprentices*, turning off hats at the rate of *three per day, or one and a half dozen per week*, two hats being an average for a good workman in a day.

"This is according to the statement of some of our oldest citizens about the first that was done at hatting in Danbury, and, although hats had undoubtedly been made here long before this, still we shall take this as the starting-point and regard it as the commencement of what has since proved an important and extensive trade.

"1787.—Col. Russell White and Oliver Burr, firm of

Burr & White or O. Burr & Co., carried on what was then considered an extensive trade, employing thirty hands, variously engaged, and turning off hats at the rate of fifteen dozen per week, or seven hundred and fifty dozen per year. The hats of this period were without elegance, being heavy, rough, and unwieldy. They sold at from six to ten dollars each,—enough to buy two or three fine hats now. One man could make about nine hats per week.

"The manufacturer bought the skins in a bundle. The fur then had to be taken from them by hand and assorted. Then it was bowed into 'bats,' with the old 'bow,' 'pins,' and 'catgut,' and these 'bats' were made into hat-bodies. After the hats were made (everything being done by hand), they were distributed to the ladies living in the vicinity in order to have the hair that remained sticking in the nap removed by tweezers.

"Among the men employed by Burr & White were Eli Benedict and William Babcock, who afterwards went to New Haven.

"1791.—In the *Farmers' Journal*, published at Danbury, in this year, we find the following advertisement:

"TO BE SOLD BY  
O. BURR & COMPANY,  
ONE HUNDRED WEIGHT OF  
GOOD HAT WOOL,  
AND SEVERAL PAIRS OF WHITE  
ENGLISH RABBITS,

Whose increase is amazingly fast and the skins for fur in great demand, and their flesh of the most delicate kind; and to conclude the whole of their excellencies, their keeping requires nothing but vegetables, such as weeds, grass, potatoes, turnips, etc., etc. They need no drink.

"Also, given as usual twenty pence per run for coarse woollen yarn.

"Danbury, May 18th, 1791."

"1800.—In Robbins' century sermon, delivered at Danbury, Jan. 1, 1801, we find these remarks: 'In the manufacture of hats this town (Danbury) much exceeds any one in the United States. More than twenty thousand hats, mostly of fur, are made annually for exportation.' Thus, more than half a century ago, our fathers took the lead in the manufacture of hats, and to-day their sons are not behind.

"1802.—The first hat-store at the South in connection with manufacturing at Danbury was established by two active and well-known men (now deceased), Zalmon and Seymour Wildman. They had one store at Charleston, S. C., firm of Z. & S. Wildman; another at Savannah, Ga., firm of Wildman & Hoags. Zalmon Wildman manufactured in the shop of Zadoc Benedict after the decease of the latter, in 1803. He also some years later carried on quite extensively the finishing of hats for the Southern market, near the grounds now the site of the Pahquioque Hotel, in Main Street.

"1803.—During this and following years, Samuel H. Phillips, George Benedict, David Wood, William Babcock, Ezra Wildman, Ebenezer and John D. Nichols, Boughton & Starr, and others, carried on hatting in different parts of the township. The fash-

ionable hat of this year was six inches deep and two inch brim.

"1805.—Clark & Benedict carried on the hatting business in the red building situated in West Street, and now occupied as a dwelling; Gersham Nichols at the same time, in a building near the residence of Oliver Stone, in Main Street.

"1807.—Noah Rockwell commenced manufacturing with his 'plank' shop in the cellar of the house now occupied by Mrs. Rosaboom, in Franklin Street. Also, Hoyt Gregory had a shop in West Street. All these manufacturers carried on the business on a limited scale, employing, probably, from seven to eight hands each, and turning off hats at the rate of four or five dozen per week, or two hundred and fifty dozen per year. Among the men in the employ of Hoyt Gregory were James Seal and Thomas Peck, who eventually engaged in an extensive business at Boston.

"1808-9.—There were fifty-six hat-shops in operation in the township of Danbury, averaging from three to five men each. Many farmers were interested in the trade, setting up a kettle and hiring journeymen. It is but a few years since the trade was centralized and the bulk of capital concentrated in a few large establishments.

"1812.—We have our venerable citizen, now president of the Danbury Bank (who went into business as early as 1800), and James Benedict, firm of Tweedy & Benedict, carrying on business in a shop situated on the ground where the house of Mrs. Sprague now stands, corner of Main and Elm Streets. Hands employed, 30. During the war the trade between hat-dealers and the Northwest Company was cut off. John Jacob Astor sold at auction, in the city of New York, a large quantity of furs which had been seized. James Benedict, hearing of the sale, attended and bought five bales (one thousand pounds) of 'old coat beaver' at one dollar per pound. The price immediately advanced to five dollars per pound.

"We must remember that at this time hat-finishing was a very small part of the trade here; in fact, hardly any hats were sent to market finished and trimmed, but were sent in the 'rough' to the city, there to be made ready for sale. In this year a machine was invented for blowing fur, and first used in Messrs. Tweedy & Benedict's establishment. It consisted of a wire drum, in which the fur was placed, and the machine moved with a crank by hand. Small, simple, and imperfect, it was thought to be an important invention at that time; now it would be laughed at as a child's plaything.

"1814.—Judson and Russell White, firm of White Brothers, conducted a large business here. Capital invested, \$50,000. Hands employed, about 50, making probably about two hundred dozen hats per month, or two thousand dozen per annum. This firm had a warehouse in the city, where the hats were sent to be sold.

"Among those who learned the trade with the White Brothers was Starr Nichols, Esq., now deceased, who afterwards became a prominent townsman, contributing in a great measure to the advancement and building up of Danbury. Soon after his 'time was out' he commenced business for himself. Doing very little at first, but steadily increasing, he pushed forward with that zeal which ever afterwards formed so prominent a trait in his character, until, when the White Brothers retired from business, he took their place and carried it on with increased energy, employing fifty 'makers.' He met with several reverses of fortune, but at the time of his death (1856) was engaged in a lucrative business in a hat-store in New York City, and to-day he is remembered as one of the most prominent men in the trade. His benevolence and active perseverance are well worth imitating.

"1816.—Two of our citizens, R. & E. T. Hoyt, merchants in the place, receiving, as the custom was, hats in exchange for their goods, taking a few hats, went South and opened a store at Charleston, S. C. The hats were made by Tweedy & Benedict, and finished partly in the old finishing-shop yet standing on the corner of Main and Franklin Streets. The Messrs. Hoyt began on a small scale, the sales at first amounting to but \$15,000 or \$20,000 per year. But as the trade increased in importance throughout the country they took advantage of it, and through their efforts was built up a large establishment, increasing until at one period the yearly sales reached \$100,000. The business continued in the hands of some of the Hoyt family until the death of John R. Hoyt (son of Russell), some twelve years since, and is yet in active operation under F. T. Fanning. David H. Boughton was the first partner taken into the firm, and the following individuals were from time to time connected with the same house: David M. Benedict, Edgar S. Tweedy, F. T. Fanning, Lucius P. Hoyt, and A. E. Tweedy. This hat-store was connected with manufacturing in Danbury up to 1854, and affords an example of prosperity and continued success, with close attention to business as the cause.

"In the fall of the same year, 1816, Zalmon Wildman (who, as before mentioned, was engaged in the Southern trade as early as 1802), with Ezra M. Starr,—the latter still one of our most respected and influential citizens,—started another hat-store in Charleston. This firm also commenced with about \$20,000 as the yearly sales, but an enterprise like this, in the hands of such thorough and active business men, could but succeed; they were soon firmly established, and went on extending their trade and enlarging their operations, until we have as the amount of sales per annum \$60,000. Hats worth here ninety dollars per dozen were taken South and sold at one hundred and twenty dollars per dozen.

"1817.—Capt. John Foot, with one Mr. Hodge, manufactured hats for the firm of Wildman & Starr, em-



ploying six or eight men, and getting up about six hundred dozen per annum. Elias Boughton, Abel Hoyt, and others, carried on hatting in Danbury about this time. The hats were then eight or nine ounces in weight. The price for making them—that is, the Russia hat—was ninety-two cents, or five shillings six pence, Yankee currency.

"1824.—Among the manufacturers of this period were Isaac H. Seelye, White & Keeler, Hatch & Gregory, Joseph Taylor, Hugh Starr, and Taylor & Dibble.

"1825.—Fry, Gregory & Co. conducted at this time an extensive trade, working up \$80,000 worth of stock per annum; capital invested, \$50,000; hands employed at making, 30; trimming, 10. This firm also had a store (now occupied by Mr. Osborne) in West Street, where the hands employed traded, receiving orders instead of cash for their work.

"In 1833, Fry, Gregory & Co. sold out their make-shop to William Montgomery, who had commenced hatting in 1832 with Edward S. Brockett. Mr. Montgomery made the hats for Fry, Gregory & Co., who, having finished and trimmed them, sent them to their store in Charleston for sale. Mr. Montgomery carried on the fur-hat trade until 1853, when, building a large factory in connection with the buildings already on the ground, he entered into the manufacture of wool hats in company with Charles Benedict and Jarvis P. Hull. Mr. Hull soon withdrew from the firm, and it is now that of Benedict & Montgomery.

"From an old bill dated New York, June 5, 1825, we find that Joel Taylor bought of E. & H. Raymond one hundred Spanish wool bodies at thirty-four cents apiece.

"1835.—Mr. Alvin Hurd, having learned the art of making silk hats from two Englishmen in the city of New York, returned here and set up the business in the shop of Starr Nichols, manufacturing for the firm of Swift & Nichols, with five men employed, thus introducing into Danbury the art of making silk hats. This branch of the trade increased so that in fact it became the most popular one of the day, and in the years intervening between 1840 and 1850 was carried on almost exclusively, Messrs. Tweedy & White, William Montgomery, N. H. Wildman, and others being engaged in it. After 1850 it gradually decreased, and now nothing is done here at this branch, the soft hat taking its place.

"During 1835 and several following years Messrs. Fry & Gregory, together with Samuel Sproulls, kept in operation a large wholesale establishment in New York City.

"1840.—Hoyt, Tweedy & Co. had a factory at the north end of Main Street, and were also connected with the hat-store established at Charleston by the Hoyts in 1816. Since 1840, under Edgar S. Tweedy, John R. Hoyt, F. T. Fanning, Lucius Hoyt, A. E. Tweedy, William R. White, and others, the firm has been known successively as that of Hoyt, Tweedy &

Co., Tweedy, Hoyt & Co., Tweedy & Hoyt, A. E. Tweedy & Co., Tweedy & White, and now (since 1857) Tweedy, White & Co.

"1841.—After the napped hats had gone out of fashion, Messrs. Niram Wildman and John Pry went to Roxbury for the purpose of getting information concerning the wool-hatting. They called on Col. Lathrop, in that place, who was then considered the best manufacturer of wool hats in this section of the country. Having obtained the necessary information, Messrs. Wildman & Fry returned and commenced the manufacture of wool hats in the old building some time since removed from the grounds of Mr. Fry, employing five men as makers and two women as trimmers, turning off from eight to ten dozen per day, the bodies being formed in the 'old factory.' Wildman & Fry subsequently sold out to Charles Fry and David Wildman (the latter now deceased), who continued the manufacture in a building in Main Street, since removed.

"1846.—Nathaniel H. Wildman was at this time manufacturing fur hats. He kept up the manufacture until a few years since, and is now engaged in a hat-store at Augusta, Ga. Truman Trowbridge employed a number of hands, also Frederick Nichols.

"1849.—Mr. Nathan Benedict came from New York with one of the fur-hat forming machines. When it was rumored that such a machine was to be brought here it created considerable excitement among the mechanics in the trade, and when it actually did arrive a majority of hatters were opposed to it. It was put up by Mr. Benedict in the old Hurlbut factory as an experiment, under the patronage of A. E. Tweedy & Co. But very little was done the first year, and the enterprise progressed slowly; but as the public confidence in it was strengthened the old prejudice died out, and its popularity increased.

"1852.—S. A. Brower & Co. started the business of paper-box making in Danbury. Until the soft hat came into use hats were packed in wooden cases alone. Now one dozen hats are placed in a paper box, and these, to the number of six, are placed in a wooden case. This mode of packing hats for transportation is a little more expensive than the former, but it is at the same time more safe, neat, and convenient.

"Mr. E. S. Davis, who bought out Brower & Co. in 1852, now carries on the business quite extensively. At first the demand was very small, but as the manufacture of soft hats increased so did that of paper boxes. Mr. Davis now occupies the whole of the new building seventy by thirty and three stories high (near Tweedy Brothers). Capital invested, \$7000; sales per annum, \$25,000; paid out to hands per month, \$200; hands employed, 11. Boards or straw paper used per annum, 125 tons; number of paper boxes of all sizes made per annum, 216,000. The 'boards' are manufactured in the neighboring towns of Brookfield, Newtown, and New Milford.

"1853.—James S. Taylor, of this town, patented his

machines for felting or sizing hats, to which their originality and perfect operation has been satisfactorily applied. These machines have been introduced into general use among the best and most extensive wool-hat manufacturers in the United States. It is a fact worthy of notice that these machines have been invented, perfected, and brought into general use in less time than perhaps ever before recorded of any other invention of the same relative value in the mechanic arts in this or any other country, and it is owing to this invention of Mr. Taylor's that our wool-hat manufacturers have been enabled to supply the increasing demand for the finer qualities of that article.

"The Taylor's Patent Hat-Felting Company have about three hundred of these machines in use in various parts of the United States, felting at least six dozen hats per day on each machine, equal to 1800 dozen per day for the three hundred machines, or 540,000 dozen, on an average, per year, being 6,480,000 hats!" They have secured the patent on the machine in various European countries, and now have machines in constant operation in several of the largest establishments in England, where an agency is about being established. 'The largest single day's work performed by these machines was, probably, in the shop of Wildman & Crosby, in 1856, they having sized on two sets of machines fifty-four dozen hats in one day, the machines being operated by four men, working only ten hours.' A Frenchman, J. Baptiste Lacille by name, and many others, have invented machines for sizing hats and sold their patents for large sums, but the machines failed, not having been brought to perfection, and the Taylor machines have taken the place of all.

"1855.—Abijah Abbott commenced the manufacture of band-boxes for Messrs. Benedict & Montgomery. Mr. Abbott now employs four hands, making thirty thousand large paper boxes per year and consuming fifty tons of boards per annum. His sales amount to five thousand dollars per annum.

"The making of wooden cases is a large item, and three firms, George Starr, George Stevens & Co., and Raymond & Ambler, are constantly employed.

"In 1860 there were but eight manufacturers of fur and wool hats in Danbury. We have now twelve, and the largest of these is twice as large as any at that date. There have been many changes in the firms since then,—many new firms started and failed. These we have endeavored to look up and obtain reliable information about them.

"In 1860 there were two firms of the Tweedys,—Tweedy, White & Co., and Tweedy Brothers. In 1864 the first firm was changed to T. E. & E. Tweedy, and the second was changed to William H. Tweedy in 1861. In 1867 both these firms were merged into one under the name of Tweedy & Co., and after four years of business a stock company was formed under the name of the Tweedy Manufacturing Company, which is its present designation.

"Giles M. Hoyt's factory in 1860 was in Grassy Plain, which was then a part of Danbury. In 1874, Mr. Hoyt removed to the shop on White Street now occupied by Nichols & Hine. It had then just been vacated by Lacey & Downs. In 1878 he moved again to his present location, in the old laundry-building near the Danbury and Norwalk Railway.

"A. T. Peck was in the winter of 1863 engaged in hatting with his brother-in-law, Anson Taylor, in the old comb-factory which stood on the site of Beckerle and Co.'s new factories. Mr. Taylor had just received a patent for combining pieces of waste silk with fur, and they were manufacturing hats under this patent. It was said that a hat, after being 'jacked up,' was made to look like a silk hat, and at a much less cost. They were made in all styles. Mr. Taylor died soon after the manufacture began, and Mr. Peck then went out of business.

"In 1864, Shethar & Lacey built a small shop near the Phoenix factory, and ran it for a few years.

"The Union Hat Company, composed of W. H. Youngs, H. C. Ely, Kellogg Nichols, and Cyrus Raymond, started in that building in 1869. In 1872 they discontinued business. It was occupied between this time and 1875 by Casper Zeigler, and in that year William Beckerle took it. He remained here one year, and in 1876, after taking into partnership C. H. Piex, T. F. Fay, and J. H. Shuldice, he removed to the old comb-shop near Pahquique Avenue. This shop soon proved too small for the firm, and from time to time they added to its capacity by building on numerous additions and erecting small buildings for make-shops, coloring-shop, etc. In December, 1879, the establishment was totally destroyed by fire. Work was immediately resumed, and now the new factories, exceeded by but one establishment in town, are nearly complete.

"In 1865, J. G. Meeker began business as a hatter in a factory on Canal Street. This building, for a few months previous to this, had been used by journeymen hatters, who took out work from our larger firms for manipulation in one branch only. They were not what might be called manufacturing hatters, and for that reason we have not secured their names. In 1877 this factory was completely destroyed, and the next year the present commodious and enlarged building was completed and occupied by D. W. Meeker, a brother of the first named. He still carries on business there.

"As early as 1844, Ransom Brothwell, father of Theodore Brothwell, had a shop in Mill Plain. He started it earlier than this, but this is the first we can find of him. It was situated on the present farm of Oliver Burchard, and some time after (in 1848) he removed to a factory on the site of the present black-smith-shop.

"The next we find of hatting in that hamlet is a shop run by P. A. Sutton. This changed hands many times, being owned successively by A. Solomon, now



of Norwalk, Harry Jennings & Son, and Stone & Downs. The latter were burned out in 1867, and Mr. Downs then retired. Benjamin Stone then built the shop now occupied by H. M. Senior & Son, ran it for about nine months, and then went to New Jersey. C. B. Prindle occupied it next for about six months, and Senior bought it in 1871. John Harvey was a partner of Senior for one year. In 1878 the present firm was formed.

"In 1866, C. B. Prindle and Edward Gage took out work to size. The original shop stood just west of the present building. In 1869, Mr. Gage went out, and Mr. Prindle took it. 'Prindle & Co.' soon after became the title of the firm, and they finished hats complete. In December, 1877, the Mill Plain Manufacturing Company, a joint-stock corporation, took the factory now standing, which was built in 1871. In 1879, Mr. Prindle went it alone, and is now doing business there.

"It is related that at the time of Mr. Brothwell they were making what was known as the 'coney' hat. These hats were always worth just a dollar. If no money was forthcoming on pay-day, the men were given as many hats as there were dollars due them. These they spent at the stores the same as cash, and the storekeepers sent them to New York to sell. Mr. Brothwell never used the neat packing-cases of to-day, but used to go out and knock boards off the fences and make cases.

"In 1860 the old firm of Crofut, Bates & Wildman was Henry Crofut. From that time to now there have been four different partners besides Mr. Crofut. First, Rollo Nichols was admitted, under the firm-name of H. Crofut & Co. Then George K. Nichols was admitted, then Joseph H. White, the firm still retaining the old name. The present firm is Crofut, White & Peabody, the Messrs. Nichols being both dead. Mr. Peabody was admitted in 1878.

"The firm once occupied the factory on West Street, which was burned in 1864, in addition to the 'Pahquoque' shop.

"The firm of E. A. Mallory & Co. in 1860 was formed of Mallory and P. A. Sutton. In 1864, Mr. Mallory associated with him his brother, Samuel Mallory, and this firm continued till 1866. Samuel Mallory then retired, and until 1872 E. A. Mallory was again alone. In that year he took in his son, Charles H. Mallory, and this comprises the present firm.

"In 1862, Mr. S. C. Holley began the manufacture of wool hats in the shop then standing at the Main Street bridge, which had before that been used by Crosby & Wildman. For a short time J. H. Cesner was his partner. In 1865, Mr. A. N. Wildman connected himself publicly with the firm, and the 'Co.' was added to Mr. Holley's name. In 1868 the factory was burned. The same year they built the factory on River Street now occupied by them. Mr. A. B. Holley became a member of the firm in January, 1876, though the firm-name was not changed.

"Shethar & Lacey was the name of a new firm which purchased the Montgomery factory, on White Street, in 1865. For one year they continued business, and then admission to the firm was given to Henry Starr and Thomas Lawrence, under the firm-name of Shethar, Lacey & Co. One more year passed and this firm dissolved, and in its place was the firm of Lacey, Hoyt & Co., composed of W. F. Lacey, Theodore Hoyt, Moses Collier, Ives Bushnell, and George Downs. In 1872 the firm went out of business. Lacey, Downs & Co., the company being C. H. White, then formed a copartnership and manufactured hats for a time. Lacey & Downs were before this time associated in the fur-cutting business in the Phoenix factory, recently destroyed by fire. Their hatting experience continued but a short time.

"Elijah Sturdevant continued the business at the factory in Beaver Brook District until Aug. 31, 1873. On that date the building was totally destroyed by fire at a loss of sixty thousand dollars. For four years the ruins lay about as the fire left them, and it was in 1877 that the place was rebuilt. James S. Taylor then took the factory, and from that time to this a desultory trade has been carried on there, a young firm running through one trade and then succeeded by another, which was in turn run out by another. None of them seemed to have had much success. In 1879, D. E. Leowe & Co. took it, but in 1880 they dissolved. Mr. Taylor has always occupied part of the factory as a forming-shop.

"Nichols & Hine were burned out in Bethel in the spring of 1878. In the fall of the same year they came to Danbury, and took the old Lacey, Downs & Co. factory on White Street, where they still remain, having been eminently successful.

"We now have given the hat-manufacturers since 1860, so far as we can trace them. Next in order come the fur-cutters. The firm of W. A. & A. M. White, which was the principal one in the trade at that time, is still running. Their factory was totally destroyed by fire in 1874. It was immediately rebuilt with brick, and is probably one of the most conveniently arranged establishments in the country. The firm-name remains the same, though new blood has been added to it in the persons of the sons of the original Whites, who bear the same names.

"W. F. Lacey and George Downs went into partnership with Stephen Hurlbut in 1862 under the name of Hurlbut & Co. In 1864, Mr. Hurlbut left the firm and started in business in Peck's comb-shop, where Beckerle & Co.'s factories now stand. He continued business until 1869, when he was killed by a runaway team.

"Peter Robinson, in 1865, began the fur-cutting business in a shop belonging to the Tweedys. In 1867 he purchased a building at Beaver Brook, and admitted to partnership Mr. John Tweedy. In 1870 the business was so extensive that greater accommodations were made necessary, and the firm purchased the fac-

tory of Benedict & Montgomery, on West Street. This shop was burned down in 1874, and in the same year they went to their present quarters in the Hull & Belden Co.'s factory, on Canal Street. Mr. Tweedy had in the mean time retired from the firm, and John Starr was taken in in 1871. Mr. Starr died in 1876, and O. de Comeau took his place. He remained a member of the firm one year, and, in 1877, Mr. Robinson's oldest son, E. T. Robinson, was taken into the firm and sent to England, where they established a branch office. The manufacture of hat-cases is also an important factor in the business. In 1860, Mr. George Starr was the only person engaged in the business in Danbury. Besides cases, he made blocks, tools, etc. In 1876 his brother, Daniel Starr, purchased the business and still continues it. The Danbury and Bethel Hat-Case Company began to manufacture cases only in 1876, and still continue.

"Through the kindness of one of our oldest residents we have been enabled to trace some of the old hatters.

"1787.—William Babcock, who was employed by Burr & White in this year, died in New Haven.

"1803.—Samuel H. Phillips lived opposite the Danbury Savings Bank, where Meyers' store now stands, and died there. George Benedict was a son of Eliakim, and lived and died in Danbury. David Wood lived and died opposite the Capt. Ryder place, or on the site of the old Church of England, on the corner of Main and South streets. Ezra Wildman, who was a great-uncle of Samuel C. Wildman, moved to Clarksville, Ohio, and died there. Ebenezer and John D. Nichols died in the South. The firm of Boughton & Starr we cannot trace. Mr. Boughton is believed to have been Elias Boughton, who lived on the site of George C. White's residence.

"1805.—The firm of Clark & Benedict should have read Benedict & Clark. Sallue P. Clark lived down town, near the old Carrington place. He was an uncle of Starr Clark, who spends his summers in Danbury. Benedict was the son of Peter Benedict, who lived in Mountainville, on the place now owned by E. S. Benedict. Gersham Nichols was the father of Starr Nichols and the great-grandfather of John Nichols, of the firm of Nichols & Hine.

"1807.—Noah Rockwell died in Danbury. Hoyt Gregory died here, and we believe has no descendants.

"1812.—James Benedict, of Tweedy & Benedict, retired from business to a farm on the Hudson River, and died there.

"1816.—David H. Boughton was a son of Elias Boughton, and died South. His remains were brought home and interred in the burying-ground up-town. David M. Benedict lived later in life in the house now owned by Lucius P. Hoyt, and died there. He was also buried in the up-town burying-ground. Ezra M. Starr lived and died in the house now occupied by Ira Morse, on South Street. Mrs. Morse was his niece.

"1818.—Capt. John Foote lived near the present

residence of Harmon Knapp, Main Street. Abel Hoyt was father of Giles M. Hoyt, and died in Bethel.

"1820.—Ephraim Gregory was a son of Elijah Gregory, a blacksmith, who lived where L. S. Benedict now lives. His shop stood on the site of St. James' Church.

"Mr. John Fry is still living, a hale and hearty old man, in the house where his first shop stood, on New Street.

"Alvin Hurd, who was a partner of Mr. Fry in 1818, died in August, 1869.

"Benedict & Montgomery consisted of Charles Benedict and William Montgomery. The firm closed business in 1861. Mr. Benedict is still living in Danbury, on Deer Hill Avenue. William Montgomery moved to Baltimore some years ago, and is still in business there.

"Joel Taylor lived for many years in Great Plain. He was father of Mr. James S. Taylor. He died in 1870.

"Nathaniel H. Wildman was in the southern trade in Charleston. He closed up his business in 1861. He lived and died in the old house yet standing in rear of Wildman's Block, on Main Street. He was the father of Alexander Wildman. His death occurred in 1877.

"Charles Fry and Truman Trowbridge are still living and working at the trade.

"The firm of R. & E. T. Hoyt doing business in 1816, was Russell and Eli T. Hoyt. The former died in 1868. The latter still lives in the homestead on Main Street, a man ripe in years, still preserving good health, and one looked up to by all men as an example of what an industrious, useful, honest life can do.

"John R. Hoyt, who was one of the sons of Russell Hoyt, succeeded the old firm. He was a brother of Lucius P. and T. Granville Hoyt. He died in 1848. This old firm of Hoyt Brothers eventually consolidated with the Tweedy family. The firm of Hoyt, Tweedy & Co. was the consolidation of the two.

"A. E. Tweedy died in February, 1864. His cousin, Samuel Tweedy, died in 1868. It is told of Mr. A. E. Tweedy that his funeral was the largest ever held in Danbury. Niram Wildman, who was a partner of John Fry, was grandfather of A. N. and John Wildman. He lived where the latter lives now.

"Frederick Nichols is brother-in-law of Giles M. Hoyt. He now lives in New York.

"The White Brothers, mentioned in 1814, were Judson and Russell White. Russell died in 1838, and Judson a few years later. Russell White was the father of Mr. William R. White.

"Edward S. Brockett, who was in business in 1832 with William Montgomery, died in Norwalk in 1872. He was for many years the trying-justice of Danbury, and his reputation extended into the whole country.

"Isaac H. Seeley is mentioned in 1824. Mr. Seeley died in January, 1880, a man full of honor and ripe in years. White & Keeler were Col. E. Moss White,



who was the father of the late Col. N. L. White. He died in 1863. His partner was Timothy B. Keeler. Mr. Keeler died somewhere between 1835 and 1840. Joseph Taylor was a manufacturer in Wildcat, Bethel, now known as Elmwood. He was succeeded in business by his sons, Reuben and Stephen. Reuben Taylor still carries on hatting in a small shop in Elmwood, where he makes the now popular napped hat, which is a revival of the old style when his father was in business. Joseph Taylor died in 1874. The Taylor & Dibble mentioned were Elias Taylor and Scott Dibble. Their shop was where John Johnson's barn now stands. They died many years ago, leaving no direct descendants in Bethel.

"Mr. M. H. Griffing was a prominent hatter in 1846. His factory was in what is now known as Mountainville, on a site just south of where Mrs. Betsey Crofut now lives. He continued in business for ten years, and then sold out to Henry T. Robinson. Mr. Robinson did not succeed, and soon abandoned the enterprise. Mr. Griffing learned his trade in 1843 with Elijah Patch, on Great Plain. Mr. Patch's shop stood near the present residence of Mrs. Fanny Wood.

"George A. Andrews was another hatter, who carried on business in Great Plain a few years ago. He lives now in Bethel.

"Wolfpits, in Bethel, was also for many years—1824 to 1850—the scene of a flourishing hat-trade. Among the manufacturers then we find Eli Morgan, Abel Hoyt, Leazer Taylor & Son, Charles and Roderick Dart, and Hugh Starr. In Elmwood we find David Sherman and Beers Crofut.

"A summary of the amount of work done in 1859 by all the factories is as follows:

Number of hands employed.....	1,294
Hats made (dozens).....	123,870
Pay-roll.....	\$329,000

"Now the statement is as follows:

Number of hands employed.....	1,800
Hats made (dozens).....	400,000
Pay-roll.....	\$1,000,000"

#### OTHER MANUFACTURES.

Some time before 1800, Ephraim Washburn and brother built a mill for making paper on or near the site of the old Sturdevant factory. This mill afterwards passed into the hands of two brothers named Ward, and they sold it to Daniel and Seth Comstock. The latter was father of the late Philander Comstock. They continued business there for some years, when the mill was burned. The exact date of this destruction we cannot learn, but it was some sixty or more years ago. Among the employees of Comstock was "Uncle" Jerry Wilson, father-in-law of Capt. Edwards, who died two or three years ago. Mr. Wilson enlisted in 1812, and Seth Comstock, being a major, was allowed a servant. He made Mr. Wilson his servant and kept him in the shop, but he got a pension and bounty. After this shop was burned Deacon Oliver Stone purchased the site and built a hat-shop, which he sold to Elijah Sturdevant.

In 1852, Nelson Flint, Calvin S. Bulkley, and Amzi Wheeler started a mill for air-dried straw-board in Beaver Brook. The firm dissolved after a short time, and Mr. Flint continued alone. In 1867, George McArthur, with his three brothers, Robert, John, and William, purchased the mill and continued the manufacture of straw-board. The original building was a small one, thirty by thirty feet, and was built for a woolen-mill by Samuel Morris. He was not successful, and gave up woolen for hatting and then comb-making. In 1870, McArthur Brothers built an addition to the first building and, gradually giving up straw-board, made straw wrapping-paper. In 1872 a second addition was built, and in 1875 hardware and wrapping-paper were made. Last year more machinery was added, and manilla paper was manufactured.

The first paper-mill, however, was one which stood on the stream back of the homestead of the late E. S. Hull. It was long before the present oldest inhabitant can remember, but we learn from one gentleman who remembers his parents telling of the mill that it was run by a man named Washburn.

The manufacture of boots and shoes was another industry which once occupied a prominent position in Danbury. It was of recent birth. In 1869, C. H. Merritt built and occupied as a boot- and shoe-factory the brick building now standing at the north end of Main Street. The same year he took into partnership Lucius R. Sprague. In 1870, Mr. Sprague retired, and Mr. Richard W. Cone went into the firm. This firm remained in the business until the latter part of March, 1880, when they closed up, sold their machinery, and the factory will soon be occupied in hatting. The firm in its busiest seasons employed nearly two hundred hands.

As far as we can trace back we find an oil-mill on the south side of what is now known as Crofut's Pond, or Oil Mill Pond. In 1812, Friend Starr, father of Mr. C. H. Starr, used to make linseed oil from the flax raised in this section. It was quite a prosperous business at one time. The mill was pulled down many years ago,—so many, in fact, that none of our old citizens remember it. Many of them have indistinct recollections of this building in their early youth, but the date of its destruction is lost.

On the north side of the dam stood a saw-mill owned by Friend Starr and Benjamin and Fairchild Ambler. The former was the father and the latter the uncle of Rev. E. C. Ambler. Mr. Ambler remembers going to the mill to carry his father's dinner, and help about the work at times. He also relates an anecdote of Mr. Starr which we think worth republishing. Mr. Starr was an Episcopalian, but for some reasons he was temporarily offended with the church, and used to go to hear Rev. Mr. Trumbull, the Baptist pastor. One Sunday, after Mr. Starr had come in, Mr. Trumbull arose and gave his text: "Friend, friend, how camest thou hither not having a wedding-

garment?" Mr. Starr at first thought this rather personal and manifested his disapprobation plainly. But, the minister proceeding, he saw that the text was not intended for him, and he became calm.

The manufacture of sewing-machines was another industry for which Danbury was once well known. It was a machine patented by Walker B. Bartram. The first manufacturers were the Bartram & Fanton Sewing-Machine Company. They started in the old shirt-factory on Ives Street in 1865. The next year they purchased the brick building on Canal Street now occupied by P. Robinson & Son, and moved there. The company continued running with varied success until 1872, when it was reorganized, and many of our people, poor and rich alike, took stock therein. In two years more (1874) the company failed, and the stockholders mourned for the faded dreams of fortune.

In the summer of 1815 (the cold summer) Eli Seger lived in the red house on the Mill Plain road, now owned by the Terry family, which stands on the corner of the old road leading to the fair-ground entrance, across Fish-Weir bridge. The lower part of this house Seger used for manufacturing nails, living in the upper part. Seger was grandfather to Rev. E. C. Ambler. Soon after this date he moved to Ohio, where he died.

Comb-making was another industry which was once extensively carried on here, and which is now extinct. In 1810, Nathaniel Bishop started a comb-factory on the site or just back of Peck & Wildman's store. He kept a large number of hands at work for twenty-five years.

Foote & Barnum began in 1814, in a shop that stood near the corner of Main and Centre Streets. Otis & Whiting had a shop just this side of St. James' Church, West Street. Alfred Gregory, Peck & Gillett, and several others had small shops scattered about town. The comb business—the value of the goods and the number of hands employed—exceeded that of hatting from 1826 to 1831, and continued about equal till about 1837.

In 1847, T. T. Peck occupied the woolen-mill on West Street, near Beaver Street, and was burned out. The shop was rebuilt and the business carried on till 1852, when it was removed to A. T. Peck's old shop, where Beckerle & Co.'s factories now are.

Barnum & Green was another firm who carried on business in 1812, on the corner where Hon. F. S. Wildman's garden now stands.

Daniel Taylor, it is claimed, was the first man to make combs in Danbury. His factory was in the then Wildcat District, Bethel. In the same locality there were at one time seven shops in operation,—Azarael and Charles Smith, Daniel Taylor, E. Hull Barnum, T. T. Dibble, S. B. Peck, and Ammon Taylor; in Bethel Village and Grassy Plain, Daniel Barnum, George Clapp, Ammon Benedict, and several others. In 1820, and from then to 1837, there were many small shops scattered along the road from

Beaver Brook to Newtown, and from Newtown to Danbury by the Bethel road. In 1852 the business died out, mainly because the comb-makers in Massachusetts combined their capital and skilled labor and killed off the small manufacturers in other parts of the country.

The present manufacturing establishments are as follows:

*Hat-Manufacturing Companies.*—C. H. Merritt, E. A. Mallory & Son, Tweedy Manufacturing Company, D. E. Lowe & Co., S. C. Holly & Co., Rundle & White, Nichols & Hine, G. M. Hoyt & Co., Crofut, White & Peabody, Gardin & Co., Beckerle & Co., D. W. Meeker, H. M. Senior.

*Fur-Manufacturing Companies.*—N. A. & A. M. White, Lacy & Downs, P. Robinson & Co.

*Paper-Box Manufacturing Companies.*—E. S. Davis, Theodore Clark, Abijah Abbott.

*Planing-Mills and Lumber.*—D. Stevens & Co., Foster Brothers.

*Hat-Box Manufacturing Companies.*—Danbury and Bethel Manufacturing Co., Daniel Starr.

*Shirt-Manufacturing Company.*—Reed, Stevens & Co.

*Machine-Shops.*—Danbury Iron-Works, Turner Stevens & Son, Fanton Brothers, R. A. Belden & Co.

*Hot-Air Furnaces.*—E. S. Morris & Co.

#### THE EXECUTION OF ANTHONY.

"There have been two executions in Danbury. Both of these occurred within a period of twenty years, and both were of negroes convicted of rape. The first was a man named Anthony, a free negro, living in Greenwich. He perhaps had no other name, as 'Anthony' is alone used in the indictment and the warrant for execution. His crime was committed on the 7th of March, 1798, and he was hung in November following.

"The following is the copy of the indictment from the grand jury, for copy of which and of the warrant that follows we are indebted to Mr. A. B. Hull:

"The Grand Jurors for the body of said County of Fairfield, on their oaths present and say that at Greenwich, in said County, on the night next succeeding the 7th day of March, A.D., 1798, Anthony a Free negro, then residing in said Greenwich with force and arms wilfully wicked and feloniously did make an assault in and upon the body of Mary Knapp of said Greenwich, a maid under the age of nineteen years, then and there in the Peace of God and of this State, . . . being against the Peace and contray to the form, force and effect of the laws of this State, entitled "An Act for the Punishment of Rape." On this indictment the said Anthony was arranged before the Bar of this Court, and on such his arraignment was put to plead. Pleaded not guilty and for trial put himself on God and the Country. The issue with the evidence was committed to the Jury, duly impaneled and called upon to pass between the State of Connecticut and the said Anthony the Prisoner at the Bar, which Jurors on their oath do say that said Anthony, the prisoner at the bar, is guilty of the crime charged against him in the said indictment whereupon it is considered by the court and this court do join sentence and against the said Anthony, the Prisoner at the Bar, that he go from hence to the Goal from whence he came and from thence to some open and convenient place for execution then to be hanged between the Heavens and the earth until he shall be dead."

"This was at Danbury, Aug. 10, 1798. Anthony remained in the jail here until November 8th, when



he was called forth for execution. The following is the warrant for the sheriff:

"To the Sheriff of the county of Fairfield in the State of Connecticut, Greeting:

"Whereas one Anthony a free Negro Man residing in Greenwich in said county Before the Supreme Court holden at Danbury within the said County of Fairfield on the second tuesday of August 1798 was legally convicted of the crime of a Rape Committed on the Body of Mary Knapp of Greenwich aforesaid a maid under the age of nineteen years. And thereupon he the said Anthony was by the consideration of said Supreme Court adjudged and sentenced to be Hanged by his neck between the Heaven and the Earth on the Eighth Day of November next between the hours of Ten o'clock in the forenoon and three o'clock in the afternoon of said Day until he should be Dead. All of which by the records of said Supreme Court appears. And Execution thereof remains to be done. These are therefore in the name and by the Authority of the State of Connecticut to Will & Command you that on the Eight day of November next ensuing some time between the hours of Ten o'clock in the forenoon & Three o'clock in the afternoon of said Day you have him the said Anthony forth of the Common Goal in said Fairfield County where he now remains in Custody unto some open & convenient place for execution and him said Anthony then & there Cause to be Hanged up by his neck between the Heavens and the Earth until he shall be Dead. For which purpose this shall be your Legal & sufficient warrant hereof you may in no wise fail & make due return with such your doings thereon Endorsed.

"Dated at Windham the 18th day of September, A.D. 1798 & in the 23d year of the Independendence of the United States of America."

"There is no record of the return from the sheriff called for in the closing paragraph, and there are those who dispute that Anthony was hung here at the time.

"But the execution took place in Danbury on that day. We have the evidence of an eye-witness, and the sermon preached on the occasion.

"At ten o'clock of that morning, November 8th, Anthony was removed from the jail and taken to the Congregational church, late the concert-hall building. The church was crowded to overflowing with spectators, as, despite the tragic character of the event, the town assumed a holiday appearance. Anthony was placed at the front, under the pulpit, during the preaching of the sermon. Rev. Timothy Langdon was the pastor, and delivered the discourse.

"Upon the close of this he personally addressed the prisoner. He said,—

"Anthony, it is by your request that I speak on this occasion, and this is the last address which I shall ever make to you. From the sentence pronounced upon you by the court, and from the preparations with which you are surrounded, you must see that you have but a very, *very* short time to live. Your situation is truly deplorable. Whatever your crimes may have been against God and human society, yet, seeing your present condition, I pity you as a man, I pray for you as a Christian, and am now to address you as a minister of the gospel. I must therefore be faithful, and use great plainness of speech."

"Then followed a description of the enormity of his sin, committed in the light of knowledge, and after that an earnest exhortation to the sinner to repent, to look to Christ, to die 'in a Christian temper.' We judge from these words that Anthony was in an

impenitent frame of mind, and that he was doggedly meeting his wretched fate.

"On the close of the sermon the civil authorities carried the prisoner to the place set apart for his execution. This was at the head of Elm Street, near the pond. The gallows was erected on land belonging to Samuel Dibble, and from the fact of this execution the place took the name of 'Gallows Hill.' There was a great crowd present, of course, as it was a public execution, and the first ever had here. People from quite a distance were in attendance, and nearly all the town-folks were present. Sheriff Dimon, of Fairfield, was the county sheriff and he officiated.

"The gallows consisted of two uprights set in the earth, some seven inches square, hewn from our native forests, with a cross-timber on the top, and a platform hinged to one of the uprights at a height to make about six feet fall. Suitable steps were provided to pass on to the platform from the ground. Ropes attached to the platform passed over the cross-piece and were secured at the foot of one of the posts. Benjamin Griffen, the father of the late E. G. Griffen, seemed to have charge of this department.

"The prisoner was asked if he wished to say anything, and shook his head. The usual order from the Governor of the State (required in every case where life is taken), called the death-warrant, was then read. An appropriate prayer was offered by a clergyman of the Methodist Church from the vicinity where the crime was committed, he having been Adams' spiritual adviser. He was a good out-door speaker, and was plainly heard, *it was said*, on the post-office steps on Main Street, near De Klyn's bakery.

"Every condition and requirement of the law having been complied with, the prisoner was assisted up the steps and on to the platform by the deputies. His eyes were covered with his cap, and the rope, previously prepared for the prisoner and worn through the day on his neck, was connected with another suspended from the cross-piece.

"The next was a thrilling scene. The hangman had placed a prop under the platform to steady it. It appeared to be a fence rail, or about that size, and his duty now was to remove it. He found some difficulty in doing so, and when he did the victim shuddered and gave a shrug which was felt and involuntarily repeated by a large part of the spectators, even on the other side of the river, on the west. At this instant the voice of the sheriff was heard, 'Deputies, do your duty!' whereupon their swords were seen waving over their heads, the ropes were severed, the drop fell, and the victim, suspended in mid-air, died without any apparent struggle.

"Soon the hangman climbed the upright, and, sitting on the plate, so adjusted the ropes that the body was gently lowered into his coffin and buried on the ground near by, a grave being previously prepared. It was only about eighteen inches deep. The next

morning it was found to have been opened, and the body was gone, leaving the box in the ground. A fresh wagon-track on the road was traced out through White Street towards New Haven. It was said our authorities were privy to this arrangement."

#### TRIAL AND EXECUTION OF AMOS ADAMS.\*

An execution of another negro for the same crime as that for which Anthony was executed, took place in Danbury on the 13th day of November, 1817. These two are the only judicial executions that have ever taken place within the limits of Fairfield County, with the exception of that of Hoyt, hanged in Bridgeport in the summer of 1880. There have been three military executions in the county,—two at Redding and one at Newtown.

At a court holden at Danbury within and for the county of Fairfield, on the third Tuesday of September, 1817, before Chief Justice Hon. Zepheniah Swift, and Associate Justices Hon. Calvin Goddard and Hon. James Gould, came on trial Amos Adams, a black man, charged with having committed a rape on the body of Lelea Thorp, of Weston, in said county.

On Wednesday, the second day of the term, the grand jury, consisting of the following persons, was summoned by the sheriff pursuant to an order of court, and the oath administered in the usual form: Thomas Tucker, Foreman, Eliakim Benedict, Russel White, Elijah Gregory, Samuel H. Phillips, Samuel Tweedy, Jr., Moss White, Ezra Wildman, Elias Starr, Darius Starr, Elijah Sanford, David Foote, Comfort Hoyt, Andrew Beers, John Rider, Abel B. Blackman, Horace Bull, Amos Hoyt. His Honor the Chief Justice then charged the jury in a somewhat lengthy address, in which he portrayed in forcible language "the dreadful effects of this detestable crime," and closed with the usual instructions to the grand jury as to the manner in which their proceedings were to be conducted. The grand jury retired, and after a short absence brought into court a bill of indictment.

On Thursday, the 18th day of September, the prisoner was arraigned, and to this indictment plead "Not guilty." He was then informed by the court that if he desired counsel he could have any gentleman of the bar assigned for that purpose. He answered that he wished to have Moses Hatch, Esq. Mr. Hatch then observed to the court that the prisoner was ready for his trial, and requested that Asa Chapman, Esq., be associated with him. The court immediately assigned him. The attorney for the State requested that R. M. Sherman, Esq., might be appointed to assist him on the part of the State, which was accordingly done.

Two of the panel were challenged by the prisoner, when the following jurors were sworn: Seth Sherwood, Foreman, Billy Comstock, Samuel Stebbins, Clark Gregory, Abel Smith, Noah T. Ferry, Ebenezer

Nearing, David Osborne, Thaddeus Abbott, Sherwood Fanton, Isaac Wilson, Robert Platt.

Samuel B. Sherwood, Esq., attorney for the State, then proceeded to the examination of the witnesses in behalf of the State.

The trial was short. There being but little defense for his counsel to offer, they confined themselves to asking a few questions of the witnesses, and the case was submitted to the jury without argument. The jury retired, and after a few minutes brought in a verdict of "Guilty."

On Thursday, the 25th of September, the prisoner was brought into court and sentenced to be hanged on the 13th day of November.

On the day appointed for his execution he was brought from the jail, guarded by the military, and taken to the Congregational church (afterwards Concert Hall), where a sermon was preached for the occasion, by Rev. Mr. Andrews, from the text, "One sinner destroyeth much good." After the services at the church were concluded he was again placed in charge of the military and conducted to the gallows, which had been erected at the junction of what are now called Elm and Beaver Streets, on the slight elevation of ground on the west side of the last-named street.

After the requirements of the law had been fulfilled the body was buried in a shallow grave at the foot of the gallows. The morning after the execution it was noticed that the grave had been disturbed, and investigation showed that the body had been dragged out of the coffin and taken away. But little effort was made to discover the resurrectionists, and the excitement soon abated. It is said that the skeleton is now in the medical college at New Haven. A few years since, as workmen were digging for the cellars of tenement-houses on this ground, small portions of the coffin were found.

In this connection it may be proper to state that, several years after, another negro was arrested, tried, convicted, and sentenced to be hanged for the same offense in Danbury, but by an act of the Legislature changing the law he escaped execution.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### DANBURY (Continued).

#### CIVIL AND MILITARY.

Representatives from 1697 to 1880—Danbury in the Rebellion—The Soldiers' Monument—Military Record.

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1697 TO 1880.

1697-1701, Thomas Taylor; 1702, Ensign Thomas Taylor, Sergt. Josiah Starre; 1703, Josiah Starr, John Cornell; 1704-6, Sergt. Josiah Starr; 1706-7, Ensign Thomas Taylor, Josiah Starr; 1708, Josiah Starr, James Beebee; 1709, James Beebee, Wakefield Dibble; 1710, James Beebee, Josiah Starr; 1711, Francis Barnum, Josiah Starr, Capt. James Beebee; 1712, Josiah Starr, Abraham Wileman, James Bene-

\* Contributed by A. B. Hull.



dick; 1713, Capt. James Beebee, Lieut. Josiah Starr, Francis Barnham; 1714-15, Capt. Josiah Starr, Francis Barnham, Capt. James Beebe; 1716, John Gregory, Samuel Knap, Francis Barnum, Richard Barnum; 1717, Francis Barnum, Abraham Wildman, John Gregory, Richard Barnum; 1718, James Beebe, John Gregory; 1719, John Gregory, Israel Curtice, James Beebe; 1720, John Gregory, Israel Curtice, Abram Wildman; 1721-22, Samuel Knapp, Richard Barnum, John Gregory; 1723, John Gregory, Abram Wildman; 1724, John Gregory, Abram Wildman, James Benedict; 1725, John Gregory, Capt. James Beebe; 1726, John Gregory, Capt. James Beebe, Joseph Gregory; 1727, Capt. James Beebe, John Gregory; 1728, Capt. James Beebe, Eben Z. Hickox, John Gregory; 1729-30, Thomas Benedict, Capt. James Beebe, John Gregory; 1731, John Gregory, Capt. James Beebe, John Starr, Thomas Benedict; 1732, John Gregory, Capt. James Beebe; 1733, John Gregory, John Starr, Thomas Benedict; 1734, James Beebe, John Starr, John Gregory, Thomas Benedict; 1735, John Gregory, John Starr, James Beebe; 1736, James Beebe, Thomas Benedict; 1737, John Gregory, Thomas Benedict, James Beebe; 1738, John Benedict, Thomas Benedict, John Gregory, James Beebe; 1739, Capt. James Beebe, Thomas Benedict, John Benedict; 1740, Capt. James Beebe, Thomas Benedict; 1741, Capt. James Beebe, Thomas Benedict, Nathaniel Stephens; 1742-43, Capt. James Beebe, Thomas Benedict; 1744, Thomas Benedict, Capt. Ebenezer Hickox, Capt. James Beebe, Capt. Thomas Stephens; 1745, Capt. James Beebe, Thomas Benedict; 1746, Thomas Benedict, Capt. Josiah Starr, Capt. James Beebe; 1747, Capt. John Benedict, Daniel Benedict; 1748, Capt. James Beebe, Thomas Benedict; 1749, Capt. James Beebe, Capt. John Benedict, Joseph Peck; 1750, Thomas Benedict, Capt. John Benedict, Benjamin Sperry; 1751, Thomas Benedict, Comfort Starr, Daniel Benedict, Samuel Gregory; 1752, Samuel Gregory, Comfort Starr, Thomas Benedict, Capt. Josiah Starr; 1753, Capt. Daniel Benedict, Comfort Starr, Thomas Benedict; 1754, Thomas Benedict, Ebenezer Hickox, Capt. Daniel Benedict; 1755, Capt. John Benedict, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Capt. Daniel Benedict; 1756, Thomas Benedict, Comfort Starr; 1757, John Starr, Comfort Starr; 1758, Comfort Starr, Thomas Benedict; 1759, Comfort Starr, Capt. Lemuel Beebe; 1760, Comfort Starr, Daniel Benedict; 1761-62, Comfort Starr, Thomas Benedict; 1763, Capt. Daniel Benedict, Joseph Platt Cook, Samuel Dickinson, Samuel Taylor; 1764-65, Samuel Dickinson, Capt. John Benedict, Daniel Taylor, Jr.; 1766, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Samuel Dickman, Thomas Benedict; 1767, Joseph Platt Cook, Capt. Daniel Taylor; 1768, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Joseph Platt Cook; 1769, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Capt. Daniel Benedict, Joseph Platt Cook; 1770, Joseph Platt Cook, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Daniel Starr; 1771, Joseph Platt Cook, Daniel Starr; 1773, Capt. Daniel Starr, Capt. Thomas Stephens, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Capt. Daniel Taylor; 1774, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Capt. Daniel Taylor; 1775, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Thomas Taylor, Jr., Capt. Daniel Starr; 1776, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Capt. Daniel Taylor; 1777, Richard Shute, Capt. Eli Mygatt, Maj. Eli Mygatt; 1778, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Capt. Daniel Taylor; 1779, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Capt. Noble Benedict, Capt. James Clarke; 1780, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Col. Ely Mygatt; 1781, Col. Joseph Platt Cook; 1782, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Col. Ely Mygatt; 1783, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Dr. Sallu Pell; 1784, Col. Joseph Platt Cook, Maj. Ezra Starr, Col. Ely Mygatt; 1785, Col. Ely Mygatt, Maj. Benjamin Hickox, Capt. Daniel Taylor; 1786, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Joseph M. White, Col. Ely Mygatt, Maj. Benjamin Hickox; 1787, Capt. Daniel Taylor, Capt. James Clarke, Col. Eli Mygatt; 1788, Col. Eli Mygatt, Joseph M. White; 1789, Col. Eli Mygatt, Capt. James Clarke; 1790, Col. Ely Mygatt, Zadock Benedict, James Clark; 1791, Ely Mygatt, James Clark; 1792, Eli Mygatt, Elisha Whittlesey; 1793, Elisha Whittlesey, Justus Barnum, Ely Mygatt; 1794, Elisha Whittlesey, Eli Mygatt, Joseph M. White, Benjamin Hickox; 1795, Elisha Whittlesey, Eli Mygatt, Timothy Taylor, Isaac Joes; 1796, Eli Mygatt, Isaac Joes, Thomas P. White; 1797, Thomas P. White, Daniel M. Carrington, Elisha Whittlesey, Benjamin Hickox; 1798, Justus Barnum, Benjamin Hickox, Elisha Whittlesey, Thomas P. White; 1799, Elisha Whittlesey, Thomas P. White; 1800, James Clark, Thomas P. White, Elisha Whittlesey, Comfort S. Mygatt; 1801, Elisha Whittlesey, Epaphras W. Ball, Timothy Taylor, Eli Mygatt; 1802, Elisha Whittlesey, Comfort S. Mygatt; 1803, Thomas P. White, Daniel B. Cook, James Clark; 1804, Samuel W. Phillips, Epaphras W. Bull, Daniel N. Carrington, James Clark; 1805, Epaphras W. Bull, Noah Hoyt, Thomas P. White, Nathan Seelye; 1806, Epaphras W. Bull, Benjamin W. Heacock, Eliakim Benedict, Amos Cook; 1807, Eliakim Benedict, Morse White, Ely

Mygatt; 1808, Ebenezer Nichols, Epaphras W. Bull, Eliakim Benedict, Moss White; 1809, Joseph P. Cook, Friend Starr, Eliakim Benedict, Jonas Benedict; 1810, Friend Starr, Daniel P. Carrington, Daniel B. Cook, Nathan Cornwall; 1811, Daniel B. Cook, Nathan Cornwall, Ephraim M. White, Benjamin Hoyt; 1812, Friend Starr, Elias Starr, Alanson Hamlin; 1813, Samuel Wildman, Elijah Sanford, Samuel H. Phillips, Phineas Taylor; 1814, Friend Starr, Daniel Comstock, Jr., Russell White, Daniel Hoyt; 1815, Elijah Gregory, Friend Starr, Eleazer Benedict, Jr., Eli Taylor; 1816, Elijah Gregory, Eliakim Peck, Peter Ambler, John S. Blackman; 1817, Friend Starr, Elijah Gregory, Phineas Taylor, Nathan Seelye; 1818, Samuel Tweedy, Jr., Zalmon Wildman, Eden Andrews, Mathew Wilkes; 1819, Friend Starr, Zalmon Wildman; 1820, Eden Andrews, Samuel Tweedy, Jr.; 1821, Elijah Gregory, Eden Andrews; 1822, Elijah Gregory, Reuben Booth; 1823, Sturges Selleck, James Knapp; 1824, Eli Taylor, Samuel Tweedy; 1825, Zadock Stevens, Samuel Taylor; 1826, Elijah Gregory, Oliver Shepard; 1827, Russell Hoyt, Isaac H. Seelye; 1828, Nathaniel Bishop, George Clapp; 1829, William R. Comstock, Starr Ferry; 1830, Rory Starr, Abel Hoyt; 1831, Rory Starr, Ira Benedict; 1832, Peter Barnum, Rory Starr; 1833, Eli T. Hoyt, Russell Lacey; 1834, Eli T. Hoyt, Starr Ferry; 1835, Ephraim M. White, Abram Stow; 1836, Ephraim W. White, Hiram Benjamin; 1837, Peter Barnum, David D. Wildman; 1838, David D. Wildman, Isaac H. Seelye; 1839, Ephraim M. White, Charles S. Smith; 1840, Starr Nichols, Levi Beebe; 1841, Orrin Knapp, Henry O. Judd; 1842, William Peck, Nathan Seeley, Jr.; 1843, Sherman Ferry; 1844, Hiram L. Sturdevant, William C. Shepard; 1845, Edgar S. Tweedy, Starr Hoyt; 1846, Lewis S. Hoyt, Charles W. Couch; 1847, Richard Osborn, William A. Judd; 1848, Benjamin Stone, Horace E. Hickock; 1849, Cyrus S. Andrews, Eli T. Hoyt; 1850, N. H. Wildman, Joseph Taylor; 1851, George Ferry, Henry O. Judd; 1852, Ezra M. Starr, Charles S. Smith; 1853, George Hull, Pierre A. Sutton; 1854, Frederick S. Wildman, John D. Hart; 1855, Nathan Seeley, Orrin Knapp; 1856, S. Tweedy, F. S. Wildman; 1857, Giles M. Hoyt, William B. Hoyt; 1858, George Starr, D. F. Comstock; 1859, Judah P. Crosby, John Armstrong; 1860, David P. Nichols, Thaddeus Bronson; 1861, George Starr, James S. Taylor; 1862, Abijah E. Tweedy, Aaron Pearse; 1863, Alfred N. Gilbert, David B. Booth; 1864, David B. Booth, Orrin Benedict; 1865, David P. Nichols, William H. Tweedy; 1866, Samuel Mallory, J. S. Taylor; 1867, George H. Davis, S. Mallory; 1868, Edward K. Carley, Roger Averill; 1869, Walker B. Bartram, John Tweedy; 1870, Henry N. Fanton, Lyman D. Brewster; 1871, Henry N. Fanton, Edwin R. Hummiston; 1872, David B. Boot, Henry L. Read; 1873, Isaac Smith, Charles H. Reed; 1874, Henry Perry, Thaddeus Rooney; 1875, Levi K. Wildman, Nathan B. Dibble; 1876, Norman Hodge, Charles H. Crosby; 1877, Charles H. Crosby, Nathan B. Dibble; 1878, Lyman D. Brewster, Edward Davis; 1879, Lyman D. Brewster, Charles H. Hoyt; 1880, Benjamin F. Bailey, David P. Nichols.

#### DANBURY IN THE REBELLION.

The following excellent history of Danbury in the war of the Rebellion is an address which was delivered by J. M. Bailey, of the *Danbury News*, at the unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument, May 27, 1880:

"Danbury was very quiet through the winter that preceded the war. There was a talk of war, to be sure, but four-fifths of those who talked it did not believe in its possibility. It was simply New England eloquence arriving at a burst in the pipe. There was an impression, I remember; that every State would secede excepting those which formed New England, and this would naturally bring the war prospect down to a very narrow compass; and then, again, there were those here who were sure Connecticut alone would remain in the Union, while every other State would go out. This made many of us confident there was to be no war at all, and left us untrammelled in determining the number of the enemy we could slay in battle.

"These matters were thoroughly and ably discussed when the weather was sufficiently mild to permit with safety the occupation of the depot and Concert Hall steps.

"It was a gloomy winter, however,—gloomy because business was interrupted by the uncertainty of the immediate future. The summer and fall preceding had been seasons of prosperity. Our staple industry, hatching, was at full tide. Every shop was crowded with orders. Large prices were paid for help, and large profits were made. I came to Dan-



bury that year, and I remember the surprise I felt in seeing so many people indulging in watermelons and sweet potatoes. It seemed as if a millennium had set in, to which there never was to come an adjournment. Strangers were moving into town, and in every part of the village buildings were going up at a lively rate.

"After the November election all this changed. Progress came to a stand-still as abruptly as if it had been mounted with an air-brake. Hating went under, and dragged with it, as is its custom, every other branch of industry. Men had little to do but to stand around and talk. And the result was as sure as taxes. Dyspepsia set in, and gloom followed. Danbury's liver was full of gall, and Danbury's blood crawled sluggishly through its veins. Sumter was the blue pill for the occasion, and most thoroughly did it do its work.

"It was three o'clock on the afternoon of Saturday, April 13, 1861, when Danbury received the news of the fall of Sumter and the first victory for the secessionists. All that day anxious men infested the telegraph-office in search of the intelligence they dreamed to meet. When it came there was a shock. It was as if the batteries that played against the doomed fortress had been galvanic, with their wires running through our hearts' very centre.

"The next forty-eight hours were full of compressed life. They were mental yeast-cakes. No excitement equaled it since that April day nearly a century dead when the face of a foreign foe was turned our way and the tramp of an enemy's feet pressed our borders.

"Now we knew there was to be a war. Even the most sanguine of a bloodless ending to the trouble gave up the hope of peace, but not the determination to win it. In that first flush of indignant shame party lines went under, and only the fact of the outrage and the desire to avenge it appeared above the sea of patriotic passion that swept over Danbury.

"You all know how thronged Main Street is on a Saturday evening. We have a sort of national reputation in this particular. But, as compared with that Saturday night nineteen years ago, the one of the present is as barren of life as a law library.

"There was but little sleep in Danbury that Saturday night; there was none whatever the next day, although there were eight churches here. St. Peter gave way to saltpetre in the theology of the hour.

"Danbury showed its colors promptly on the reception of the news from Sumter. The first flag appeared from the residence of Hon. Roger Averill, and others immediately followed,—in such numbers, too, that the village looked like an army with banners. An interesting incident occurred with the unfurling of Governor Averill's flag. Many present distinctly remember the venerable Col. Moss White. Several years before the war he was stricken with paralysis, and never recovered from the shock. He moved about with great difficulty, and lost all control of verbal expression except two words, in the form of an injunction, which were, 'Come all!' On seeing the flag he smote his breast with both hands and cried aloud again and again, 'Come all! Come all!' And the record shows that the able-bodied men of his native town almost literally responded to the cry.

"On the Monday following the eventful Saturday, President Lincoln issued a call for seventy-five thousand troops to march to the defense of the government. On Wednesday, Governor Buckingham's call for Connecticut's quota of this number was received in Danbury, and on Friday—only forty-eight hours later—our dear old mother had a company of her sons, nearly all armed and equipped, on their way to the State rendezvous, ready for action. These were the Wooster Guards, the first company to leave Danbury, and the first in the State to report for duty. Is not this something to be proud of? Glorious as is the name the dead Wooster left us, it received new brightness from the lustre of this act.

"The day the Wooster Guards departed for New Haven was an eventful one in the history of our town. It might have been called both Good and Black Friday,—Good because of the devotion to principle thus manifested, Black because of the gloom in the hearts of those whose trying mission was to stay at home and wait.

"It was only for three months that this devoted company were to be gone, but the eye of affection saw every bitter possibility crowded within that brief space, and hearts stood still at the sight.

"You may rest assured that a hearty godspeed accompanied Danbury's first offering upon the nation's altar. People were suffering under a mighty tension of excitement, and any escape that presented itself was promptly used. And so when this first company went away there was a parade, and the touching off of powder, and the waving of hats, and a shouting and yelling as if every man had a telephone of his own and wanted a doctor.

"The town's military hall was then on the top floor of D. P. Nichols' building, corner of Main and White Streets. There the Guards assembled and received recruits, and prepared for the advance. But it was in

Concert Hall, on the spot where to-day was unveiled the monument, that the brave band were consecrated to the holy cause of national life, and the God of battles was invoked to watch over them. It was a triumphant march to the hall, and a triumphant march from there to the railway-station, and all along the route the way was hedged in with sympathetic and effervescent humanity. At the station itself the currents became an ocean into which the Guards were absorbed as completely as if they had gone down into a real ocean. Every man in that company was a hero in the eyes of the multitude, and every manifestation of approval was showered upon them. It was a wonder to us how the train ever got away from the station with its precious freight without crushing scores of humans in its moving. But it did move away free from all obstacle, and the Guards went out from among us with hearts so full of purpose that grief found no entrance therein.

"Capt. E. E. Wildman was in command; Jesse D. Stevens was first lieutenant; John W. Bussing was second lieutenant. These three men are still with us. I am going to read to you the muster-roll of that band who took their lives in their hands to go out upon an untried enterprise. I would like to repeat from this platform the name of every volunteer from our town, but time will not permit it. The chief interest centres about this company because it was the first. This is the list:

"Sergeants, Andrew Knox, Milo Dickens, William Moegling, Samuel M. Petit.

"Corporals, George B. Allen, E. S. Davis, Alexander Kallman, Nathan Couch.

"Musicians, Edward H. Dann, Grandison D. Foote.

"Privates, John Allen, Harris Anderson, C. H. Anderson, John Bogardus, Charles A. Boerum, James Blizzard, William H. Blizzard, Thomas T. Bussing, James Bradley, Theodore B. Benedict, A. H. Byington, George W. Banker, Charles A. Bengier, Niram Blackman, Thomas D. Brown, Henry E. Buckingham, William K. Cowan, Lemuel B. Clark, William R. Doane, Josiah L. Day, Ed. H. Day, Joseph L. Dunning, Ezekiel Eaton, C. Fieldstone, Denis Geliven, Christopher Grimm, Charles A. Gordon, H. W. Gibbs, Carl W. Hillbrandt, William O. Hoyt, W. P. Hoyt, David B. Hoyt, Alfred H. Hoddinott, Thomas Hooton, Otto Hagement, James Howath, Jesse L. James, Earnest T. Jennings, Isaac N. Jennings, George D. Keeler, Morris A. Krazynsky, William J. Murphy, Emil C. Margraff, James Martin, Andrew B. Nichols, Horace Purdy, Francis W. Platt, Joseph W. Raymond, James Reed, James R. Ross, Timothy Rose, George L. Smith, Alson J. Smith, Benjamin F. Skinner, David Sloane, Grandison Scott, Louis Shack, Eli D. Sealey, Augustus Staples, George Sears, James H. Taylor, Joseph Tammany, Darius A. Veats, Edgar L. Wildman, Howard W. Wheeler, John Waters.

"The papers of New Haven spoke highly of the appearance of the company, and lauded the promptness with which it responded to the nation's cry for help. It is a great deal to be the first in an enterprise fraught with danger, because the danger itself is untried and all the more formidable. It was a brave thing for the families of these men to give up their own, but both those who went and those who sent them had no lack of the spirit which constitutes heroism.

"There are two incidents recorded in the *New Haven Journal* of that time which vividly show how bright and clear burned the fire of patriotism on the altar set up in Danbury. I quote from the *Journal*:

"The men are in the best of spirits, and are determined to vindicate the untarnished honor of old Connecticut. One of them received a letter from his wife, Saturday evening, saying, 'I do wish, Robert, you could return; but if it is not consistent with honor and duty, go! Good-by, and remember always to be faithful to our country, and to fight manfully for our glorious flag.' Said the brave fellow, trying hard to repress a tear as he perused the precious missive, 'Who couldn't fight when such a wife commanded it?' Another member of the company was met by his father on the green, who said, as he handed him a wallet containing some thirty dollars in gold, 'My son, take your father's blessing and this slim purse. It is all I can give you. Do your duty. It is hard for your aged mother and me to part with you, but God bless you, go! If you fall, give your dying blessing to your comrades. Good-by.'"

"These are specimens of the men who went in that first company from Danbury, and of those who gave them up. Of the material that composed this band the larger part reappeared to credit in subsequent organizations. Some of them reached distinction as officers. Many of them are with us to-day. Many have passed through the Valley of the Shadow. One who marched in the ranks on the departure from Danbury does not appear in this list. He was objected to on account of age, and although he tried in various ways to be mustered in was not successful. This was Nelson L. White, afterwards lieutenant-colonel of the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, and now gone to his eternal rest.

"Another prominent name is that of William Moegling, who entered



the Eleventh Regiment as captain of one of the companies, became the lieutenant-colonel, was twice wounded, came home disabled, and died here on the 26th of October, 1864.

"The encampment of the First Regiment, to which this company was assigned, was, while in the State, a rather pleasant affair, something in the line of a picnic. This was the experience of all the regiments. The food was good, every man had a plate, knife, and fork, the tents were clean, beds were furnished to sleep upon, passes were frequent, the uniforms were new, and there were plenty of admirers. After leaving the State and getting into the field another and an entirely different order of things developed, and the progress to it was somewhat like falling down stairs. There was but very little apple-sauce in the field, and scarcely any cologne, while the man who had a knife and fork was looked upon with considerable suspicion. Straw ticks gave way to bare ground, and shoe blacking to stone bruises, and if a man had a whole crown to his hat he flattered himself that he was doing very handsomely by the government. When the news reached the Seventeenth Connecticut, reclining in the frozen mud of Chantilly, Va., of the complaint of a newly-organized regiment at home that only one bundle of straw was given to each man, very heavy gloom settled upon Chantilly, and may be there yet. All the misery of war is not confined to the battle-field, although that appears to be the generally received impression outside the army,

"The First Connecticut left New Haven for Washington on the 9th of May. Gen. Scott's comment upon it was brief but to the point. He said, 'Thank God, there is one regiment on hand ready for service!'

"Early in the morning of July 21st the regiment went to the front, and Danbury received its baptism of fire in the war of the Union. All that day the regiment was marched and countermarched in the multitude of changes in position, and much of the time it was subject to a severe fire from the enemy, but came out of that dreadful disaster with scarcely a mark. The only loss the Danbury company sustained was the capture of two of its members, Alfred H. Hoddinott and Isaac N. Jennings.

"The regiment was mustered out of the service on the 31st of July, and the Wooster Guards were given a picnic reception in James Nichols' woods, in Great Plain District, on Saturday, August 3d, at which there was great rejoicing and an unlimited supply of sandwiches, in connection with music, poetry, and pies.

"Within ten days from the departure of the Wooster Guards for New Haven a second company for three months' service was formed and ready to depart. This was on the 29th of April. The organization was called the Danbury Rifle Company, and was commanded by the gallant and lamented James E. Moore. His first lieutenant was Samuel G. Bailey, and his second lieutenant Charles H. Hoyt. Lieut. Hoyt resigned six weeks later and F. W. Jackson, a sergeant, was promoted to the vacancy. The company was mustered into the United States service as Company C of the Third Regiment, and numbered seventy-seven men. The departure of this body of citizen-soldiers was signalized by a general outpouring of the people of Danbury. The company was escorted through the village by a spirited cavalcade, and at the railway-station there were elaborate preparations for an enthusiastic send-off. A platform was erected, which was mounted by the clergy, who fired the hearts of the volunteers and others with new zeal, and a band of music added to the electricity. The company departed amid a volley of cheers and a burst of music, while the air was white with the waving of handkerchiefs moist with tears.

"Ah, it is something to have lived in those days of delirium!

"The company was mustered into the service on the 14th of May, at Hartford, and on the 25th of that month left the State for Washington.

"The Danbury Rifles took an active part in the tragedy of Bull Run. The regiment was exposed to a severe fire, and acquitted itself most creditably. From its ranks Danbury offered her first living sacrifice. This was John R. Marsh, fourth sergeant of the company, a name that heads Danbury's list of martyrs in the war for the Union. He was struck and killed by a piece of flying shell. Private A. E. Bronson was made a prisoner.

"Of the Rifles several afterwards rendered distinguished service in other commands. Chief was the gallant captain who crowned his unselfish devotion by yielding up his life at the head of his company on the blood-saturated field of Gettysburg. There also Bronson gave up his life, dying by the side of his leader. Corp. Milton Daniels and Private Henry Quyen became captains of the Danbury company in the Seventeenth.

"The Rifles returned to Danbury on Wednesday evening, the 14th or 15th of August. On Saturday, the 17th, they were entertained by a grove dining at Oil Mill, and by speeches and music in Concert Hall.

"I have said that there was considerable demonstration when the

Rifles went away. In the escort on that day was a company of young men whose very hot blood found some expression in the impulsively suggestive title of Zouaves. The Zouaves numbered sixty members on that day, and they averaged nearly six feet in stature. They were in some respects the most remarkable body of men sent to the war from Danbury. The larger portion of them were the full-blooded and high-spirited boys of the period, full of life and dash, and a credit to the east side of Main Street any afternoon or evening.

The Zouaves became Company A of the Fifth Regiment, and were the first company of three-years' men to go out from Danbury. I think the author of that rather vigorous poem, 'Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching,' must have been a member of the gallant Fifth. Nowhere else could he have got more inspiration. Colt's factory was to have furnished the regiment with revolving arms. Nature gave them their revolving legs, and never before or since was Nature more generous. No body of men from Danbury equaled this company in the extent of service. This is a distinction indeed among a number of bodies no one of whom brought discredit upon our dear old town, and most of whom were subject to severe tests of physical endurance and courage.

"The Zouaves were commanded by Capt. Henry B. Stone, the lieutenants were James A. Betts, first, and William A. Daniels, second. They left Danbury for Hartford on the 16th of May. The demonstration made over their departure exceeded that made on either of the preceding occasions. Nearly all the Zouaves were well known and well liked in this community, and they had a large following of friends. It was the biggest day Danbury witnessed in that volume of big days. Many of you remember it. There were several local organizations in the line of march through the village. One of them was the Home Guards, another was the Union Cadets, a third the Anderson Guards, which was composed of Irish citizens. In addition to these were the fire companies. Most of the Zouaves had 'run with the machine,' and ran with it enthusiastically, too, you may be sure, and so the fire-lads were out in force. Then there were the village brass band and a long line of horsemen. Twenty years ago Danbury didn't think it could parade with any decency whatever unless it was a straddle of a horse. There were the ringing of the bells, the discharge of cannon, the strains of music, flights of oratory, and cheers that made the cheerers hoarse for a week after. What added a deep significance to the affair was the prospect that the parting was to be for a much longer period than three months, and to the hearts of those left behind, shivering in the very glory of the parade, three months looked long enough, looking forward to it. Well for those poor souls bravely fighting down their pain that they could look no farther into the future than they did!

"The company was originally designed to apply to the three months quota, but before its muster-roll was completed the quota was full, and it was then a choice with them whether they would enroll for three years or stay at home. You will readily comprehend how severe a test to their zeal was this choice. But they were equal to it, as they proved themselves to be equal to every test the military genius of friend or foe subjected them to.

"The Fifth left Hartford on the 29th of June for the seat of war, or rather for the war-path, for it was a regiment that saw but precious few opportunities for sitting down. In the years of its service the regiment marched over fifteen hundred miles, at one time being on the move for nineteen consecutive days, and marching in one day the unusual distance of forty-five miles. It took in more scenery than any other regiment from Connecticut. It began in Virginia and brought up in North Carolina, by way of Tennessee and Georgia. The only reason why it did not see the Yosemite Valley was because there happened to be no fighting there. It fought eleven battles, among them being Cedar Mountain,—where it met its heaviest loss,—Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. Six of the Zouaves were killed outright or were fatally wounded, and nineteen of them otherwise wounded. Of the original company only three died in the service from disease, which shows the superior physical condition of the men. Perhaps no company from Danbury witnessed so many changes in its officers as did the Zouaves.

"Its first commander, Henry B. Stone, was promoted to be lieutenant-colonel. He was wounded at the battle of Cedar Mountain, and died on the 20th of January, 1862, from the effects of that wound. His bravery was without a flaw. First Lieut. Betts was also promoted to be lieutenant-colonel. Second Lieut. Daniels was made first lieutenant, and was mustered out of the service because of disability. First Sergt. Theodore Dibble was made a captain, Second Sergt. Lewis K. Carley, who recently died, became the quartermaster of the regiment, and made a model officer in that difficult and very important department. Third Sergt. George N. Raymond was made a first lieutenant. Fourth Sergt. James Stewart reached a captaincy. Corp. Edgar A. Stratton was promoted to be first



lieutenant, and Corp. A. M. Whitlock, to be second lieutenant. Two privates, W. H. Botsford and E. A. Sage, were promoted to be first lieutenants. The first assistant surgeon of the regiment was Dr. W. C. Bennett, who became a brigade surgeon. The company largely re-enlisted at the close of the three years' term, and so served until the close of the war. It received fifty-nine recruits, making its total strength one hundred and sixty-five men.

"After the departure of the Zouaves from Danbury there came a lull in military operations here. There was no pressing demand for troops, and no organization was forming. We had done our share of the work, and were now waiting to see how things were going to turn out. Perhaps what we had done would be sufficient. At any rate, there was nothing more to do but to wait and look and speculate. An army had gathered in Virginia, the coming battle-ground, and the hosts of friends and foes were on the eve of what the greater portion of us believed would be the decisive battle of the war. Those were days of eager watching, but the feeling was of that intense nature that found little outward expression.

"At last it came. There was an awful crash, and then a shock,—such a dreadful shock! The battle of Bull Run was fought, and—lost. Our splendid army was shamefully beaten and driven back in defeat and dismay.

"The waiting was over, the watching at an end, and the strong, faithful heart of our sturdy town smothered its grief and went bravely to work to build anew.

"Military Hall again blazed with light and sounded with the tramp of volunteer feet, and the drum and fife awakened the echoes of our streets. Benjamin F. Skinner and William Moegling, fresh from the disastrous battle-field, received authority from Governor Buckingham to recruit a company for the then forming Sixth Regiment, and fell to work at once to execute the commission.

"On the night of August 19th a large, enthusiastic public meeting was held in Concert Hall with a view to stimulating enlistments in the new company. Thirty names had already been enrolled, and fourteen more were added that night. Within a week the company was completed, and on the 28th of August it departed for New Haven. Although recruited for the Sixth, it was assigned to the Seventh Regiment, and became Company D in that organization. B. F. Skinner was chosen captain, Joseph Dunning first lieutenant, and Thomas Hooten second lieutenant. These three were members of the first company of three months' men. Three weeks later, September 18th, the regiment left the State for the front.

"The Seventh served the greater part of its time in the far South. It was the first to land on the soil of South Carolina, and its flag was the first national color unfurled in that State since the beginning of the war. Governor Buckingham promulgated the fact in a special order, and it was read to every Connecticut regiment in the field. This alone was glory enough, but the Seventh did grand service throughout the war. It saw more fighting than any other regiment in which Danbury had a company, taking part in nineteen engagements, chief among which were the battles of Morris Island and Fort Wagner, and those about Bermuda Hundred. The Seventh was a 'fighting regiment' in the fullest sense of the term. The Danbury company bore its full share of the work, as the casualties show, its loss in killed and wounded being greater than the average of the companies. The company had none of its commissioned officers on its return, and yet there were but two promotions from the ranks. Capt. Skinner resigned in February, 1864, First Lieut. Dunning left the service in the first year, and Second Lieut. Hooten lost his brave life in battle on the 14th of June, 1862. First Sergt. Theodore C. Wildman was promoted to be first lieutenant, and Private William W. Newman reached the same office. In view of the service of the company, the changes in position were remarkably few. Most of the company re-enlisted on the expiration of its three years' term, and served until the close of the war. Its losses exceeded those of any company Danbury sent to the war. Eleven of its members were killed outright, twenty-seven were wounded, of whom six died from the effects of wounds and twenty-one died with disease, of which number six died in the Andersonville prison. The company entered the army with one hundred and five men and received sixty-three recruits.

"On the 24th of August another company was formed. There has always been much that was mysterious surrounding this organization. It has no record, and not even its officers are fully known. No trace of the company is in the possession of the State authorities. It participated in but one battle, but suffered severely. Like a gourd it grew up and went down in one day. It disbanded with considerable ostentation. In fact, the disbandment covered more ground than all its service. But one dark spot dims its glory. The scars of the wounds received in that battle are deli-

cately concealed from sight, and are only visible to the public when the survivors are discovered in swimming. The battle of Charcoal Run took place on the 24th of August, 1861.

"Immediately following this tragedy came the inception of the fifth company in Danbury's contribution to the army. In spite of the rather inauspicious fact that the organizer was an enterprising undertaker, the formation of the company went rapidly forward, and under almost as great a strain of excitement as signalized the former enrollment.

"On the 26th of September the company left Danbury for Hartford, where it remained until the 16th of December following, when it went to the front as Company A of the Eleventh Regiment. It was commanded by Capt. George A. Southmayd. His first lieutenant was Samuel G. Bailey, and the second lieutenant Charles H. White. The company was called the Averill Rifles, the name being adopted in honor of Hon. Roger Averill. It left Danbury to go to Hartford on a national fast-day, September 26th, and returned here on Thanksgiving Day, November 28th, for the purpose of receiving a stand of colors, a gift from Governor Averill. The exercises took place in Concert Hall, where the monument now stands, and there are those here this evening who vividly remember all its details and will look back upon that November evening with peculiar sensations.

"As a part of the Eleventh Regiment the Averill Rifles participated in ten serious engagements. Chief among these were Antietam, Fredericksburg, Drury's Bluff, and before Petersburg. Its losses were ten killed or died from wounds and twenty-two wounded. Sixteen of the members died with disease, three of them while prisoners of war at Andersonville. The company was the largest from Danbury in the service. It was originally one hundred and one strong, and during its term it received one hundred and six recruits, making the total two hundred and seven. It re-enlisted in 1864, and was mustered out in December, 1865. It met with many changes. Capt. Southmayd resigned in the summer of 1862. First Lieut. Bailey was promoted to the vacancy, and right after resigned. Second Lieut. White was promoted to his place, and resigned. The company lost these three officers within the space of two weeks. First Sergt. Henry J. McDonald became major, Second Sergt. D. B. Mansfield was made a second lieutenant, Fourth Sergt. Nathan Cornwall and Corp. George Cassidy first lieutenants. From the ranks David A. Hoag rose to be captain, John H. Sniffin to be first lieutenant, Peter W. Ambler, Christian Quien, and Sylvester C. Platt second lieutenants. Charles Parker, a recruit, was appointed a quartermaster.

"A company of German citizens in this regiment was commanded by Capt. William Moegling, who was promoted to be lieutenant-colonel, and was twice wounded. From the effects of these wounds he was obliged to return home, and here he died on the 26th of October, 1864, one of the bravest of Danbury's volunteers. There were seven Danbury citizens in Capt. Moegling's company.

"The Eleventh was one of the crack regiments of Connecticut. It was always to be depended upon, and won the hearty approbation of its brigade commanders. When it appeared in New York city on its way to the front it had quite a reception, and its soldierly bearing won the praise of the city press.

"The five companies whose histories I have briefly sketched comprise the number of organizations that Danbury furnished to maintain the nation's life in that first year of the war.

"In the regiment of cavalry raised that summer there were a score of Danbury men. In fact, our town was represented in every company in the troop. There were also recruits from here in every regiment but the Second that went out of the State that year.

"On the 3d of December, 1861, Andrew Knox, of Danbury, received authority from Governor Buckingham to raise recruits for the service. He immediately began the work, and in a very short time had secured forty-five volunteers. With these he reported at Hartford for duty. They were assigned to Company B of the First Heavy Artillery, which had then emerged from the Fourth Infantry. Nelson L. White was the lieutenant-colonel of this admirable regiment. Knox was made second lieutenant of the company, and was promoted shortly after to be first lieutenant. When I have occasion to write his obituary I will speak more particularly of him.

"Danbury is not considered to be specially connected with this regiment, and yet there were fifty-five residents of our town in Lieut. Knox's company, or more than there were in any company organized here with the single exception of Company K, Twenty-third Regiment. I do not include in the count those who belonged to the quota of the town and enlisted here, but simply those who had residence in Danbury.

"I cannot close this record of the year's work without a word for the newspapers of the day. There is a mournful pleasure in looking over them and pondering on their magnificent opportunities for snubbing



truth. They contain full accounts of all the battles, and one in reading the figures in the list of casualties cannot help admiring the resources of the South, whatever he may think of its policy. I dare say there were as many Southerners killed in that first year of the war as we had men fighting in all the years. I recall one case where it stated that a Union man killed *thirty-five* secessionists at one shot. It led me to believe that the rebels fought in bales like you sometimes see codfish in a grocery, and I couldn't help shuddering when I thought how thin their bodies must be. At the same time I wished that I owned that gun. Really, our government did not need one-tenth the troops it raised.

"The second year of the war, 1862, passed half away without witnessing any organizing action in Danbury. That winter will ever be known as having originated the balmy condition of affairs along the course of the Potomac. All that time the announcement of 'All quiet along the Potomac' was new and fresh, and gave quite a charm to current literature.

"Occasionally there was a descent upon the village of some recruiting-agent with his dazzling prospectus. People were getting used to the war and all that followed it possible for them to know, and even the Danbury horse patiently submitted to banners and drums.

"In the summer of 1862 there was a call for three hundred thousand more troops, to serve for three years, and Danbury again bestirred herself to gather her sons and send them forth to the fight. There was a public meeting in Concert Hall one July evening. It was a notable gathering in that it had a live Governor to address it, and a live lieutenant-governor to preside over it. Governor Buckingham, the noble hero, was here that night, and Lieut.-Gov. Averill was called to the chair. Both of them made addresses which were appeals that stirred the ardor of Danbury as it had not been stirred since the Bull Run disaster.

"It was a tremendous meeting,—the biggest yet held. A large number could not gain admittance to the hall. The building was full. It is said there were over a thousand persons in there that night. You who remember the old hall will agree with me that the ushers must have had years of experience in boxing sardines. When the speaking was over there was a call for volunteers. A tall man went forward. He had the typical military figure,—tall, slim, straight. He wrote his name on the paper presented. It was the first name, and was read to the audience. It was that of James E. Moore. The announcement of this name was received with a storm of applause. Little did he who wrote it, or those who cheered it, anticipate the tragedy that a year later was to quench his life. Other names rapidly followed, and the first step for the formation of the Wildman Guards was taken. The name was adopted in honor of our fellow-citizen, Frederick S. Wildman. The command thus started soon became a full company, and took the designation of 'C' in the Seventeenth Regiment of Connecticut Volunteers, then being raised by this county, and the only distinctively Fairfield County regiment recruited. Its headquarters were at Bridgeport. On the 28th of August it was mustered into the United States service, and on the 3d of September it left the State for the front.

"Capt. James E. Moore was the commander of this company. The first lieutenant was Wilton H. Daniels. The second lieutenant was Henry Quien. The company numbered one hundred and two on leaving the State. During its term of service it received seven recruits, making its total number one hundred and nine. Its battles were not many, but its record shows that it made the most of its opportunities. The regiment was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, where it served until after the battle of Gettysburg, when it was transferred to the Department of the South and did duty before Charleston and in Florida. The Danbury company first came under fire at Chancellorsville, where it had one member fatally wounded and two less seriously. Its second engagement was Gettysburg. Here its experience was most bitter. Its loss in that fight was the most serious sustained by any Danbury company in any one engagement fought. If I recollect aright, the company went into the battle with forty-four members. Of these eleven were killed outright or died shortly from the effects of wounds. Eleven were otherwise wounded and eleven were captured, leaving eleven survivors. On that field the brave captain gave up his life, and three of his sergeants perished with him. The company's casualties during its three years of service were twelve killed outright or fatally wounded, twelve otherwise wounded, and seven died of disease. There were but few promotions. Both lieutenants, Daniels and Quien, became captain of the company, the former resigning in March, 1864. Sergt. William L. Daniels was made first lieutenant.

"The adjutant-general of the State, in his report of the services of the Connecticut troops, speaks in the following distinctive terms of the Seventeenth:

"Thus ended the honorable service of a regiment the superior of

which in intelligence, *morale*, courage, and endurance was not found in the army. The commonwealth of Connecticut will ever cherish the memory of its dead and honor its living."

"The Fifteenth Regiment went into the service at the same time with the Seventeenth. The late Dr. E. F. Hendrick was an assistant surgeon in this regiment, which had fifteen of our citizens. One of these was Charles S. Gray, who entered the service as a sergeant and was promoted to be second lieutenant.

"In September, 1862, Danbury completed her last organizations for the war. These were two companies enlisted for a term of nine months. Both companies were recruited for the Twenty-third Regiment. Each contained eighty-three members. The first was Company B. Its captain was James H. Jenkins. The first lieutenant was the lamented Frederick Starr, who was fatally wounded in the battle of La Fourche, La. The second lieutenant was William B. Betts, who was promoted to be first lieutenant on the death of Starr. Sergt. Henry I. Smith became second lieutenant. The company's loss in the service were two from wounds and three from disease.

"The second company was mustered in as Company K. It was commanded by Capt. Samuel G. Bailey. The first lieutenant was Edwin H. Nearing, and the second George Quien. The Quiens may be called a family of officers. All its available force, three sons, went into the service, and all were officers. The casualties of Company K were the capture of Capt. Bailey and the deaths from disease of four members.

"The regiment served in Louisiana and faithfully discharged the duties assigned to it. Samuel Gregory was the adjutant and Eli Ferry the sergeant-major of the regiment.

"I have here prepared a table which shows the strength and the loss of Danbury in the war for the Union. Although our village had organizations in but seven of the thirty regiments from the State, it had representatives in nearly all of them. In this table is given the strength of the Danbury companies and the number of Danburians in other companies of the same regiments:

Regiment.	Danbury Co.	Other Cos.	Total.	Wounded.	Killed.
1st.....	78	1	79		
3d.....	77	2	79		1
3d I. L. Bat.....	...	2	...	1	
1st Cav.....	...	38	...		
1st H. Artillery.....	...	85	...	2	
2d ".....	...	12	...	1	2
5th.....	165	8	173	19	6
6th.....	...	47	...	6	4
7th.....	168	36	204	23	19
8th.....	...	18	...		
9th.....	...	12	...		
10th*.....	...	3	...		
11th.....	207	21	228	22	10
12th.....	...	21	...		
13th.....	...	5	...		
14th.....	...	4	...		
15th.....	...	15	...		
17th.....	109	19	128	12	12
20th.....	...	3†	...		
23d.....	166	15	181	...	2
24th‡.....	...	1	...		
29th Colored.....	...	23	...		
30th ".....	...	1	...		
Total.....	970	390	1360	91	56

"This shows that Danbury had six companies in the army whose total membership was 970. In other companies were 390 of her citizens, making a grand total of 1360, or *nearly one-sixth* of her population. Of these 56 were killed, 91 were wounded, and 89 died of disease, the total of casualties being one-sixth of the contribution.

"This is the record over which Danbury exults while it mourns. In all the towns of this suffering, enduring, brave little State there is none that presents a grander record than this. From the hour when the shame put on Sumter thrilled her loyal heart, she never faltered in the way once set before her. There can no one now or in the future yet to come, however distant it may grow, lay the finger of reproach upon our dear old mother, or say that in aught pertaining to the welfare of her own or of the land she so dearly loves her loyalty had lacking.

"From out the tears that fall for those who in the shock of battle went the royal road to death she looks with grateful pride upon the work so bravely, so nobly wrought, and lays thereon her earnest benediction."

\* Sergt. S. L. White was made captain of Company D. He died of wounds.

† All deserted.

‡ Dr. Warren of Danbury, surgeon.

## MILITARY RECORD.

The following record of those who enlisted in the war of the Rebellion from this town is taken from the "Catalogue of Connecticut Volunteer Organizations," which was prepared from the records in the office of the adjutant-general:

E. E. Wildman, captain Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 J. D. Stevens, first lieutenant Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 J. W. Bussing, second lieutenant Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Andrew Knox, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Milo Dickens, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 William Moebling, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 S. L. Pettit, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 G. B. Allen, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 E. S. Davis, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Alexander Kallman, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 E. H. Dunn, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 G. Foot, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 John Allen, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Charles H. Anderson, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 John Bogardus, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 C. H. Boerum, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 James Blizard, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. May 9, 1861.  
 William Blizard, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. June 10, 1861.  
 T. F. Bussing, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 James Bradley, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Aaron H. Byington, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 George W. Banker, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Charles A. Bengier, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 H. E. Buckingham, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 W. K. Cowan, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 L. B. Clark, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 W. R. Doane, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 J. L. Day, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 E. H. Day, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 J. S. Dunning, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Ezekiel Eaton, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 T. C. Fieldstone, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 C. Grimm, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 C. A. Gordon, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 W. H. Gibbs, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 C. W. Hilbrandt, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 W. O. Hoyt, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 W. P. Hoyt, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 D. B. Hoyt, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Alfred H. Hoddinott, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Otto Hagement, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 James Howath, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 E. P. Jennings, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 James Martin, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.

Horace Purdy, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 F. W. Platt, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Joseph W. Raymond, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 J. R. Ross, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 T. Ross, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 G. S. Smith, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Elson J. Smith, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 B. F. Skinner, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 D. Sloan, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 G. Scott, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Lewis Shack, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 Eli D. Seeley, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 A. Staples, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 G. Sears, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 J. H. Taylor, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 D. A. Yeats, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 E. L. Wildman, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
 John Waters, Co. E, 1st Regt.; must. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.

*Company C.*

Seth J. Crosby, must. April 22, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.

## THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Measner, Herman, must. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

*Company C.*

(*Mustered into service May 14, 1861.*)

James E. Moore, captain; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Samuel G. Bailey, first lieutenant; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Charles H. Hoyt, second lieutenant; res. June 10, 1861.  
 Frederick W. Jackson, sergeant; pro. to second lieutenant; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Walter C. Sparks, sergeant; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Henry C. White, sergeant; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 John R. Marsh, sergeant; killed in battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861.  
 Eben L. Barnum, corporal; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Seneca Edgett, corporal; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Milton H. Daniels, corporal; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Henry O. Leach, corporal; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Armstrong, Samuel B., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Dauchy, Robert S., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Davis, William H., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Divenny, Owen, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Ely, John G., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Foley, Patrick, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Gray, John, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Hall, William, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Hale, Minot, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Horan, Thomas, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Hoyt, Edgar H., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Jackson, William.  
 Keeney, John, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Keeney, Thomas, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Lee, James E., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Loudon, George, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Mansfield, David B., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Moore, John, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Monroe, Alsop L., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Moffatt, Abram, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 McKey, Thomas, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 McAvoy, Lawrence, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 McGowan, Michael, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Osborne, Lewis W., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Pratt, David J., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Quien, Henry, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Rourke, Philip, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Raymond, Amos, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Rogers, Isaac B., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Rooney, Thaddy, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Sherman, Bennett, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.



Taylor, James B., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Taylor, William H., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Warren, Edward S., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Wilson, Harvey, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Woodruff, Charles H., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
 Young, George B., disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

#### FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY, CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Keyes, William, must. Dec. 19, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Larkin, John, must. Dec. 16, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Lee, George, must. Dec. 16, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Lynch, John, must. Dec. 29, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Mack, James, must. Sept. 10, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Malone, James, must. March 7, 1865; not taken up on rolls.  
 Stokes, Percival, must. Dec. 22, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

#### FIRST CAVALRY.

##### *Company B.*

Samuel Flight, must. Dec. 2, 1861; disch. Nov. 2, 1864.  
 John Dooley, must. Aug. 20, 1864; disch. Aug. 2, 1865.

##### *Company C.*

D. W. Knowles, must. Dec. 9, 1861; disch. Jan. 23, 1863.  
 J. D. Bennett, must. Dec. 16, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Wm. Miller, must. Dec. 16, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Charles Middleton, must. Dec. 16, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 W. L. Munson, must. Jan. 8, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

##### *Company D.*

C. Wood, must. Nov. 2, 1861; must. out June 20, 1862.  
 Joseph Williman, must. Dec. 5, 1861; must. out Sept. 13, 1862.

##### *Company F.*

George McFern, must. Dec. 11, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

##### *Company G.*

Henry Wells, must. Sept. 10, 1864; pro. capt. March 16, 1865.

##### *Company H.*

C. H. Jennings, must. Dec. 14, 1865; must. out Aug. 7, 1865.

##### *Company I.*

H. B. Perry, must. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out June 23, 1865.  
 J. C. Thomson, must. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 18, 1865.  
 William H. Moore, must. Dec. 18, 1864.  
 James Russell, must. Dec. 24, 1863.

##### *Company L.*

C. H. Benedict, must. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Henry Foster, must. April 7, 1865; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 William Pendlly, must. Jan. 5, 1864; died Oct. 12, 1864.  
 F. Thomson, must. Jan. 3, 1865; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 Solomon Wheeler, must. Dec. 18, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

##### *Company M.*

S. Zoppi, must. Aug. 26, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
 William Adams, must. Nov. 27, 1863.  
 James Agnew, must. Dec. 21, 1864.  
 John P. Boyes, must. Dec. 19, 1864.  
 Thomas Feeney, must. Sept. 10, 1864.  
 J. Hill, must. Dec. 16, 1864.  
 William Johnson, must. Dec. 16, 1864.  
 John Larkins, must. Dec. 16, 1864.  
 James Mack, must. Sept. 10, 1864.  
 John Maloney, must. March 7, 1865.  
 John Willoughby, must. Dec. 16, 1864.

#### THIRD BATTERY.

M. Haviland, must. Sept. 7, 1864; must. out June 23, 1865.

#### FIRST ARTILLERY.

Nelson L. White, lieutenant-colonel; must. May 23, 1861; must. out Nov. 19, 1864.  
 Eli F. Hendrick, second assistant-surgeon; appointed Sept. 3, 1862; trans. to Fifteenth Regt., Jan. 5, 1863.

##### *Company B.*

Andrew Knox, second lieutenant; must. May 12, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant, May 23, 1862; must. out March 15, 1865.

Anderson, Charles H., must. Feb. 4, 1862; disch. Feb. 13, 1865, at expiration of term.

Andrews, Daniel N., must. Feb. 11, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 12, 1864; disch. for disability, Sept. 2, 1865.

Benedict, Granville W., must. Jan. 22, 1862; disch. for disability, Nov. 18, 1862.

Brown, Robert, must. Jan. 22, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

Dickens, Milo, must. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

Hefren, Thomas, must. Feb. 11, 1862; disch. for disability, April 1, 1862, at Fort Richardson, Va.

Jenkins, Ichabod E., must. Jan. 22, 1862; disch. Feb. 13, 1865, at expiration of term.

Keeler, George D., must. March 11, 1862; disch. for disability, July 18, 1862, at Washington, D. C.

McDermott, James, must. Feb. 4, 1862; disch. Feb. 13, 1865, at expiration of term.

McDermott, Charles, must. March 4, 1862; disch. March 13, 1865, at expiration of term.

Muldoon, James, must. Jan. 22, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

O'Rourke, Philip, must. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864.

Potter, William R., must. March 11, 1862; died March 30, 1862, at Fort Richardson, Va.

Pettit, Samuel M., must. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

Roff, George N., must. Feb. 5, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

Rooney, Thaddeus, must. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

Scott, Grandison, must. March 11, 1862; disch. March 13, 1865, at expiration of term.

Sherman, Thomas G., must. Feb. 25, 1862; died Aug. 1, 1862, at Harrison's Landing, Va.

Smith, Alson J., must. Feb. 4, 1862; disch. for disability, Sept. 2, 1862, at Hartford, Conn.

Sparks, Walter C., must. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

Sweeney, John, must. Feb. 4, 1862; disch. Feb. 13, 1865, at expiration of term.

Shepard, Charles, must. Jan. 22, 1862; disch. for disability, April 1, 1862, at Fort Richardson, Va.

Tillotson, William, must. Feb. 25, 1862; disch. March 13, 1865, at expiration of term.

Wood, Hiram, must. Feb. 11, 1862; disch. for disability, April 1, 1862, at Fort Richardson, Va.

Wood, George L., must. Jan. 22, 1862; disch. for disability, April 1, 1862, at Fort Richardson, Va.

Allen, John, must. Sept. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, at Washington, D. C.

Bevans, George, must. Sept. 1, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, at Richmond, Va.

Blissard, Francis, must. Sept. 1, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, at Richmond, Va.

Costello, Michael, must. Sept. 1, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, at Richmond, Va.

Crowfoot, Ebenezer P., must. Sept. 1, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, at Washington, D. C.

Daniels, Henry L., must. Sept. 1, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, at Richmond, Va.

Fenning, James, must. Sept. 1, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.

Hickock, William F., must. Sept. 1, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.

Haviland, Daniel, must. Sept. 5, 1864; disch. Jan. 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.

Hoddinott, Alfred H., must. Sept. 7, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.

Hoyt, Daniel J., must. Sept. 7, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.

Hefren, Thomas, must. Sept. 8, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.

Lowery, Francis, must. Sept. 5, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.

Lee, Robert G., must. Sept. 12, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.

McKay, Daniel, must. Sept. 7, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 McKay, Thomas, must. Sept. 7, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 Mager, Lopold, must. Sept. 1, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 Parsons, David, must. Sept. 5, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 Stoker, Henry, must. Sept. 1, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 Sherman, Bennett, must. Sept. 7, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 Sirrine, Elisha A., must. Sept. 7, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 Wildman, William, must. Sept. 1, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 Waterman, Charles D., must. Sept. 5, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 Waterman, Harrison, must. Sept. 5, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.  
 Wilson, Albert R., must. Sept. 7, 1864; disch. June 29, 1865, by order Secretary of War, Richmond.

*Company D.*

D. B. DeForest, must. Jan. 1, 1864; died Feb. 23, 1864.  
 William Harris, must. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

*Company E.*

James Kain, must. Jan. 5, 1864; died Jan. 17, 1864.

*Company F.*

Henry Brown, must. Aug. 17, 1864; must. out Sept. 5, 1865.  
 J. Fitzsimmon, must. July 5, 1864.

*Company H.*

Ira Buckley, must. Dec. 14, 1863; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 C. Sirrine, must. Dec. 5, 1863; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

*Company I.*

Bartram, George C., must. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.  
 Croal, John, must. Jan. 5, 1864; disch. for disability, June 23, 1865, New Haven, Conn.  
 Curry, Jeremiah, must. Sept. 7, 1864; disch. June 30, 1865, by order of War Department.  
 Ferry, John, must. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.  
 Hoyt, Amos L., must. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.  
 McCoy, James, must. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.  
 Mooney, William, must. Aug. 24, 1864.  
 Robinson, Thomas G., must. Oct. 3, 1863; disch. for disability, Feb. 11, 1864, Fort Richardson.  
 Scollin, Francis, must. Sept. 7, 1864; wounded April 2, 1865; disch. June 30, 1865, by order of War Department.  
 Strail, George, must. Sept. 7, 1864; disch. June 30, 1865, by order of War Department.  
 Veali, Henry B., must. Jan. 5, 1865; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.  
 Wilson, Chas. H., must. Jan. 5, 1865; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.  
 H. Scollin, must. May 23, 1861; disch. May 22, 1864.

*Company L.*

J. Acker, must. Dec. 24, 1863; disch. Sept. 25, 1865.

SECOND ARTILLERY.

*Company D.*

F. Hawley, must. Jan. 5, 1864; disch. Oct. 3, 1864.

*Company M.*

S. T. Wheeler, must. Feb. 8, 1864; wounded and must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
 John Hender, must. Sept. 14, 1864.  
 Benedict, John F., must. March 5, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; wounded; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Hawley, Miram B., must. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

Comes, George C., must. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.

Comes, Kans, must. Sept. 1, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865, Washington, D. C.

Richardson, Frederick, must. Sept. 1, 1864; died June 4, 1864, at Regimental Hospital, Fort Drury, Va.

Ryan, John, must. Jan. 5, 1864; in hospital at New Haven, March 30, 1864.

FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

William C. Bennett, first assistant-surgeon; must. July 23, 1861; pro. to surgeon; disch. June 28, 1863.

Henry Burton Stone, captain; must. July 22, 1861; pro. to lieutenant-colonel; died Jan. 20, 1863, of wounds received at Cedar Mountain.

James A. Betts, Jr., first lieutenant; must. July 22, 1861; pro. to lieutenant-colonel.

William A. Daniels, second lieutenant; must. July 22, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; wounded July 20, 1864; must. out Oct. 21, 1864.

Theodore H. Dibble, sergeant; must. July 22, 1861; pro. to captain; must. out July 20, 1864, at expiration of term.

Ed. K. Carley, sergeant; must. July 22, 1861; pro. to quartermaster must. out July 19, 1865, Alexandria, Va.

George N. Raymond, sergeant; must. July 22, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out.

James Stewart, Jr., sergeant; must. July 22, 1861; wounded June 22, 1864; pro. to captain; must. out July 19, 1865.

John O. Shufeldt, sergeant; must. July 22, 1861; wounded Aug. 9, 1862; disch. for disability, Oct. 29, 1862.

Daniel Odell, corporal; must. July 22, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864, at expiration of term.

Edgar A. Stratton, corporal; must. July 22, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Nov. 1, 1864, at expiration of term.

James L. Conklin, musician; must. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, April 6, 1863, Stafford Court-House, Va.

Martin C. Vancor, wagoner; must. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 18, 1862, Washington, D. C.

Anson, Charles H., must. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

Atlakeskey, Theodore J., must. July 22, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864, at expiration of term.

Bradley, George A., must. July 22, 1861; wounded Aug. 9, 1862; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out June 12, 1865.

Byers, James, must. July 22, 1861; killed at Cedar Mountain, Va., Aug. 9, 1862.

Croft, Horace S., must. July 22, 1861.

Drew, Robert N., must. July 22, 1861; re-enl. in Co. F, First Cavalry.

Durant, Charles H., must. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

Johnson, Gilbert N., must. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

James, Thomas A., must. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 24, 1863, Washington, D. C.

Loomis, George B., must. July 22, 1861; wounded Aug. 9, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 5, 1862, at Frederick, Md.

Leach, Isaac K., must. July 22, 1861; wounded Aug. 9, 1862; disch. for disability, March 30, 1863, Philadelphia, Pa.

Patch, William H., must. July 22, 1861; disch. July 21, 1864, at expiration of term.

Smith, George C., must. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, Nov. 14, 1862, Frederick, Md.

Sloan, Oliver, must. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

Scott, George, must. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, June 13, 1862, Winchester, Va.

Sullivan, James, must. July 22, 1861.

Wildman, F. M., must. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, July 27, 1861, Hartford, Conn.

Wiseman, Daniel, must. Jan. 9, 1865.

Joseph Farrell, must. Dec. 16, 1864.

Henry Russell, must. Dec. 19, 1864.

T. Mooney, must. Dec. 19, 1864.

SIXTH REGIMENT.

*Company C.*

Adams, William, must. Feb. 9, 1865; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

Belchoner, Christopher, must. Oct. 22, 1863; killed May 20, 1864, Drury's Bluff, Va.



Baron, Charles, must. Feb. 20, 1865; must. out Aug. 21, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

Lauffer, Rudolph, must. Oct. 22, 1863; died Jan. 22, 1865, Salisbury, N. C.  
Mohr, William, must. Oct. 22, 1863; disch. for disability, May 22, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

Mulle, Augustus, must. Aug. 22, 1863; must. out June 20, 1865, Smithville, N. C.

Muller, Charles, must. Aug. 1, 1863.

Palmer, John, must. June 11, 1865; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

Vogel, George, must. Oct. 22, 1863; missing May 16, 1864, Drury's Bluff, Va.

#### *Company D.*

Berry, Henry C., must. Oct. 22, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

Bradley, James, must. Oct. 22, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

Bruce, James, must. Oct. 22, 1863.

Samuel Le Broeg, must. Oct. 22, 1863; died Jan. 3, 1864.

#### *Company F.*

James Wagoner, must. Oct. 23, 1863; disch. June 8, 1864.

John Dobson, must. Oct. 27, 1863; disch. Aug. 21, 1865.

#### *Company G.*

Patrick McGee, must. Oct. 17, 1863; wounded; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

#### *Company H.*

Charles Borsal, must. Oct. 16, 1863.

Charles Graham, must. Oct. 23, 1863; died Sept. 7, 1864.

Peter Miller, must. Oct. 16, 1863; died at Andersonville, Aug. 24, 1864.

#### *Company I.*

Morris, Theodore, corporal; must. Sept. 5, 1861; died July 12, 1862, Beaufort, S. C.

Henge, Frank, must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 19, 1864, at expiration of term.

Hoyt, George H., must. Feb. 27, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

McCarty, Dennis, must. Oct. 27, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

Pawtowitz, Jacob, must. Oct. 16, 1863; wounded Aug. 16, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

Purdy, William B., must. Feb. 27, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

Salar, William, must. Oct. 12, 1863; wounded Aug. 14, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

#### *Company K.*

N. Weiss, must. Dec. 16, 1863; killed Aug. 16, 1864.

### SEVENTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company D.*

Benjamin F. Skinner, captain; must. Sept. 5, 1861; res. Feb. 29, 1864.

Theodore C. Wildman, sergeant; must. Sept. 5, 1861; pro. first lieutenant July 4, 1863; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Henry J. Broas, sergeant; must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864, at expiration of term.

Augustus Staples, sergeant; must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864, at expiration of term.

William Turnbull, corporal; must. Sept. 5, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, April 13, 1864.

Eli D. Seeley, corporal; must. Sept. 5, 1861; died March 12, 1864, New Haven, Conn.

Darius A. Veali, corporal; must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; killed May 14, 1864.

Charles Gordon, corporal; must. Sept. 5, 1861; wounded June 14, 1862; enl. 1st U. S. Art., Dec. 12, 1862.

Lewis A. Wygant, corporal; must. Sept. 5, 1861; died Aug. 4, 1862, Hilton Head, S. C.

Alexander, Thomas T., must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Dec. 12, 1863, at expiration of term.

Allen, James L., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; died of wounds, July 12, 1864.

Armstrong, Samuel P., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; died of wounds, Jan. 1, 1865, Annapolis.

Banker, George W., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; died of wounds, July 20, 1865.

Bevens, Charles H., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; died of wounds, July 20, 1865.

Broas, Francis E., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; died of wounds, July 20, 1865.

Collomore, Warren, must. Sept. 5, 1861; died Aug. 6, 1862, Hilton Head, S. C.

Crofut, William, must. Sept. 5, 1861; killed at James Island, S. C., June 14, 1866.

Divenny, Owen, must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1862; must. out July 20, 1865.

Eaton, Joseph, must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864, at expiration of term.

Fairchild, Jerome, must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.

Hall, Seeley, must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.

Hall, William H., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.

Holmes, John T., must. Sept. 5, 1861; wounded; died June 29, 1862, Charleston, S. C.

Jones, Leonard, must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. and trans. to U. S. Navy, April 28, 1864.

Jackson, Edwin, must. Sept. 5, 1861; died March 21, 1864, Bedloe's Island, N. Y.

Lessey, William H., must. Dec. 22, 1862; died Oct. 19, 1864, Florence, S. C.

Lahey, John, must. Sept. 5, 1861; wounded June 14, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 12, 1862.

Mehan, Charles F., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.

Mehan, Jas., must. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out July 20, 1865, Goldsboro', N. C.

Martin, James, must. Sept. 5, 1861.

Martin, Lewis, must. Sept. 5, 1861.

Mildem, John, must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. and killed at Drury's Bluff, May 16, 1864.

Nash, Frank R., must. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out May 22, 1865, Hartford, Conn.

Parke, Henry, must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864, at expiration of term.

Shelton, Daniel R., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. and killed at Drury's Bluff, May 16, 1864.

Veali, Wheeler J., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; wounded; must. out July 20, 1865.

Waterman, George B., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; wounded; must. out July 20, 1865.

Waterman, Joseph, must. Sept. 5, 1861; died of wounds, July 16, 1862.

Webb, George, must. Sept. 5, 1861; wounded June 14, 1862; re-enlisted; must. out July 20, 1865.

Webb, William F., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out June 19, 1865.

Guireppe, T., must. Oct. 10, 1863; wounded June 17, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

Boyle, J., must. Oct. 24, 1863; trans. to Navy, April 28, 1864.

Jamson, Charles, must. Oct. 21, 1863; died at Andersonville, Ga., April 26, 1864.

King, Joseph, must. Feb. 15, 1864; must. out July 28, 1865.

McCarson, J., must. Oct. 28, 1863.

Tecomey, S., must. Oct. 20, 1863; wounded; must. out July 20, 1865.

#### *Company F.*

H. Bondonis, must. Oct. 24, 1863; wounded; must. out July 20, 1865.

J. Petit, must. Oct. 27, 1863; wounded; must. out July 20, 1865.

S. Rieciardi, must. Oct. 27, 1863; died Oct. 29, 1864.

R. Schinedhauser, must. Oct. 20, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.

#### *Company A.*

J. Brown, must. Oct. 24, 1863; trans. to Navy.

William Brien, must. Oct. 28, 1863; trans. to Navy.

John O. Berg, must. out Oct. 28, 1863; disch. July 16, 1865.

E. Fischers, must. Oct. 27, 1863.

R. A. Wanshaff, must. Oct. 23, 1863; killed Oct. 13, 1864.

#### *Company B.*

P. Kelley, must. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out June 5, 1865.

#### *Company G.*

W. H. Coley, must. Sept. 7, 1861; died June 22, 1864.

H. Boysen, must. Oct. 28, 1863; trans. to Navy, April 22, 1864.

T. Wallelt, must. Oct. 24, 1863; trans. to Navy, April 27, 1864.

*Company H.*

L. Strauss, must. Oct. 24, 1863.  
 James Sullivan, must. Oct. 24, 1863; trans. to Navy, April 28, 1864.  
 Thomas Sullivan, must. Oct. 24, 1863; trans. to Navy, April 28, 1864.  
 J. P. Thompson, must. Oct. 24, 1863; must. out May 31, 1865.

*Company I.*

George Buyer, must. Oct. 24, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 W. L. Colton, must. Oct. 30, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Edward Eagan, must. Oct. 30, 1863; wounded May 10, 1864.  
 William Foley, must. Oct. 24, 1863; disch. Dec. 12, 1864.  
 M. F. Feely, must. Oct. 23, 1863; died Aug. 6, 1864.  
 R. W. Patterson, must. Oct. 29, 1863; trans. to Navy, April 28, 1864.  
 Hugh Ward, must. Oct. 20, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.

*Company K.*

Bethka, Charles, must. Oct. 26, 1863; killed at Bermuda Hundred, Va., Jan. 2, 1864.  
 Brother, Henry, must. Oct. 23, 1863.  
 Gerold, William, must. Oct. 31, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865, Goldsboro', N. C.  
 Heyne, Paul, must. Oct. 26, 1863; killed June 2, 1864.  
 Hulén, George, must. Oct. 26, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865, Goldsboro', N. C.  
 Letter, Conrad, must. Oct. 27, 1863.  
 Rest, Theodore, must. Oct. 23, 1863; wounded May 14, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865, Goldsboro', N. C.

## EIGHTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

George Loudon, must. Sept. 27, 1861; must. out Dec. 3, 1865.

*Company D.*

James Carpenter, must. July 14, 1864.

*Company E.*

J. R. Semmons, must. Sept. 25, 1861; died Nov. 10, 1862.

*Company F.*

F. Gurtman, must. July 27, 1864.

*Company G.*

William McDougal, must. July 20, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

*Company H.*

N. E. Hickok, must. Oct. 2, 1861; captured Oct. 29, 1864.  
 A. Van Warner, must. Aug. 16, 1864; captured Sept. 18, 1864.  
 Seymore, George W., must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 18, 1862, N. Y.  
 Comb, Sylvanus C., must. Sept. 25, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 7, 1862.  
 Millard, John C., must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Sept. 22, 1864, at expiration of term.  
 Raymond, Henry, must. Sept. 23, 1861; died March 18, 1862, Hatteras Inlet, N. C.  
 Henry, William, must. July 13, 1864; must. out Aug. 27, 1865, Fortress Monroe, Va.  
 Thomas Connor, must. Sept. 27, 1861; pro. to 2d lieutenant, March 3, 1865.  
 P. Shaughnessy, must. Oct. 30, 1861; died Aug. 14, 1862.  
 E. Murray, must. Oct. 30, 1861; disch. April 8, 1862.  
 E. Murphy, must. Oct. 30, 1861; must. out Aug. 30, 1865.  
 J. I. Cain, must. Nov. 25, 1861; died April 2, 1864.

*Company I.*

Frederick, W. Jackson, captain; must. Sept. 21, 1861; res. May 5, 1862.  
 Taylor, Henry H., must. Sept. 21, 1861; died Jan. 12, 1862, Annapolis, Md.  
 Boemin, Charles A., must. Sept. 21, 1861; disch. Sept. 20, 1864, at expiration of term.  
 McKay, John, must. Sept. 21, 1861; disch. for disability, Feb. 6, 1863, Frederick City.  
 Pratt, Joshua, must. Sept. 21, 1861; re-enl. June 11, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

*Company K.*

Hart, Thomas, must. Dec. 2, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; trans. to Co. D; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.  
 Dikeman, George S., must. March 26, 1862; died Aug. 21, 1862, on board steamer.

Patchen, Charles T., must. April 1, 1862; died Sept. 10, 1862, New Orleans.

## ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

George A. Southmayd, captain; com. Nov. 27, 1861; res. July 18, 1862.  
 Samuel G. Bailey, first lieutenant; must. Nov. 27, 1861; pro. captain; res. Aug. 2, 1862.  
 Charles H. White, second lieutenant; com. Nov. 28, 1861; pro. first lieutenant; res. July 27, 1865.  
 Henry J. McDonald, sergeant; must. Nov. 27, 1861; wounded; pro. major; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.  
 David B. Mansfield, sergeant; must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; wounded; pro. second lieutenant; disch. April 25, 1865.  
 Irving Stevens, sergeant; must. Nov. 24, 1861; wounded; disch. for disability, Dec. 3, 1862, Hartford, Conn.  
 Ira Taylor, must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; wounded May 14, 1862; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.  
 Christian G. Post, must. Nov. 24, 1861.  
 Franklin Clark, must. Nov. 24, 1861; wounded; disch. Oct. 23, 1864, at expiration of term.  
 Sylvester C. Platt, must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.  
 Edwin Babbitt, must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 13, 1864; must. out Dec. 31, 1865.  
 Ambler, Peter W., must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.  
 Bassett, Frederick, must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.  
 Bassett, Samuel, must. Nov. 24, 1861; wounded May 4, 1863; disch. Nov. 26, 1864, at expiration of term.  
 Beardslee, John B., must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; must. out Dec. 21, 1865, City Point, Va.  
 Bradley, Philo P., must. Nov. 27, 1861; re-enlisted; must. out Dec. 21, 1865, City Point, Va.  
 Burns, Edward, must. Nov. 20, 1861; disch. to enl. in U. S. Army, Oct. 24, 1862.  
 Carley, Lewis, must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; must. out Dec. 21, 1865, City Point, Va.  
 Conbey, James, must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; must. out Dec. 21, 1865, City Point, Va.  
 Confroy, Edward, must. Nov. 14, 1861; wounded Sept. 17, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 19, 1862.  
 Crittenden, Romeo, must. Nov. 20, 1861.  
 Case, John, must. Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Curtis, Edward, must. Nov. 27, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps; disch. Aug. 14, 1865.  
 Fields, Elijah, must. Nov. 24, 1861; disch. for disability, Aug. 8, 1862.  
 Foley, Thomas, must. Nov. 14, 1861; re-enlisted; must. out Dec. 21, 1865, City Point, Va.  
 Foote, Grandison, must. Nov. 20, 1861; re-enlisted; disch. July 6, 1865, Manchester, Va.  
 Green, Patrick, must. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enl. June 1, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.  
 Hamilton, William H., must. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.  
 Hawley, Isaac H., must. Oct. 24, 1861.  
 Hawkins, John, must. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 14, 1863; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.  
 Hoyt, Edgar A., must. Nov. 14, 1861; disch. for disability, May 29, 1862, at Newbern, N. C.  
 Hoyt, William F., must. Nov. 27, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 27, 1862, at Newbern, N. C.  
 Hurd, Henry E., must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. for disability, March 10, 1863, at Hartford, Conn.  
 Leach, William, must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. for disability, Aug. 9, 1862.  
 Mollory, Prentice A., must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. for disability, Sept. 28, 1862.  
 Mollory, Joseph B., must. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; killed at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.  
 Mantz, William, must. Nov. 20, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; died Feb. 28, 1864.  
 Melvin, James, must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. to enl. in U. S. Army, Oct. 24, 1862.  
 Milson, William, must. Nov. 14, 1861; disch. Oct. 3, 1864, at expiration of term.



Morgan, Orlando, must. Nov. 27, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 4, 1862.  
McGunnness, P. M. E., must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 18, 1862, Washington, D. C.

McJohn, John, must. Nov. 27, 1861; disch. for disability, May 8, 1863, at Old Point, Va.

Quien, Christian, must. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; wounded; must. out June 10, 1865.

Robertson, Aaron, must. Nov. 27, 1861; re-enlisted; died Feb. 26, 1864.

Rockwell, Lorenzo D., must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. for disability, Feb. 5, 1863, Washington, D. C.

Sands, James, must. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enlisted; wounded; must. out June 10, 1865.

Smith, Russell, must. Oct. 24, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, July 1, 1863.

Sniffins, John, must. Nov. 23, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant.

Stevens, Asa, must. Oct. 24, 1861.

Stevens, Edward, must. Nov. 27, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 10, 1863.

Thompson, John C., must. Nov. 27, 1861; disch. for disability, May 29, 1862.

Walker, Edward, must. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 13, 1863; died at Andersonville.

Wheeler, Solomon R., must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. to enl. in U. S. Army, Oct. 24, 1862.

White, Cyrus N., must. Nov. 14, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 27, 1863, at New Haven, Conn.

Michael Coyle, must. Jan. 21, 1864; wounded; must. out Dec. 21, 1861.

Wm. Dikeman, must. Jan. 5, 1864; died Aug. 7, 1864.

P. D. Fagan, must. Jan. 20, 1864; died Nov. 28, 1864.

John Fay, must. Feb. 16, 1864; killed June 3, 1864.

H. Howley, must. Feb. 9, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

S. Hamilton, must. Feb. 9, 1864; wounded; must. out Sept. 16, 1865.

Hugh Lynch, must. March 15, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

Charles Wooster, must. Feb. 16, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

#### *Company C.*

A. Bergman, must. Oct. 25, 1861; disch. March 26, 1864.

O. Ermisch, must. Dec. 2, 1861; died March 21, 1862.

John Rooney, must. Dec. 2, 1861; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

P. Simon, 1st, must. Dec. 2, 1861; disch. June 24, 1862.

P. Simon, 2d, must. Oct. 24, 1861; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

J. Van Gal, must. Dec. 2, 1861; died Feb. 22, 1864.

John Maghr, must. Dec. 29, 1864; died Dec. 21, 1865.

#### *Company I.*

Henry A. Hull, must. Dec. 13, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 13, 1863; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

John Penly, must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. for disability, May 30, 1862, at Newbern, N. C.

M. Kruszynske, must. Oct. 24, 1861; pro. to captain; disch. May 25, 1865; wounded.

E. H. Barnum, must. Dec. 3, 1861; disch. Aug. 8, 1862.

S. S. Germans, must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. March 30, 1863.

W. Pendleton, must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. Aug. 8, 1862.

W. Sniffins, must. Dec. 13, 1861.

### TWELFTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company B.*

Bevans, Frederick, must. April 5, 1864; died Feb. 4, 1865, at Salisbury, N. C.

Hoyt, William O., must. Nov. 19, 1861; captured October, 1864.

Dikeman, George, must. Nov. 25, 1861; disch. Feb. 17, 1862.

Edgett, C. H., must. Nov. 19, 1861.

L. McAvoy, must. Dec. 18, 1861; must. out Aug. 19, 1865.

A. B. Platt, must. Dec. 12, 1861; disch. Feb. 17, 1862.

Peter Riley, must. Jan. 8, 1862; wounded; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

Ezra Woleman, must. Dec. 28, 1862; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

J. H. White, must. Nov. 25, 1862; disch. June 27, 1862.

George Slawson, must. March 15, 1864; disch. Oct. 3, 1864.

#### *Company E.*

G. S. Dikeman, must. Nov. 25, 1861; disch. Feb. 17, 1862.

C. H. Edgett, must. Nov. 19, 1861.

Patrick Foley, must. Nov. 28, 1861; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

L. McAvoy, must. Dec. 28, 1861; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

A. B. Platt, must. Dec. 12, 1861; disch. Feb. 17, 1862.

Peter Riley, must. Jan. 8, 1862; wounded; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

E. Waterman, must. Dec. 28, 1861; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

J. H. White, must. Nov. 25, 1861; disch. June 27, 1862.

#### *Company F.*

W. H. Waterman, must. April 27, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

Charles Albin, must. March 26, 1864.

R. Davenport, must. Jan. 7, 1865.

George Jacobs, must. Jan. 12, 1865; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

Peter Mullin, must. Jan. 5, 1865; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

James Slawson, must. March 24, 1864.

C. Snyder, must. Jan. 3, 1865; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

### THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company C.*

J. W. Raymond, must. Feb. 10, 1862; must. out June 6, 1863.

B. T. Wilson, must. Dec. 30, 1861; disch. May 31, 1862.

#### *Company D.*

Thomas Hart, must. Dec. 16, 1864; must. out April 25, 1866.

C. O'Brien, must. Feb. 20, 1864; transferred.

### FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company B.*

John Palmer, must. Dec. 17, 1864.

John Smith, must. Dec. 17, 1864.

Thomas Slocum, must. Dec. 17, 1864.

Thomas Weaver, must. Dec. 17, 1864; disch. May 31, 1865.

### FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company B.*

C. S. Gray, must. July 17, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out June 27, 1865.

J. H. Burwell, must. June 18, 1862; died Oct. 19, 1865.

George Barker, must. Aug. 2, 1862; must. out June 27, 1865.

S. C. Carpenter, must. July 28, 1862; must. out June 5, 1865.

William Pendly, must. July 25, 1862; disch. Feb. 4, 1863.

George R. Morgan, must. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out June 7, 1865.

George W. Higgins, must. July 29, 1862; must. out June 27, 1865.

H. D. Burroughs, must. Sept. 2, 1864; must. out June 27, 1865.

E. E. Sanford, must. July 25, 1862; must. out June 10, 1865.

#### *Company E.*

John Clark, must. Dec. 31, 1864.

#### *Company F.*

John Brown, must. Aug. 18, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

#### *Company K.*

E. Bradley, must. Sept. 14, 1864; disch. April 26, 1865.

P. Kiernan, must. Jan. 10, 1865.

T. Sullivan, must. Sept. 9, 1864; disch. Oct. 29, 1864.

### SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company B.*

Dow, Charles E., must. Sept. 7, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Gray, Abel B., must. Aug. 24, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Hull, Henry S., must. Sept. 5, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Ives, George W., must. Sept. 5, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Kinner, George A., must. Sept. 5, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Searles, John H., must. Sept. 5, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Seymour, George W., must. Aug. 15, 1864; disch. for disability, June 23, 1865.

Joshua L. Day, commissary-sergeant; must. July 16, 1862; disch. March 6, 1863.

#### *Company C.*

James E. Moore, captain; must. July 18, 1862; killed July 1, 1863, Gettysburg, Pa.

Milton H. Daniels, first lieutenant; must. July 18, 1862; pro. to captain; res. March 6, 1864.

Henry Quien, second lieutenant; must. July 22, 1862; pro. to captain; disch. May 15, 1865.

William O. Dauchy, sergeant; must. Aug. 6, 1862; killed July 1, 1863, Gettysburg, Pa.

August E. Bronson, sergeant; must. July 22, 1862; died July 5, 1863, of wounds received at Gettysburg, Pa.

William L. Daniels, sergeant; must. July 19, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.

George Scott, corporal; must. July 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Benjamin S. White, corporal; must. July 24, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 30, 1863.

Edward S. Warren, corporal; must. Aug. 8, 1862.

George Dickens, corporal; must. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

William E. Baldwin, corporal; must. July 28, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 22, 1862.

Lewis A. Ward, corporal; must. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Justin S. Keeler, musician; must. July 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Horatio G. Jenkins, musician; must. July 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Bailey, James M., must. Aug. 18, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Brotherton, Charles, must. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Bronson, Orrin L., must. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 5, 1865, New York.

Bussing, Frederick H., must. July 19, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 5, 1863.

Benedict, John H., must. Aug. 12, 1862; wounded July, 1863; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, Jan. 1, 1865.

Bradley, George F., must. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out Jan. 19, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

Bradley, David, must. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 18, 1863.

Bradley, Lewis, must. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Bouton, John W., must. Aug. 9, 1862; wounded July, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

Barber, George W., must. Aug. 11, 1862; wounded July, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

Booth, Henry, must. Aug. 14, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out June 26, 1865, Washington, D. C.

Curtis, William H., must. July 23, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 31, 1862.

Clark, William A., must. Aug. 6, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out Aug. 19, 1865.

Clark, Samuel G., must. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. Nov. 19, 1863.

Day, Amos C., must. July 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Downs, Samuel M., must. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Delevan, Smith, must. Aug. 6, 1862; died July 15, 1863, of wounds received at Gettysburg.

Ferren, Charles Z., must. July 23, 1862; died Jan. 21, 1863, Philadelphia, Pa.

Fairchild, Alpheus B., must. July 28, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Feeks, Thaddeus, must. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Foot, Joseph I., must. July 23, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, March 15, 1864.

Fry, Robert W., must. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Goodale, Frederick W., must. July 26, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Ganung, John, must. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Griffin, Louis B., must. Aug. 4, 1862; disch. for disability, March 13, 1863.

Humphries, William, must. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Jennings, Oscar S., must. July 22, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 1, 1863.

Knapp, Edgar L., must. July 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Kyle, James, must. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Kellogg, Norman, must. July 30, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Morris, Theodore L., must. July 31, 1862; must. out July 10, 1865, New York.

McHugh, John, must. July 26, 1862; wounded July 13, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Otis, William F., must. July 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Osborn, Lewis P., must. Aug. 25, 1862; died Oct. 31, 1864, Florida.

Purdy, George S., must. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Purdy, Daniel H., must. Aug. 14, 1862; died July 15, 1863, of wounds received at Gettysburg.

Rice, Rufus S., must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 17, 1863.

Ryan, Patrick, must. Aug. 11, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Aug. 1, 1863; must. out June 28, 1865.

Small, Charles S., must. Aug. 14, 1862; died Oct. 1, 1862, Fort Trumbull, Conn.

Sears, George, must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. for disability, June 16, 1865, Jacksonville, Fla.

Stilson, David F., must. Aug. 14, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Dec. 15, 1863.

Taylor, Richard D., must. Aug. 14, 1862; killed July 2, 1863, Gettysburg, Pa.

Warren, William H., must. July 26, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Wilcox, Charles H., must. July 23, 1862; must. out June 8, 1865, Hartford, Conn.

Wood, George L., must. July 22, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Wood, George W., must. July 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Wheeler, Moses A., must. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head.

Hawley, Henry P., must. Jan. 11, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Wilcox, Arthur B., must. Jan. 11, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

#### *Company D.*

Dikeman, George, must. March 1, 1865; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Van Amburg, M., must. Jan. 24, 1865; must. out July 19, 1865.

#### *Company G.*

Obov, Bryan, must. Aug. 20, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps; must. out June 28, 1865.

Collins, Stephen, must. Sept. 12, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Kinney, Richard, must. Sept. 3, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

#### *Company H.*

Moore, William, must. Sept. 2, 1864.

#### *Company I.*

Confroy, Edward, must. Feb. 28, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Magill, Bernard, must. Dec. 21, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Medbury, John, must. Feb. 3, 1865; must. out July 19, 1865, Hilton Head, S. C.

Kiernan, Patrick, must. Jan. 10, 1865; forwarded March 4, 1865; not taken up on rolls.

Sullivan, Thomas, must. Sept. 9, 1864; disch. Oct. 22, 1864, New Haven, Conn.

### TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

#### *Company B.*

Samuel Gregory, adjutant; must. Aug. 22, 1862; res. Feb. 28, 1863.

Eli Ferry, sergeant-major; must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

James H. Jenkins, captain; must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Frederick Starr, first lieutenant; must. Aug. 16, 1862; died June 24, 1863, of wounds received at La Fourche, La.

William H. Betts, second lieutenant; must. Aug. 18, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Henry L. Smith, sergeant; must. Aug. 16, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Oliver R. Jenkins, sergeant; must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Harry L. Read, sergeant; must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Charles B. Pickering, sergeant; must. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Azariel C. Fuller, sergeant; must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

John S. Thompson, must. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

John W. Hodges, must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Abel B. Gray, must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.



Elias N. Osborn, must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Horace Bourne, must. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 David B. Hoyt, must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Edwin Barnum, must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Robert L. Stratton, must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Joseph D. Bishop, must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 George L. Smith, must. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 John R. Smith, must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Armstrong, Edward, must. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Ambler, Oscar W., must. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Bell, John D., must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Ball, Andrew, must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Barry, Henry, must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Bailey, William E., must. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Baler, Joseph T., must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Bradley, George C., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Ball, George, must. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Barlow, William E., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Crofut, Charles W., must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 16, 1863.  
 Conklin, Eugene, must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Comstock, William E., must. Aug. 19, 1862; died March 28, 1863, La Fourche, La.  
 Clark, Theodore, must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Clark, Francis F., must. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Carlson, William A., must. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Cowan, Edward, must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Downs, William W., must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Dunham, Frederick M., must. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Deforest, George W., must. Aug. 18, 1862; died June 19, 1863, La Fourche, La.  
 Gilbert, Egbert W., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Griffith, Edwin M., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Green, Charles, must. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hodge, Reuben C., must. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hodge, Hiram H., must. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hoyt, Charles H., must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hoyt, Daniel E., must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hoyt, William P., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hull, Graham E., must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hine, Edward A., must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hawley, Henry, must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hawley, Clark, must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hadden, Hiram H., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hoyt, George W., must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hagan, James G., must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Kinner, Augustus, must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Knapp, Michael F., must. Aug. 16, 1862; died Aug. 14, 1863, on board transportation steamer "Chancellor."  
 Knapp, John, Jr., must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Knapp, Ira S., must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Lehwald, Jacob, must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Lockwood, Hiram, must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Mallony, William P., must. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Murry, Richard M., must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Maynard, James L., must. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. May 8, 1863.  
 Manley, Ira B., must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Northrop, Lewis H., must. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Noble, John F., must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Roseboom, Burton L., must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Raymond, John M., must. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Sturgis, Henry B., must. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Smith, William, must. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Sanford, Theodore, must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Scott, Sylvester J., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Trowbridge, Oliver E., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Tompkins, Reuben, must. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Veats, Henry B., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Wood, Frederick F., must. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Wheeler, Abel M., must. Aug. 29, 1862; died of wounds, June 24, 1863.  
 Wheeler, Theodore, must. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Wygant, Edgar, must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Wildman, Ezra G., must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Waterman, Charles B., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company E.*

Charles H. Downs, must. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company F.*

David K. Leach, must. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company G.*

Barnum, George W., must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Dikeman, William H., must. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Dikeman, Edgar H., must. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Goodale, Ennis, must. Sept. 7, 1862; died June 8, 1863, La Fourche, La.  
 Hamilton, Starr, must. Sept. 24, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hostan, James G., must. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. about June 10, 1863.  
 Stone, Russel W., must. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Wheeler, George W., must. Sept. 7, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Waterman, Harrison, must. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Woodruff, Albert, must. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 White, Joshua J., must. Oct. 31, 1862.

*Company K.*

Samuel G. Bailey, captain; must. Aug. 26, 1862; captured June 23, 1863.  
 George Quien, second lieutenant; must. Sept. 6, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Thomas McKay, sergeant; must. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 John Allen, sergeant; must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Charles H. Frank, corporal; must. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Henry A. Buckingham, musician; must. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Bayer, Henry, must. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Barsley, Elbert, must. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Bush, Peter, must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Bartram, George, must. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Croal, James C., must. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Crane, John W., must. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Croal, John A., must. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Carmody, Michael, must. Sept. 3, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Davis, Martin, must. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Dec. 3, 1863.  
 Desbrow, David, must. Sept. 6, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Desbrow, Charles E., must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Dunlavy, Patrick, must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Daniels, Henry, must. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Everts, Joseph E., must. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Gaffney, John, must. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Haviland, Michael, must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hulslander, Frank A., must. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Hoyt, Henry A., must. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Haberman, John, must. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Husk, Jacob H., must. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Jackson, George A., must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Miller, Mathew S., must. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Monroe, Stephen, must. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1862.  
 McKay, Francis, must. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. April 4, 1863.  
 Mabie, Elnathan N., must. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Mansfield, Philo F., must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Morrison, Richard, must. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 McAuley, Francis, must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 McNabb, Robert, must. Sept. 3, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Perry, Philander L., must. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Robinson, Thomas G., must. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Rogers, George W., must. Aug. 29, 1862.  
 Stevenson, Samuel, must. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Sproal, Charles, must. Sept. 6, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Selleck, George R., must. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Smith, Francis B., must. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Stevens, Frederick W., must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Smith, Heman C., must. Sept. 6, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Serrine, Orrin, must. Sept. 1, 1862; died Aug. 29, 1862, New Haven, Conn.  
 Taylor, James H., must. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Wood, Cyrus, must. Sept. 10, 1862; died.  
 Wheeler, Selah T., must. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Willmann, Joseph, must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Wheeler, Moses, must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

## FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company K.*

Edwin Bradley, must. April 22, 1861; disch. April 26, 1865.

## TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

*Company F.*

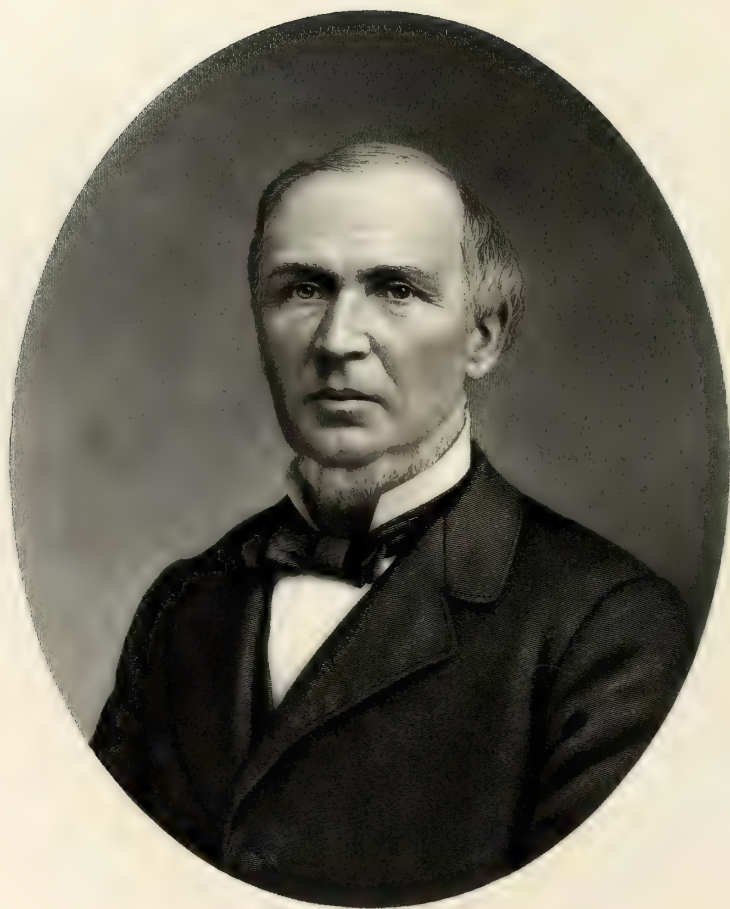
C. B. Array, must. Dec. 22, 1863; disch. March 20, 1865.  
 A. Prince, must. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company H.*

J. Barker, must. January, 1865; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.







*John W. Bacon*



*[Faint, illegible text, likely a signature or name.]*



*Company I.*

Charles Smith, must. Dec. 27, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
William Johnson, must. March 27, 1863.

## THIRTIETH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Joseph W. Edwards, must. Oct. 13, 1863; disch. May 27, 1865.

The following deceased soldiers are buried in Danbury:

## WOOSTER CEMETERY.

Capt. Macy Deming, Capt. S. L. White, Thomas G. Robinson, Orrine Sistine, Abel B. Gray, Abel M. Wheeler, Henry H. Taylor, Aaron L. Robertson, Graham E. Hull, Christopher Grim, George Beebe, William B. Davis, John R. Smith, Joseph W. Raymond, Capt. Samuel H. Starr, Thomas B. Reed, James Howarth, Col. A. Chichester, Theodore Morris, Amos Morris, Capt. William K. Comstock, Samuel T. Scribner, William E. Doane, William Leach, William Dikeman, Michael H. Knapp, William E. Comstock, Prince A. Halstead, E. B. Chase, John S. Morris, Abram Cambell, Col. Nelson L. White, George B. Gray, Dr. Williman, William A. Daniels, John Sniffin, Gardiner E. Greene, Dr. E. F. Hendrick, Amos T. Purdy, Charles A. Fields, Amos Hoyt, William Mantz, Henry Taylor, Charles A. Small, George Sears, William Patch, William F. Page, Stephen Monroe, Chauncey L. Rowland, Thomas S. Weed, William L. Hyatt, Lieut. S. S. Stevens, Capt. S. G. Bailey, Keros Comes, Sidney H. Thompson, Capt. G. M. Godfrey, Capt. B. F. Skinner, Edgar Knapp, George Haviland, William A. Clark, Homer B. Wildman, Theodore Barnum, Fred C. Barnum, William A. Carlson, E. W. Judson, George F. Bailey, James Blissard, Capt. H. C. Hall, Augustus S. Trowbridge, William H. Garrett, Ed. Hoyt, Charles Crofut, Moses Wheeler, Joseph Bishop, Capt. James E. Moore, Col. W. E. Moegling, Robert S. Stratton, War of the Rebellion, George W. Stratton, War of 1812, Richard W. Stratton, War of Revolution (all of one family), Samuel Downs, John B. Byerley, Lieut. Fred Starr, Henry Dikeman, Edgar K. Carley.

## CATHOLIC CEMETERY.

Edward Cowan, M. Carmody, Joseph McMahon, Michael McMahon, Thomas Kinney, Patrick Barrett, Patrick Lilley, John McCauley, Thomas Pelley, James Ryan, Frank McCauley, Henry Scollins, J. Ward, — Meyers, John McGuire, Patrick Daniels, N. McGuire.

## WOOSTER STREET BURYING-GROUND.

Henry B. Crofut, Henry Hawley, Charles Wilson, David F. Stilson, Charles Dikeman, Lieut. Thomas T. Urnston.

## NORTH MAIN STREET.

William Pendley, Grandison D. Foote.

## THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

This granite shaft, commemorative of the patriot dead of Danbury, stands on the plot of ground made vacant by the removal of the First Congregational church, at the intersection of West with Main Street, and was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies June 27, 1880. It is of Westerly granite, and stands, completed, thirty-two feet high. It is a circular column resting upon six pieces consisting of lower base, plinth, mould, die, cap, and column mould. These several parts make a combined height of ten feet. The column is twelve feet high, with a diameter of twenty-six inches; the cap surmounting the column is two feet, and upon this rests the figure of a soldier bearing a flag in his right hand, while against his left side rests a cavalry sword. The figure is five feet eight inches high, and the staff of the flag is two feet higher. On the die on the side facing Main Street is the inscription:

TO OUR BROTHERS,  
BELOVED, HONORED, REVERED,  
WHO DIED THAT  
OUR COUNTRY MIGHT LIVE.

On the West Street face is

THE DEFENDERS  
OF  
THE UNION.

The other two sides are blank.

The shaft or column is encircled with a band, on which are engraved the names of prominent battles, as follows: Bull Run, Wilderness, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, Appomattox, Petersburg, Port Hudson.

The whole, except the figure, is of granite. The figure is of Italian marble and was carved in Italy. The price of the whole was four thousand dollars, but the committee secured it for three thousand five hundred dollars, the builders donating five hundred dollars towards the cost. In a western town is a monument nearly like it, which cost seven thousand dollars, and engravings of it show it to be not half so handsome. The people of Danbury are to be congratulated on securing this handsome work of art as a memorial to her noble dead.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## JOHN W. BACON.

John W. Bacon, born in Hartford, June 9, 1827; graduated at Trinity College in 1846, taking the first appointment in his class. Soon after his graduation he became principal of an academy in Essex, Conn., which position he resigned to commence the study of law in the office of Hon. Isaac Toucey, in Hartford, remaining with him till the spring of 1848, when he adopted the profession of civil engineering. In this capacity he was employed on the first surveys of the present New York and New England Railroad from Hartford to Willimantic, remaining during the building of that part of the road, taking charge, among other important work, of the present Union Depot and Connecticut River Bridge, at Hartford, and of the heavy rock-cut at Bolton Notch.

After the completion of this work he spent two years on the surveys and construction of the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad, and was then recalled to Hartford to assume the position of superintendent of the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad, between Providence and Waterbury, also a part of the present New York and New England road. Five years were spent in this capacity, when he went to Western Virginia to take charge of the operation and development of extensive coal-mines and salt-works at West Columbia, on the Ohio River. Here he remained about two years, when he returned to Danbury to become in July, 1859, superintendent and chief engi-

neer of the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad, continuing in the position until Jan. 1, 1877. In the fall of that year he was appointed by Governor Hubbard one of the board of railroad commissioners, which office he still holds.

During his residence in Danbury, Mr. Bacon has been active in the promotion of desirable public improvements. The present water-works were originated and engineered by him in 1860, as is testified to by the inscription on the stone slab at the lower reservoir. At the completion of the works he became one of the board of water commissioners, continuing as such till 1876, since which time he has been secretary of the board. Until quite recent years the borough was without a public hall, and, to supply this long-felt and growing necessity, Mr. Bacon, in 1860, organized a joint-stock company called the "Danbury Public Hall Company," which purchased the old Congregational church, standing where the soldiers' monument now stands, and fitted it up with a pleasant and commodious hall, which well served the public demands until the building of the present opera-house, in 1873.

In 1871 the agricultural society of the town seemed likely to cease to exist, and the organization of the company composing the present Danbury Agricultural Society is due to the efforts of John W. Bacon. Under his direction a stock company was formed, of which he is now president, which has so conducted the affairs of the society as to lead to most conspicuous prosperity and success. Its annual fairs are attended by crowds so immense as to totally eclipse in point of number the attendance at all similar exhibitions, not excepting even that of the State Fair. This unprecedented prosperity, it is believed, is mainly attributable to the inflexible enforcement of the rules excluding the sale of intoxicants, to the exclusion of wheel pools or other gambling devices too often permitted at such exhibitions to absorb the money of the unwary, and to the faithful performance of all that is advertised.

Mr. Bacon has been a director of the savings bank of Danbury since 1863, and for many years a member of the Board of Education.

Dec. 20, 1852, he was married to Miss Caroline E., daughter of Dr. Russel B. Botsford, for many years a leading physician in Danbury. Miss Botsford was granddaughter of Matthew B. Whittlesey, formerly a leading lawyer of the place. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Bacon are Sarah W., Eliza W.,—married May 14, 1879, to G. Mortimer Rundle, son of Samuel H. Rundle, of the firm of Rundle & White,—and John Russel Bacon.

Mr. Bacon is still in vigorous health and in the full possession of matured faculties trained and disciplined by a most varied experience. In him is exemplified the aphorism, "The shallows murmur while the depths are dumb." Quiet and unassuming, one receives the impression that beneath that quiet exterior there is force, energy, and a resolute determination

which overcomes all obstacles, and on his countenance is stamped the impress of truthfulness and fidelity. With urbanity of manner is combined great force of character and unyielding determination in the face of difficulties, and a gentleness of manner which shows that great force of will is not inconsistent with kindness and consideration for the feelings of others. Long may he be spared to Danbury to the enjoyment of the love and respect he has so deservedly won!

#### CHARLES HULL.

Charles Hull, one of Danbury's most successful merchants and business men, traces his descent through a long line of ancestry from George Hull, a settler in Dorchester, Mass., in 1630.

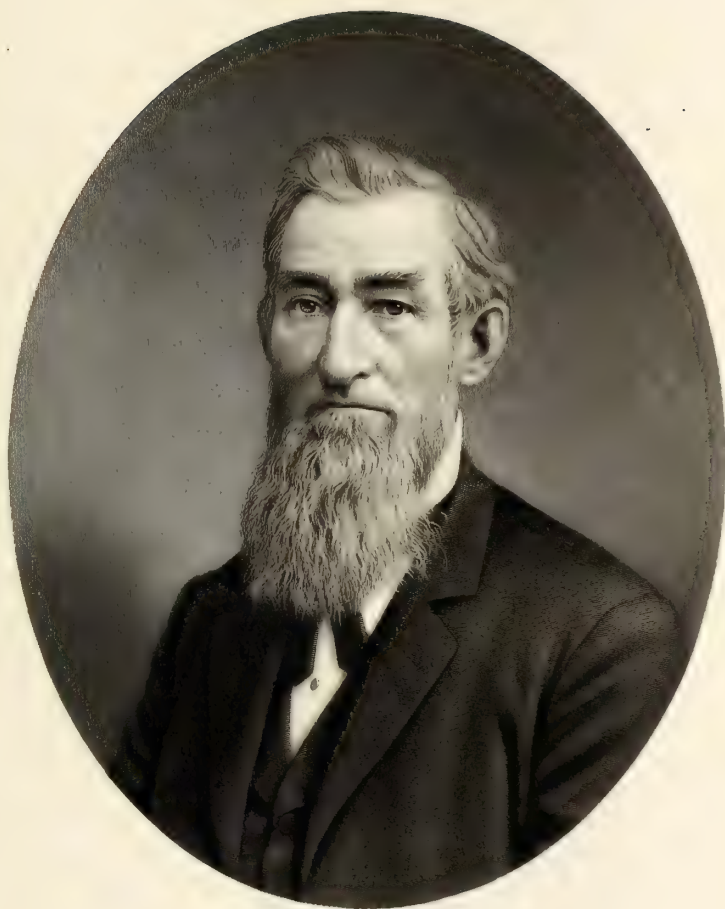
His paternal grandfather, Chapman Hull, was a farmer in Redding; married Esther Buckley, and had three children,—Morris, Henry C., and George.

The father of the subject of this sketch, Morris Hull, was a man of more than ordinary ability, and at the time of his death, on the threshold of manhood, had already laid the foundation of a prosperous career. His advantages for an early education were limited to the common schools of the vicinity of his boyhood home, but his eager desire for intellectual improvement induced him to devote many of his evenings and much of his intervals of leisure to the acquirement of knowledge, and when yet a very young man was found qualified and engaged to teach school in Danbury.

He began his career as a merchant in Redding, removing thence to Huntington, where he remained two years, and then removed to Manlius Square, in the central part of the State of New York, and was the pioneer merchant of that place. Near this place he built a warehouse on the Erie Canal, and the place was called Hull's Landing after him, which name it still retains. He saw opening before him a bright career as a merchant in the rapidly-growing country, but was permitted to enjoy the prospect but a short time. Going to New York City to replenish his stock of goods, on his way home he visited his grandmother, in Redding, at whose house lay his eldest son stricken with fever. Watching at the bedside of his prostrate son he contracted the malady, malignant typhoid, of which he died, at the age of thirty-two, leaving a widow and six small children dependent almost entirely upon their own exertions for their support. The business and effects of the father and husband in the new country were disposed of, and the following spring the family returned to Redding.

At the age of seven Charles was "put out to work" with a farmer, remaining four years, and as evidence that they were not years of unmixed pleasure or of pampered, nurturing ease, and as indicative of the character of the man whose *protégé* he was, one incident will suffice: Charles was very fond of the Sunday-





*Chas. Bruce*





school. The one most accessible to him was held at the church, three miles away by road, and more than two miles across lots through the woods. This school he was desirous of attending, and was permitted to do so on condition that he would carry his shoes in his hand until he came to a certain stone wall close by the church, when he might put them on, wear them through school hours and to the stone wall on his return, taking them off at this point and carrying them in his hand home. Charles accepted, performed the conditions, and attended Sunday-school. Four years later, at the age of eleven, he left this home, going to Redding Ridge. Here he found employment with the builder of the Episcopal church (yet standing), placing the stones in the trenches upon which the foundation of that edifice rests, and to receive as compensation the munificent sum of twenty-five cents per day. This Charles supposed was inclusive of board, but upon this point he was anything but agreeably enlightened, while at supper on the day his task was finished, by a conversation between his employer and wife, during which it transpired that he was to be charged for board. By a simple and not unreasonable computation it was estimated that a fine healthy boy would eat twenty-five cents' worth per day, especially as he worked hard, and as his wages amounted to just that amount the account was easily balanced. But the wife—a mother mayhap—the woman always tenderer than man, thought “the boy ought to have something,” and “the boy” was given twenty-five cents. Twenty-five cents for performing all the labor attendant upon the laying of the entire sub-foundation of a church, together with what coarse food he ate while doing the work, was his entire compensation. But we doubt if Napoleon ever received with prouder triumph the crown from conquered potentate than was experienced by Charles when these his first earnings were placed in his hand. This was young Hull's first experience, and the lesson taught was not lost, for in his next engagement, in which his services were given for his board, clothes, and schooling, each item of compensation was fully stipulated in the agreement.

At the age of sixteen Charles went to Norwalk to learn the trade of tinsmith, which he spent four years in acquiring. During these years his evenings, instead of being devoted to recreation and pleasure, as were the evenings of most of the apprentices associated with him, were spent in hard work, attending to customers and in mastering the business, and so proficient did he become that during the last years of his apprenticeship he was given almost entire charge of his employer's business. The concern in which he was employed failed during the great depression of 1836-37, and with but twelve cents in his pocket he turned his steps from New Haven, whither he had gone in pursuit of employment, to Danbury, thirty-six miles distant, which he reached by the way of Redding, the home of his grandmother, having walked

the entire distance, forty-three miles. In Danbury he found work at his trade, as foreman in the shop of Mr. A. Rogers.

In the spring of 1843, with a thorough knowledge of his trade, with little capital, but with invincible courage and untiring industry and energy, he began, in a small way, business for himself. For thirty-seven years he has conducted the business of tin-, iron-, and copper-ware manufacturer in Danbury, and kept in connection therewith one of the largest general furnishing stores in the State, and in his career as a business man presents a useful lesson to the poor, struggling but ambitious boy, starting as he did with nothing but willing hands, a stout heart, and a determination to succeed, and by industry, foresight, and economy accumulating a fortune and independent position among men.

While Mr. Hull's business interests have always been large, varied, and engrossing, he has yet found much time to devote to the public. During the war a portion of the time he was selected as agent to look after the interests of his town; he was a director in the Danbury Bank when it was a State institution, and one of the originators of the Pahquioque Bank, of which he has always been a director. He is also director in several of the large manufacturing corporations of Danbury; has been selectman, and for several years past has been town agent.

We relate an incident in Mr. Hull's life which, if it neither “points a moral” nor “adorns a tale,” is at least illustrative of the vicissitudes, the ups and downs, of life. While the subject of this memoir was yet a young barefooted boy working among the farmers of his native town, he one afternoon strolled into Danbury. He had often heard of the palatial residence and aristocratic family of the late Seth Comstock, Esq., and as he sauntered up the main street his attention was attracted by an imposing array of carriages before the mansion. The occasion was the marriage of Mr. Comstock's son, a broker in New York, and was being conducted with much pomp and ceremony. One of the features was a carpet laid from the door to the carriages for the guests to walk on. Charles had never seen anything of the kind before, and it made an impression upon his young mind, and led to indulgence in mental speculations. What those speculations were does not transpire; visionary enough they seemed to him, no doubt, but how they appear viewed retrospectively we leave to be inferred, affording to the reader these data: To-day Mr. Hull owns the ground whereon that mansion stood, together with the fine block of buildings covering it, built by himself.

Mr. Hull was married Nov. 18, 1840, to Miss Hannah E., daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Ambler, of Danbury. Their children are Harriet E., now Mrs. Alexander McNie, of Winona, Minn., Mary E., now Mrs. Granville W. Hoyt, of Danbury, Frederick A., Thomas A., and Sarah M.

## ROGER AVERILL.

Roger Averill was born in Salisbury, in Litchfield Co., Conn., on the 14th day of August, 1809. His father, Nathaniel P. Averill, and his mother, Mary Whittlesey, were natives of Washington, in the same county, and were worthy representatives of the best type of the New England character.

Mr. Averill received his early training on the farm, and was thoroughly impressed with a sense of the value of time and of the importance of personal effort to achieve success. Habits of industry were formed in youth, and continued in practice in after-life. Every facility which the best common schools could furnish was placed within his reach for the acquisition of knowledge and mental improvement; and fortunately for him his native town had within its limits two valuable public libraries, to which he had free access. These proved to be of inestimable advantage in supplying him with the means of acquiring knowledge from books. They were often consulted and much read, and greatly contributed to the proper unfolding and moulding of his character and shaping his subsequent life.

At the age of eighteen years Mr. Averill commenced teaching a common school, and at the same time he began the study of the Latin without the aid of an instructor. Self-reliant and ambitious, he made considerable progress in preparatory studies before he fully decided to take a college course, and his friends had no knowledge of his wishes or his intentions in regard to an education. His older brother, Chester Averill, then a graduate of and a professor in Union College, New York, learning that some progress had been made in preparatory studies, favored his continuance in them, with a view to a full course, and furnished the necessary and appropriate books. Thus encouraged and strengthened, he at once decided to go to college, and applied himself vigorously and wholly to the work of preparation.

In 1828 he became a member of the freshman class in Union College, and graduated with honor and distinction in 1832. He remained at college a resident graduate for a few months, and then returned to Salisbury and opened a select school, which proved to be a complete success. The number of applications for admission was greater than could be accommodated. The people of the town took measures to erect immediately a suitable permanent academy to meet the public wants. Mr. Averill continued as principal of this school for one year, and when it was in a full tide of prosperity he abandoned school-teaching and commenced the study of law.

He entered the office of the Hon. Samuel Church, then a judge of the Supreme Court, who afterwards became chief justice of the State of Connecticut. He was admitted to the bar of Litchfield County in 1836, and at once opened an office for the practice of law in Salisbury. He had immediately his full share of the law business of that and the neighboring towns in

that part of the county, and had the confidence and support of his fellow-citizens, who conferred upon him many official trusts and responsibilities.

He represented the town of Salisbury in the General Assembly in 1843. He removed to Danbury in 1849, where he now resides. Since his removal he has held various public and responsible offices. Two years he was judge of the Court of Probate for the district of Danbury, twelve years a trustee of the State Normal School at New Britain, and a member of the State Board of Education for three years. Four years, from 1862 to 1866, he was Lieutenant-Governor of the State of Connecticut. For many years he has been and now is a director in the Danbury National Bank and a trustee of the savings bank of Danbury; also a director and treasurer of the Danbury Mutual Fire Insurance Company from the time of its organization in 1851.

In 1868 he represented the town of Danbury in the Legislature of this State.

He has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Maria D. White, of Danbury, who died in February, 1861, leaving four children,—two daughters and two sons, the latter being members of the legal profession in practice in this State. His present wife was Miss Mary A. Perry, of Southport, Conn.

## EDWARD SMITH DAVIS.

Edward Smith Davis comes of Welsh ancestry, who settled in Hartford as early as 1640. His grandfather was captured during the Revolution as one of the prominent citizens of Bloomfield and released on parole. His father, Caleb Smith Davis, was a farmer in Bloomfield, N. J. He served in the war of 1812-14. The sword worn by him as major is still in the possession of his son. His children were Louisa J., Charles M., Joseph H., Edward S., and Mary W., all of whom are living and all save one have families. It is a remarkable fact, worthy of record, that there has been but one death in this family in fifty-eight years. E. S. Davis remained with his father until his twentieth year, receiving academical educational advantages. At this age he went to Boston to engage in the manufacture of paper boxes, the business being at this time in its infancy. He took charge of business already established by his brother-in-law, S. A. Brower, the pioneer paper-box maker in this country, who is still living at an advanced age. The business was in charge of an agent, whom young Davis soon discovered to be conducting it dishonestly, much to Mr. Brower's loss.

In 1852, Mr. Davis came to Danbury, borrowing six dollars to defray the expenses of the journey. He came to engage in his present business of box-making, with Mr. Brower as silent partner. This copartnership lasted one and a half years, at the end of which





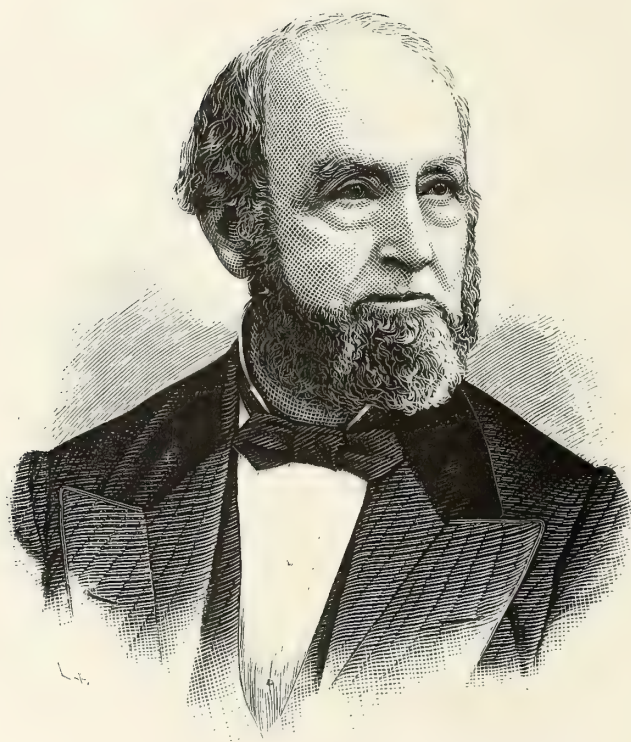
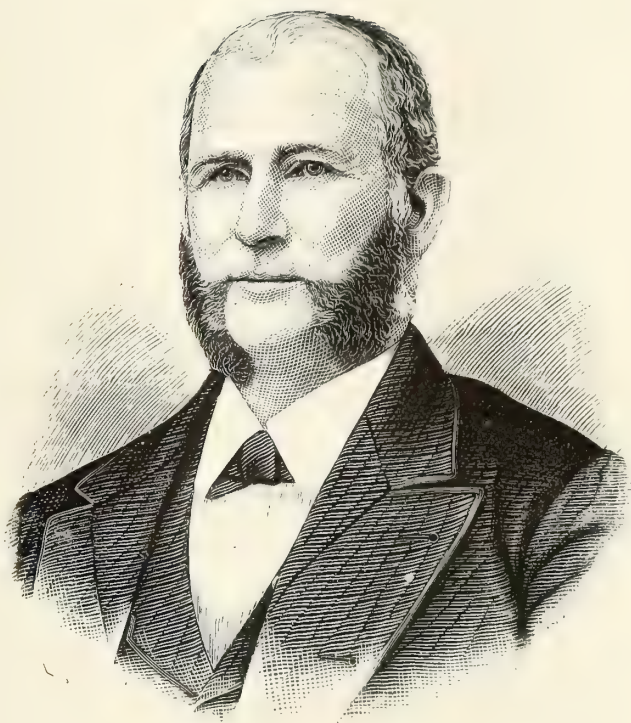


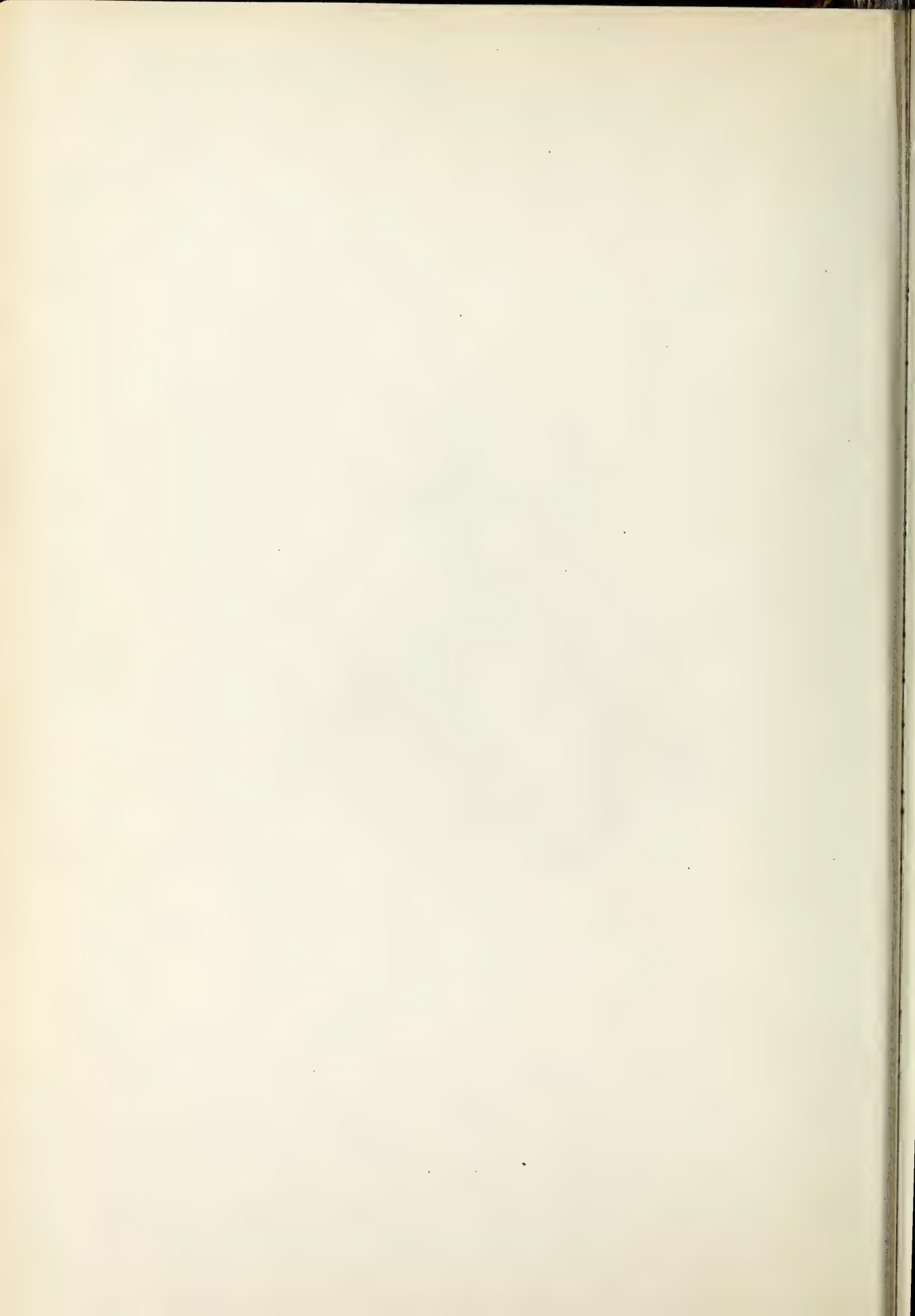
Photo. by J. H. Folsom, Danbury

*Roger Annell*





*E. S. Davis*









*John F. Beard*



time Mr. Davis bought Mr. Brower's interest, and has since conducted the business alone.

May, 1855, Mr. Davis was married to Jane H., daughter of Bracy and Hannah Scofield, of Danbury. Their children were Samuel A., Robert W., and Edward S., Jr. Mrs. Davis died in September, 1874. In November, 1875, Mr. Davis married Hannah, daughter of Elijah Gregory, of Danbury. Their children are Herbert R. and Anna L.

Mr. Davis has been elected to the office of burgess for two terms, and four times to the position of warden of the borough. In 1878 he represented his town in the State Legislature, and again the following year. He has been appointed assignee in the failure of several firms and is trustee and guardian for minor children, holding considerable sums of money in trust.

In 1861 he was a member of the Wooster Guards, which played a prominent part in the late war. At the call of the President the company was called together by its captain, and a vote was taken as to whether they should offer their services to the general government. To their honor be it said, every man in the company voted affirmatively. This decision was at once telegraphed to the Governor, and theirs is the proud record of having been the first company in Connecticut to thus offer their services. They became part of the First Regiment Connecticut Volunteers, and did duty around Washington and participated in the first Bull Run battle. Mr. Davis served during the term for which his company enlisted, and was honorably discharged.

For three years he has been Commander of James E. Moore Post, Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Davis has done something for the improvement of his adopted town. He built the factory now occupied by him, also the Montgomery factory, besides many other buildings. His own elegant residence he erected on one of the most—in fact, on the most—commanding sites in the town, overlooking, as it does, the entire borough of Danbury, besides extensive prospects in every direction.

#### JOHN F. BEARD.

John F. Beard was born March 6, 1803, in Trumbull, Fairfield Co., Conn. His grandfather, James Beard, a native of Derby, New Haven Co., Conn., was a lawyer by profession, and for many years a judge of the County Court. He was married to Miss Holbrook, of Derby, and became the father of seven children, among whom was Dr. Daniel Beard, father of the subject of this memoir. He, also, was a native of Derby; was educated to the medical profession, and practiced during his lifetime both as a physician and surgeon. He was appointed military surgeon of the troops stationed at Bridgeport under command of Gen. Foote, and served during the war of 1812-14. He was an enthusiast in his profession, a too close

application to which terminated his career Oct. 26, 1815, when but forty-eight. He was married early in life to Miss Betsey, daughter of Dr. Spencer and Betsey (Frink) Fields, of Oakham, Mass., and their children were: Spencer F., Algernon E., John F., Elizabeth F., Catherine J., Isabella M., William O., and Mary A.

At his father's death John was but eleven years old, and, the family being poor, he was obliged to rely almost wholly upon his own abilities for his support. For the first two and a half years he found a home with an uncle, whom he assisted in the management of his farm, receiving as pay for his services his board and clothing. From this time until his marriage, at the age of twenty-three, he worked at different kinds of labor, principally farming, laying up but little in the way of money, but adding much in the way of experience to the little stock of knowledge which he had managed to acquire during a few years of desultory attendance at the district school. For two years after his marriage he labored as a farm-hand, leaving it to engage in hat-manufacturing, which he followed for about seven years, when he moved on the farm, then known as "Hearthstone Hill," where he has ever since resided. His wife was Miss Lois A., daughter of Hiram Wildman, of Danbury, and their children were Edwin W. (deceased), William S. (deceased), Martha M. (now Mrs. Somers, living in Galesburg, Ill.), John P. (resident of Danbury), Mary A. (now Mrs. S. C. Holley, Danbury), and James B. (resident of Council Bluffs, Iowa).

Mr. Beard's principal business has been that of farming, but he has always taken an active interest in public matters of his town, and has often been called to the position of selectman and several times elected justice of the peace.

When the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad was projected, to further the enterprise Mr. Beard took the contract to build it entire. Owing to the immense amount of work of various kinds involved in the construction of a railroad, he found it necessary to take partners, in order that responsible heads might push the different departments of the work—bridge-building, cutting, filling, etc.—at one and the same time, and although, financially, the enterprise was a losing one, which it is but justice to Mr. Beard to say was attributed to the want of integrity on the part of those he formed connections with to further the work, yet he had the satisfaction of handing over to the company the road in complete running order to the driving of the last bolt. This road has given communication with the outer world to Danbury, which before its construction was an isolated inland town, and perhaps no one thing has contributed more to the development of the place. Mr. Beard was one of the originators of the Danbury Agricultural Society, the most prosperous society of the kind in the State, and for nine years its president. He was for two years a member of the State Board of Agriculture. In 1831

he joined the First Congregational Church of Danbury, and the year following was made a deacon in the same, in which capacity he has acted till the present time, and for ten consecutive years was superintendent of its Sabbath-school. His wife and daughters, also, are members of the same church.

In politics, Mr. Beard has been a Whig, and since the formation of the Republican party has affiliated with it.

#### JAMES WHITE NICHOLS.

James White Nichols, son of Ebenezer Nichols and descendant of Samuel Nichols, a resident of Woodbury in 1660; was born Oct. 15, 1809, in Danbury, in the room in which he died Sept. 17, 1875.

His father was a farmer on the old Nichols farm, occupying the house in which his son lived his entire lifetime about the time of his first marriage. The Nichols family were extensive landholders in the early days of Danbury.

James W. Nichols was not a liberally educated man, although well up in the English branches, and when a young man taught school several terms in Danbury. He had no other occupation than farming. The delicate state of his health, however, permitting him to perform only the lighter work of his calling, he devoted much of his time to writing and other literary pursuits, for which he had a decided predilection. He was married July 6, 1845, to Miss Phebe Hawley, of Danbury, who died Jan. 26, 1869. Mr. Nichols was married the second time to Miss Henrietta S., daughter of Daniel B. and Zemiah (Hays) Burton, of Woodbury. The issue of this union was a son, James H., born March 27, 1871.

From an article from the pen of H. B. Wildman, schoolmate of deceased, published soon after Mr. Nichols' death, we make the following extracts: . . . "Mr. Nichols was a rare man, highly esteemed by his friends and neighbors, who often bestowed upon him offices of honor and trust. He had always a genial smile and kindly word for everybody. He was both poet and artist, and his song was like the rippling of a summer stream or like the murmur of the evening zephyrs that fanned through the shades of his beloved 'Oak Cottage' home. Contented in his situation, he lived and breathed an atmosphere purely his own. He cared not for the ambitious world around him, nor for the literary aspirants quarreling and toiling for fame and glory." Mr. Nichols wrote some of the sweetest poetry that ever emanated from unpretentious bard, and it is matter of regret to us that we are not in timely receipt of specimens promised for this sketch, that they might become inscribed upon the page of enduring history.

"He was a faithful member of the Methodist Church, a devout worshiper and a true Christian, and was ready and willing to go when the summons

came. His patience and fortitude during his severe and painful illness was most conspicuous; during all that trying time he was never known to make the slightest murmur of uneasiness or impatience." . . .

## CHAPTER XXV.

### DARIEN.

Geographical—Topographical—Names of Pioneers—Revolutionary Incident—The Capture of the Rev. Dr. Mather—Poetical Narrative—Old Documents—A Distribution Bill of 1724, etc.—Pioneer Merchants—The First Grist-Mill—The Pioneer Post-office.

DARIEN is located in the southwestern part of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by New Canaan; on the east by Norwalk; on the south by Long Island Sound; on the west by Stamford. The soil of the town is a rich, gravelly loam. The surface is undulating.

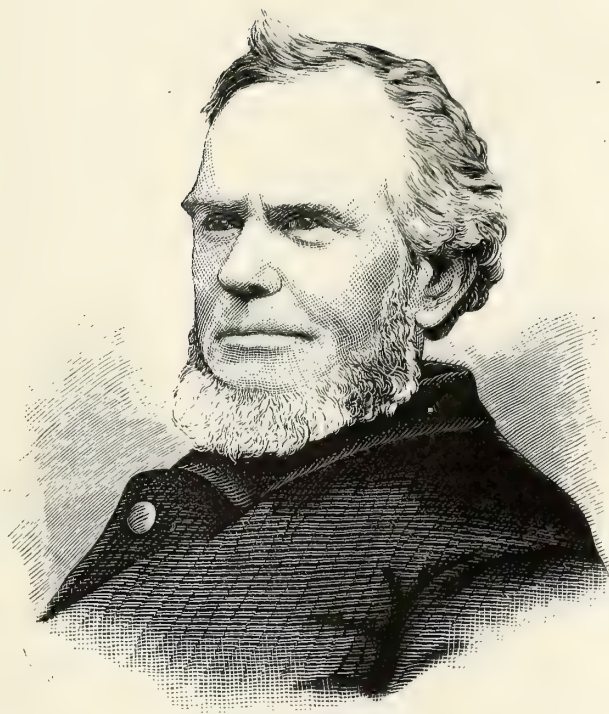
The town was settled contemporaneously with Stamford, of which it originally formed a part. The following is believed to be a list of the pioneers who located in this town, taken from Huntington's "History of Stamford:"

Aaron Andrews, or Andreas, bought land here in 1657, with Garret Rivis. He is called a Dutchman. The name Andrews and Andrus occurs often, and also interchangeably. Jeremiah Andrews is said to be of Bedford after 1687.

John Austin was one of the eleven Greenwich men who in 1656 acknowledged allegiance to the New Haven jurisdiction, to constitute part of the Stamford colony. The name is usually spelled Astin and Asten on the records. A son of his, Samuel, died here in 1657, the year, also, of his own death. His inventory, taken by Richard Law and Angell Husted, Sept. 5, 1657, was presented in court in Stamford by his widow "Katherine Astine," May 13, 1658. It amounted to £78 8s. 4d. Several of this name are reported on the land records during the first century of the town.

Francis Brown was here early. Savage tells us that he had been a servant of Henry Wolcott, of Windsor, and bought out the rest of his time in 1649 and was a small trader in 1651, and that he bought and sold lands in Farmington in 1656. He seems to have been a pertinacious stickler for the largest liberty to the individual. In 1662 he headed a petition to the General Court at New Haven respecting the franchise of all the citizens, respecting equalizing the rates of the several colonies then under the jurisdiction of New Haven, and respecting the colony school. The court rather curtly gave him to understand that "whatever liberties or privileges our laws do allow them, that they should have." He then desires a special court in Stamford for the settlement of these questions. In 1663 he is sworn a constable for the town of Stamford in the General Court of Connecticut, and in 1665, 1667, and 1669 he represented the town in the Gen-





*James W. Nichols.*





eral Assembly. He married, here, Martha, widow of John Chapman, and had one son, Joseph, to whom he gave land in 1683. In 1686 he is reported in a gift of land to his son Joseph as now of Rye.

John Dibble died in 1646, and his widow married, the next year, William Graves, of Stamford. The two sons, Samuel and Zachariah Dibble, probably came with their father. Zachariah married, May 10, 1666, Sarah Waterbury, and had a son, Zacharry, born in 1667. His wife obtained a divorce in 1672, and afterwards married Nicholas Webster.

John Green, who lost his wife Mary here in 1657. He was declared freeman of the Connecticut colony in 1662, and represented the town in 1669. Joseph Green mortgaged lands here, in 1651, to Thomas Morehouse, and William Green appears on the records as landholder in 1650. His land was next to Daniel Scofield.

William Hill was here in 1650.

Francis Holmes was a resident here 1648, as appears from the testimony against Robert Penoyer. His will, on record at Fairfield, dated Sept. 6, 1671, makes mention of his wife, Ann, and his children, Stephen, John, Richard, and Ann, wife of Samuel Dean. Stephen Holmes has lands assigned him by the town in 1667. Richard Holmes witnesses here June 17, 1658, the will of Henry Akerley. The name of John Holmes is on the land records often before 1660.

Cornelius Jones was evidently here in 1657. He married the widow of Thomas Hait, or Hyat, as is evident from the receipts which three of Thomas Hoyt's children gave him. On Dec. 17, 1657, there is a record made of the age of his children, probably by a former wife. There are six of them, aged, respectively, eleven, ten, eight, six, and three years, but the margin on which the names are written is gone. His will, found at Fairfield, is dated June 2, 1690, and mentions his son Joseph and his grandchild Ruth "Hyat," explaining also why he does not make bequeaths to his daughter, Mary Hyat.

Nicholas Knapp had land here in 1649, as appears from the land-records. His wife, Eleanor, died Aug. 16, 1658. Savage thinks he may have come in the fleet with Winthrop and Saltonstall in 1630. His children were Jonathan, born Dec. 27, 1631; Timothy, Dec. 14, 1632; Joshua, Jan. 5, 1635; Caleb, Jan. 20, 1637; Sarah, Jan. 5, 1639; Ruth, Jan. 6, 1641; Hannah, March 6, 1643. After coming to Stamford he had probably Moses and Lydia. After the death of his wife, Eleanor, he married, March 9, 1659, Unity, widow of Peter Brown, who had also been the widow of Clement Buxton. He died in April, 1670, and his will, now in the Probate records of Fairfield, dated the 15th of that month, names the children in the following order: Moses, Timothy, Caleb, Sarah Disbrow, Hannah, Lidea, Ruth, and Sarah and Unica Buxton, daughters of Clement.

Edmund Lockwood, Oct. 14, 1650, sold all his right

and title in Stamford to Ann Akerley. How long he had been here at that date does not appear. He was probably a son of Edmund, of Cambridge. His children were: John, Daniel, Edmund, Mary, and Abigail. Under date of March 24, 1698-99, the town grants the children of Edmund Lockwood, deceased, liberty to take up as much land for their father's estate in the second "lotment" at Runkinheag as he had in the first division there, "his lotment in the first division being not to be found." He died here Jan. 31, 1692, as appears from inventory of his estate now on record (book 1st, page 119), amounting to three hundred and five pounds. This name has been numerous and prominent here to the present day. It now stands next to the Scofield name in numbers.

Jonathan Lockwood was here in 1659, as appears from his testimony in court, at Fairfield, February 24th of that year. He is reported as then twenty-four or twenty-five years of age. This corresponds with the presumption that he was son of Robert Lockwood, of Fairfield, and that he is the son born in Watertown, Sept. 10, 1634. His children were Jonathan, Robert, Gershom, Joseph, and John. He sold his estate here in 1665, and was afterwards a prominent citizen of Greenwich, representing that town in the State Legislature for four years.

Joseph Lockwood went, in 1644, to Poundridge, where he had sons,—Joseph, James, Solomon, Israel, Reuben, and Nathaniel. His wife was Hannah, daughter of Solomon Ebenezer. His oldest son, Joseph, had two sons,—Major Ebenezer, of Poundridge, who lived until 1821 and was the father of the Hon. Ezra and Horatio Lockwood; and Joseph had also sons, among whose descendants are the Hon. Albert, of Sing Sing, N. Y., and Gen. Munson Lockwood, of White Plains.

Thomas Lyon was here as landholder in 1650, as appears from land-records of Daniel Scofield.

Joseph Mead, of Stamford, sells his house and land to John and Daniel Weed. From his testimony given in court at New Haven in 1660 it appears that he was born in 1630. He went to Greenwich, which town he represented in the Connecticut Legislature from 1669 to 1671.

Jonathan Mead sells land in 1650, and in 1659 also sells land to Henry Smith.

Obadiah Seeley was early a resident here, as several entries in the records show. In 1651 he acknowledged payment of a debt due him from John Larson. He died in 1667, and his inventory, taken in 1665 by William Newman and Robert Usher, mentions his widow, Mary, and his sons, Obadiah, Cornelius, and Jonas. His widow, Mary, had been the widow also of John Miller, of Stamford. He was probably a son of Robert Seeley, of Watertown, who settled afterwards in Wethersfield and became quite famous as a lieutenant in the Pequot war, and still later of the New Haven force under Sedgwick and Leverett against the New Netherlands. This name

has been well represented in all its generations in the town.

Thomas Stevens died here in 1658. He had been a landholder as early as 1649, as appears from the land-records. His will and inventory of estate are on record, dated Nov. 30, 1658. His property was bequeathed to his wife for the children; but if she should marry, she was to have her third and the rest to be divided,—the oldest son, if deserving and of godly carriage, to have a double portion; if not, to share equally with the rest.

John Waterbury came here soon after the settlement, and had land recorded to him in 1650. He died in 1658. He had lands here as early as 1650, as appears from assignment of lands of that date. His inventory bears date in April, 1659, amounting to £185 12s. His sons were John, Jonathan, and David, and possibly still others. Those three make over to their father-in-law, Joseph Garnsey, in 1674, a parcel of land then in possession of John Miller. His widow had married Joseph Garnsey, in May, 1661, when she attested his will. This is one of the most numerous as well as respectable of the Stamford names, down to the present day.

Richard Webb probably came to Stamford from Norwalk about 1654. The "Mill" in Norwalk was that year abandoned as worthless, and we find Mr. Webb here, soon after, engaged in the Stamford "Mill." He was probably a son of Richard, of Norwalk, though he is not mentioned in his father's will, of date 1655. Mr. Webb was a man of some estate and note, representing the town in the Connecticut General Court as early as 1667. The will of Richard Webb, Sen., of Stamford, is on record in Fairfield, having date 7, 1, 1675-76, and the death of Richard Webb is on our town records as occurring March 15, 1675-76, eight days after the will. The inventory of his estate bears date April 29, 1676. His legatees were his wife, Margery; Joseph, who took the mill in Stamford, but who was to run it jointly with the widow; Richard, who had the uplands at Wescott's; Joshua, who took lands in Newfield, and the tools, which were in Huntington, L. I.; Caleb and Samuel, whose legacy was to be in the care of their mother; and Sarah. In a deposition of Richard Webb, made Nov. 22, 1667, he is said to be "aged forty-four years or thereabout." Joseph Webb died here in 1684, leaving children,—Joseph, Mary, Hannah, Sarah, and Margery. His inventory, dated March 8, 1684, makes his wife's name Hannah. This name is among the most numerous and reputable names on the Stamford list.

John Clock, William Crissy, George Gorum, Daniel Gray, John Hobby, John How, Josiah Hull, Richard Lonensburg, Samuel Palmer, John Reed, Samuel Richards, David St. John, Selleck, Thomas Talmadge, Michael Waring, William Wardwell, Eliaseph Whitney, Gilbert Woolsey, Rev. Moses Mather are also names of early settlers.

#### REVOLUTIONARY INCIDENT.

During the Revolution a large number of the inhabitants of this district were Tories. Dr. Moses Mather was preaching in the Congregational church on Sunday, July 22, 1781, when a party of Tories completely surrounded the church and took most of the people prisoners, only a few young men escaping through the windows. Two shots were fired at these; but they dared fire no more, as three guns was the well-known signal of alarm in this part of the country. All the males were then tied two and two and led out of the church, with the venerable Dr. Mather at their head. The Tories also carried off some forty horses belonging to the congregation which had assembled, and marched the prisoners to the Sound shore, where they were embarked for Lloyd's Neck, on Long Island. From thence they were taken to New York and confined in the Provost prison, where they underwent the most severe treatment. The following contains a portion of a poem entitled

*"A Poetical Relation of the Capture of the Congregation at Middlesex, with an Account of their Sufferings, etc., while in captivity; by Peter St. John."*

"Now to relate 'tis my intent  
A sad and tragical event.  
On what I write you may rely,  
As I've the history lying by.  
July the twenty-second day,  
Where Christians meet to sing and pray,  
In seventeen hundred and eighty-one,  
An horrid action was begun.  
While to the Lord they sing and pray,  
The Tories, who in ambush lay,  
Beset the house with brazen face;  
At Middlesex it was the place.  
A guard was placed the house before,  
Likewise behind and at each door.  
Then, void of shame, those men of sin  
The sacred temple entered in.  
The Rev. Mather closed his book:  
How did the congregation look?  
The reverend priest, the man of God,  
Severely felt the smarting rod,—  
Not by a whip do I pretend,  
But by abuses from those friends.  
How must he feel to see his sheep  
Thus worried, whilst they silence keep!  
Those demons plundered what they could,  
Either in silver or in gold.  
The silver buckles, which we use  
Both at the knees and on the shoes,  
These catiffs took them; in their rage  
Had no respect for sex or age.  
And as they all were searching round,  
They several silver watches found.  
They who were placed as guards without,  
Like raging devils ranged about,  
Took forty horses to the shore,—  
Not many either less or more,—  
With bridles, saddles, pillions, on:  
In a few minutes all was done.  
The men which hence they took away,  
Upon this sacred awful day,  
Was forty-eight, besides two more  
They chanced to find upon the shore.  
When to the shore they were conveyed,  
The orders given they obeyed.  
On board the shipping they were sent,  
But greatly feared the sad event,



As well they might, because they knew  
 Their captors were the Devil's crew.  
 They hoisted sail, the Sound they cross'd,  
 And near Lloyd's Neck they anchored first.  
 Then every man must tell his name;  
 A list they took, and kept the same.  
 Now twenty-four of fifty men  
 Were ordered home again;  
 The twenty-six who stay'd behind,  
 Most cruelly were they confined;  
 On board the brig were ordered quick,  
 And were confined beneath the deck.—  
 A nasty hole, with filth besmear'd,—  
 But 'twas no more than what they fear'd.

\* \* \* \* \*  
 But to return whence I left off,  
 They at our misery made a scoff,—  
 Like raging devils tore about,  
 Swearing they'd tear our vitals out;  
 That they'd no quarter ever give,  
 Nor let a cursed rebel live;  
 But would their joints in pieces cut;  
 Then round the deck like devils strut.  
 Oh, human nature, how depraved!  
 Can any mortal e'er be saved,  
 So void of good, so full of evil,  
 And wholly bent to serve the Devil?  
 July the four and twentieth day,  
 We all were sent to Oyster Bay.

\* \* \* \* \*  
 We to the ferry came at last,  
 View'd by spectators as we past:  
 The gazing rabble, Tory throng,  
 Would curse us as we passed along.  
 Ten thousand curses round us rung;  
 But some would laugh, and some would sneer,  
 And some would grin, and some would leer.  
 A mixed mob, a medley crew,  
 I guess, as e'er the Devil knew.  
 To the provost we then were haul'd,  
 Though we of war were prisoners called;  
 Our irons now were ordered off,—  
 The standers-by would swear and scoff.  
 But oh, what company we found!  
 With great surprise we looked around!  
 I must conclude that in this place  
 We found the worst of Adam's race;  
 Thieves, murderers, and pickpockets too,  
 And everything that's bad they do.  
 One of our men found, to his cost,  
 Three pounds of York money he had lost,—  
 His pockets picked, I guess, before  
 We had been there one single hour.

\* \* \* \* \*  
 Full eighteen days, or something more,  
 We fairly were exchange'd before;  
 Of the exchange they let us know,  
 Or from that place of bondage go.  
 That of the number twenty-five,  
 But just nineteen were left alive;  
 Four days before December's gone.  
 In seventeen hundred eighty-one."

#### OLD DOCUMENTS.

The following are given as being interesting old documents:

##### A DISTRIBUTION BILL OF 1724.

A Distribution Bill to Ruth Scofield, wife to Joshua Scofield and daughter to John Young, late of Stamford, dec'd, for her part or portion, as follows:

To particulars rec'd at marriage, 22. 10.  
 To a beaver hat, 3. 6.  
 To warming pan, 6.  
 To a wodden mortar, 6.  
 A knife, 6.

A great bible.  
 A parcel of old books.  
 An almanac, a basket, and whetstone.  
 A grindstone to a tree.  
 A tub.  
 A Raiser, 6 Sisers.  
 Pa mittens.  
 A piece of land upon ye east side of Noroton Neck, south of ye country road, being twenty-one rods in breadth at ye north end of highway.  
 Two shillings and one penny of John Dean's bill.  
 Two pad locks.  
 The above distribution made by us distributors under oath this 4 day of Feby, 1724.

SAMUEL WEED,  
 JONAS WEED.

#### AN EARLY DEED.

Whereas, the Town of Stamford in their Annual Meeting in Dec<sup>r</sup> 1723 being lawfully warned and convened, voted as follows, viz <sup>d</sup> town did vote, the Town do empower the townsmen, or any three of them to agree with Joshua Scofield & to exchange that piece of land which Mr. Elisha Holly sequestered to the use of the Town, on the East side of Stony Brook, as also a piece of salt marsh on the East side of Richard Scofield's Mill Pond for the convenience of a Highway down to Scofield's Mill or any other way be for the best benefit of the Town And agreeably to the above vote the Selectmen agreed with me the <sup>d</sup> Joshua Scofield of Stamford to exchange the land which now makes the Highway from the country road to the <sup>d</sup> mill for the above <sup>d</sup> sequestered land And whereas I the <sup>d</sup> Joshua Scofield on my part gave to the Town a well executed Deed for <sup>d</sup> Highway, but they neglecting on their part to give me a conveyance for the <sup>d</sup> sequestered land, the same remains yet my due Therefore, To all persons to whom these Presents shall come Greeting, Know ye that I the <sup>d</sup> Joshua Scofield of Stamford in Fairfield County in Connecticut State, for divers causes & considerations me thereunto moving, more especially for the Parental Affection Love and good will which I have & do bear towards my loving & dutiful grandson Gershom Scofield of Stamford afores<sup>d</sup>, do give grant convey & confirm unto him the <sup>d</sup> Gershom Scofield, & to his Heirs & assigns forever, all my right, Title & Demands which I have to the <sup>d</sup> sequestered land, Bounded according to the Bill of laying out as follows Easterly by Young's, his land westerly by Stony Brook, or the line granted by the Town of Stamford to the <sup>d</sup> Young's to set a fence, southerly by the cove called Goodwife's & north-erly by the country road laid out & sized to two Acres.

To have and to hold the above Given & Granted right, Title, Demand to the above described Premises unto him my <sup>d</sup> grandson Gershom Scofield & to his Heirs & Assigns forever to his & their own proper use & behoof as an Estate of Inheritance in fee simple, free & clear from all incumbrance whatsoever, in witness & confirmation whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the 16th day of August A.D. 1783  
 Signed Sealed & delivered in presence of

ABRAM DAVENPORT } JOSHUA SCOFIELD [L.S.]  
 JOSHUA SCOFIELD JR }

State of Connecticut as Stamford on the day of the date above Personally appeared Mr Joshua Scofield, Signer and Sealer of the above written Instrument & acknowledged the same to be his free Act & Deed before me

ABRAM DAVENPORT  
 Assist

Gershom Scofield's  
 Deed of Gift from  
 Joshua Scofield  
 Rec to Record Dec<sup>r</sup> 9th 1783  
 & Recorded in Book K,  
 Page 70  
 by John Hart, Jun<sup>r</sup>

Town Clerk

#### EARLY MERCHANTS, Etc.

The first stores in this town were kept at "Ring's End," and among the first merchants are mentioned the names of Nathaniel Clock, Bell & Waterbury, and Jones & Jarvis.

The first merchant at Darien was Rufus Scofield. The first merchant at Nosota was one Gorham.

The first grist-mill was built by Richard Scofield,

and occupied the site of the mill now owned by Benjamin Fitch.

The first postmaster was Rufus Bell, in 1814. There was but one post-office in the town, and that was located in a building which stood nearly opposite the present parsonage of the Congregational church.

Among the first physicians were Warren Percival and Dr. Richmond. The present physicians are Samuel Sands and R. L. Bohannon.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### DARIEN (Continued).

#### ECCLESIASTICAL, CIVIL, AND MILITARY HISTORY.

Congregational Church—Presbyterian Church—St. Luke's Church—Methodist Episcopal Church—Incorporation of the Parish—Organization of the town—Selectmen from 1820 to 1881—List of Town Clerks—Representatives from 1820 to 1880—Darien in the War of the Rebellion—List of Soldiers.

How early separate religious services were held in this town no existing records show. Probably for years before Dr. Mather was settled here, in 1744, there had been preaching, with more or less regularity.

At a society meeting, held in the first society of Stamford, Dec. 20, 1733, by vote "the society agree that those particular persons that pay to the minister at Five-Mile River shall be discharged from paying their proportion of Mr. Wright's rate during the term of three months, provided they bring sufficient proof to the society's committee that they pay as much to the minister there as their proportion to Mr. Wright for the time above said."

In 1734 forty-six planters on the west side of Norwalk River petition for a new society. The next notice taken of this project, as far as records show, was simultaneously in Stamford and at the May session of the Legislature, in 1736. Sixty-nine petitions, representing eighty families, and a list of five thousand eight hundred and eighty pounds, made a formal request to be incorporated as an ecclesiastical society by themselves. The petition was negatived, only to be renewed in October of the same year by fifty-six men. The urgency of the petitioners led to the appointment of a special committee to examine their claims. In May, 1737, the committee report favorably, assigning as proper boundaries of the society the Five-Mile River on the east and the Noroton on the west. In October of this year the act of incorporation was passed. It is curious to note upon what frail boundaries they relied. The moment they leave the rivers, which they might presume to be permanent, they fix upon the most perishable objects, in the most indeterminate of localities, to answer as permanent bounds for the society. On the west side of the parish, to separate it from the older society of Stamford, they

define, as the westernmost limits of Middlesex, "an old chimney about two and a half miles east of the Stamford meeting-house," and "so to run a strait line midway between Stephen Bishop's house and David Dibble's house," and thence to where the Noroton crosses the Canaan line. But this separation was not to be a peaceable one. Though no blood seems to have been shed in the struggle, there were many earnest and clamorous appeals and remonstrances between the parishes themselves and between the parishes and the Legislature; so that the peaceful settlement of the Middlesex seceders was not accomplished before the summer of 1741, about a dozen years after the need of such a society was felt and its incorporation demanded.

Eleven somewhat lengthy documents now on file in the State library at Hartford testify to the great interest shown in both the old and the new parishes in the proposed division. These papers indicate the most obstinate determination on the part of the first society not to allow any further alienation of any part of their ecclesiastical jurisdiction. Assuming a sort of infeasible right to the territory, the society, by a unanimous vote of all excepting the seceding portion, declared that they would "not grant to the people at the east end of the town the liberty of a society apart." They also appointed Capt. Jonathan Hoyt and Mr. Jonathan Maltby as special agents to the Legislature to report the reasons of the town against forming the new society. But the seceders at length prevailed.

The names of the petitioners to the "Five-Mile river petition," dated the second Thursday of October, 1736, are Thomas Reed, Edmond Waring, Jonathan Cristy, Jonathan Bates, Robert Mills, John Reed, Joshua Scofield, Isaac Bishop, Jonathan Bell, Joshua Morehouse, John Bates, Jonathan Petit, David Selleck, Nathaniel Bates, Edmond Waring, Jr., Joseph Pengban, Thomas Reed, Jr., John Petit, Joseph Whiting, John Reed, Jr., James Slason, Jr., David Bates, Elias Reed, John Raymond, Nathaniel Selleck, David Scofield, Samuel Richards, Joseph Waterbury, Jonas Weed, Deliverance Slason, Charles Weed, Theophilus Bishop, John Andrus, Nathaniel How, John Dean, David Waterbury, Ebenezer Bishop, Zachariah Dibble, Thomas Bishop, Samuel Bryan, Nathan Sturgis, Benjamin Dibble, David Slason, David Dibble, Nathan Selleck, Nathan Waring, Samuel Brinswade, Ebenezer Green, John Bolt, Jacob Waring, John Waring, Daniel Reed, Abraham Raymond, Comfort Raymond, Isaac Wood, and Samuel Reed.

The first record of a society's meeting in Middlesex bears date June 15, 1789. Ensign Nathan Bell was its moderator, and Joshua Morehouse was appointed society's clerk. The meeting was held at the house of John Bates. At an adjourned meeting held June 21st, Thomas Reed, Jonathan Bates, Daniel Reed, Isaac Bishop, Jonathan Selleck, Samuel Reed, and Ensign Jonathan Bell were appointed a committee to "caryon" the building of the "metting-hous." They



were instructed to make the house fifty feet long, thirty feet wide, and twenty feet post.

They then voted a tax to meet the expenses of the building, and to pay Mr. Buckingham "for His preaching the time agreed." Jonathan Weed was appointed collector. The society records from this date to that of the organization of the church show that the following ministers labored here either simply as supplies or as candidates: Rev. Mr. Birdseye, Gideon Mills, Ebenezer Mills, David Judson, Mr. Ells, and Mather. At a meeting held Dec. 11, 1741, the society voted, by a large majority,—forty-two to four,—to settle Mr. Judson. But to give every man in the society an opportunity to vote, Mr. Morehouse, the clerk, was ordered to carry a paper with the vote "about and read the same to those persons that belong to said society which were not at said meeting, that they might have opportunity to subscribe to the same."

At their meeting Sept. 1, 1742, while Mr. Mather was still preaching as a candidate for settlement, we find this vote: "Ye Society by major vote granted to ye Rev. Mr. Right (Wright) to preach in any part of Middlesex parish on any needful occasion as often as he shall see fit."

A record of the doings of this society in 1747 respecting the seating of the meeting-house explains more fully the process of this custom than any record now existing of any other parish in town, and is worth preserving as a curiosity of the times. Besides, it indicates some of the principal men of that day in this part of the town.

By the first vote the society decided to seat the meeting by a committee.

"2. pr vote ye society a lowed ye first pue to be ye hiest in Dignity.

"3. pr vote the 2 pew to be 2 hiest in Dignity.

"4. pr vote, the fore seat alowed to be the 3 hiest in Dignity.

"5. pr vote, the front pew, by ye great Dorr to be ye 4th hiest in Dignity.

"6. pr vote, the corner pew at the norwest to be ye 5th hiest.

"7. pr vote, to be ye 6th hiest.

"8. the west pew nex ye norwest to be ye 7th hiest.

"9th per vote, 10th per vote, 11th per vote, 12th per vote, 13 per vote, Capt. John Raiment, Capt. Jona. Bates, Left. Jona. Bell, sr., Saml Bishop and Daniel Reed chosen a comety and a pointed to seat ye meeting hous as the society shall by their vote direct.

"14. pr vote Mr. David Tuttle, Mr. Thos. Reed, Cpn. John Raiment, Mr. Edmun Wearing, Mr. Jona. Bates, Mr. Nathan Selleck, Mr. Jeams Slason, and Mr. Jona. Bell all to set in ye fore pew.

"15. and Decon Bishop also by ye vote of ye society to set in his seat be fore ye pulpit.

"16. pr vote, the Society Impowered the comety to seat ye remainder of ye house a cordin to their own discretion."

The above record is of date Aug. 9, 1747, and the next meeting of the society was held "genewary ye 28th, 1747-48." A record of this meeting is also so characteristic of the times as to justify insertion:

"Voted yt Mr. Jona Bell or any other man a greed upon to sing or tune ye salm in his absence in times of publickt worship may tune it in ye old way or new which suits you best. vote yt Elijah Jones shall tuen ye salms in times of worship in Mr. Bell's absence. Vote yt Left. Jona. Selleck shall Reed the salms in Mr. Bell's absence."

## CHURCHES.

### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

This church was organized June 5, 1744, with the following members: Rev. Moses Mather, David and Martha Tuttle, Thomas and Mary Reed, Edward and Elizabeth Waring, John and Hannah Reed, John Raymond, Daniel and Elizabeth Reed, John and Mary Smith, John and Catharine Waring, Samuel and Mehitabel Brinsmade, Eliakim and Anne Waring, Nathan and Mary Reed, Isaac Bishop, Joseph Waterbury, Nathan and Sarah Selleck, Joshua and Anne Morehouse, Samuel Bishop, Charles and Susannah Weed, Theophilus and Sarah Bishop, Nathaniel and Sarah Bates, James and Elizabeth Scofield, John Reed, Jr., and wife, Desire, Elias, and Mary Reed, Elijah Jones, Sarah, wife of Samuel Reed, Sarah, wife of Thomas Reed, Elizabeth, wife of Samuel Richards, Widow Rachel Raymond, Rebecca Raymond, Widow Martha Reed, Elizabeth Reed, Joanna, wife of Jonathan Bates, Abigail, wife of David Bates, Mary, wife of Eliaseph Whitney, Mercy, wife of Ebenezer Brown, Mercy, wife of John Pettit, Rebecca, wife of Jonathan Crissy, Elizabeth, wife of James Slason, Hannah, wife of Deliverance Slason, Mary, wife of David Weed, Abigail Andrus, Widow Sarah Crissy, and Jona. Bell. The first church edifice stood until about 1838, when it was superseded by the present structure.

The following ministers have officiated for this church: Moses Mather, D.D., William Fisher, Ebenezer Platt, B. Y. Messenger, Ulric Maynard, Ezra D. Kinney, Jonathan E. Barnes, F. Alvord, C. S. Walker, R. B. Snowden, Robert C. Bell, and B. F. Bradford.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This new organization was made Nov. 4, 1863. The following list of members were from the First Congregational Church in Stamford: Isaac Weed, Benjamin Weed, Rufus Weed, Mrs. Sally Weed, Mrs. Mary Weed, Mrs. Phebe Weed, Mrs. Hannah Weed, Miss Mary Weed, Miss Rebecca Weed, Mrs. Sarah W. Crissey, Mrs. Abigail W. Bishop. The following were from the First Presbyterian Church in Stamford: William A. Cummings and his wife, Louisa Cummings. Mrs. Anna E. Ballard and Mrs. Martha Harris, from First Presbyterian Church, New York City. Lewis E. Clock and his wife Eliza, Miss Eliza Clock, and Mrs. Hannah Waterbury, from the Congregational Church of Darien; and Miss Fanny Kennedy, from the Methodist Episcopal Church of Stamford.

This church commenced worshiping in the chapel which had been built here a quarter of a century ago as a union chapel for all evangelical denominations. The present church edifice was dedicated May 31, 1866. James William Coleman was pastor in 1868, and since he left there has been no settled pastor.

### ST. LUKE'S CHURCH.

Services of the Episcopal Church were held here in

1854 by the Rev. W. H. C. Robertson, an English gentleman.

The parish was organized in August, 1855, with James E. Johnson senior warden, and N. A. Scofield junior warden. The vestry was composed of John W. Waterbury, E. A. Weed, and Isaac H. Clock.

The corner-stone of the church edifice was laid Aug. 11, 1855, by Rev. Mr. T. Todd, of Stamford, and the church was consecrated by Bishop Williams, March 27, 1863.

The rectors of the church have been as follows: W. H. C. Robertson, George D. Johnson, and Louis H. French.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Meetings were held by this denomination as early as 1788, as evidenced by the certificates of that date which Samuel Quinton Talbot gave to Joseph Waring, Jr., Gershom Raymond, and Edward Raymond. Jesse Waring and Ezra Slason also received similar certificates in the same year from Cornelius Cook. These certificates were to the effect that the above-named were "members of the Methodist Congregation." During the next six years the following ministers issued similar certificates to relieve the bearers from paying their ministerial rates to the Congregational Church: Jesse Lee, Daniel Smith, and John Clark. The number of certificates issued were nine.

The pastors of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as far back as we can secure information, have been George L. Fuller, C. E. Miller, Linsley Parker, E. — Walt, G. B. Stillman, G. B. Dusenberrie, J. T. Langlois, present pastor.

#### THE FRIENDS.

This sect at one time held services in this town, and in 1811 erected a house of worship. The church has, however, long since been abandoned.

#### FITCH'S HOME FOR SOLDIERS.

This institution was chartered in 1864 to provide for the disabled soldiers of the Twelfth Senatorial District of the State. It takes its name from its founder, Benjamin Fitch, Esq., of Darien, who contributed towards its endowment and support about one hundred thousand dollars. It was found that it was not needed for disabled soldiers, and in February, 1865, the trustees—Hon. Morgan Morgans, Joseph B. Hoyt, and Charles Starr, of Stamford; William A. Cummings and Charles Brown, of Darien; E. C. Bissel, of Norwalk; Stephen Hoyt, of New Canaan; M. B. Pardee, M.D., of South Norwalk; Charles Marvin, of Wilton; and P. Button, of Greenwich—decided to open here a home and school for the orphan and destitute children of fallen or disabled soldiers. Mr. Fitch, in addition to the building used for the ordinary purposes of such an institution, gave to the home a fine brick building for a library, and a gallery of paintings and statuary.

When no longer needed for the soldiers or soldiers' children of the Twelfth Senatorial District of the State, the funds of the home are devoted, by the char-

ter, "to the support of aged and infirm persons of said district, and to the support and education of orphan children of said district." The charter expired in 1878.

#### SELECTMEN FROM 1820-1881.

The following is a list of selectmen from the organization of the town to the present time:

1820, John Bell; 1820-21, John Weed; 1820-32, Henry Bates; 1821-22, John Bell, Jr.; 1822-29, John Weed, Jr.; 1826-33, Enos Wilmot; 1830-32, William H. Bates; 1831-32, Jeremiah Andrews; 1832-35, Abraham Clock; 1832-36, Holly Bell; 1837-49, William Andrews; 1837-40, Jacob Lockwood; 1837-46, John Holmes; 1839, Daniel Beers, Elisha Seely; 1840-42, Edward Scofield; 1844-47, Joseph Mather; 1849-54, Benjamin S. Reed; 1850, Nathaniel A. Bouton; 1851, G. G. Waterbury, Isaac Weed; 1852-55, Henry Gorham; 1852, Rich. Bates; 1852-54, Henry Morehouse; 1854, George Mather; 1855-59, George R. Stevens; 1855, Charles A. Bates; 1856, Charles Hoyt; 1857, Nathan Roberts; 1857-60, John N. Scofield; 1858-59, Walter H. Bates; 1860, Isaac L. Hoyt; 1861, John D. Farrington; 1862, Legraw Winters; 1863-68, Ira Scofield; 1864, Edward O. Page; 1867-70, Holly Bell; 1868-69, Ira Scofield, Samuel Sands, Holly Bell; 1870, Ira Scofield, Samuel Sands, I. N. Scofield; 1871-73, Ira Scofield, Samuel Sands, Charles Brown; 1874, Ira Scofield, Samuel Sands, Charles A. Bates, Jr.; 1875, I. Scofield, Charles Brown, Charles A. Bates, Jr.; 1876, I. Scofield, Charles Brown, Stephen Seely; 1877-79, Ira Scofield, Charles Brown, Charles A. Bates, Jr.

#### TOWN CLERKS.

Joshua Morehouse, Darius K. Scofield, Joshua Scofield, Edward Scofield, Abram Clock, George H. Wallace, Charles H. Waterbury, James N. Gorham, Ira Scofield, Henry Gorham, John S. Waterbury.

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1821 TO 1880.

1821, Thaddens Bell; 1822, Henry Bates; 1823, John Weed, Jr.; 1824, John Bell; 1825, Abraham Clock; 1826, Thaddens Bell; 1827-28, John Bell; 1829, Jonathan Bates; 1830, John Bell; 1831-32, Holly Bell; 1833, Edward Scofield; 1834, John Weed, Jr.; 1835, Edward Scofield; 1836, Holly Bell; 1837, Nathaniel H. Wildman, Holly Bell; 1838, Edward Scofield; 1839-40, William Andreas; 1841, Edward Scofield; 1842-45, Gilbert G. Waterbury; 1846, Isaac L. Hoyt, Daniel B. Fayerweather; 1847, Isaac L. Hoyt, John S. Adams; 1848, Benjamin S. Read, Alfred Perry; 1849, Ira Scofield, John Sherwood; 1850, Benjamin S. Reed, Anson Ryan; 1851, Lester St. John; 1852, Benjamin S. Reed; 1853-54, Gilbert G. Waterbury; 1855, Thomas Reed; 1856, Holly Bell; 1857, Nathan Roberts; 1858, Charles Brown; 1859, Nathan Roberts; 1860, Charles Brown; 1861, Holly Bell; 1862, Benjamin Weed; 1863-64, William A. Cummings; 1865-67, Henry Morehouse; 1868-70, Ira Scofield; 1871-72, Henry Morehouse; 1873, Ira Scofield; 1874, F. W. Bouggerhoff; 1875-76, John Hilton; 1877, Vincent Colyer; 1878, Charles Brown; 1879-80, Vincent Colyer.

#### SCHOOLS.

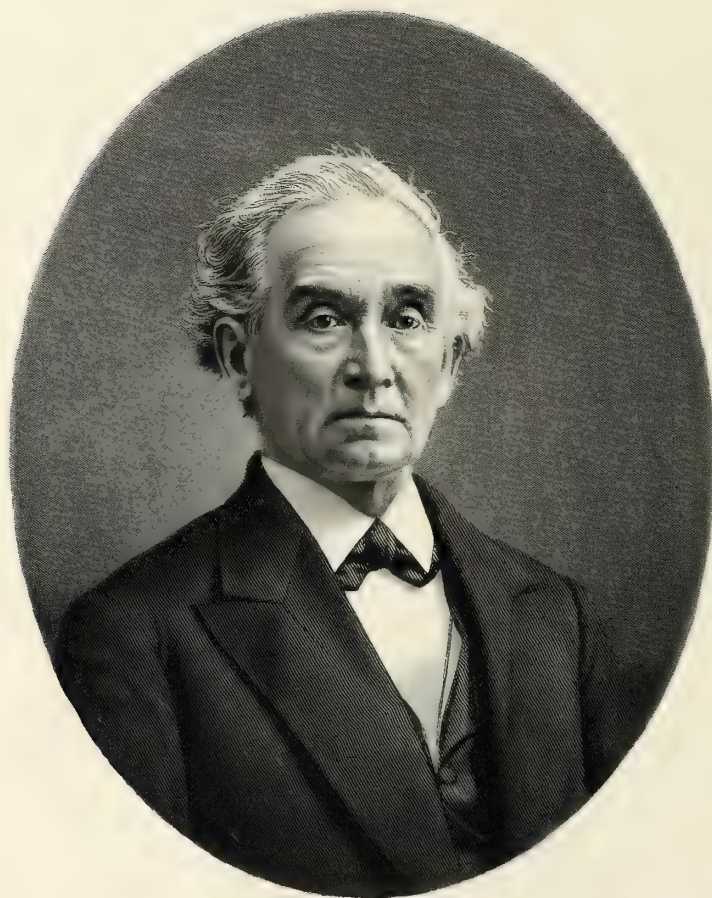
For present condition of the schools, see General History.

#### GRAND LIST, 1879.

	Number.	Value.
Houses.....	422	\$786,990
Acres of land.....	6566	438,697
Mills and Stores.....	33	32,500
Horses.....	273	16,510
Neat cattle.....	558	13,147
Sheep.....	58	290
Carriages.....	150	13,745
Time-pieces.....	78	3,905
Musical instruments.....		6,415
Furniture.....		17,900
Bank stock.....		92,944
Money at interest.....		36,805
In trade.....		16,950
In vessels.....		6,100
Fisheries.....		26,913
All other property.....		1,100
Ten per cent.....		14,736
Abate.....		\$1,525,647
		6,127
		\$1,519,520
Polls.....		145







*Chas. Brown*



## MILITARY RECORD.

## TENTH REGIMENT.

*Company G.*

Hoyt, Isaac L., captain; must. Oct. 2, 1861; died March 20, 1862.  
 Whitney, Charles S., must. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864, at expiration of term.  
 Howman, William H., must. Oct. 2, 1861; died May 26, 1862, Newbern, N. C.  
 Clock, Charles H., must. Oct. 2, 1861; wounded Aug. 16, 1864; died of wounds, Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Benedict, Lewis H., must. Oct. 2, 1861; died Oct. 6, 1862, Washington, N. C.  
 Byxter, Raymond, must. Oct. 2, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.  
 Clark, George H., must. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.  
 Howe, William H., must. Oct. 2, 1861; died Oct. 23, 1862, Washington, N. C.  
 Meeker, Seth H., must. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.  
 Northrop, Charles E., must. Oct. 6, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.  
 Tucker, John W., must. Oct. 2, 1861; died April 16, 1862, Newbern, N. C.  
 Vincent, Gilbert, must. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1862.  
 Waterbury, Charles F., must. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 19, 1861.  
 Webb, Henry L., must. Oct. 9, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; wounded; must. out Aug. 23, 1865.  
 Weed, Alfred, must. Oct. 2, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.  
 Whaley, James A., must. Oct. 2, 1861; died Aug. 3, 1864, Andersonville.  
 Wood, William A. (1st), must. Oct. 2, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 15, 1865.  
 Wood, Caleb, must. Oct. 2, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 15, 1865.

## ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company H.*

Henderson, Frederick, must. March 31, 1864; died Feb. 5, 1865, Fortress Monroe, Va.  
 Jackson, Thomas, must. March 31, 1864; wounded June 18, 1864; must. out Dec. 25, 1865.  
 Johnson, Edward J., must. March 29, 1864.  
 Laverick, William, must. March 29, 1864; disch. for disability, Dec. 17, 1864.

*Company K.*

Williams, Barnabas P., must. March 29, 1864.  
 Williams, David, must. March 31, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

## TWELFTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Dailey, Michael, must. March 26, 1864.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Charles A. Hobbie, captain; must. July 18, 1862; wounded; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Joseph E. Moorehouse, sergeant; must. July 18, 1862; pro. to captain; must. out as first lieutenant July 19, 1865.  
 John S. Dayton, corporal.  
 Martin Cash, corporal; must. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Ball, John W., must. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Bates, James H., must. Aug. 9, 1862; died March 13, 1865.  
 Bates, George R., must. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Dibble, William H., must. July 21, 1862; disch. for disability, June 3, 1864.  
 Hoyt, Lorenzo L., must. July 25, 1862; must. out Aug. 5, 1865.  
 Hoyt, Edward S., must. July 24, 1862; died Aug. 27, 1864, Andersonville, Ga.  
 Johnson, Elias, must. Aug. 11, 1862; died Oct. 26, 1862, Fort Kearney.  
 Murphy, Thomas, must. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Mills, William E., must. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Morehouse, Alfred, must. July 26, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Northrop, William H., must. July 25, 1862; wounded; died Nov. 9, 1864, Florence, S. C.  
 Stevens, James E., must. July 23, 1862; disch. for disability, Nov. 23, 1862.  
 Scofield, Frank, must. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Seeley, Albert O., must. Aug. 9, 1862; died Jan. 9, 1865, Annapolis, Md.  
 Slauson, Harvey, must. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Vincent, Jacob W., must. Aug. 5, 1862; died Nov. 28, 1864, Florence, S. C.  
 Void, Joseph, must. July 22, 1862; wounded; died Feb. 25, 1865, New Haven, Conn.

Whitney, George A., must. July 26, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Whitney, Henry P., must. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Whitney, Moranda H., must. Aug. 9, 1862; wounded; must. out June 14, 1865.

Weed, Raymond, must. Aug. 11, 1862; died July 7, 1863, Frederick, Md.

*Company D.*

Keef, William, must. Jan. 26, 1865; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company G.*

Braunsauer, Fred., must. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Davis, Albert G., must. Sept. 6, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Finch, Smith H., must. Sept. 6, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company H.*

Care, Thomas P., must. Aug. 11, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Whitney, Horace, must. Aug. 12, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out (as sergeant) July 19, 1865.  
 Scofield, Franklin H., must. Aug. 7, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Jan. 15, 1864.  
 Sellick, Benjamin, must. Aug. 6, 1862; wounded July, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company I.*

Homans, William, must. Dec. 30, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

## TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company I.*

St. John, Benjamin, must. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Vanverse, Isaac E., must. Nov. 3, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

## FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY, CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Mayer, Charles, must. Dec. 31, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

## SECOND LIGHT BATTERY, CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Treat, John B., must. Feb. 24, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.

*Company H.*

Bonleur, Charles, must. Sept. 23, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863.

*Company I.*

Larocke, Frank, must. Nov. 12, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

*Company K.*

Osterwalter, Heinrich, must. Nov. 11, 1863.  
 Wallace, James, must. Nov. 14, 1863; trans. to U. S. Navy, April 28, 1864.

*Company Q.*

Morris, John F., must. Sept. 5, 1861; wounded June 14, 1862; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863.  
 Atwater, Silas T., must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863.  
 Fortune, Phillips, must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enlisted; killed at Drury's Bluff, May 16, 1864.  
 Roberts, Nathan S., must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. to accept appointment in U. S. C. T., Aug. 21, 1863.  
 Weed, Isaac, must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; missing May 16, 1864.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

## HON. CHARLES BROWN.

Charles Brown, son of Dr. and Elizabeth (Leeds) Brown, was born on the same farm in Darien, Conn., where he now resides, Dec. 26, 1809. His father died when Charles was about three years old, and he remained with his mother until he was sixteen years of age, diligently availing himself of the meagre opportunities a country lad enjoyed for acquiring an

education, which were summed up in three months' attendance (or less) at the winter's term of district school during the year. When sixteen he went to New York, and was duly apprenticed, in the solemn manner of those days, to one Samuel Webster, a ship-joiner. Staying with him until he was of age, and thoroughly familiarizing himself with his trade, he shortly afterwards went into business on his own account and prospered. Continuing steadily at work, personally supervising and attending to his labor, Mr. Brown remained in New York until he was forty-five years old, when, tiring of the city, and having accumulated sufficient property to allow him to take some leisure, he retired from business, and, returning to Darien, purchased the old homestead of sixty-five acres, and has since resided there, building his present cheerful residence in 1851. He has added to the old home by purchase, and has now the satisfaction of owning a typical New England farm, where beauty, thrift, and neatness vie with each other for supremacy.

Mr. Brown is pleasant and social, and enjoys to a great extent the confidence of his fellow-townsmen. He has held various town offices, and has been selectman for ten or twelve years. He also represented Darien in the State Legislature in 1858, 1860, and 1877. Mr. Brown in his early life was what was known as a "Henry Clay" Whig, and since 1856 has acted with the Republican party, deeming liberty the inalienable right of every human being.

Mr. Brown married, Sept. 29, 1833, Miss Ann E. Conkling, of New York. She died Feb. 23, 1856. Their children were Ann A. (Mrs. Joseph E. Morehouse) and Helen A. (deceased). May 27, 1857, Mr. Brown married Miss Caroline Burt, of Orange Co., N. Y. She died Oct. 13, 1872. Their only child, Jane B., married Charles E. Vail, and now resides in Stamford. Mr. Brown was married, Oct. 16, 1868, to Ella A. Russell, of New York City. Mr. and Mrs. Morehouse reside with Mr. Brown, with their three children,—Charles W., Helen B., and Henry B.

Mr. Brown is a man of marked probity of character, intelligent and high-minded, of good executive ability, and is justly esteemed one of Darien's most progressive citizens, ever active in everything tending to elevate, improve, or educate humanity.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### EASTON.

Geographical—Topographical—The Settlement—Names of Pioneers—Revolutionary Incident—A Remarkable Phenomenon—The Tomb of Samuel Staples—Ecclesiastical—Civil and Military History.

EASTON is located near the centre of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Redding and Newtown; on the east by Monroe and Trumbull; on the south by Fairfield; on the west by Weston

and Redding. Its surface is moderately hilly, and its soil fertile.

The first settlements in this town were made in about the year 1757, by inhabitants of Fairfield. Among the early settlers were:

Samuel Staples, the founder of the free academy which bears his name, died in 1797, about four years after the founding of the school, aged seventy-seven years; Rev. James Johnson, the first Congregational minister here, who died in 1810, aged seventy-six years; Deacon Wm. Bennett, Hezekiah Banks, Samuel Wakeman, John Wheeler, Moses Sturges, El-nathan Williams, Zalmon Burr, Daniel Wheeler, Thomas Sherwood, Benajah Bennett, Daniel Jackson, John Jackson, Nathan Jackson, Benjamin Beardsley, Josiah Brinsmade, Josiah Sanford, John Sherwood, Wm. Prince, James Prince, Dr. Gabriel Baldwin, Matthew Hubbell, Timothy Hubbell, Nathaniel Hubbell, Stephen Hubbell, Seth Hubbell, Moses Burr, Joseph Willson, Edmund Jennings, Levi Foote, Nathan Wheeler, Nathan Gould, Daniel Lyon, Ez-born Hull, Miles Merwin, Lyman Merwin, Jeremiah Osborn, Nathaniel Seeley, Ebenezer Seeley, Ezarr Sherman, Lewis Goodsell, David Pendleton, Thad-deus Jennings, Enoch Jennings, Daniel Glover, Thomas Turney, David Turney, Nathan Wakeman, Joseph Seeley, Abbie Ogden, Burr Gilbert, John Davis, Stephen Lyon, Abram Lyon, Thomas Lyon, Josiah Lyon, Nehemiah W. Lyon, died 1860, in his one hundred and first year, Baraik Taylor, Daniel Wakeman, Ezekiel O. Banks, Job Perry, Hezekiah Thorp, Samuel Thorp, John Olmsted, Daniel Holmes, David Treadwell, David Silliman, Nathaniel Davis, Seth Hill, Miles Oakley, David Thorp, David Seeley, Zaccheus Lyon, Isaac Hubbell, Capt. Daniel Fayer-weather, of Revolutionary memory, Ariel French, Justus Bennett, Stephen Seeley, Ephraim Seeley, Ebenezer Hubbell, Nathaniel Lyon, Samuel Wheeler, Zachariah Somers, Thomas Patterson, Edward Lacy, Nathan Bennett, Mathew Sherwood, David Taylor, Nehemiah Deforest, Stephen Blackman, Andrew Lyon, Stephen Gregory, Lewis Edwards, Edward Duncombe, Solomon Burton, Zachariah Lacey, Stephen Bennett, Isaac Bennett.

### REVOLUTIONARY INCIDENT.

When the British went to Danbury a small boy named Miles Merwin was discovered by them, and a young officer caught him and threatened to take him away with them. An older officer told him to let him go, and he scampered off. This was while Moses Bun, an old Tory, was yoking up Samuel Wakeman's oxen for the British to take away: they took them away. Jack, slave of Samuel Wakeman, was going to the blacksmith's shop to get a horse shod and met the advanced guard, who chased him into the woods, where the darkey got away and stayed in the woods several days before he could be induced to come out.



Moses Bun's house had a trap-door in his floor, so that the Tories or regulars could drop into the cellar in case of being in danger.

Gould Dimon, who was a neutral, was looked up to make him join the army; he heard of it, and went and secreted himself in an old house, now demolished. Dr. Uriah Patrick lived there last. He was tracked by heavy frost to the house, but secreted himself between a large plate of wood and the chimney. The place was known and several balls were fired into the plate, and at last he was dragged out and taken off. The house was torn down about forty years ago, and the balls were found in the plate.

#### REMARKABLE PHENOMENON.

The following account of a remarkable phenomenon which occurred in this town is taken from the *Connecticut Journal*, under date Dec. 24, 1807:

"On Monday, the 14th inst., at about the break of day or a little after, the weather being moderate and calm, and the atmosphere somewhat cloudy and foggy, a meteor or fire-ball passing from a northern point exploded over the western part of this State with a tremendous report. At the same time several pieces of stony substance fell to the earth in Fairfield County. One mass was driven against a rock and dashed in small pieces, a peck of which remained on the spot. About three miles distant, in the town of Weston (now Easton), another large piece fell upon the earth, of which a mass of about thirty pounds' weight remains entire, and was exhibited the same day at town-meeting. A small mass has been sent to Yale College and examined by a number of gentlemen. It was immediately perceived by Professor Silliman to contain a metal, and on presenting it to a magnet a powerful attraction proved it to be iron. This is, we believe, the first instance in the United States in which the substance of this species of meteor has been found on the earth, though it has often been found in Europe. Fortunately, the facts respecting this wonderful phenomenon are capable of being ascertained and verified by precision, and an investigation will, we understand, be commenced for the purpose. We request gentlemen who may have observed it, in distant parts of the State, to favor the public with their observations. It is desirable to ascertain the course or direction of the meteor, the point of compass in which it appeared in different places, the general appearance and velocity, the manner of its explosion, and the time between the explosion and the report."

#### THE STAPLES ACADEMY.

This academy, which for more than three-quarters of a century has ranked among the leading educational institutions in New England, was founded by Samuel Staples in 1798. Under date of Oct. 16, 1798, the following advertisement appeared in the *American Telegraph*, published at Newfield (now Bridgeport):

"STAPLE'S FREE SCHOOL is now opened in WESTON (now Easton) under the care and inspection of James Burnet, A. B., & MR. GIDEON WHEELER. In this school are taught the first rudiments of the English Language, English Grammar, Writing, the Latin and Greek Languages, Oratory, Geography, Mathematics, etc. Strict attention paid to the deportment and morals of children and youth.

"Price of instruction, one dollar per quarter. The poor are instructed gratis. Board to be had in good families as cheap as in any of the neighboring towns.

"ANDREW ELLIOT,  
"JOSEPH NOYES,  
"NATHAN WHEELER," } Trustees.

"Oct. 16, 1798."

Samuel Staples lies buried in Easton, and his tombstone bears the following inscription:

"In memory of Mr. Samuel Staples, who died Feb. 21, 1787, in the 79th year of his age. He was possessed of a Plentiful Fortune, which he

Devoted to Pious and Charitable Purposes, Especially The Founding of a free School for the Education of Poor Children and Youth in FAIRFIELD. Also a Considerable Sum for the Support of the Gospel in the Parish of NORTH FAIRFIELD, And a large Estate for the purpose of Schooling Poor Children at the Different Schools in WESTON. He was A Steady Attendant on the Worship of God, A Friend to the Liberties of his Country, Both Civil and Sacred, And left this Mortal Scene in Humble Hope of Eternal Bliss Through JESUS CHRIST our LORD."

Hon. Isaac Toucey, Governor and United States senator, received the rudiments of his education at the free academy in Easton, and offered to give five hundred dollars toward erecting a suitable monument to the memory of Mr. Staples.

#### CIVIL HISTORY.

The first town-meeting was held on the first Monday in August, 1845, on "the green near by the meeting-house." Walker Sherwood, moderator.

The following officers were elected: Edwin Hill, Town Clerk; Daniel B. Fayerweather, Walter Lyon, Burr S. Wheeler, Selectmen; Eli Adams, Treasurer; James Baldwin, Treasurer of T. D. Fund; John S. Adams, Walker Sherwood, Loan Agents of T. D. Fund; Charles Wheeler, Town Agent; M. Burr, Burr Bennett, George Knapp, John S. Rowland, Elihu N. Taylor, S. W. Banks, Constables; Judson Windon, James D. Johnson, Samuel Jackson, Grand Jurors; A. W. Thorpe, Alfred Perry, Samuel Jackson, John S. Adams, Tythingmen; Benjamin Hall, Curtis Cole, Burr Bradley, D. B. Fayerweather, Joseph Silliman, Poundkeepers; Albert Gusline, H. B. Hall, John Wells, Haywards; George Knapp, Ezra B. Seeley, J. D. Johnson, Fence-Viewers; Ransom Lyon, Sealer.

The following is a list of selectmen from the organization of the town to 1881:

1846, Orlando Perry, Walker Lyon; 1846-49, Samuel Jackson; 1846-50, Walker Sherwood; 1849, D. B. Fayerweather; 1848-50, Willis Wheeler; 1851-56, John Edwards; 1851, Eli Adams; 1852-55, James Baldwin; 1852, Jesse Wakeman; 1853-55, Edward Hill; 1856-58, Sherwood Lyon; 1857, Charles Wheeler; 1857, P. B. Sherwood; 1858, N. S. Silliman; 1859-60, Mullett Seeley; 1859-60, 1863, David W. Sherwood; 1861-63, Floyd Tucker; 1861-62, 1864, Dimon Bradley; 1862-64, Isaac P. Wheeler; 1863, J. S. Cole; 1864, Burr Bennett; 1865-66, Samuel W. Wheeler, Philo Hall; 1867, J. S. Rowland; 1867-68, William Wakeman; 1868-69, Philo B. Sherwood; 1869, John Wheeler; 1870, C. W. Blakeman, John Wheeler; 1871-72, Joseph E. Fields; 1871, F. R. Wheeler; 1873, Joseph W. Johnson; 1874, G. Bradley Sanford, William Wakeman; 1875-76, William Ward; 1875-79, Bennett Seeley; 1875, Edwin Godfrey; 1876, W. W. Jennings; 1877, John S. Rowland; 1877, E. N. Taylor; 1877-79, William W. Jennings; 1879, George Burr Tucker.

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1850 TO 1880.

1850-51, Anson Ryan; 1852, James Johnson; 1853, Samuel W. Wheeler; 1854, Sherwood Lyon; 1855, J. S. Adams; 1856, George Whalen; 1857, David S. Edwards; 1858, Charles Wheeler; 1859, Philo B. Sherwood; 1860, John S. Rowland; 1861, Philo Hall; 1862, Ahaz Bradley; 1863, Isaac P. Wheeler; 1864, Burr Bennett; 1865, Charles E. Bradley; 1866, C. W. Blakeman; 1867, E. P. Fisher; 1868, Dimon Bradley; 1869, Edwin Wheeler; 1870, Floyd Tucker; 1871, Ransom O. Smith; 1872, George S. Burr; 1873, Francis L. Staples; 1874, Joseph E. Fields; 1875, Robert G. Galloway; 1876, Elihu N. Taylor; 1877, John Wheeler; 1878, Arthur Tucker; 1879-80, Joseph W. Johnson.

## RELIGIOUS.

## CHRIST CHURCH.\*

This church was organized as early as 1763, under the care of the London Missionary Societies, and was supplied with ministerial services by it for about twenty years. In 1784 it seems to have been reorganized by the appointment of John Nichols as clerk, Benoni Dimon, Calvin Wheeler, and Moses Burr as vestrymen, and Ezra Winton and Robert Downes as wardens. The Rev. Philo Shelton, the first Episcopal minister ordained in the United States, was then called as rector, and continued to 1818.

Among the early members were Seth Gilbert, Thaddeus Gilbert, Thomas Colyer, Jonathan Coley, Thomas Treadwell, Nathan Jackson, Alexander Platt, Hezekiah Osborn, Increase Burr, Andrew Gilbert, Nathaniel Davis, David Thorp, Daniel Coley, Gould Nichols, Eliphalet Nichols, Peter Nichols, Ephraim Nichols, Samuel Wheeler, John Wheeler, Adin Jackson, Andrew Winton, Hezekiah Thorp, Joseph Winton, Ebenezer Nichols, Joseph Treadwell, Gould Bradley, Joseph Darling, William Burr, Joseph Burr, Alexander Nichols, Andrew Gilbert, and others.

The first church edifice was erected in 1763,—a rude structure,—and was never completely finished, though it stood until about the year 1850. It was known as the North Fairfield Episcopal Church at Gilberttown. In 1873 a new chapel was built, near the academy at the centre. It has always been rather a missionary station than an independent parish.

Through the untiring efforts of Mrs. Henry Perry, of Southport, a fund has been raised as a memorial of the Rev. Philo Shelton, the first rector, who was the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Perry; this sum amounts to four thousand dollars, the income to be applied to the salary of the rector of the parish.

The following rectors have officiated for the church: The missionaries of the Church of England to the Revolutionary war; Rev. Philo Shelton, from 1784 to 1812; Rev. Eli Wheeler, during 1813; Rev. David Belden, 1813-16; Rev. Joseph D. Welton, 1816-19. Then occasional services were held by different clergymen until about 1835, when the Rev. D. G. Tomlinson took charge for four years; Rev. Dr. Darkin, 1840, for one year; Rev. Charles Todd, one year; Rev. William Atwill, 1842-44; Rev. H. V. Gardner, 1849-51; Rev. Enoch Huntington, 1851-53.

At this time the parish received from the Legislature the corporate name of Christ Church, Easton; up to this time it was known as the Episcopal Society of North Fairfield. Since that time the rectors have been Rev. Alfred Louderback, 1861-62; Rev. Henry Zell, from February to November, 1863, when death closed his ministry; Rev. William L. Bostwick, 1864-65; Rev. John N. Marvin, 1865-71; Rev. Charles W. Kelley, 1873-75; Rev. David M. Elwood, 1876-79; Rev. William H. Bulkley, 1880. Present officers: Eli

Winton, William Ward, Wardens; Arthur M. Oakley, James Nichols, Vestry. Present number of members, about thirty.

## THE BAPTIST CHURCH.†

The Baptist Church of Weston (now Easton) was constituted April 13, 1831, and recognized as such by a council-consisting of Rev. Elisha Cushman, John Cookson, J. H. Linsly, Alfred Gates, Mr. Duxborough, Mr. Roberts, and Nathan D. Benedict, who had met for the purpose of setting apart Brother Alva Gregory to the work of the gospel ministry. It consisted of sixty-seven members set off from the Baptist Church of Stratfield,—viz.: Deacon David Silliman, Sr., Stephen Jennings, Sr., Eli Adams, Stephen Jennings, Jr., Cyrus Silliman, Stephen Blackman, Reuben B. Gilbert, Andrew Leavenworth, Seth Gilbert, Norman C. Sherwood, Isaac Jennings, Samuel Gregory, William Rowel, Thomas Peck, Horace Lyon, George Lyon, Alonzo Gilbert, Ezra Silliman, Josiah Platt, Harvey Rowel, Isaac Turney, Isaac Thorp, John Calvin, Ruth Beach, Lucy Gilbert, Eunice Edwards, Hannah Wildman, Charity Judson, Polly Silliman, Orra Sherwood, Deborah Silliman, Naomie Mallett, Anna Beardslee, Anna Turney, Mahala Austin, Charity Blakeman, Pamela Fayerweather, Abigail Hawley, Esther Beers, Sarah Hall, Ruth Seeley, Caroline Gilbert, Maria Silliman, Roda Hayes, Hannah Hayes, Mercy S. French, Miriam Leavenworth, Huldah Adams, Clarissa Silliman, Asenath Beardslee, Hannah Silliman, Ruth Lyon, Clarissa Rowel, Betsey Silliman, Sally Lyon, Laura Lyon, Ruth Hawley, Harriet Thorp, Clarissa Rowel (2d), Phoebe A. Peck, Jemima Jackson, Eliza Turney, Eunice Turney (2d), Abigail Leavenworth, Priscilla B. Dimon, Clarissa Silliman (2d), Eleanor Lyon.

The first officers were: David Silliman, Deacon; Eli Adams, Clerk. The first minister was Rev. Nathan Wildman; the present minister is Rev. J. M. Phillips.

Name and time employed of each minister: Nathan Wildman, three years; William Dennison, thirteen years; Jacob Gardener, two years; John Warren, twenty-one years nine months; Jabez T. Bender, two years four months; James M. Phillips, three years.

The present officers are: Morris Banks, William W. Jennings, Deacons; David Silliman, David W. Sherwood, Trustees; M. W. Silliman, Clerk. The membership at present numbers one hundred and thirty-two. The first church edifice was erected in 1830, the second in 1849, and the third in 1874. There was expended on the second edifice for repairs, \$2775.50; on the third, \$1607.93.

Legacies amounting to \$1275 have been left this church by the following: Naomie Bennett, for land used as the parsonage, seven acres, \$500; Mrs. Gregory, for a Sabbath-school fund, \$175; Miss Julia

\* Contributed by Mr. Eli Winton.

† Contributed by M. W. Silliman.



Seeley, \$500, and Miss Abba Leavenworth, \$100, for the use of the church. Rev. Russell Jennings has paid nearly one-fourth of the pastor's salary for several years past.

The following have been licensed to preach from this church: Edmund Turney, Hawley Gilbert, Hervey Silliman, Sherwood Lyon, John S. Mallette, John Sammis.

For two or three years after the organization of the church an extensive revival of religion visited it, materially strengthening the church, and encouraging the new field of labor, which proved timely, for soon some of the number were dismissed to form a Baptist church at White Hills. The church, now enjoying the indefatigable labors of its pastor, Rev. Wm. Dennison, had many additions.

The church was soon again called to part with about seventy-five of its number to constitute the Baptist church of Stepney, in 1848. Since that year we have been visited with many precious seasons of refreshing by the Holy Spirit, leading many to walk the narrow way with us, and, ere we were expecting, many were called to the better land. During the stay of each pastor we have witnessed the fruit of his labors by the ingathering of many; so that none can say, "I labored with the Easton Baptist Church in vain;" for which we sincerely thank the Great Head of the Church.

#### THE CENTRE METHODIST EPISCOPAL SOCIETY

of Easton was organized in the winter of 1843-44. The first officers were Eli Wakeman, Clerk; Ranson Lyon, Daniel C. Salmon, and Ira Sturges, Building Committee; Ranson Lyon, Emery Sherwood, Daniel C. Salmon, Harry Fanton, Bradley Williams, William Cogswell, Thomas Goodsell, Trustees; Ranson Lyon, Treasurer; William Cogswell, Collector. The first minister was William H. Bangs. The church building was erected in 1844.

The present officers are as follows: Iverson C. Fanton, Clerk; D. S. Fanton, Treasurer; B. F. Banks, D. S. Fanton, William F. Lockwood, A. C. Lyon, William Cogswell, I. C. Fanton, Trustees; B. F. Banks, W. F. Lockwood, M. W. Salmon, Society's Committee. Number of present members, one hundred and four. The church was repaired and remodeled in 1871.

This church and Lee Chapel church form one parish, Lee Chapel church being much the oldest.

#### MILITARY RECORD.

##### TENTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company H.*

Harris, John, must. Nov. 19, 1864; must. out Aug. 5, 1865.  
Jones, Thomas, must. Nov. 22, 1864; hung by sentence of court-martial, Feb. 18, 1865.  
Kerrigan, John, must. Nov. 22, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

##### SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company D.*

Jennings, Moses B., must. Aug. 12, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.

Marsh, Thomas A., must. Aug. 9, 1861; wounded and trans. to Vet. Res. Corps; disch. for disability, Aug. 12, 1865.  
Quick, Charles E., must. Aug. 9, 1861; wounded May 2, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

###### *Company H.*

Mallett, Charles S., must. Sept. 1, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.

###### *Company K.*

Birchum, Henry, must. Aug. 20, 1861; disch. for disability, Oct. 29, 1863.  
Canfield, George, must. Aug. 15, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 10, 1862.  
Edwards, Robert, must. Aug. 15, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Hall, David, Jr., must. Aug. 7, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Lord, James, must. Sept. 1, 1861; trans. to Invalid Corps; must. out Aug. 11, 1865.  
Tillison, Jesse, must. Aug. 9, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Harris, John, must. Sept. 16, 1864; forwarded Oct. 20, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

#### TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

###### *Company D.*

William Corning, must. Aug. 8, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Buckley, Gershom B., must. Sept. 8, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Burr, William H., must. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Edwards, David S., must. Sept. 8, 1861; died July 19, 1863, at New Orleans, La.  
French, Levi, must. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
French, Almon H., must. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Hill, Park, must. Aug. 25, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Hill, Beach, must. Aug. 25, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Hard, Eli, must. Aug. 25, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Hall, Charles, must. Sept. 9, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Jennings, William W., must. Aug. 25, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Keeler, Peter P., must. Aug. 31, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Marsh, Joshua, must. Sept. 8, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Perry, John L., must. Sept. 8, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Burs, Able R., must. Aug. 25, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Earle, George M., must. Sept. 10, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Freeborn, Edward K., must. Sept. 10, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Sherwood, Charles H., must. Sept. 10, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Taylor, Ormel P., must. Sept. 10, 1861; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Wade, Joseph S., must. Sept. 6, 1861.  
Wanzer, James M., must. Sept. 10, 1861; trans. to Thirteenth Conn. Vols. to serve out time.

###### *Company K.*

Edwards, John, must. Nov. 24, 1861; disch. Nov. 24, 1864.  
McFarland, John, must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864.  
McFarland, Robert, must. Nov. 24, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 6, 1863.

#### SECOND LIGHT BATTERY CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Seeley, Frederick O., must. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Burkhard, Louis, must. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Banks, Bradley, must. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. Aug. 19, 1863.  
Garmo, John L. D., must. Aug. 13, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Jan. 5, 1864; must. out July 14, 1865.  
Lynn, Joseph, must. Aug. 6, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, Jan. 17, 1865; disch. June 29, 1865.  
Sharot, Andrew J., must. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Turney, Albert E., must. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Ward, Johnson B., must. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Reardon, Patrick, must. Nov. 19, 1863; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Seavey, Thomas, must. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.

#### ARTILLERY.

###### *Company M.*

Lovejoy, Frederick P., must. Feb. 4, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
McDermott, James, must. Feb. 4, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864.  
Patterson, Franklin, must. Feb. 4, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

#### SECOND ARTILLERY.

###### *Company C.*

Stewart, Thomas B., must. Jan. 2, 1864; wounded Sept. 19, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
White, Edward, must. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out June 20, 1865.

*Company D.*

White, George, must. Aug. 20, 1863.

*Company E.*

Craft, George W., must. July 22, 1861.

Howard, William, must. July 22, 1861.

*Company H.*

Gilbert, Albert P., must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. for disability, Feb. 26, 1864.

Gilbert, Isaac W., must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. for disability, May 14, 1862.

*Company I.*

Edwards, Robert, must. Sept. 21, 1861; disch. for disability, May 12, 1862.

*Company K.*

Buckley, David, must. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

## FAIRFIELD.

Geographical—Topographical—The Pequots—Driven to the Swamp—The Battle—Roger Ludlow—The First Settlements—Indian Treaties—Indian Deeds—The Fairfield Patent—The Departure of Ludlow—The Revolution—The Burning of Fairfield—Incidents.

THE town of Fairfield is located in the southern part of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Easton and Weston; on the east by Bridgeport; on the south by Long Island Sound; on the west by Westport and Weston. The surface of the town is undulating, and the soil is very fertile and generally free from stone.

## THE PEQUOTS.—THE DISCOVERY.

To the renowned Indian-fighter, John Mason, and the intrepid and talented Roger Ludlow and the soldiers who accompanied them on the expedition against the warlike Pequots, is due the honor of having discovered this section. These were the first white men who set foot upon the soil of Fairfield.

The Pequots, after the disastrous conflagration at Mistick, fled westward and secreted themselves in a swamp near the present village of Southport, in this town, where they awaited the certain attack of the English. And they had not long to wait. Mason and Ludlow had resolved to utterly exterminate this tribe, whose ferocity at that time stood without a parallel in the history of Indian nations. With that determination which knows no failure, the little band of soldiers followed hard upon the retreating form of the red brother. Their location in the dismal, miry swamp was in some respects an advantageous one. It served as a sort of ambush, and the miry nature of the place rendered it almost impossible for the English to approach. In this dismal place were secreted about eighty Pequot warriors, with their women and children and about two hundred other Indians, including the Fairfield Indians. The Hon. Gideon H. Hollister says,—

"Dangerous as it was, Lieut. Davenport rushed into it with his men, eager to encounter the Pequots. The sharp arrows of the enemy flew from places that hid the archers, wounding the soldiers, who, in their

haste to retreat, only sunk deeper in the mire. The Indians, made bold by this adventure, pressed hard upon them, and would have carried off their scalps had it not been for the timely aid of some other Englishmen who waded into the swamp, sword in hand, drove back the Pequots, and drew their disabled friends from the mud that had threatened to swallow them up.

"The swamp was now surrounded, and a skirmish followed that proved so destructive to the savages that the Fairfield Indians begged for quarter. They said—what was probably true—that they were there only by accident and had never done the English any harm, and that they only wished for the privilege of withdrawing from the swamp and leaving the Pequots to fight it out.

"Thomas Stanton, who knew their language, was sent into the swamp with instructions to offer life to all the Indians who had shed no English blood.

"When the sachem of the Fairfield Indians learned the terms proposed by Stanton, he came out of the swamp, followed by little parties of men, women, and children. He and his Indians, he said, had shed no English blood. But the Pequot warriors, made up of choice men, and burning with rage against the enemy who had destroyed their tribe and driven them from their old haunts, fought with such desperate bravery that the English were glad to confine themselves to the border of the swamp.

"There now sprung up a controversy among the officers as to the best mode of annihilating the little handful of Pequots. Some advised that they should plunge into the swamp and there fight them. But the experiment of Davenport discouraged others from so foolhardy a course. Others suggested that they should cut down the swamp with the hatchets they had brought with them; others, that they should surround it with palisades. Neither of these propositions was adopted. They finally hit upon a plan that was more easily executed. They cut down the bushes that grew upon a little neck of firm upland that almost divided the swamp into two parts. In this way they so lessened the area occupied by the Pequots that by stationing men twelve feet apart it could all be surrounded by the troops. This was done and the sentinels all stationed before nightfall. Thus keeping watch on the borders of the morass, wet, cold, and weary, the soldiers passed the night under arms. Just before day a dense fog more than shrouded them in almost total darkness. A friendly mist it proved to the Pequots, for it doubtless saved the lives of many of them. At a favorable moment they rushed upon the English. Capt. Patrick's quarters were first attacked, but he drove them back more than once. Their yells, more terrible from the darkness that engulfed the scene of the conflict, were so unearthly and appalling, the attack was so sudden and so well sustained, that, but for the timely interference of a party sent by Mason to relieve him, Patrick would doubtless have been driven from his station or cut in pieces.

"The siege had by this time given place to a hand-to-hand fight. As Mason was himself marching up to aid Patrick, the Pequots rushed upon him from the thickets. He drove them back with severe loss. They did not resume the attack upon the man who had recently given them such fearful proofs of his prowess, but turned upon Patrick, broke through his ranks, and fled. About sixty of the Pequot warriors escaped; twenty lay dead upon the field; one hundred and eighty were taken prisoners. Most of the property that this fugitive remnant of the tribe had attempted to carry with them fell into the hands of the English. Hatchets of stone, beautiful wampum-belts, polished bows, and feathered arrows, with the utensils employed by the women in their rude labors, became at once, as did the women themselves, the property of the conquerors. The captives and the booty were divided between Massachusetts and Connecticut. Some were sent by Massachusetts to the West Indies, and there, as slaves, dragged out a wretched yet brief existence. Among the captives taken in this battle was the wife of Mononotto and her children. With much dignity, she begged them to save her honor inviolate and to spare her life and that of her offspring. She had been kind to the girls who had been taken from Wethersfield, and for this she and her little ones were recommended—not in vain—to the mercy of the Governor of Massachusetts."

Thus ended the Pequot war, this being the last stand made by the tribe against the allied powers of Massachusetts and Connecticut.

The advent of Roger Ludlow was an important epoch in the history of this town. He saw with that intuitive glance characteristic of the man the natural





gave a quitclaim deed to the Sasco lands. The boundaries of these lands were "from the southwest bounds of the land called Unqowa to the northeast bounds of the land called Maximus (Bankside), and straight up into the country six miles."

The deed to these lands were given in consideration of "thirty coats, 2 yards apiece of cloth, and the same in wampum." This was signed by Ponocamus, Minckoe, and James, and witnessed by Wenans and Manachem. In deeding these lands the Indians always reserved "the liberty of fishing, hunting, and fowling in any river or stream within the town bounds, only they were not to set traps to the injury of the cattle." The Fairfield planter always pursued a humane and equitable course in dealing with the Indians, and it was agreed that "the Indians should have a certain amount of land within the English bounds set apart to them to plant on for their livelihood."

In 1668 a tract of land lying along the northern portion of the town was purchased. This was called Northfield. Soon after, a number of small lots were laid out along the coast; extending across the town north of these were a tier of pasture lots; north of the pasture lots a half-mile common, and north of the common were laid out the long lots reaching as far north as the present Redding Centre. These "long lots" were about eleven miles in length and a few rods in width. Six hundred and fifty acres were reserved for church purposes, and three hundred and twenty-five as school land.

In 1680 a quitclaim deed was executed by the Indians to all the lands which had been purchased, of which a *fac simile* is given on page 279.

#### THE FAIRFIELD PATENT.

The following is a copy of the patent granted May 25, 1685:

"The General Court of Connecticut have formerly granted to the proprietors of the inhabitants of the town of Fairfield all those lands, both meadow and upland, within those abutments upon the sea towards the south, about seven miles in breadth, and in length from the sea into the wilderness twelve miles, and upon Stratford bounds on the east, and the wilderness north, and on Norwalk bounds on the west, only a parcel of land between these bounds and Saugatuck River, that is likewise granted to the said Fairfield; provided the said Saugatuck do not exceed two miles from the bounds of the said Fairfield, the said lands having been by purchase or otherwise lawfully obtained of the Indian natives, proprietors; and whereas the proprietors, the foresaid inhabitants of Fairfield, in the colony of Connecticut, have made application to the Governor and company of the said colony of Connecticut assembled in court, May 25, 1685, that they may have a patent for confirmation of the aforesaid land, so purchased and granted to them, as aforesaid, and which they have, and stood seized, and quietly possessed of for many years last past, without interruption; now for a more full confirmation of the aforesaid tract of land, as it is butted and bounded as aforesaid, unto the present proprietors of the said Township of Fairfield, in the possession and enjoyment of the premises, know ye that the said Governor and company assembled in General Court according to the commission granted to us by His Majesty in our charter, have given, granted, and by these promise to give, grant, ratify, and confirm unto Major Mather Gold, Mr. Samuel Wakeman, Mr. Jehu Burr, Mr. John Burr, Mr. Thomas Staples, Mr. John Green, Mr. Joseph Lucknow, Mr. John Wheeler, Mr. Richard Hubbell, Mr. George Squier, and Mr. Isaac Wheeler, and the rest of the present proprietors of the Township of Fairfield, their heirs,

successors, and assigns forever, according to the terms of East Greenwich in Kent, in free and common sosage, and not in capite, nor by knight's service; they to make improvements of the same as they are capable according to the custom of the country, yielding, rendering, and paying therefore to the Sovereign Lord the King, his heirs and successors, his due according to charter.

"In witness whereof we have caused the seal of the colony to be hereunto affixed the 26th of May, 1685, in the first year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James the Second of England, Scotland, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

"By order of the General Court of Connecticut.

(Signed)

"ROBERT TREAT, Gov.,

"JOHN ALLEN, Sec."

#### THE DEPARTURE OF LUDLOW.

Through the wise guidance of Mr. Ludlow the little plantation increased in importance, and nothing of any particular consequence occurred until 1665, when the border settlements were thrown into a state of excitement caused by the belligerent attitude of the Dutch and Indians.

"Fairfield having demanded protection from the government of New Haven, and receiving none, held a town-meeting, and unanimously resolved to send troops and carry on the war themselves independently. This action of the inhabitants seems to have incurred the displeasure of the government. Their conduct was treated as reprehensible and seditious, and Robert Bassete and John Chapman were charged with "fomenting insurrections and were treated as the leaders of the project. Ludlow must have known that these accusations were aimed at him, as he was the principal man of the town. He felt that he had, without any moral guilt, incurred the displeasure of the colony, and that, unless he should make some humiliating concessions, his behavior would not be likely to escape public censure. It was quite evident that his popularity had already reached its meridian. Proud and sensitive to a high degree, he brooded over the change that had taken place in his prospects, as well for promotion as for usefulness, and at last came to the conclusion, not without many keen regrets, to leave the colony where he had held so conspicuous a place for nineteen eventful years. On the 26th of April, 1654, he embarked at New Haven with his family and effects for Virginia, where he passed in obscurity the remainder of his days."

#### THE REVOLUTION.—THE BURNING OF FAIRFIELD.

The first reference to the war of the Revolution is under date Dec. 29, 1774, as follows:

"At a Legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Fairfield, held by agreement on the 29th day of December, A.D. 1774, Ebenezer Silliman, Esq., Moderator, this meeting having duly considered the Agreement and Association entered into by the Continental Congress lately held at Philadelphia, do heartily approve thereof and adopt the Same, And take this opportunity to Express their most grateful sense of the good services of the worthy Delegates from this Colony who attended said Congress; and pursuant to the Eleventh Article, said Agreement and Association, make choice of the following Gentlemen to be a Committee for the purposes therein mentioned, viz.: Gold Selleck Silliman, Jonathan Sturges, Job Bartram, Andrew Rowland, Samuel Squier, Jonathan Bulkley, Elijah Abel, Increase Bradley, Eliphalet Thorp, Aaron Jennings, Benjamin Lacy, Daniel Wilson, Azariah Odell, David Hubbell, Zalmon Bradley, John



Hubbell, Thomas Cuble, Joseph Hunford, Stephen Gorham, Thaddeus Burr, Jonathan Ferris, David Dimon, John Wilson, Joseph Strong, Albert Sherwood, Moss Kent, Samuel Wakeman, John Squier, Ichabod Wheeler, Ebenezer Bartram, Jonathan Dimon, Jabez Hill, George Burr, Hezekiah Hubbell, Benjamin Wheeler, Joseph Hyde, Jeremiah Sherwood, Daniel Andrews, Hezekiah Bradley, Joseph Bradley, Ephraim Lyon, and John Allen.

"Voted, That if any Person or Persons Shall, directly or indirectly, with intent to divide, disunite, or otherwise prevent us from Strictly complying with and conforming to said Agreement and Association, Publish, Vend, or Sell, or otherwise dispose of Any Books, Pamphlet, or publications in the Town directly tending thereto; Such Person or Persons Shall be dealt with and exposed in the same wayward manner as is prescribed in said Eleventh Article for such Person or Persons as violate said Agreement and Association.

"Voted, That it is expedient a County Congress be held to advise and Consult on the most effectual measures to carry the said Agreement and Association into Execution.

"Voted, That Col. Gold S. Silliman, Jonathan Sturges, Andrew Rowland, Esq., Mr. Job Bartram, and Thaddeus Burr be a committee to attend at Same at Such Time and place as they shall appoint, agreeable to the other Towns in this County who shall adopt said measures.

"Voted, That Col. Gold S. Silliman, Jonathan Sturges, Andrew Rowland, Esq., Mr. Job Bartram, and Thad<sup>s</sup> Burr, Esq., be a Committee of Correspondence for this Town.

"Ordered by this meeting that a Copy of y<sup>e</sup> foregoing votes be sent by the aforesaid Committee of Correspondence to one or more of the Printers that they may be made be Publick.

"Test: NATHAN BULKLEY,  
Town Clerk."

The following is a copy of a letter sent from Boston to the "Patriotic Inhabitants of the Town of Fairfield:"

"BOSTON, Nov. 24, 1774.

"GENTLEMEN,—The Testimony which the Patriotic Inhabitants of the Town of Fairfield have given of their attendance to the Common and Glorious Cause of Liberty by their liberal Donation of Seven hundred and fifty bushels of Grain by Capt. Thorp has afforded much Comfort, as well as Seasonable Relief, to their friends in Boston, who are now Suffering under the Cruel Rod of Ministerial Tyranny and Oppression.

"The Sympathy of our friends is a great Support to us under our Tryals, notwithstanding the greatness and severity of them; and we trust, through the favor of our God, We Shall be enabled to persevere in our Opposition to the Enemies of America, and so Answer the Hopes and Expectations of our friends of Whose generous Donations We trust We Shall ever retain a grateful Sense.

"We are particularly obliged by the Assurances you give us that you are not insensible of our sufferings, and the hope you express that you shall yet consider your Selves bound to afford us Such Succor and Relief as your Circumstances and our Wants may Demand.

"May a Kind Providence bountifully reward your liberality and kindness, and the Blessings of him that was ready to perish come down and rest on the heads of the generous Inhabitants of the Town of Fairfield.

"We hope the inclosed Acct. of the manner in which the Committee are distributing the Donations of our Friends and Benefactors, in whose cause (as well as our own) this Town is Suffering, will meet with your Approbation, as it will afford great satisfaction to

"Your Obliged Friend & Humble Servt<sup>s</sup>,

"Henry Hill, by Order  
of Committee of Donations.

"To Jon<sup>s</sup> Sturges  
at Fairfield:  
634 Bushels Rye  
116 Bushels Wheat  
750 Bushels.  
Recd 3 p<sup>r</sup> Shoes of Capt. Thorp }

"To Mr. Jonathan Sturges  
and others Committee for Collecting  
Donations in the Town of Fairfield,  
Connecticut.

"Pr. favor Capt. Stephen Thorp."

"The above is a true Copy of the Orig<sup>l</sup> Letter & Subscription.

"Recorded pr. Nathan Bulkley, Town Clerk, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1774."

## THE BURNING OF FAIRFIELD.

The following account of the burning of this town is taken from the historical address delivered by Rev. E. E. Rankin, D.D., at the Fairfield Centennial Commemoration, in 1879:

"On Saturday evening, the 3d day of July, the British fleet weighed anchor off the port of Whitestone, eleven miles east of New York. During the spring it had made a destructive raid upon Virginia, and returned in time to aid Gen. Clinton in his successful assault upon Verplanck's and Stony Point on the 1st of June.

"The New York Sons of Liberty had been informed of preparations for a fresh departure, and sent couriers to New London to warn that city of the coming invader.

"Sunday, the 4th of July, was a warm, calm day. Our people were in their churches, and the vessels could scarcely have appeared in view before the night came on. The light breeze had no power to move them swiftly on their course. There were two large men-of-war, the 'Camilla' and 'Scorpion,' and forty-eight row-galleys, tenders, and transports. Sir George Collier commanded the fleet and Gen. Tryon the land forces, about 2600 in number. Brig-Gen. Garth had special charge of the Hessian regiments, the Landgraves and Yaegers. The English forces consisted of two bodies of Fusileers, the Guards, the Fifty-fourth regiment of foot and the King's American regiment refugees enlisted in the British army. Early on Monday morning the squadron came to anchor near New Haven, where, on that day and Tuesday, the troops pursued their desolating work. On the evening of Tuesday the fleet left New Haven, and during that night was moving toward Fairfield. About four o'clock of Wednesday a gun from the fort on Grover's Hill announced its approach, but it seemed to be passing by, and about seven o'clock the people who were anxiously watching it were rejoiced to see that it was steering westward, proceeding, as they thought, to New York. Soon after a very thick fog came on, during which the vessels were obscured from view, but when this dispersed, between nine and ten o'clock, it was seen with consternation that the whole fleet was under our western shore, where they came to anchor at the Pines, which have since disappeared, a little to the east of McKenzie's Point. From Gen. Tryon's report it appears that he, with the main portion of the troops, landed there, and that the Hessians, under Gen. Garth, made their disembarkation at the water front of Saco Hill, over which they marched to take possession of the western section of the town.

"Tryon, with the troops immediately under his command, marched along the beach and turned up the Beach Lane, somewhat galled by the guns of Grover's Hill. They pursued their way to this point where we are now assembled, and where, on the site of our town-hall, the courthouse was then standing.

"The British general was guided by George Hoyt, who was brother-in-law of Mr. Benjamin Bulkley.

"His house, since demolished, stood on the ground where Mr. John Glover has his home, and Gen. Tryon made his headquarters while here. With this, the dwellings of Capt. Maltbie, Justin Hobart, and Nathan and Peter Bulkley were saved from the fire. These are now in the possession of Edmund Holart, Miss Hannah Hobart, and the Denison estate.

"The line of the conflagration extended from Mrs. Gould's house to Mill River, in the vicinity of Perry's Mill, including both the streets and their immediate neighborhood, and extended westward through the lower road at Green's Farms.

"To silence the guns at the fort where Lieut. Isaac Jarvis had a garrison of twenty-three men, a galley had been dispatched, but although there was constant firing throughout the night of Wednesday, and several detachments of troops tried to take the fort by assault, it was gallantly defended and held out to the end.

"As the troops marched up toward the centre of the town young Sam. Rowland, then ten years of age, saw them from the steeple at the Episcopal church, but he was soon sent home from his dangerous position, and his grand-children to-day repeat the story they heard in their childhood from his lips. Mrs. Gen. Silliman, from the home of her temporary widowhood on Holland Hill, heard the first guns of the conflict and set out for a safe asylum in Trumbull, where a few weeks later her second son, the distinguished Yale professor, was born.

"Before the landing was effected, Mrs. Esther Jennings, the young wife of Peter Burr, went early to the pasture fields near McKenzie's Point and drove the cattle there feeding to a safe refuge on Greenfield Hill. Thither and to Fairfield Woods many of the little children, with much furniture, were removed in carts and chaises, while some of the

women remained to guard the dwellings. The company who had charge of a field-piece wheeled it to a good position on Burr's highway. The men in the village and farm-houses grasped their muskets and ammunition, and rallied under command of Col. Whiting at the rendezvous on Round Hill.

"Tryon's march to the green was the signal of their resistance, and a small company, under Capt. Thomas Nash, made a brilliant attack upon the English troops, firing from behind the fences, and killing a few who were laid in shallow graves by their comrades on the meeting-house grounds. These afterwards were removed to permanent rest in our ancient cemetery.

"About this time it would appear that the first house was fired, the one belonging to Isaac Jennings, on whose site Mrs. Esther Huntington now lives. Then came the flag from Gen. Tryon and the reading of that address of which I have spoken. Col. Whiting sent back this spirited reply:

"Connecticut having nobly dared to take up arms against the cruel despotism of Britain, and as the flames have now preceded the answer to your flag, they will persist to oppose to the utmost that power exerted against injured innocence."

"In resistance of an organized army who held possession of the town, it was impossible for the militia to concentrate an effectual force. The night was coming on,—that Wednesday night of the 7th, which witnessed scenes of delinquency and cruelty such as Fairfield has never known at any other period of her history. The Hessian general held the western portion of the town, and his regiment of Yaegers are described as skulking and yelling like the wild savages of the forest. The detachments broke up into small squads, and some of the governor's guards engaged in a dance in the Sun Tavern on the green. Most of the soldiers were passing in little companies from house to house, pillaging and wasting provisions, breaking up glass, earthenware, and furniture, stealing the watches, jewelry, and shoe-buckles from the persons of women, taking from them even their aprons and handkerchiefs, and with oaths and ribaldry grossly insulting them. Many soldiers were drunk with liquor or strong cider they had stolen. Tryon reports that they lay on their arms during the night, and Dr. Dwight, who was not an eye-witness to those scenes, describes in eloquent language a terrific thunder-storm. Enough it is for us to hear the guns thundering through all its dark hours in the defense and attack of the little fort, and to see one after another of the pillaged houses fall before the flames which the British general's troops had kindled. The burning cinders that fell that night, wet with the tears of women then made homeless, must ever in the record of history blacken Tryon's name.

"The militia did all they were able to accomplish, keeping up a running fire, and more were on their way to join them. So the signal of retreat was sounded early on Thursday, and in the course of that morning of the 8th of July the squadron was off for Huntington, only to cross the Sound again, and on the subsequent Sunday repeat their terrible work at Norwalk. It was on the morning of the 8th that the remaining private edifices and all the public buildings were consumed. More destruction would doubtless have been effected but for the wholesome fear of the ambush of the watchful militia.

"The enemy dreaded the stone walls, fences, and shrubbery. On this account the old mill of Peter Perry, which had ground the corn of the people for a hundred years, was still left to do its work. Through the exertions of the women who kept watch some fires that had been kindled were put out. This was done four times by Mrs. Lucretia Redfield during that Wednesday night, and the house she then saved stands to-day a pleasant abode occupied by some of the same name. The Nichols family, always proverbial for notable housewifery, employed large hanks of yarn then soaking in preparation for the dye, and with it extinguished the flames that had begun to consume their home.

"There were burned a court-house and jail, three churches, two school-houses, ninety-seven dwellings, sixty-seven barns, forty-eight stores and shops—in all, two hundred and eighteen buildings. The gathered labors of the field, the books, papers, pictures, the well-preserved products of the spinning-wheel and needle, the precious heirlooms, tokens of love and memorials of friendship, how were these brought into destruction as in a moment!

"The sparks, cinders, and half-burned feathers floating in the summer air,—what sickness must they have brought to many hearts!

"Some things had been removed to safe places beyond the reach of the fire. Isaac Burr, the jeweler, hid the watches left for repair at his shop within the stone fissures of his well, and placed his Bible and some of his own precious goods with them.

"Prudent Phillis, servant of Judge Sturges, took the wet linen from the wash-tub and hid it among the currant bushes. Pewter cishes, kept

bright by constant scouring, were thrown into the bottom of wells, to be recovered when the danger was past. One looking-glass is still as reflecting as ever. It was hidden in an uncultivated rye-field, and when, a few days later, a black man cut the swath that revealed it standing there upright, he saw his own figure in the sunshine, and mistaking it for Satan, whom he feared, he threw down his sickle in terror and ran away.

"The sadness had by that time been mollified, the people had begun again to provide means for living. They made new homes, some in warehouses or out-buildings that had been spared, some rearing them again upon the old foundations. The large grant of State lands (on this account called the burnt lands) in Ohio tempted a few to find new homes in the West. Some of our own people thus changed their place of residence, and their descendants are there abiding to this day, adorning their ancestral teachings by lives of honor and usefulness; and of the stock transplanted in this manner from our neighboring town of Norwalk sprung the two brothers Sherman, one presiding to-day over our nation's treasury, and the other commanding its army.

"The life of Fairfield was not extinguished in its burning, nor did the energy of the town expire. Its source of strength was too deep to be reached by the kindled brands, too high to be fatally affected by the ascending flames. The town rose from its ashes, and has had an honorable history down to the present day. From the fire that consumed Mr. Eliot's dwelling one book was rescued, the church record, running back to 1694. In his clear handwriting he inscribed within it a brief account of the events which, after the lapse of a century, we now recall.

"As in concluding this address I repeat h's words, they may convey to us the spirit of submission unto God and trust in Him which strengthened this people to pass through the furnace of calamity. In subsequent times of prosperity and safety these sentiments have not been wholly lost. May they always prevail, and may the intelligence, soberness, and industry of our people render them fit dwellers in those pleasant places chosen more than two hundred and forty years ago by the founders of our beautiful town. By maintaining these principles in peace and purity, and through a wise and constant exercise of that public spirit which characterized our fathers, we will show how greatly we prize this rich inheritance, made more precious by the refining fire.

*"A List of the Persons who suffered by the enemy in burning the town of Fairfield, on the 7th and 8th days of July, 1779, and had their taxes abated by the Committee appointed by the General Assembly for that purpose.*

	List, 1781.			List, 1782.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Anthony Annibil.....	20	0	0	20	7	6
David Annibil.....	18	0	0	34	12	0
Elijah Abel.....	30	12	0	28	11	6
George Allen.....	33	7	6	28	11	6
David Allen.....	56	8	3	77	2	6
Eben Bartram.....	44	11	0	42	15	0
John Allen.....	18	6	0	6	18	0
Nehemiah Buddington.....	23	0	0	21	0	0
Andrew Bulkley.....	20	0	0	29	0	0
James Bulkley.....	20	0	0	21	0	0
Walter Buddington.....	23	5	0	24	15	0
Peter Burr.....	76	1	6	81	7	0
Samuel Beers.....	55	2	6	60	8	6
Joseph Beers.....	31	19	0	37	19	0
Abigail Burr.....	3	12	0	3	8	0
David Burr.....	22	10	0	28	6	0
William Buddington.....	21	0	0	21	0	0
David Burr.....	4	4	0			
Wakeman Burr.....	25	0	0	21	0	0
Samuel Burr.....	42	17	6	44	17	6
Job Bartram.....	11	12	7	6	11	19
Priscilla Burr.....	24	0	6	32	6	6
Thaddeus Burr.....	145	1	4	167	16	6
David Beers.....	55	2	6	62	2	6
Ann Dimon.....	26	19	0	25	0	0
William Dimon.....	51	6	0	39	2	0
Elizabeth Gold.....	48	8	9	39	1	6
Peter Wendick.....	22	8	0	27	8	0
David Jennings.....	39	6	0	51	18	0
Isaac Jarvis.....	43	9	0	22	66	0
Moses Jennings.....	70	5	0	62	18	6
Abigail Jennings.....	4	2	0	2	14	9
Stephen Jennings.....	76	2	0	96	6	0
Jeremiah Jennings.....	40	5	0	56	10	0
Lathrop Lewis.....	40	10	0	48	10	0
Sturges Lewis.....	72	19	6	73	7	6
Jonathan Lewis.....	130	19	6	132	12	6
Hezekiah Nicholls.....	54	19	6	60	11	0
Thomas T. Nicholls.....	20	35	0	19	3	6
Eleazer Osborn, Jr.....	12	5	0			
Marble Osborn.....	30	6	6	20	2	2
Daniel Osborn.....	96	5	9	74	0	6
John Parsons.....	18	0	0	21	0	0



	List, 1781.			List, 1782.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Nathaniel Parsons.....	19	5	0	1	5	0
John Parritt.....	24	0	0	23	0	0
Samuel Penfield.....	52	8	3	54	8	3
John Robertson.....	26	0	0	39	0	0
Samuel Rowland.....	35	13	0	59	16	3
Andrew Roland.....	48	3	0	91	16	7
Samuel Squier.....	18	0	0	21	0	0
John Smedley.....	87	12	0	87	12	0
Seth Sturges.....	44	7	6	51	10	6
Joseph Squier.....	25	14	0	35	1	0
Thomas Staples.....	74	16	0	66	4	0
Ebenezer Sturges.....				24	16	0
John Squier, Jr.....	37	5	6	38	17	0
Judson Sturges.....	63	1	0	71	2	0
Joseph Sturges (children).....	31	16	6	35	13	6
Jonathan Sturges.....	99	2	0	137	18	11
Samuel Squier.....	85	4	6	85	18	6
Hezekiah Sturges.....	157	4	0	142	5	0
Samuel Sturges.....	13	4	0	12	6	0
Samuel Smedley.....	13	19	0	13	19	0
Joseph Smith.....	40	14	6	40	5	6
Eliphalet Thorp.....	30	4	0	31	14	0
Ansel Truly.....	19	10	0	28	0	1
Isaac Tucker.....	18	0	0			
Stephen Thorp.....	30	4	0	31	14	0
John Turney.....	61	1	6	58	2	6
Eben Wakeman.....	99	18	0	67	8	6
Andrew Wakeman.....	124	17	0	116	4	6
Jabez Thorp.....	52	13	6	60	8	6
Isaac Turney.....	34	8	0	37	8	0
Reuben Burr.....	27	2	0	31	3	9
Wakeman Burritt.....				85	11	0
John Williams, Jr.....	1	4	0	27	5	0
Wright White.....	4	0	0	31	0	0
John Mason.....	25	10	0	28	8	0
Thomas H. Wakeman.....				6	17	6

## GREEN'S FARMS.

	List, 1781.			List, 1782.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sarah Andrews.....	8	10	0	7	14	0
Abraham Andrews.....	72	0	6	69	0	3
George Patterson.....	21	0	0	21	0	0
Walter Carson.....	9	0	0	13	18	1
Nathan Godfrey.....	62	8	6	93	15	3
Ebenezer Jessup.....	141	3	0	101	19	9
Moss Kent.....	161	0	0	105	8	0
Eunice Morehouse.....	95	6	6	84	0	0
Eben Morehouse.....	111	6	6	91	17	3
Graman Morehouse.....	21	14	0	43	0	0
Samuel Smith.....	21	0	0	27	2	6
Gideon Morehouse.....	45	66	0	35	16	6
Jessup Wakeman.....	32	5	9			
John Morehouse.....	57	14	0	64	18	6

"Abated by the Assembly the sum of £4088.12 in the year 1781. The sum of £4088.12 to be apportioned to the sufferers of said town."

The following highly interesting account of the burning of Fairfield is from the pen of Rev. Andrew Eliot, being a copy of a letter written to his brother, Rev. John Eliot, of Boston. Rev. Mr. Eliot at that time was pastor of the Fairfield church:

"FAIRFIELD, July 15, 1779.

"DEAR BROTHER,—I sit down to write to you some account of the sad and awful scenes which have been exhibited in this once pleasant and delightful town, now, alas! a heap of ruins,—a sad spectacle of desolation and woe.

"It was in the beginning of wheat-harvest, a season of extraordinary labor and festivity,—a season which promised the greatest plenty that has been known for many years, if within the memory of man. Never did our fields bear so ponderous a load, never were our prospects with regard to army so bright.

"The British fleet and army, with the American refugees that had possessed and plundered New Haven, set sail from that distressed place on the 6th instant. About four o'clock the next morning the approach of the fleet was announced by the firing of a gun from a small fort we have on Grover's Hill, contiguous to the Sound. They seemed, however, to be passing by, and about seven o'clock we with pleasure beheld them all to the westward of us, steering, as we thought, to New York. A very thick fog came on, which entirely deprived us of the sight of them till between the hours of nine and ten, when, the mist clearing away, we beheld the whole fleet under our western shore, and some of them close in Kensie's Point. They presently came to anchor, and lay till about four in the afternoon, when they began to land their troops a little to the east of Kensie's Point, at a place called the Pines. From thence the troops marched along the beach until they came to a lane opposite the centre of the town, through which they proceeded, and in about an hour

paraded in their divisions on the green, between the meeting-house and court-house. From thence they detached their guards, and dividing into small parties, began their infernal business. Their commanding officers were Sir George Collier by sea, Gens. Tryon and Garth by land.

"The approach of the fleet was so sudden that but few men could be collected, though the alarm-guns were fired immediately on the dissipation of the fog. There was no thought of opposing their landing, as our force was nothing to theirs. Our little party, however, posted themselves so as to annoy them to the best advantage, expecting they would land at the Point. When our people found them landing on the left, and marching in the rear to take possession of the town, they immediately retreated to the court-house; and, as the enemy advanced from the beach lane, they gave them such a warm reception with a field-piece, which threw both round and grape-shot, and with their musketry, as quite disconcerted them for some time. The column, however, quickly recovered its solidity, and, advancing rapidly, forced our small body to retreat to the heights back of the town, where they were joined by numbers coming in from the country. The enemy were likewise galled very much, as they turned from the beach to the land, by the cannon which played from Grover's Hill.

"The town was almost cleared of inhabitants. A few women, some of whom were of the most respectable families and characters, tarried with a view of saving their property. They imagined their sex and character would avail to such a purpose. They put some confidence in the generosity of an enemy who were once famed for generosity and politeness, and thought that kind treatment and submissive behavior would secure them against harsh treatment and rough usage. Alas! they were miserably mistaken, and bitterly repented their confidence and presumption.

"The Hessians were first let loose for rapine and plunder. They entered the houses, attacked the persons of Whig and Tory indiscriminately; breaking open desks, trunks, closets, and taking away everything of value. They robbed women of their buckles, rings, bonnets, aprons, and handkerchiefs. They abused them with the foulest and most profane language, threatened their lives without the least regard to the most earnest cries and entreaties. Looking-glasses, china, and all kinds of furniture were soon dashed to pieces.

"Another party that came on were the American refugees, who, in revenge for their confiscated estates, carried on the same direful business. They were not, however, so abusive to the women as the former, but appeared very furious against the town and country. The Britons, by what I could learn, were the least inveterate; some of the officers seemed to pity the misfortunes of the country, but in excuse said that they had no other way to gain their authority over us. Individuals among the British troops were, however, exceedingly abusive, especially to women. Some were forced to submit to the most indelicate and rough treatment in defense of their virtue, and now bear the bruises of horrid conflict.

"About an hour before sunset the conflagration began at the house of Mr. Isaac Jennings,\* which was consumed, with the neighboring buildings. In the evening the house of Elijah Abel,† Esq., sheriff of the county, was consumed with a few others. In the night several buildings in the main street. Gen. Tryon was in various parts of the town-plat, with the good women begging and entreating him to spare their houses. Mr. Sayre, the Church-of-England missionary, a gentleman firmly and zealously engaged in the British interest, and who has suffered considerably in their cause, joined with them in these entreaties; he begged the general to spare the town, but was denied. He then begged that some few houses might be spared as a shelter for those who could provide habitations nowhere else; this was denied also. At length Mr. Tryon consented to save the buildings of Mr. Burr,‡ and the writer of this epistle. Both had been plundered ere this. He said, likewise, that the houses for public worship should be spared. He was far from being in good temper during the whole affair. Gen. Garth, at the other end of the town, treated the inhabitants with as much humanity as his errand would admit.

"At sunrise some considerable part of the town was standing, but in about two hours the flames became general. The burning-parties carried on their business with horrible alacrity, headed by one or two persons who were born and bred in the neighboring towns. All the town, from the bridge by Col. Gold's to the Mill River, a few houses excepted, was a heap of ruins."

\* The house on this site was the first rebuilt, and is occupied by Mrs. E. L. Huntington.

† The house occupying this site is known to-day (1880) as the Benson House.

‡ The home of O. W. Jones, Esq., occupies that site.

"About eight o'clock the enemy sounded a retreat. We had some satisfaction, amidst our sorrow and distress, to see that the meeting-house and a few other buildings remained. But the rear-guard, consisting of a landitti the vilest that was ever let loose among men, set fire to everything which Gen. Tryon had left,—the large and elegant meeting-house, the minister's houses, Mr. Burr's and several other houses which had received protection. They tore the protection to pieces, damned Tryon, abused the women most shamefully, and then ran off in a most disgraceful manner. Happily, our people came in and extinguished the flames in several houses, so that we are not entirely destitute.

"The rear-guard, which behaved in so scandalous a manner, were chiefly German troops, called Yaugers. They carry a small rifle-gun and fight in a skulking manner, like our Indians. They may be properly called sons of plunder and devastation.

"Our people on the heights back of the town were joined by numbers, but not equal to the numbers of the enemy. They were skirmishing all the evening, part of the night, and the next morning. The enemy were several times disconcerted and driven from their outposts. Had they continued longer in the town it must have been fatal to them, for the militia were collecting from all parts.

"Our fort\* yet stands. The enemy sent a row-galley to silence it, and there was constant firing between them all night. One or two attempts were made to take it by parties of troops, but it was most bravely and obstinately defended by Lieut. Isaac Jarvis,† of this town, who had but twenty-three men besides himself.

"The militia followed these bloody incendiaries to the place of embarkation, and galled them considerably. The embarkation took place about twelve o'clock, and they set sail for Long Island about two or three in the afternoon.

"Many were killed on both sides. The numbers cannot be ascertained. They carried off some prisoners, but no person of distinction.

"One particular I would mention. After Tryon had begun to burn, he sent out the proclamation which you have in the Hartford paper. In the midst of hostilities, while the flames were raging and bullets flying, who should come out with the flag but Mr. Sayre! A spirited answer was sent in, and the people were so enraged that hostilities should be going on in the time of negotiation, and that Mr. Sayre should be the bearer of such an insulting proclamation and at such a time, that the said gentleman was obliged to quit the town when the enemy left it. His whole family were obliged to go with him, leaving the greatest part of their substance behind, which became fuel for the flames indiscriminately scattered by the rear-guard. The reply which Gen. Tryon made to Mr. Sayre when he asked to go with him was, 'You may go on board the ships, sir, but I cannot promise you any help or assistance.'

\* This was on Grover's Hill, near George's Hotel.

† He lies in the old burying-ground with this above him:

"This monument is erected  
in memory of  
Isaac Jarvis,  
who departed this Life  
20th June. A.D. 1788.  
Aged 32 years & 5 months.

"Let frantic Mirth be pensive here,  
Let mortals mourn their final doom,  
Let friendship pay the tribute's tear,  
For Isaac moulders in the Tomb."

‡ Dr. E. E. Rankin, in his Fairfield historical discourse, states that "Mr. Sayre with his wife and eight children, stripped of every earthly possession excepting the clothes they were wearing, found refuge on board the British fleet, and after serving a church in Nova Scotia he closed his earthly ministry. According to their tombstones, they must have returned to and resided in Fairfield, as in the old burying-ground are the following:

"The corruptible of  
James Dennie Sayre,  
son of James Sayre,  
Minister of the Gospel, &  
Sarah his Wife, who fell  
asleep, on the 25th Day of  
May, A.D. 1793. Aged  
almost 17 years.

"Young man! Trust not thy youth, health, or strength. Trust in the Lord with all thy Heart, and remember thy Creator, who is also thy Redeemer."

"The Church-of-England building‡ was consumed, but by whom or at what time I am unable to say.

"Unconnected with them, unsolicited on my part, through the intercession of Mr. Sayre, my house and property received a protection in Gen. Tryon's own handwriting. A sentinel was placed there some part of the time. But sad experience convinces me to how little purpose all this was. My property was plundered, my house and furniture all consumed,|| though a lady was so kind as to show them the protection which, like others, was torn in pieces by the rangers.

"Our friend, Joseph Bertram, was shot through the breast; old Mr. Solomon Sturgis,¶ an Irish servant of Mr. Penfield, and a negro man belonging to Mr. Lewis, were put to death by the bayonet.

"The distress of this poor people is inexpressible. A most pleasant and delightful town in flames! What a scene did the 8th of July present!

"But I must forbear! Everything I have written you may depend upon as a fact: my pen has not been guided by prejudice, whatever my feelings are; and should you publish the letter, every reader may be assured that there is not the least deviation from what actually took place upon this melancholy occasion.

"Yours, etc.,

"ANDREW ELIOT."

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### FAIRFIELD (Continued).

Witchcraft—Goodwife Knapp—Her Trial—Her Execution—The Last Person Condemned for Witchcraft in Connecticut—Mercy Disbrow Tried at Fairfield in 1692—Sentenced to Death—Pardoned—"Aunt Nab," the Witch.

In the confession of Goody Basset, of Stratford,\*\* she spoke vaguely of others who "held their heads full high," but who were in truth equally guilty with herself. This was thought to have reference to a woman in the neighboring village of Fairfield, who thenceforward became the subject of suspicion, and in October, 1653, about two years and a half after the death of Mrs. Basset, was arraigned for trial. Her case caused great excitement throughout that portion of the colony, and Mr. Ludlow, with three other

Another stone is to "Mrs. Sarah Sayre, consort of Rev. James Sayre and daughter of James Dennie, who died in 1797."

Another is very plain and to

"Rev<sup>d</sup> James Sayre,  
departed this Life  
Feby 18<sup>th</sup>, 1798.  
Æt. 53."

While the fourth stone is to

"Mis<sup>s</sup> Elizabeth Sayre,  
Daughter of  
Rev<sup>d</sup> James & Mrs Sarah  
Sayre,  
departed this Life  
Feby 27, 1793.  
Æt. 18."

Uriah Bulkley (see "Colonial 18") married Jane Sayre, one of this family, and they were the parents of eleven children.

‡ This stood by Mr. Henry Rowland's.

¶ Mr. Jonathan S. Burr, of Brooklyn, states of his grandfather (Rev. Andrew Eliot) that "directly after the conflagration he removed with his family to Holland Hill, where he taught school and remained a considerable length of time. The house where he lived stood almost directly opposite the dwelling of Mrs. Mary Bibbins."

¶ Has numerous descendants in Fairfield to-day (1880). (See "Colonial No. 9.")

\*\* See Stratford history.



magistrates, was desired by the General Court to go down to Fairfield to officiate at the trial, and to "execute justice" there as cause might require. The Mr. Ludlow named in this order was the distinguished Roger Ludlow, who served at different times as Deputy Governor of Massachusetts and Connecticut, and whose name is still held in respect in the latter State as the first resident member of the legal profession, and the framer of its earliest code of laws. His home was in Fairfield, so that he was well acquainted with all the actors in this melancholy tragedy, and it is in part to events growing out of it that his subsequent removal to Virginia may be attributed. A full account of the affair is afforded by a number of depositions which are given at length in the New Haven Colonial Records. From these we gather that the trial of the accused, who is designated simply as Knapp's wife, or Goodwife Knapp, took place in the autumn of 1653, before a jury and several "godly magistrates," probably the same named in the order of the General Court. The trial lasted several days, and there were many witnesses, but the most convincing evidence against the accused was given by Mrs. Lucy Pell and Goody Odell, the midwife, who, by direction of the court, had examined the body of the prisoner, and testified to finding upon it certain witchmarks which were regarded as proof positive of diabolical dealings. Present also at this examination was Mrs. Jones, wife of the Fairfield minister, though whether as one of the committee or as a simple spectator is not clearly stated.

The result of the trial was a verdict of guilty of witchcraft against Goodwife Knapp, and sentence of death was passed upon her. In the interval between her condemnation and execution she was visited by numbers of the townspeople, some of whom pressed her to own herself a witch and to reveal the names of her supposed accomplices, considerably reminding her that, while there might have been some reason for her silence during her trial, since a confession then would have prejudiced her case, there could now be none, as she was sure to die in any event. The pains of perdition were held up as her certain portion in case of refusal.

Upon one of these occasions, the minister and a number of the townfolks being present, the poor woman replied to her tormentors that she "must not say anything that was not true, she must not wrong anybody," but that in case she had anything to say before going out of the world she would reveal it to the minister, or to Mr. Ludlow, at the gallows. Elizabeth Brewster, a bystander, roughly answered, "If you keep it till you come to the ladder the devil will have you quick, if you reveal it not till then."

"Take care," was the indignant reply of the prisoner, "that the devil have not *you*, for you cannot tell how soon you may be my companion. The truth is," added she, "you would have me say that Goodwife Staples is a witch, but I have sins enough to answer for already, and I hope I shall not add to my

condemnation. I know nothing against Goodwife Staples, and I hope she is an honest woman."

On being rebuked for these words by Richard Lyon, one of her keepers, on the ground that their tendency was to create discord between neighbors after she was gone, she replied, "Goodman Lyon, hold your tongue! You know not what I know: *I have been fished withal in private more than you are aware of.* I apprehend that Goodwife Staples hath done me some wrong in her testimony, but I must not return evil for evil."

When further urged and reminded that she was "now to die, and therefore should deal truly," this convicted witch burst into tears and implored her persecutors to cease, saying, in words that lingered long in the memory of those who stood by, and can hardly be read even now without emotion, "*Never, never poor creature was tempted as I am tempted; pray, pray for me!*" Under such a pressure it is not surprising that her fortitude sometimes wavered, and that a frivolous confession, afterwards recanted, was made by her, implicating Mrs. Staples.

A clue to the spot where Goody Knapp was executed is furnished by a remark of one of the witnesses in the depositions already alluded to, who describes it as being between the house of one Michael Fry and the mill. Fry's property was near the eastern border of the settlement, hence the locality referred to must have been between the present sites of Bridgeport and Fairfield.

On the way thither the Rev. Mr. Jones, who walked by the prisoner's side in the procession, again exhorted her to confess her guilt, but was reproved by her companion, Mrs. Staples, who cried, "Why bid her confess what she is not? I make no doubt but that if she were a witch she would confess," and also intimated that for her own part she had been troubled with doubts as to whether there really was any such creature as a witch.

Beneath the gibbet the heart of Goody Knapp again failed her, and after all was in readiness she was allowed to descend the ladder and repeat a confession in the ear of Mr. Ludlow, similar to that already referred to. If her expectation was to obtain a reprieve she was disappointed, for the executioner shortly did his work, and her body hung suspended until life was extinct. It was then cut down and laid upon the green turf beside the open grave, while a number of her own sex clustered around, some waiting to take a last look at the face of their unfortunate neighbor, but the greater part intent only upon satisfying their base curiosity respecting the witchmarks of which the witnesses had spoken. Kneeling beside the corpse was Mrs. Staples, who, to borrow the language of one who was present, "wringing her hands, and taking y<sup>e</sup> Lord's name in her mouth," called upon all within hearing to listen to her solemn protestation of the innocence of the murdered woman.

Pointing to the supposed witchmarks, she declared that they were naught but such as she herself or any

woman might have. "Ay, and be hanged for them, too," was the rejoinder of one of the older women present.

The question of the guilt or innocence of the deceased continued to be discussed with acrimony for a long time. Mr. Ludlow saw fit to repeat the story told him by the dying woman, and to add, upon his own responsibility, that Thomas Staples' wife was not only in all probability a witch, but also "made a trade of lying." On this Staples brought suit against Ludlow for defamation of his wife's character, and after listening to the evidence a New Haven court had the good sense to allow the plaintiff damages in the sum of fifteen pounds. Had similar spirit been shown at a later period in Massachusetts, much suffering might have been averted.

The last person condemned to death for witchcraft in Connecticut was a woman named Mercy Disbrow, who was tried in Fairfield in 1692, Governor Robert Treat, Secretary Allyn, and other eminent personages being present and assisting in the proceedings. With her were indicted three others,—the widow Elizabeth Staples and Goodwives Miller and Clawson. In the indictment of Mercy Disbrow she was charged with "familiarity with Satan, the grand enemy of God and man," and with "conspiring to injure in a preternatural way the bodies and estates of divers of his majesty's subjects."

From the testimony it appears that all the sickness and every accident occurring in the neighborhood for months previous were laid to the charge of these unfortunate women. They were believed to have the power of the evil eye, to torment their victims, whether by throwing them into convulsions and by pricking them with pins, or by appearing to them at midnight and dancing in fantastic guise at the foot of their bed. Their power was also thought to extend to animals.

In the end all were acquitted except Mercy Disbrow, who was sentenced to death by the Governor. A petition for her pardon was, however, extensively signed, and must have been granted, since a number of years afterwards she was still living in Westport. The real reason for her escape was doubtless the general revulsion of feeling following the Salem tragedies, which occurred about the same time.

#### "AUNT NAB," THE WITCH.\*

When a small boy, the writer has often had pointed out to him a small building a few miles north of Greenfield Hill, where it was said that "Aunt Nab," a noted old witch, once resided. She had such a reputation for practicing the "black art" that the community for miles around was afraid of offending her. It was said that there would some casualty surely happen to any person so unfortunate as to make her angry. All sorts of incredible stories were told of her revengeful acts towards her enemies, and all mysterious happenings

in the neighborhood were ascribed to her wonderful powers.

Tradition relates that she at one time, for some unaccountable reason, did not exercise the diabolical power attributed to her. A number of persons with carts loaded with hay were going from Redding to the seaboard and stopped at the brook near her house to water their oxen. When leaving, one wheel of Uncle John H.'s cart came off, and the hay had to be thrown off and loaded again. While thus engaged "Aunt Nab" came out and ridiculed them. Uncle John told her to go into the house, but she continued the derision and laughed all the more. At last, the patience of Uncle John being completely exhausted, he gave her a severe cart-whipping. The neighbors looked on with amazement at what they conceived to be an act which would lead to a fearful retribution, and told the old man that something terrible would befall him before his return; but he, with an oath, declared that if he had any further trouble about it he would surely kill the old witch. As nothing unusual happened to him, she was either unable or afraid to do him an injury.

We remember to have listened with breathless silence to stories told of her by one of her contemporaries. The following, which was believed to be true, we distinctly recollect: In the immediate vicinity of this notable personage resided an old gentleman of sterling character and worth, enough of a Presbyterian to defy witches or devils, and of muscular power and courage "to grapple with foes material or ghostly." Our hero was a farmer by profession, and after he had forced the rugged soil to yield its scanty crop, and the grain was safely garnered, he frequently missed quantities from his bins. He watched the witch in vain. She eluded his grasp, and vanished into air whenever he discovered her in the darkness of night. These petty depredations continuing, he, becoming impatient, at last constructed an ingenious trap in his granary, and, lo! the next morning, when he went to his barn, there stood witchcraft embodied and visible to human eyes. It appeared to be the veritable "Aunt Nab." The lord of the manor passed her without saying a word or apparently noticing her. After doing his "chores" he was quietly leaving, when the ghost in the trap called out, "Uncle Thomas, for God's sake let me go!" Uncle Thomas was, however, deaf and blind just then, and after breakfast went out to interview his game. The old woman made a full confession, and promised reformation. She was released with the solemn warning of Paul to the Ephesians: "Let him that stole steal no more."

After a few months a daughter of Uncle Thomas, who was a prepossessing young lady of fifteen summers, was awakened from her quiet slumber at midnight. A fiendish form stood beside her couch, and in an instant seized her by the lower limbs and with superhuman effort hurled her bodily through the door into

\* Contributed by A. B. Hull.



her father's apartment. The family, being thus unduly alarmed, sought the cause. But the daughter was insensible, and the witch invisible. The girl suffered intensely for weeks, and gradually drew her knees to her chest, and was in that condition for years, helpless and a burden to her friends, but intelligent and skillful with needle and pen. Years after "Aunt Nab" "shook off the mortal coil" the bonds were loosened from the afflicted girl, and she became straight and strong. She confirmed the above statement, and fully believed "Aunt Nab" was her tormenter.

## CHAPTER XXX.

### FAIRFIELD (Continued).

#### COLONIAL HOUSES.\*

THE houses which are at present standing that were built in the old colonial times, and were spared from the conflagration of July 8, 1779, are:

1. The old house nearly opposite the old burying-ground in the rear of town-hall. It has not yet been ascertained who built it nor when it was built. The first ownership was of the Bulkeleys; probably it was Thomas Bulkeley (second son of the Rev. Peter Bulkeley, of Concord, Mass.), who came with his father-in-law, the Rev. John Jones, first minister in the Prime Ancient Church (Congregational), in 1644, and died in 1656. The Bulkeleys deserve more than passing notice, as through them our history has been greatly augmented.

The Rev. Peter Bulkeley, B.D., was of honorable descent. He was of the tenth generation from Robert Bulkeley, Esq., one of the English barons, who in the reign of King John (who died in 1216) was lord of the manor of Bulkeley, in the county-palatine of Chester. The names of the lineal descendants from Robert, furnished by Charles Bulkeley, Esq., of New London, a grandson of Gershom, gathered from a sketch on the names and titles of nobility, were: 1, William; 2, Robert; 3, Peter, who married Nicholas Bird, of Hampton; 4, John, who married Andryne, daughter and heir to John Colley, of Ward, and died in 1450; 5, Hugh, who married Hellen Wilbriham, of Woodley; 6, Humphrey, who married Cyle, daughter and heir of John Matten; 7, William, who married Beatryce, daughter and heir to William of Bulansdale; 8, Thomas, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Randelle Grovenor; 9, Edward, D.D., of Woodhill, who married Olive Islby, of Lincolnshire; 10, Peter, of Concord. He (Peter) was born at Woodhill, in Bedfordshire, Jan. 31, 1583. His father, the Rev. Edward Bulkeley, D.D., was a faithful minister of the gospel, under whose direction his son received a learned and religious education suited to his distin-

guished rank. About the age of sixteen he was admitted a member of St. John's College at Cambridge, of which he was afterwards chosen fellow, and from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. He succeeded his father in the ministry in his native town, and enjoyed his rich benefice and estate, where he was a zealous preacher of evangelical truth about twenty years, and for the most part of the time lived an unmolested nonconformist.

At length, his preaching meeting with distinguished success, and his church being very much increased, complaints were entered against him by Archbishop Laud, and he was silenced for his nonconformity to the requirements of the English Church. This circumstance induced him to emigrate to New England, where he might enjoy liberty of conscience. He arrived in Cambridge in 1634 or 1635, and was the leader of resolute and self-denying Christians who settled with him at Concord, where he expended most of his property for the good of his people, and there he died March 9, 1659, aged seventy-six. He was twice married: (1) To Jane Allen, daughter of Thomas Allen, of Goldington, whose nephew was lord mayor of London. This marriage resulted in ten sons and two daughters. (2) To Grace Chetwood; they had four children.

By the first marriage their eldest son, Edward, was born in England. He was a highly educated minister, and was the father of four children, of whom Hon. Peter Bulkeley (appointed to offices of great distinction) had a son Joseph, who married the widow Rebecca Minot, daughter of John Jones, and Thomas, brother of the Rev. Edward Bulkeley, married Sarah, another daughter of Rev. John Jones. They had five children, four of whom are on the Fairfield (Connecticut) records. The Bulkeley property was quite extensive, occupying the place of the present John Glover and the two houses known as the Denison property.

Jonathan,† the eightieth descendant of the first Bulkeley settler in America, born Sept. 21, 1731, married Hannah Hoyt, daughter of James Hoyt, of Norwalk, Conn., June, 1762. They occupied the old building which was on the site of John Glover's house, an illustration and description of which are found in Barber's "Collection of Connecticut Reminiscences."

On the 7th of July, 1776, Governor Tryon, with his army, sailed from New Haven to Fairfield, and the next morning disembarked upon the beach. The Hessians who accompanied Tryon were his incendiaries. To them he intrusted the wielding of the torch, and faithfully they obeyed their master. When the people fled from the town, not suspecting that their homes would be burned, they left most of their furniture behind. The distress was, consequently, great,

\* By Mrs. Kate E. Perry.

† See Bulkeley's Genealogy. Dr. Rankin in his Historical Discourse calls him Benjamin.

for many lost every earthly possession. Among the buildings saved was that of Mr. Bulkeley. Tryon made it his headquarters. The naval officer who had charge of the British ships, piloted them to Fairfield, was Mrs. Bulkeley's brother (George Hoyt), and he had requested Tryon to spare the house of his sister. Tryon acquiesced, and, feeling his indebtedness to her brother, the general informed Mrs. Bulkeley that if there was any other house she wished to save she should be gratified. After the enemy left the enraged militia, under Capt. Sturges, placed a field-piece in front of the dwelling, and then sent Mrs. Bulkeley word that she might have two hours to clear the house and leave it, or they would blow her to atoms. She found means to communicate a notice of her situation to Gen. Silliman (see "Colonial," No. 45), who was about two miles distant. He immediately went to town and found one hundred and fifty men at the common. By threats and persuasions he induced them to withdraw. The next day Col. Benjamin Talmadge, with his regiment, arrived from White Plains, and, encamping on the smoking ruins, made Tryon's quarters his own. Mrs. Bulkeley was not a friend of the enemy. According to her testimony under oath, she was badly treated by the soldiery, notwithstanding she had a protection from Gen. Garth, the second in command. They plundered her house, stripped the buckles from her shoes, tore a ring from her finger, and fired the house five times before leaving it. The four houses on the opposite side of the street now standing were saved through her intercession.

The occupant of this house, opposite the cemetery, in 1779, was Peter Bulkeley (see Dr. Rankin's "Historical Discourse," July 8, 1879). The houses built at the colonial period embrace two styles of architecture,—the one long and one short roof, and the gambrel or hip roof. This Bulkeley house has the one long roof, and has never been remodeled. This antiquated structure has been the shelter for the ancestors of the numerous Bulkeley families in Southport and adjoining towns. Passing out of the family, it has been used as a tenement-house for years. It may be interesting to know that two thousand or more people can trace their ancestry to the Thomas Bulkeley who settled in one of the two (the one which was Tryon's headquarters, or No. 1, colonial) houses already mentioned.

No. 2. This was also built at an early date on the Bulkeley domains, and was owned by members of the family for several consecutive generations. At the time of the burning of Fairfield it belonged to Nathan Bulkeley, son of Joseph and Esther Bulkeley, born Jan. 16, 1718. He married Sarah, daughter of Joseph Perry, Sr. (see "Colonial," No. 9). He was active in Church and State and a prominent man, as he was deacon in the Prime Ancient Church and was town clerk for thirty-two consecutive years. His daughter Esther married David Judson. She inherited

these two (houses 1 and 2) from her father. In 1786, Nathan Bulkeley resigned his deaconship, owing to ill health, and David Judson was chosen in his place. He was also town clerk from 1791 to 1794. He was a prominent man, as may be inferred from the incident of his conferring with Dr. David Hull and Hon. R. M. Sherman on the question as to whom there was in Fairfield to care for the interests of the church, the academy, and the library, which they had close to their hearts, when their declining years forbade them bearing their part of the enterprise.

Mrs. Esther Judson willed this property to the second wife of the late Dr. Jeremiah T. Denison, an excellent and worthy physician of the homœopathic school. He died in this house in 1879 in the seventy-fourth year of his age, mourned both by the professional and social circles, where he was extensively known and universally respected. He was born in 1806, and was a son of Capt. Henry Denison, who for twenty years was the honored president of the New Haven Bank. Dr. Denison graduated from Yale College in 1824. Immediately after he proceeded to Europe, and in Paris and London devoted himself to medical and surgical science. Having familiarized himself with the methods in vogue at the principal scientific institutions in Europe, he returned to his native city to complete his curriculum at his own Alma Mater under the preceptorship of the late Prof. Knight, with whom he was an especial favorite, and into whose family he afterwards married. In 1827 he took his degree in medicine, and commenced the practice of his profession at Warehouse Point, Conn., from whence, after two years of successful practice, he returned to New Haven, and became professionally associated with his old preceptor. Being thoroughly qualified by theory and practice, he availed himself of a favorable opening for a permanent location in Fairfield, Conn., where for nearly forty years he was known as a successful physician and an honorable and honored citizen.

About twenty-five years before his death the principles of homœopathy were pressed upon his attention, and his earnest and rigid investigation resulted in his adoption of Hahnemann's system of science, for which he underwent relentless persecution. He was one of the founders of the Connecticut Homœopathic Society, and was elected its first president in 1851. His respect for the conscientious convictions of others was most exemplary, never allowing difference of opinion and belief to mar personal friendship. He was a genial gentleman, and underwent many afflictions, which he bore with Christian resignation, and his loss was sincerely mourned by the community in which he lived, where his virtues were so conspicuous. (See *Republican Standard*, Bridgeport, Conn., May, 1879.)

Dr. Denison was also judge of Probate in this town, and was a person of fine æsthetic tastes. He remod-



eled and newly covered the house, adding the veranda, and so modernized it that it has the appearance of a more recent structure.

House No. 1 has belonged to this estate for several years. Dr. Denison willed both of these houses to his relatives, who are awaiting a disposal of the same. No. 2 has been occupied for several months by Dr. J. Dobson, who was elected to occupy the professor's chair of physiology in the United States Medical College, in New York City, to the regret of those citizens in Fairfield who enjoyed the benefit of his skill as a physician and the pleasure of his acquaintance as a scholar and gentleman.

No. 3 was built by Justin Hobart in 1765. He was a native of Hingham, Mass., and son of Rev. Nehemiah Hobart, who died when Justin was eight years old, and a brother, Rev. Noah Hobart, adopted him, and on being called to accept the pastorate of the Prime Ancient Church, brought him hither.

An account of the calling is given in the church record, which is here given:

"Att a meeting of ye Brothron ye communicants of ye Church in ye Prime Society in Fairfield, on Wednesday, ye 5th day of Jan'y, A.D. 173 $\frac{3}{4}$ , Deacon William Hill chosen Moderator,\* Eben<sup>r</sup> Silliman chosen Scribe,† put to voat at s<sup>d</sup> meeting whether ye church make choice of ye Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Noah Hobart for ye head & pastor. In ye affirmative nom. con.

"Put to voat at s<sup>d</sup> meeting whether ye Ordination of ye Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Hobart be attended on Wednesday, ye 7th Day of February next; & in ye affirmative nom<sup>ae</sup> con<sup>o</sup>. At s<sup>d</sup> meeting also And<sup>w</sup> Burr, Esqr., Deacon Lothrop Lewis, & Mr. Eben<sup>r</sup> Silliman were chosen a com<sup>tee</sup> to call a council to Ordain ye s<sup>d</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Hobart on s<sup>d</sup> Day.

"The Consociation of the county of Fairfield sat at Fairfield Feb. 6th & 7th, 173 $\frac{3}{4}$ , at the Desire of the Church of the Prime Society in said Place to ordain a pastor over them."

The members of the council given, it is further stated that,—

"The committee of the society produced in council the doings of said Society, by which it appeared that Mr. Noah Hobart, a candidate for the ministry, who for some time had been laboring among them, has a unanimous call of ye s<sup>d</sup> Society to the work of the ministry in s<sup>d</sup> Place. A copy of the doings of the church of s<sup>d</sup> Society was their call to ye s<sup>d</sup> Mr. Hobart to be their pastor.

"Mr. Hobart produced a certificate under the hands of Sundry ministers, who, from their personal acquaintance with the said Mr. Hobart, do signify his being one of a virtuous conversation, in full communion with their churches, and of desirable ministerial accomplishments. The Council, after a serious and impartial examination, are well satisfied with Mr. Hobart, both in respect to orthodoxy and ministerial qualifications, and do heartily concur with the s<sup>d</sup> society and church in respect to their motion."

The ordination was conducted according to the motions, and Mr. Hobart labored with them from that time till his death.

The recorder wrote in the record,—

"The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Noah Hobart died in this Town on Monday, December 6th, 1773, at half-past 4 o'clock. He was born at Hingham, in the Massachusetts, Jan'y 2d, 1705-6, old stile, and was ordained to the pastoral charge of this church Feb'y 7th, 173 $\frac{3}{4}$ . There were baptized during his ministry 909 persons."

His body rests under the slab in the old burying-ground containing the following inscription:

"In Memory  
of  
The Rev. Noah Hobart,  
A.M.,  
Ordained Pastor of the first  
Church of Christ in Fairfield,  
February 7th, 1732,  
In which station  
He served God & his Generation  
with Fidelity and Usefulness  
until December 6th, 1773,  
When he was taken  
From the approaching trouble  
To receive  
The mercy of God thro' Christ.

"Remember them who have spoken unto you the word of God, whose faith follow."

As Rev. Noah Hobart was minister in this place and introduced the Hobart family here, his history was worthy of a space.

It is related that Justin Hobart was brought up to mind the strict letter of the law, which in those days contained such regulations as these:

"No one shall run on the Sabbath-day, or walk in his garden or elsewhere, except reverently to and from meeting."

"No one shall travel, cook victuals, make beds, sweep house, cut hair, or shave on the Sabbath-day."

A neighboring minister was to officiate in Fairfield that Sunday, and in entering the town it seems that his horse had assumed an unlawful gait. Mr. Hobart stopped him, telling him that he would better accompany him home, which the minister did. After a while meeting was called. Mr. Hobart asked him if he would attend church. The minister thought he would, so they walked on together into church, when Mr. Hobart turned to seat his comrade; but what was Mr. Hobart's surprise to see the minister pass on and ascend into the pulpit and commence services, which was the first intimation he received of the mission of his professional friend. Mr. Hobart's feelings may be better imagined than described.

This was one of the houses saved through the intercession of Mrs. Jonathan Bulkeley.

The court-house, shops, barns, most of the dwellings, and the churches being burnt, services were held in various houses till some place of worship could be rebuilt. The court-house was first built in 1720, burnt in the general conflagration in 1779, and rebuilt in 1794. Divine services were held in Mr. Hobart's house for some time, and then in the house used for courts till the church was rebuilt, which was in 1785.

Justin Hobart and his wife, Hannah Penfield Hobart, both died in 1809, having lived beyond their "threescore years and ten;" and Justin Hobart, Jr., and his wife, Desire Burr, became the owners of the property. He was town clerk for one year, from 1813 to 1814. That generation having passed away, their daughter Hannah is the present owner and occupant.

\* See Colonial, No. 37.

† See Colonial, No. 44.

No. 4. This house was built in 1766 by Isaac Tucker, who sold it to Capt. Jonathan Maltbie. The latter was owner and occupant during the Revolutionary times. Mr. Henry Rowland, in writing some reminiscences, states that his "Grandfather Maltbie's was reserved for a 'cook-house.' After the conflagration the inhabitants of the town returned, when the British had gone on board their ships. A number of the British soldiers were killed, and buried where they fell. Father used to tell about the hands and feet appearing just above ground in front of the meeting-house, which proved to be a British officer buried in his regimentals (not far from 'Colonial' No. 4). Grandfather Maltbie, on returning to his house (he was a sea-captain in the East India trade), found all their valuable china scooped off the shelves on to the floor and broken into pieces, and everything upside down. In the kitchen, in the fireplace, hung a large brass kettle filled with their hams, but they dare not eat them, fearing they were poisoned;" so they started anew with provisions.

Mr. Rowland, in his pleasant narrative,—which in this case relates to human nature (which was about the same sixty years ago as it is now) and the slave system, as well as to the owner of No. 4,—says, "About as soon as I could handle a broom my mother used to hire me to sweep the grass around the house with a stub whisk-broom. If in vacation-time, I made a short job as I could. If school-time, between the sessions,—my pay was a fourpence ha'penny (6½ cents),—it took me several days, and I thought I was making money. I began work as soon as the spring grass needed it. Old Kitt (colored man) would lend a hand sometimes and take his pay in a drink of cider. He was brought from Guinea, a slave, by Grandfather Maltbie, who gave him to mother, and when she married, father bought him of her for a piece of land in the field, and he (father) gave him his freedom; and he afterwards was employed on our place till he got so old he could no longer work, and died, as near as we could reckon his age, about one hundred years old. His wife was Dinah, who had, I think, seventeen children, all dead now except one. He was looked upon as one of our family, and was clever to us boys. We had a care for him as long as he lived.

Capt. Jonathan Maltbie's son inherited this place and sold it to Justin Hobart, Jr. (See No. 3.) His son, Edmund Hobart, is the present owner and occupant. He has filled the offices of judge of Probate, town treasurer, and postmaster.

No. 5. No records of the building of this house have been found. Henry Rowland settled in Fairfield in 1669. His son Samuel (1st) was born 1679, and died 1748. Samuel (1st) left a son Samuel (2d), born 1703, died 1782. The latter Samuel left a son Andrew, born 1737 and died 1802. Whether it was built for a Rowland is unknown, but Andrew Rowland was the possessor and occupant in 1779. He

married Elizabeth, daughter of Governor Fitch, of Norwalk, where his monument is, which contains this inscription:

"The Hon'ble Thomas Fitch, Esqr., Govr. of the Colony of Connecticut. Eminent and distinguished among mortals for great abilities, large acquirements and a virtuous character; a clear, strong sedate mind: an accurate, extensive acquaintance with law and civil government; a happy talent of presiding; close application and strict fidelity in the discharge of important truths; no less than for his employments, by the voice of the people, in the chief offices of state, and at the head of the colony. Having served his generation, by the will of God fell asleep, July 18th, Ann Domini 1774, in the 75th year of his age."\*

Mr. Henry Rowland—who has a handsome residence contiguous to the grounds where the Episcopal Church† stood in 1779, and on which site a spacious hotel of great reputation was burnt some years later, and which is known now as the "hotel lot"—narrates the following: "My father (born in 1769, therefore ten years old at the burning of the town) in our boy-days used to interest and amuse us in stories about the Revolutionary war, caused by excessive taxation and a colonial representation, which led the country into a revolt. The town of Fairfield was much larger than it now is (1880) before it was burnt. There was a large Episcopal church standing in the 'hotel lot,' fronting the street leading to the depot. In the steeple of this church father went to the top to have a good view of the landing of the British on the beach. While father was enjoying the sight a townsman appeared up there to watch the movements of the enemy, who, surprised to find a boy there with no anxious concern (the troops were marching up Beach Lane), said to him, 'Unless you make your escape, you'll be killed. Make haste, you young rascal, and get away.' Father went down into the street in hot haste, and saw great commotion among the people. He mounted his old white mare and put for out of the village double quick. Up the street he went, turned the corner at the meeting-house, and pushed on as fast as the old mare could carry him towards Capt. Jennings',‡ with the bullets whizzing by his head without hitting. The troops had now reached the green. He turned Capt. Jennings' corner, put for Smith's Hill,—now Deacon Joseph Lockwood's,—where Capt. Smith had a six-pounder on wheels,

\* See Barber's Connecticut Historical Collections.

† This was the second Episcopal church in Fairfield, the first having been located on the grounds on Mill Plain now owned by Mr. Frederic Sturges, nearly opposite his mother's, Mrs. Mary Sturges, and near the house occupied by Mrs. Burr Clemons. This church changed its site every time a new one was built, as the third one was located on the green on Mill Plain, the fourth was in Southport. The present one in Fairfield is a new organization, being 'St. Paul's'; the other four bore the name of Trinity, which was founded by

"Mr. Abraham Adams,  
who dec'd Aug. ye 9th, 1729,  
in ye 80th year of his age.  
Having been a worthy Founder  
and liberal Benefactor to  
Trinity Church."

His body was buried in the burying-ground in the rear of the first Episcopal church, under the above inscription.

‡ Now Capt. Isaac Jennings (1880).



banging away, hit or miss, at the British assembled on the green. Father was gone three days among the cedars, living upon apples. On his return he found the church from which he made his exit and the town all burnt, except a few houses, and the smoking remains and live coals in the cellars. His father's house (now Benjamin Betts') was among the saved. Grandmother Rowland remained in the house; the other inmates fled. A British officer with his men went to fire it, when she told them of a favor she had done years before to a British officer, and in consequence her house was spared. She was a heroic woman, to stand alone at her post in danger. Her husband and children, she knew not where they were nor in what condition, but he (Andrew Rowland) lived till 1802, and his wife till 1825."

This heroine rests not far from the gate in the old burying-ground, under this slab :

"Elizabeth Rowland,  
the widow of Andrew Rowland, Esq.,  
and daughter of the late Governor Fitch,  
of this State, died March 29th, 1825,  
in her 87th year."

Andrew Rowland (1737 to 1802) was educated at Yale College, and was a lawyer, State attorney and judge of Probate, and justice of peace. He left a famous will, which is recorded in the Probate Records. An extract from the preamble reads :

"I order my executors to inter my body in a Christian manner, that there be no funeral sermon nor pall-bearers. I order there be no presents given on the occasion, and desire there be no eulogium or panegyric from pulpit or otherwise at any time whatever; in my opinion, they do no good. I direct an inscription on my grave-stone, to contain the month and day and year of my death, and the year of my age."

Among the items of distribution is mention of "a large landed estate lying south of Lake Erie, and conveyed by grant by the General Assembly to me and others, of *one half-million acres* of land." There are also items by which a valuable property is conveyed, but space forbids a full copy.

His son Samuel (third of that name), 1769 to 1837, was prepared for college by the celebrated Dr. Dwight at Greenfield Hill. He graduated from Yale. He was a lawyer and turnpike surveyor from Fairfield to the New York line. He was town clerk from 1794 to 1813, and from 1814 to 1837.

His son, Mr. Henry Rowland, is a prominent flour-merchant in New York City, though he spends several months yearly in Fairfield. He is a public-spirited man, and is much attached to his native town. He has three sons: Henry Edwards Rowland, who graduated at Princeton College in 1872; Samuel Rowland, who is active in Church and State, full of the spirit of his fathers; Amory Edwards Rowland, who graduated at the scientific school at Yale College in 1873.

Mr. Andrew Rowland disposed of this "Colonial No. 5" to Gershom Sturges, who in time transferred it to Andrew Joy (now of Bridgeport). He sold it to Miss Sarah White, who in her younger days "kept school," "where," as Mr. Rowland says, "the ele-

ments of life were taught, including sewing and knitting, to the boys as well as girls. In those days the juvenile duties were great. Many a child broke down under its burden, and resorted to a corner of the school-room, where an old quilt and pillow were used for naps to such as could not keep their eyes open."

Miss White was a very methodical person, as her journal for fifty years shows. It has proved of value to the citizens for reference. For several years she wove in personal matter; after that it was but a narration of general facts,—the wind and the weather. Her system of keeping accounts might be advantageous to all who would adopt it. All money received or paid out was entered, with *the date* of the transaction. One time she was called upon to renew her insurance. She had done so, but, for some cause, the policy had not been forwarded. A reference to her books caused her lawyer to state that her method of doing business would stand a legal test and was of as much value as a receipt from the firm or company. A fisherman's bill was not paid over the second time for the same reason.

Some of these journals are in the possession of Mrs. Jane Kippen, daughter of Samuel A. Nichols (see "Colonial," No. 18). Miss White lived in this house several years, when she was gathered to her fathers in a ripe old age, but not till she had willed her possessions to two Misses Wakeman, from whom this property was purchased by Mr. Benjamin Betts, being near his store and also contiguous to his father's (Mr. Moses Betts) premises. Mr. Moses Betts was town clerk from 1863 to 1867, and held offices of trust in Church and State for many years. He was engaged in mercantile business most of his years, which numbered at their close seventy-six. His wife also died the same year (1880). (See No. 13.)

No. 6. Here a little prefatory history is necessary, to appreciate the subsequent matter: William Redfin, or Redfield,\* was, in 1639, the owner of a house and four acres of land on the south side of Charles River, about six miles from Boston. In 1646 he disposed of that property, and shortly after is supposed to have removed to Pequot, the present site of New London, with a party of settlers, under the leadership of Johnathan Brewster, son of Elder William Brewster, of the Plymouth Colony. The name of William Redfyn reappears, at least in this new settlement, in 1653, in connection with the transfer of certain lands to said Redfyn; and here the name appears to have become changed, inasmuch as in the New London records the forms are used interchangeably in the same deed or document. William Redfin died in 1662. His son James was apprenticed to a tanner (*bound* to him for five years), but does not appear fully to have acquired the trade, on account of his employer, Hugh Roberts, breaking up his business. We find James afterwards

\* Taken from the Redfield Genealogy, which was the first one ever compiled in this country. This was done in 1819.

exercising the vocation of a weaver. He resided (1) at New London; (2) near the fort in Saybrook; and (3) at New Haven. Also he appears to have been an inhabitant of Martha's Vineyard for a year (1671). He had three sisters, one of whom (Lydia) married Thomas Bayley, who was slain in the disastrous Indian ambush at Bloody Brook, Mass., Sept. 18, 1675, under command of Capt. Lothrop, in King Philip's war. James Redfield, the first (born 1646), came to Fairfield about 1693. Here he married, for his second wife, Deborah, daughter of John Sturges, who was a freeman of Fairfield as early as 1660, and a prominent man in the community. He had a son James (2d) baptized in Fairfield in 1696. He made over his Fairfield property to his son James (2d) during his life, and is said to have resided near Hyde's Pond, which was entirely drained and filled up by Mr. Frederic Sturges in 1879.

James (2d) was the father of James (3d) and John. The latter son married, in 1758, Mary (Hull) Jennings, widow of Dr. Seth Jennings, whose daughter, Esther Jennings, married Peter Burr, of Fairfield.

Probably this house was built by John Redfield. At all events, his family occupied it in 1779, and were among the sufferers from the brutalities of the British soldiers under the infamous Tryon. Mr. Redfield was away from home, but in the house were his aged step-mother, his wife, Lucretia, and a child. A party of the enemy, with three officers, came to the house and ordered it to be fired, alleging that one of their men had just before been taken prisoner in that vicinity. Mrs. Redfield by exertions succeeded in extinguishing the fire, although the burning was four times attempted.

During the night the British soldiers roamed through the village without the slightest control from their officers, and three of them entered the house of Mrs. Redfield, where they destroyed the furniture, ransacked and plundered the house, and rifled the pockets of the inmates. Even the gray hairs of Mr. Redfield's widowed mother did not protect her from plunder and gross insult, and his wife was saved from shameful violence by the opportune entrance of two men, one of whom stated that he had been a prisoner in that town, and had experienced civility and kindness from its inhabitants. These men remained and protected the family through the remainder of the night.

The committee which was afterwards appointed to estimate the losses sustained by the inhabitants of Fairfield by conflagration and plunder on this occasion reported the loss of John Redfield, £38 2s. 4d.; Widow Sarah Redfield, £31 15s. 6d.; Mrs. Lucretia Redfield, £28 3s. 4d.\*

The widow of Capt. John Redfield married Henry Marquand; he probably died here, and was buried in the old burying-ground. His tombstone in the old ground bears the following:

"In memory of  
Henry Marquand,  
Born July 8th, 1737, on the  
Island of Guernsey,  
and died July the 12, 1772,  
after a residence of eleven years  
in America.  
This Stone  
Erected to commemorate his memory  
by his only son  
Isaac Marquand,  
July 4, 1808,  
Æ 80.  
  
In memory of  
Gurdon Seymour Marquand,  
son of  
Isaac & Mabel Marquand,  
Born September, 1801,  
and died 15 May, 1895."

Isaac Marquand married Mabel Perry. ("Colonial," No. 9.) An old journal written by one of Capt. Edwin Sherwood's ancestors says that Henry Marquand was a Frenchman and came from the West Indies to the United States and married Widow Redfield. Their son was a jeweler, and married Mabel Perry. They were the parents of Henry, Josiah, Frederic, etc.

The widow, Mrs. Marquand, must have sold this place to Joseph Perry, as the late Samuel Perry stated that he went there to live when only five years old, and he would be eighty-eight if living. He married a Redfield descendant, and his daughter married a Redfield, as the following shows: Sarah Redfield (probably reared here) married William Bulkeley, of Southport, son of William and Elizabeth Burr Bulkeley. The last named was one of the largest property-holders of the borough of Southport. He built the house (see "Colonial," 50) in which Miss Emily Meeker resides, and owned all the land on the east side of the bridge, including the woods to the water's edge, also the land where Mr. George Bulkeley now resides, the Congregational church, the railroad station, and all the land east of it to the main road. He died in 1787, aged forty-one.† His son William (who married Sarah Redfield), born in 1768, inherited the paternal homestead, which was not burned during the Revolutionary war. He built the store, now improved, occupied by W. B. Meeker, keeping a country supply-store and sending market-boats to New York City. Upon a business visit to the city he was taken ill with the yellow fever, brought home, and died in 1808, aged forty. Mrs. Sarah Redfield Bulkeley died in 1842, aged seventy-six. They had seven children, one of whom, Henrietta, born 1797, married Samuel Perry, of Fairfield, a cabinet-maker and undertaker. They were the owners and occupants for several decades of "Colonial No. 6," both of them attaining a life of not far from fourscore years. They left two daughters,—Emily, who married George Ryder, Esq., of Danbury, and Sarah, who married Daniel Marsh Redfield, of Portchester. He is the son of the late Mr.

\* State Papers at Hartford, Revolutionary War, vol. xv., folio 256.

† See Bulkeley Genealogy, page 197.



Isaac B. Redfield, and grandson of Daniel Marsh, of Litchfield, Conn. The latter couple resided with Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Perry till their decease, when they became the owners, and have continued their residence here since.

It is peculiar in structure, being a double house, having but one stairway to reach the second story, and that accessible only through the kitchen. The piazza is supported by Ionian pillars. The whole house has been well preserved, and bids fair to stand another hundred years.

No. 7. This house was built by a Nathan Beers, who died in 1813, in his seventy-ninth year; his wife, Abigail, lived to be ninety. This property has been in the Beers family for generations.

As this part of the town was where they originated, a few words for the race will appropriately come in here. They were noted for their longevity, judging from their tombstones. Nathan Beers, son of the above Nathan, died 1835, in his seventy-ninth year; his wife, Mehetable, died in "1824, aged seventy-one years one month and thirteen days." Another of the Beers family is thus epitaphed:

"In this spot  
are deposited the remains of  
"William Pitt Beers  
(Late of Albany, in the State of New York).  
Called to the Tomb  
in the meridian of life and of usefulness,  
his memory will be cherished  
in the affections of a bereaved family  
and a numerous circle of  
relatives and friends.  
He died 13th Sept., 1810,  
Aged 44 years."

Captain David Beers died 1826, aged eighty-one. One stone in the old burying-ground contains,—

"Here lies the body  
of Lieutenant James Beers,  
died 1772, aged 79."

This house (No. 7) is owned by Mr. Abraham Gould and Mrs. Eliza Beers, relict of James Beers, and occupied by the same parties.

Mr. Samuel Beers was once high-sheriff in the town. His grandson, Mr. W. A. Beers, wields the pen gracefully as contributing editor of the *Southport Times*, which has the following history: "The first paper published in Fairfield was issued as the *Southport Advertiser*, published by Messrs. J. H. Wood, J. F. Jennings, and Thomas Bradley for one year, after which the name was changed to *Southport Chronicle*, with the same proprietors excepting George Baker, the present editor of the *Stamford Advocate*. Two years later the original partners withdrew and Mr. Baker associated with him Mr. Benjamin F. Bulkeley. Three years later the Chronicle Association was organized, C. M. Gilman, Esq., editor, with a capital of three thousand dollars. It is now an independent conservative paper, having for editor Rev. Henry A. Van Dalsem, of Southport. Contributing editors, William A. Beers, of Fairfield; William H. Smith,

of Mill Plain; Chas. H. Gray, of Greenfield. (See "Colonial," No. 50.)

By the efforts of W. A. Beers the *Times* has acquired its popularity, and his articles are frequently copied in the New York papers as works of much merit.

No. 8. This "colonial" was built by David Osborn, where he brought his wife Mary Beers (see "Colonial," No. 7) Osborn. Here were their three sons—Hezekiah, Daniel Beers, and David—born, whom their parents saw make a beginning in life. Hezekiah built him a house, occupied now by Mrs. Burr Clemons (belonging to Mr. Frederic Sturges), and there he brought his wife, Nancy, daughter of Peter and Sarah Bradley Perry. (See "Colonial," No. 9.) Hezekiah followed the sea and was captain of a vessel. He moved to Black Rock; from thence they accompanied their children to Verona, N. Y., where they died.\* She was nearly one hundred years old. The sons went to Kansas, and were there located at latest reports. Daniel, born May 5, 1779, took the house built for Hezekiah, and brought his wife, Sally Wakeman, a near descendant of the Rev. Samuel Wakeman, ancestor of most of the Wakemans in town, of whom Andrew P. Wakeman is at present a prominent and efficient town officer. Here were born Mrs. Eben Burr,\* of Fairfield, and Mrs. Lyman Wilcox, of Illinois. David married Rebecca Sturges, daughter of Benjamin Sturges, to whom the grant was given on Mill River for a fulling-mill. He (David Osborn) built the house occupied by Miss Rebecca S. Carew, and, in company with his father, David kept a country store on the corner opposite the new graded school-house and Miss Carew's. There was also a shoemaker's shop attached to the store. The father died in 1813, aged seventy, with the typhus fever, which was then an epidemic. Two bachelors, Jonathan and Aaron Beers, were afraid to pass a house where there was a victim of the disease, but they both took it and died with it. The son David died in 1815.

The store was moved to the premises now owned by Mr. Charles Smith, son of Master Elnathan Smith, who was aide-de-camp to Gen. Washington. He afterwards taught a select school on Mill Plain. There is one lady living (Mrs. Elizabeth Meggs, now seventy-nine, who was born on the spot where St. Thomas' church (Catholic) now stands, since it was removed) who attended his school, and who relates that he would in his last years go to sleep, and the children would tickle his nose. While the store stood on the Smith premises it was occupied by Maj. Samuel Beers (brother of Mrs. Mary Beers Osborn and father of Mr. Henry J. Beers), who was deputy sheriff of the county and kept the jail, and there he died.

This store was then moved to the premises of Mr.

\* See "Special Houses," No. 2.

Samuel Perry (see "Colonial," 6), who used it in his cabinet business or as a shop. It was moved again on the highway above Mr. Ebenezer Burr's and converted into a dwelling, owned at present by James Flanagan.

From the family of David and Mary Osborn have descended four generations, which constitute a goodly portion of Fairfield and form a worthy line.

In 1876 a centennial party was held here, which proved to be a family gathering, as many of the grandchildren and great-grandchildren formed a large share of the company. Dresses were there that probably were worn in the same house one hundred years before, and had figured at balls and parties at that date. The oldest dresses worn originally belonged to Miss Abigail Burr, sister of Gen. Gershom Burr. "Hats and cloaks that had ridden on horseback with their owners five or ten miles to hear some famous divine expound the doctrines of Christianity were present; also ancient wedding-dresses were displayed, looking as well as when they decked the brides for whom they were made, all of whom have long been sleeping the peaceful sleep that knows no waking."\* These garments are stored away carefully for future use,—fitting habiliments to wear in these old houses once in a hundred years.

The Osborns have been very numerous in Fairfield. Among the stones in the old graveyard one reads,—

"Here lyes Buried  
the Body of  
Capt John Osborn,  
who departed this Life  
Oct 13th, A. D. 1760, in ye  
78th year of his age."

The name has undergone changes, as the following is found :

"Here lyes ye Body  
of Mrs. Abigail Osborn,  
wife to Mr. Samuel  
Osborn, Aged about 44  
years. Dec<sup>d</sup> August  
ye 5th, 1 7 2 4."

A new stone-cutter or improvement in spelling is shown on her husband's stone :

"Here Lyes Buried  
the Body of Mr  
Samuel Osborn,  
who departed this  
Life April 2nd, Anno Domi  
1752, Aged 72 Years."

The next stone underwent more changes, as that was to

"Benjamin Osborne,  
who departed this Life  
July ye 22, 1770.  
Aged 47 Years."

Longevity was a feature among the Osborns.

Deacon Daniel Osborn died in 1804, aged seventy-nine years. He was the politest of husbands. In those days it was the custom for milkmaids or housewives to do the milking, so he used to drive up the cow, hand Mrs. Osborn the pail, and brush away the

flies while she milked. Mr. Howes Osborn died 1807, aged eighty-five. Mrs. Howes Osborn died 1812, aged eighty-one. (See "Colonial," No. 48.) Hon. Thomas Osborn was member of Congress, and served two terms in the House of Representatives. His residence was that occupied at present by Mr. Henry J. Beers, of Fairfield. Hon. Thomas Osborn was a lawyer. He and Deacons Charles Bennitt and Samuel A. Nichols were executors on Hon. Roger M. Sherman's estate. Mr. Osborn's son, Arthur D., is a lawyer and clerk of the courts in New Haven, Conn.

This colonial property fell by purchase or otherwise to Capt. J. Wakeman Davis, who had five children born here, of whom one son, William, died from eating stramonium-berries. The next day there was no more stramonium on the place, as a scythe cropped every plant of the species.

Capt. Davis made repairs on the place, which afterwards came into the possession of Mr. Walter Jennings, now a resident of Green's Farms. He was an extensive landholder in Mill Plain, owning the premises of Aaron Gould and property in possession of Charles Smith, also a portion of Andrew Thorpe's property. The name of Jennings is associated with real estate in the same district to some extent to this day, the principal representative being Horace Jennings, who has been engaged in the grocery business, but, suffering greatly by three fires, has turned his attention to agriculture.

Mr. Walter Jennings sold this colonial to Andrew Thorpe (son of Capt. Sturges Thorpe), who went to New York in his youth, learned a branch of cabinet-making, and became a member of the firm and amassed a handsome fortune. He built a fine country-seat on the site of his father's (Capt. Sturges Thorpe) house, facing the green on Mill Plain, which he occupied till his death, which occurred July 4, 1877. His property remains undivided.

Mr. Thorpe wished to improve his property by extending his lawns, so he exchanged this colonial with Mrs. Charlotte Burr and her sons, David and Charles Bulkeley, for their home contiguous to his grounds. He removed their house and fences, while they moved into the colonial, which they occupied for some twenty years, when Burr Perry purchased it and newly covered it and made a square two-story house of it by raising the long roof side and changing the chimney. It is now used for a tenement-house.

No. 9. What remains of the old house on the Perry homestead has the following history: It, with the mill-property, belonged to Richard Ogden, and is recorded in 1680. In 1705 the mill was burnt; it then stood on what is now called Laurel Brook. Some of the oak-timbers which helped form the dam reputed as the first in Fairfield are yet on the original foundation. Proofs are given of a dam's being there, as the old deeds are given of land lying in the old mill-pond. Mr. Ogden was too poor to rebuild the mill, so the town bought back the site.

\* Thus wrote an eye-witness to the *Bridgeport Standard*.



It was next purchased from the town by Joseph Perry (1st), son of Nathaniel and Hester Lyon Perry, and grandson of Richard, the first Perry settler, who received "May ye 18th, 1649," a grant from the town of "one common lott, contayning two acres and ten rods, more or less," etc. "Also one parcel of land in the Newfield" (now Bridgeport). "Also one parcel of meadows in ye meadows before ye town," etc. "Also one parcel of meadow by the harbor."

In Book B, Town Records, page 120, it is found that May 16, 1704, "the town grants liberty to Joseph Perry to erect a grist-mill on ye Mill River att such a place and upon such conditions as ye committee hereafter named shall agree to. Ye committee are as follows, viz.: Capt. John Wakeman, Mr. Peter Burr, John Edwards, John Sturgis, and John Wheeler." Page 133, Book B, states "Joseph Perry proposeth for liberty to erect a grist-mill or mills upon ye Main River near ye place where his present mill stands. Ye town, having considered his proposal, do grant unto him, ye said Perry, liberty to erect a grist-mill or mills on ye main stream or river where he shall think fitt, near ye place where his present mill stand, and only upon ye same terms and conditions as are expressed between him and ye town in ye late covenant about the present mill." Joseph Perry made purchases in 1705, and in 1709 obtained a permit to transfer the building of the mill to Mill River. Tradition states that the mill, on its original site, was protected by a fort from devastation by the Indians, and that one man, while acting as sentinel thereon, was killed by an Indian. It is also stated that a band of Indians set out to destroy it, but a few of the colonists at work in a cornfield, concealed by the high corn, apprehending their danger, made a great noise, which caused the foe to beat a hasty retreat, fearing they were greatly outnumbered.

In 1705, Joseph Perry also bought the Ogden homestead, contiguous to the mill, and in all probability moved thither. Joseph married three times: (1) Sarah, daughter of John Bulkley; (2) Deborah, daughter of Daniel Burr (1st); (3) Mary, daughter of Michael Clugstone, and granddaughter of Rev. Samuel Wakeman. Joseph was the father of twelve children. It is not known whether they were all born in this house. The original deeds granted him from the town from 1705 till 1751 of the "common and undivided lands" are in possession of Messrs. David Beers and Burr Perry. He (Joseph 1st) lies in the old burying-ground under the simple inscription, all in capitals:

"Here lyes Buried  
the Body of Mr  
Joseph Perry,  
who departed this  
life August ye 9th,  
1 7 5 3,  
in the 77th Year  
of His Age."\*

\* His inventory amounted to seven thousand five hundred pounds, and includes a negro wench and a negro girl, but does not include the mill,

His son Joseph, Jr., married Sarah, daughter of Peter Bulkeley (2d), of Fairfield. They had four children. He died eleven days later than his father, leaving a widow and three children.† The eldest, Peter, was born Jan. 24, 1739 (O. S.), and married Sarah Bradley in 1763. They were the parents of fifteen children. Betsey, the last of them, married Samuel Sherwood, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and died in 1878. She was the last of four generations interred in the old burying-ground, whose record (of the four) extends back two hundred and one years. Peter's sister married David Hubbell. (See "Colonial," 21.) His (Peter's) children were baptized Sall, Miah, Pol, and Job. His father intended that the name of the latter should be Jo, but the clergyman, not understanding, baptized him Job. He repaired the house, and, judging from his account-book, he must have remodeled it, as the work of repairs began in 1760 and extended to 1763, at an expense of £159 14s.

This is considered the oldest house in town. It must have been newly sided with cedar shingles, which are yet on two sides of the building, though in some cases holes are worn entirely through them. Everything was probably fitted up in fine style for the times in which he lived. The beaufet, with its circular shelves and rounded-top sash-door, with its curious pane of glass, the cranes, and trammels, yet remains. The tiles about the fireplace have been taken for old-time relics.

Among the one hundred and fifteen items of expense on the house are:

	£	s.	d.
To 4500 of Shingles.....	14	15	0
" 4 Day's work.....		12	0
" A Week's board.....		5	0
" 14000 tenpenny nails.....	7	1	8
" A box of Glass.....	5	7	6
" 50* of White Lead.....	2	10	6
" 2000 fourpenny brads.....		12	0
" 1000 of Short Shingles.....	1	5	0
" 12000 Lath Nales.....	2	8	0
" 5 dozen tile.....		12	0

From these extracts prices can be compared with the present rates.

In the old church record kept at Deacon Joseph Lockwood's, written in the beautiful handwriting of Rev. Andrew Eliot, is the following:

"Mary, daughter of James and Elizabeth Bulkley.

"Jonathan, son of Walter and Ruth Buddington, baptized at the house of Peter Perry, Aug. 15, 1779, the church having been consumed by fire July 8, 1779."

After Peter Perry's death his son Job bought the homestead of the heirs, and placed his son Alfred thereon in 1811, and he in 1815 brought hither his wife, Ann Dimon (see "Colonial," No. 10), who died in 1850. In 1854 he married Mary Godfrey, widow of Walter Andrews, of Easton. She is the last survivor of that generation of Job's family, either of husbands or of wives. In 1835, Alfred built the

which had been sold previously to his son Joseph. It also includes a quantity of silver. It is dated Sept. 19, 1753.

† Joseph Perry, Jr.'s inventory amounted to six thousand two hundred pounds, including some silver. Both father and son were wealthy for the times.

present dwelling, occupied by Burr Perry, who married (1) Laura H. Gildersleeve, daughter of Dr. Thomas Gildersleeve, of New York, in 1866. She died in 1869. (2) Kate E. Peet, in 1870, a descendant of Capt. Thomas Nash (see "Colonial," No. 13) and Col. John Burr, both of Fairfield, and also of Thaddeus Peet, one of the first settlers of New Milford, Conn.

Alfred moved the old dwelling to the northwest a few feet, and removed a portion of the house; the rest has been devoted to various purposes. An upper room is now used for an industrial and Sunday-school, with some thirty-five pupils in attendance. The frame bids fair to stand another century. It has been in the Perry family to the seventh generation.

The cradle in which Peter Perry's fifteen children were rocked, and the clock, made by John Whitear in 1763, which told the hour of their birth, are preserved on the grounds of the first purchaser.

The mill being built in 1709, in 1760 Peter Perry repaired it at a considerable expense, building a new water-wheel, repairing the dam, etc. In 1811, Job Perry tore down the old mill and built a new one, when he introduced Oliver Evan's\* machine "for elevating grain and meal, and conveying the same from one part of the mill to another, and for cooling the meal and attending the bolting-hoppers," for which he paid a license of twenty-five dollars, but which proved a fraud.

There was no change in the mill till 1849, when Alfred Perry added a burr-stone at the cost of seventy-one dollars in New York. In 1850 he imported two more run from France, for one hundred and one dollars and fifty cents. In 1866 his nephew, Burr Perry, had possession, and in 1868 raised the mill several feet, put in entirely new machinery, and added the turbine-wheels at the expense of two thousand dollars. The first toll-dish used in the first mill in this section still hangs in Perry's mill, having been in existence about two hundred years.

Peter Perry built a malt-house in 1762, from which he sold malt at four English shillings per bushel. The greatest number of entries in his account-book was for meslin (a mixture of wheat and rye used for bread-making). The prices seemed to fluctuate same as at present.

Peter Perry was a business man, and amassed a goodly estate. He was a miller, merchant, and owner of vessels, an extensive land-owner, and an excellent financier. Having preserved all his papers and account-books,—which also are journals of events, interlarded daily,—much light is thrown on the doings of a century ago. He held several offices in the district, but his aspirations were not in that direction. He was industrious, energetic, able, and pious, and brought up his family in like manner, and, like most of his descendants, felt that a "simple steadfast life alone is glorious."

Peter Perry's sons, Job and Walter, married sisters,—Sarah and Elizabeth Sturges, daughters of Joseph Sturges (who married Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer Dimon), who was taken prisoner by the British and died of the smallpox on one of their prison ships.

As several from Fairfield died on the prison ships, the following is given: One of the prison ships was the "Jersey," anchored on the present site of Brooklyn Navy-yard. This ship was of sixty-four guns, dismantled, and moored about twenty rods from shore. Her port-holes were closed up, and two tiers of holes, twenty inches square, barred with iron, were cut in her sides. For a long time the average number of prisoners on board was one thousand. Their allowance of rations was two-thirds the quantity issued to British seamen, but with no fresh vegetables of any kind. The rations were mostly cooked in an immense boiler called "the great copper," the meat being boiled in sea-water, which corroded the copper and rendered the food poisonous. There was some relief for those of the prisoners who happened to possess any money. An old woman known as "Dame Grant" came alongside on alternate days, in a boat rowed by two boys, and sold fresh bread, vegetables, etc., prudently requiring that the cash be placed in her hands before the goods were delivered.

The prisoners had no means of washing their linen except by dipping it in sea-water and then laying it on the deck and treading on it. No light or fire was furnished, and every night there was a struggle for the places nearest to the small grated openings.

The prisoners lost almost every feeling of humanity for one another, and the principal anxiety of the volunteer nurses seemed to be to claim their perquisites by robbing the dead and dying of their clothing. One captain, a new prisoner, finding there were several cases of smallpox on board, inoculated himself, using a common brass pin for a lancet. There were eleven thousand five hundred deaths on these prison ships. An armed guard was necessary in the well-room to compel the prisoners to work the pumps enough to keep the hulk from sinking. The highest privilege that was granted a prisoner was to go ashore as one of a burying-party.†

The Sturges line is as follows: John Sturges, born about 1624 or 1625, died in 1700. He married Deborah Barlow. They had at least seven children, one of whom was Joseph, born about 1653 or 1654, and died May 12, 1728. He married (1) Sarah Judson; (2) Mary Sherwood. He had at least twelve children, of whom Solomon, one of the elder ones, baptized May 15, 1698, died July 9, 1779, married, March 8, 1725, Abigail Bradley. They had three sons—Hezekiah, Joseph and Judson—and seven daughters.

This family stood in excellent repute. The house in which Solomon lived stood over the cellar in Miss Mary Nichols' field, near the large elm-tree by the

\* Father of mills in the United States."

† See Bryant's United States History, vol. iii. page 539.



street. When he heard the British had landed, he called for his horse, which was brought, when he mounted the same and started for his cattle, which were down near the beach, with the hopes of rescuing them from plunder; but, the British spying him, one of their soldiers leveled a gun at him, and the shot wounded him, so that he was unable to reach home. He crawled under a tree, unable, from his wound, to go farther, when another British soldier ran him through with a bayonet, so that he died. He is the Solomon Sturges referred to in Rev. Andrew Eliot's letter preserved in Vol. III. of Massachusetts Historical Collections.

Solomon's son Hezekiah and family struck for safety. They were farmers of goodly estate, with plenty of excellent provisions. A Tory passed by, and, seeing a light, peeped in the window, where the enemy had a tempting supper set of baked pig, turkey, chicken, ham, etc. There was also a quantity of wine in the cellar, brought there by a privateersman. The enemy partook of this freely, and after they gratified their physical wants they gave way to fiendish deeds, and burnt all that was not otherwise plundered and destroyed.

In the winter, when snow came, Hezekiah Sturges drew timbers on the sled and built anew. He put up the frame for a large house, and finished as means and time would permit. The kitchen ran the length of the house; over this was a chamber of like dimensions, which was seated and used by the Episcopalians for public worship till they could erect a church, which they did; and this was the third Episcopal church in Fairfield. A descendant of his (Mary Nichols) still owns the premises.

Among his posterity were Capt. Solomon, who died at sea; Edward, who lived where George Chapman now does; Samuel Sturges, who resided on the premises of Mrs. Morris Wakeman; Capt. Eben Sturges, who died at Jamaica, West Indies, with the small-pox; and Dimon Sturges, whose sister married Capt. B. Lothrop Sturges, from another branch of the Sturges family. The latter was a son of the celebrated Judge Jonathan Sturges, who resided opposite the Catholic church, where Jerry Toomy lives, and was father of the late Jonathan Sturges. (See "Special Houses," No. 5.) In Dimon Sturges' family, Solomon and Eben were bankers in Ohio, and were also large real-estate owners and men of unlimited influence.

Walter Perry, who married Elizabeth Sturges, lived in Southport, on the premises now owned by Mr. Oliver H. Perry, who has the deed of the premises conveyed to his grandfather, Peter Perry, from John Cannon in the last century. Miah Perry and his wife, Elizabeth Dimon, married in 1787, lived where Nehemiah Jennings' meat-market now is. These two brothers were engaged in the mercantile trade and shipping. Job Perry, who married Sarah Sturges, was a merchant and miller in Weston. Seth Perry was a

merchant in Black Rock. David Perry was a merchant in North Carolina.

Of Peter Perry's daughters, "Sall" married David Ogden (see "Colonial," 11); Nancy married Hezekiah Osborne (see "Colonial," 8); Mabel married Isaac Marquand. They were the parents of Henry Marquand, the banker in New York, and Frederic, best known as the founder of Marquand Chapel, at Yale College, also a very large donor to the same institution. Pol married Henry L. Penfield, and Betsey married Samuel W. Sherwood, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Of Peter Perry's grandchildren, Francis D., son of Miah Perry, is president of Southport National Bank; Oliver H., son of Walter, is a leading official in the Southport Savings Bank, and has been prominent in Church and State affairs. His sister Narcissa married Judge Samuel Hitchcock, of New Haven; Emily married Dr. Chandler Smith, of Danbury. Job and Sarah Sturges Perry's children were all born in Weston, Conn., and were all millers or merchants. Alfred was a miller, and occupied the old Perry homestead; Munson was a miller and merchant, moved to Somers, N. Y., and was the father of ten children,—Talman, a miller, afterwards a lumber-dealer in Bridgeport; Burr, a merchant at Black Rock; Orlando, miller in Weston; David, a merchant in Bridgeport, engaged in the whale-fisheries, and owning shares in various vessels; Emeline, who married Ephraim Gregory, a hatter in Danbury. These are all dead, but their descendants are numerous and prosperous.

Of Peter Perry's great-grandchildren, John Hoyt, son of Oliver H., is a lawyer of the firm of Woodward & Perry, of Norwalk. He is a graduate of Yale, a director in the Southport National Bank, also of the savings bank, and is an ex-member of the Legislature. Winthrop H., brother of John Perry, is also a graduate of Yale, a thorough scholar, with bright prospects for a successful professional career. Henry, another brother, graduated from the Yale Scientific School. Rev. Talman Perry (Presbyterian) is located in La Prairie, Canada; Thomas Perry is a civil engineer in Illinois; Frederic M. Perry is the well-known hatter in Bridgeport; Miah Perry, of Weston, is an ex-member of the Connecticut Legislature.

No. 10. This house was built by Daniel Dimon about 1755. Building was his business; his reputation as an architect (carpenter in those days) was excellent. He was the builder of the house owned by Mr. O. W. Jones, also of the Fourth Congregational Church, built 1785. This was taken down in 1849 to give place to a more modern structure. Mrs. Sophia Edwards, of Brooklyn, daughter of O. W. Jones, wrote in 1850 the following, suggested by the occasion of tearing down this place of worship:

#### LINES ON LEAVING THE OLD CHURCH.

Farewell, old temple of our sires!  
Gone is thy ancient form;  
No more around thy spire will play  
The sunshine and the storm.

Thy venerated walls have stood  
Through sixty-five long years,  
While fathers sleep who planted thee  
With mingled hopes and fears.

Farewell, each dear, familiar thing!  
Thy ever-faithful vane,  
Thy lofty pulpit, large square pews,  
We ne'er shall see again!  
A stranger has usurped thy place  
And stolen thy old bell,  
And we must bid thy sacred courts  
A final, sad farewell.

Here have we met each Sabbath day  
To hear God's holy word;  
Together here have joined our hearts  
To supplicate the Lord;  
And here, in grateful songs of praise,  
Our voices oft to blend,  
To Him from whom all blessings come,  
Ours and our fathers' Friend.

The Spirit oft, we trust, has been  
Within this hallowed place,—  
Revived the Christian's faith and love  
With gentle dews of grace;  
And many souls have tasted here  
The joy of sins forgiven,  
To whom this earthly house has been  
The very gate of heaven.

And must Time's rapid, censeless course  
Blight all things with decay?  
The dearest relics of the past  
Forever fade away?  
Must all the mighty works of man  
But share this common doom,  
And he in beauty, youth, and strength  
Go to the silent tomb?

Oh, could this temple of our sires  
Its thrilling story tell,  
Of most who've trod its well-worn aisles  
And loved its courts so well,  
Whate'er their weal, whate'er their woe,  
It would this truth reveal,—  
That they repose where nevermore  
Life's changes they can feel.

And is there, then, no brighter world  
Beyond this vale of tears,  
Where Time can never steal away  
The objects love endears?  
"Yes," sweetly whispers heavenly Hope,  
"A home of sacred rest,  
Where all who are the friends of Christ  
Shall be forever blest."

Now, dear old temple of our sires,  
As we thy ruins see,  
With cheerful spirits we will give  
Our last farewell to thee;  
For while our temples perish here,  
In faith we'll raise our eyes  
To that fair house, not made with hands,  
Eternal in the skies.

Feb. 14, 1850.

In Revolutionary times Daniel Dimon was an officer, and was away on duty, while his wife, a delicate woman, was left to care for her family the best she could.

Bradley Dimon occupied this house for several years, but after his decease the name became detached from the property. Ann, reared here, daughter of Daniel Dimon, married Alfred Perry. (See "Colonial," No. 9.)

The Dimons bore an old and respected name in town. An old stone in the old ground commemorates one thus: "Capt. John Dimon, died in 1764;" another thus: "Capt. Moses Dimon, died in 1748."

As the Dimons were people of good repute in town, the following may be interesting to various families. This is found in the West burying-ground:

"Jesse Dimon,  
died in Augusta, Ga.,  
Nov. 1, 1822  
Aged 52.

Robert Dimon,  
son of  
Jesse & Bethia Dimon,  
died in Augusta, Ga.,  
Aug. 21, 1823.  
Aged 23 y'rs & 7 mos.

John Dimon,  
son of  
Jesse & Bethia Dimon,  
died in Brooklyn, L. I.,  
Nov. 20, 1835.  
Aged 33.

Elizabeth Dimon,  
daughter of  
Jesse & Bethia Dimon,  
wife of Samuel S. Adams,  
died in Eaton Rapids, Mich.,  
Sept. 17, 1861.  
Aged 63."

Mr. Marvin Hull purchased this estate, and in 1874 built a new house, the old one being removed to the westward. The Hulls are of an old family; the first entry on the records of the Prime Ancient is: "Theophilus Hull, and Mary his wife, renewed covenant, Aug. 26, 1694." (See "Special Houses.")

A stone on Greenfield Hill commemorates the name thus:

"E. H.  
In Memory of  
Doctr Eliphalet Hull,  
born April the 8<sup>th</sup>, 1738,  
And died Novem<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>, 1799,  
in the 62<sup>d</sup> year of his age,  
Universally lamented by all  
who knew him.  
May he sleep in Jesus and awake  
in glory."

No. 11. This was built by Jonathan Ogden, who had three sons—Sturges, Abel, and David—who settled near him. Sturges married Zoa Thorpe, probably a descendant of Stephen Thorpe, who had his dwelling burnt during the conflagration of Fairfield, and who afterwards purchased Chancellor Kent's place in Westport, now owned by Mrs. Mary Burr Hedenberg. Sturges Ogden built the house on the corner, at the entrance to Oak Lawn Cemetery.

David Ogden married Peter Perry's "Sall," and built the house on the opposite side of the street. Their daughter Betsey married Samuel Morehouse (see "Colonial," No. 39), whose father owned the property known as Phipp's, where he built the first sloop or schooner in these parts, which he sold for three thousand dollars,—a large fortune in those days. His



grandson, Deacon Samuel Morehouse, now owns this Ogden property, which has been occupied some years by Francis Louis. Mr. Morehouse is principal of a ward school in New York,—a position he has held for years.

Ebenezer Burr and his son, a lawyer, clerk of the County Court and ex-member of the Legislature, were descendants of this family of Ogdens, who occupied several houses on Mill Plain.

George Ogden lived by the railroad, crossing where Mr. Dickinson resides, and his father, Maj. Abel Ogden, lived next to the Redfield house; the latter built in 1795. He was a carpenter, and had just married at the time he raised his house. He and his lady were out one evening, when some one came in and announced a fire was on the Plain. The major coolly remarked, "It makes good work for the joiners." The historian fails to state his speech on finding the fire consumed his future home.

In the Fairfield west ground is an Ogden monument, containing on the face:

"Abel Ogden,  
died Jan. 14, 1851,  
Æt. 80.

Betsey, his wife,  
Died May 17, 1854, æt. 74.  
In the grace and tender pity of  
Christ, here resteth the body of  
David Ogden, rector of St. Mark's  
Church, New Canaan, who departed  
the fifth day of June, MDCCCXLV.

Ann Elizabeth, his wife, departed the fifth day of July, MDCCCXLI.  
Edward Nash, his son, departed the ninth day of October, MDCCCXLII.  
Have mercy on their souls. That bought them with Thy blood. Amen.  
Sturgis Ogden, departed Sept. xxviii., MDCCCXXVII., æt. 27.  
Elizabeth Ogden departed Jan. III., MDCCCXLVIII., aged 31. Jesus  
mercy!"

On the back is this:

"Lucretia S. Ogden,  
Died Oct. 31, 1860, æt. 52."

Jonathan Ogden's daughter Mary married Eleazer (son of James and Elizabeth *Whitehead* Bulkeley) in 1785. He was born in 1763, but in 1776 he enlisted to go aboard the "Defense," an armed vessel in the country's service, which he did duty on for thirteen months, and for which he received a pension. Again he went on board a vessel as a privateersman, which he followed for two years. In 1779 he enlisted in a guard, which was stationed on Kinsey's Point. Standing alone on the place now occupied by Oliver Perry, Esq., he saw two hundred British land, who at once commenced to burn Fairfield. After this he followed the sea through various vicissitudes. He and Miah Perry owned a vessel for a time, when he bought out Mr. Perry's part and continued in the coasting-trade, increasing this business according to his means, and as his sons grew up placed them in business with himself under the shipping-firm of E. Bulkeley & Sons, of New York, from 1788 till the present. (See Bulkeley Genealogy.) He took a lively interest in the perpetuity and welfare of his country, and after

the war he was engaged in commercial business till he died.

Eleazer was the sixteen hundred and fifty-sixth descendant from Peter Bulkeley, and was the father of six sons: (1) Jonathan, born in 1786, married Miranda Thorp (of a numerous and active family line as a whole in Fairfield, and who has intermarried in all the old families), and was active in all public matters. He served in the war in 1812 and received a pension. He was several times a member of the State Legislature, and was one of the committee for superintending government works in Southport Harbor. (2) Andrew, born in 1789, married Sally Dimon; also was a member of the State Legislature three times, and had a lively interest in his town, State, and country. (3) Lot, born 1794, married Emeline Jennings. (4) Moses, born 1796; married Catharine Bulkeley. He was a sea-captain of very high repute both on sea and land, and had a worthy position in the commerce of our country. (5) George, born 1800; married Elizabeth Andrews. He lived in New York, and had the principal management of the business of the firm. He now resides in Southport. (6) Charles, born 1804; married Elizabeth Beers, daughter of Capt. Abel Beers, of Mill Plain. (There are but two left of this large Beers family, David and Abigail, who reside on Mill Plain.) All of these sons were captains and engaged in the firm of E. Bulkeley & Sons, which amassed for each a large property and was a distinguished business association.

Of Eleazer's sons, Moses occupied this "colonial," where his sons Oliver and Frederic were born; the latter dying, Mr. Oliver Bulkeley is the owner of this property, which he repaired and painted about five years since. This is his farm-house now occupied by William Price. Mr. Oliver Bulkeley married Amelia Gilbert, of New Haven, and has a handsome residence in Southport. He is not engaged in any active business, but is a patron of art and literature, and is the benefactor of many in a very quiet and inconspicuous way.

This house was occupied some years by Walter Bulkeley, who married Betsey Smith, sister of Charles Smith (1880), of Mill Plain, whose history is sorrowful. She was the mother of several children, three of whom—Theodore, John Henry, and Edgar—were lost at sea on a passage from Bordeaux, France, to New Orleans. One other son, Horatio, died in Matura, Cuba. The other of her children all died, also her husband and her adopted ones and a brother; and yet her days were not shortened by all these bereavements, for she dwelt more than fourscore years in the land (she died 1877), and many can rise and bless her good works, especially the sick whom she soothed and comforted. Her own physical sufferings were not small, but her Christian fortitude sustained her.

No. 12. This is known as the Silliman place, situated at the entrance to Oak Lawn Cemetery. It was built a few rods from the road, with a large barn in

front. Tradition locates the first Perrys on this ground. It is authentic that it was in the Ogden family for many years. One of the daughters, Ellen, daughter of Sturges Ogden, was the sole heir to the estate. She married a sea-captain, Ebenezer Silliman. They left no issue, but he willed four thousand dollars to the Stratfield church. His journal, which he kept for years, was indicative of his occupation. It mattered not what occurred, the direction of the wind was given. They are reported as living entirely by themselves, and as free from work as possible.

Everybody used wood for fuel in those days, so when the winter supply was provided they saved all the large chips, which they used as plates. One side becoming soiled, they were reversed, and, that side becoming likewise, they were consigned to the fire, thus obviating dish-washing. This was related to the writer by various parties. In the winter season eight loaves of bread—the capacity of the great brick oven—was their usual baking, which did not recur often.

Dr. Jeremiah T. Denison ("Colonial," No. 2) related that when he began practice in Fairfield, some forty years since, he was called there, a distance of some two miles. After attending the patient he was asked what was the charge. The doctor stated twenty-five cents (half-price, as he thought, from appearances, they were poor people), which they paid him daily till his patient recovered. The doctor found in a day or so he had been deceived by appearances, as they were quite wealthy for the times, but studied to avoid care and labor.

The widow survived the captain several years. At her decease the property, most of which was sold to different owners, was divided among numerous relatives. The present owner is Mr. Henry Banks,\* who has made it comfortable by repairing with new window-casings and sash. The old shingle siding yet remains, weatherbeaten and gray.

No. 13. This house was built by Dr. Rogers, a physician of considerable celebrity. His wife was a Miss Tennant, sister to Rev. William Tennant, who preached on Greenfield Hill from 1772 to 1781, then removed to Philadelphia, leaving his silver door-plate behind. Dr. Rogers had one son, who went to Savannah to purchase slaves. While out riding, his horses ran away, upsetting and injuring him fatally.

Dr. Wm. B. Nash, who studied under Dr. David Hull, also occupied this house. He was a son of Capt. Thomas Nash (3d), of Westport, who married Mary, daughter of William Burr, of Fairfield. This Thomas Nash gave the site to the Congregational Society where the church now stands in Green's Farms. He was born in 1743, and died in 1815. He was a man of influence, courage, and energy. He was chosen deacon in 1768 in the same church in which his father and grandfather had served in that office, and was captain probably of the same company.

It is related that when Fairfield was burned, in the time of the Revolution, Col. Whiting, the commandant, having withdrawn the Americans to the Round Hill, north of the village, called for a captain and thirty men to volunteer for the purpose of reconnoitring the enemy; that Capt. Thomas Nash immediately stepped forth, followed by more than one hundred men. The colonel would allow only thirty to go. However, more fell in after they left the hill. Capt. Nash advanced to the fence north of the street, near where the meeting-house now stands, and ordered his men to lie behind the fence in the tall vegetation until the enemy were near the centre of the street, when, as he gave the word, they were to rise and *fire, load and fire*, and then run. This they did with such effect, and so unexpectedly, that none of his party were injured until they began to ascend the rising ground towards the north, where one was killed. Afterwards, when a squad of the enemy approached to burn his house at Green's Farms, he alone, or with but little help, dragged the company field-piece to a rising ground near the house, loaded it with grape, and fired upon them. They, suspecting he had a company to sustain him in so daring an act, retreated, and this house was saved, and is yet standing (near Green's Farms church), with its large veranda and railing above it.

At another time, being on a scout in the night, with only three men, he discovered a whaleboat secreted on the shore, which he thought indicated an enemy near. He therefore stove in the boat and searched for the foe. Perceiving a faint light from the window of a cabin in a cornfield, he ordered his *army of three* to pass rapidly round the cabin, making all the noise they could with their muskets against the building, by which the inmates deemed themselves surrounded by a real force. Capt. Nash then approached the window and told them to hand out their arms and he would spare their lives. They complied, and handed out sixteen muskets, which he secured, and told them to lie down until morning, when it appeared that he and his three men had surrounded and taken fifteen Tories and one British soldier.

Thomas Nash (3d) inherited a fine estate, but, owing to many losses sustained by the Revolution and investments in Continental currency, he spent his last days in straitened pecuniary circumstances. His father, Thomas Nash (2d), born in 1708, married Rebecca Hull, of Fairfield, in 1731. He inherited an ample estate.

An inventory is given on the Fairfield records of 1748 of his property, amounting to £9372 15s. He kept well what he inherited, and was a highly respectable and influential man. His father, the first Thomas Nash in Fairfield, was admitted to the Prime Ancient Church under Rev. Joseph Webb, Jan. 4, 1712, and had three children—Joseph, Thomas, and Sarah—baptized there the same day. Shortly after this (1715), when another child was baptized—and no

\* Son of Mr. Hezekiah Banks, of Greenfield.



more recorded after it—it is inferred that the new society was organized.\* Thomas Nash was the first deacon of that church, and probably continued through life in the office, also held by son and grandson. The ancestor of these Nashes died in New Haven in 1658.

In the records it is stated :

"It is ordered that Thomas Nash shall keepe the Towne Muskitts in his hands, and look to them well, that they be always in good order fitt for service, and the Towne to allow him what is Just for his care and pains."

Thomas Nash's name appears as a land-owner in Fairfield in 1701. His body lies in the burying-ground on Green's Farms, near Talcott Wakeman's, and his resting-place is marked thus :

"Here lyes buried ye body  
of Capt. Thomas Nash,  
Deacon of Fairfield West Parish,  
who departed this life June ye 8th,  
Anno Dom<sup>i</sup> 1748, in y<sup>e</sup>  
69th year of his age."

Thomas Nash, Jr., has this tribute :

"In memory of  
Capt. Thomas Nash, Jun<sup>r</sup>,  
Deacon of y<sup>e</sup> Church of Christ  
in this place, who died  
Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>, A. D. 1767, aged  
61 years wanting 12 days.

Here appears the Place of Bones,  
Of gaspful soulls and monumental Stones,  
Inscribed with grinning Deaths on rural Throns.  
But stop the Hearse; this is the destined Place  
Where lies his Ancient Body in the Dust.  
Thou yawning Grave profound, receive thy prey,  
And feed thy Worms with this delicious clay.  
Throw on the Earth, how piercing is the Sound!  
Weep on dear friends and ease the Wound.  
This kind relief the Social Passions crave:  
Jesus himself wept at a good man's Grave."

Dr. William Burr Nash studied with Dr. David Hull till he attained his majority (1807), when he was licensed to practice, and settled in Greenfield (in this colonial).† After a residence of ten years in Greenfield, he removed to Fairfield, and entered into a partnership with Dr. Hull, where for nine years he continued to reside, with a large and increasing practice. He lived in the house occupied by Arthur Bennitt, and in 1825, real estate being so low through the country, he (Dr. Nash) could hardly give it away. At this date he removed to Bridgeport, and for a time resided in a house situated on the corner of Main and Bank Streets, where the city bakery now stands. At that time there were but one or two other physicians in the city, and his practice soon became very large, not only here, but in the surrounding towns, and his travels were very extensive and laborious.

Dr. Nash's son, David Hull Nash, born in 1811, graduated as an M.D. at Yale College in 1834. His medical studies were under the supervision of his father. He married Susan E. Sterling, and commenced practice with his father. He is now the old-

est practitioner in Bridgeport. Few men have been engaged so many years as the late doctor, who during his long life was very successful.‡

At the period in which Dr. W. B. Nash entered professional life applicants to practice medicine were examined and licensed by a committee of physicians, and the degree of M.D. was not worn by them. Yet in later years it was conferred on him by Yale College. He accidentally fell, in his eighty-seventh year, and fractured the thigh-bone, which resulted in his death, 1872.

The records of the Nash family were collected by Rev. Sylvester Nash, A.M., rector of St. John's Church, Essex, Conn., in 1853, when there were three thousand three hundred of the Nashes named. The compiler wished very much to have a portrait of Dr. W. B. Nash for a frontispiece, but, with his characteristic modesty, he could not be induced to comply.

As the descendants of Thomas Nash (1st) remained undispersed in and about Fairfield for more than a hundred years, they are known as the Fairfield branch. At present the only descendants left in Fairfield are Jennings, Perrys, Bibbins, and Bennitt.

Capt. Burr Nash, son of Thomas Nash (4th), lived in Greenfield, then on Mill Plain, afterwards in Bridgeport, and from thence he removed to New York. He built, with others, the steamboat "Marion," which he commanded. Afterwards he returned to New York, then removed to New Haven, where he carried on, until his death (1848), the same business (blacksmith) that his ancestors wrought at in the same place two hundred years before.

After Dr. Nash left Greenfield, Buckingham Sherwood was the owner. In time Moses Betts (see "Colonial," No. 5) purchased it, and kept a country store there. He disposed of it to Col. Murray (of the New York militia), whose daughter, Agnes Murray, is the occupant.

No. 14. The house on the premises, with the store and post-office, was originally built and owned by Samuel Bradley, grandson of Francis Bradley, who settled in Southport, west of the tide-mill, in 1664. The first Francis Bradley had a son Francis, who moved to Greenfield. He had a son Samuel, who was called "Marchant Bradley." He lived where William Lobdell now does. Tradition says he commenced life with a "jug of rum and a fiddle," that he bought beef and pork as far back in the country as Litchfield County. This he shipped to Boston, where he would be gone six weeks to attend to his cargo. He died in 1771, aged seventy. This Samuel Bradley seems to have taken up nearly all the hill, and the land known as the "mile of commons."

Samuel's grandson, Walter, moved into this house, which was the custom-house for the port of Fairfield. (The commission given him by the powers in office is in possession of Dr. M. V. B. Dunham, a popular

\* Known as Fairfield, West Parish, now Green Farms.

† He married, in 1807, Ruth M. Eliot, daughter of Rev. Andrew Eliot, of Fairfield.

‡ See biography in history of Bridgeport.

allopathic physician, who occupied this house when he first began practice, in 1870, in Greenfield, and his son was born there.) Walter Bradley also kept store. His daughter, Priscilla, married William Burr.

William Bradley, brother of Priscilla, bought out the heirs, and in time his widow sold the house to Barzilla B. Banks, present owner. No one would ever mistrust its age, it is in such excellent repair.

No. 15. The house nearly opposite, of the Tomlinsons' estate, was built by the Rev. Seth Pomeroy. His tombstone in the Greenfield ground contains the following history :

" Here lies buried  
the Body of the  
Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Seth Pomeroy,  
Ordained to the work of ye ministry  
In this Parish Decer ye 8th, 1757,  
Who departed this life  
July the 1st, 1770, in the  
37<sup>th</sup> year of his age."

It is thought this house was built prior to 1765. At Mr. Pomeroy's decease Capt. David Hubbell bought it and built a store there. The Rev. William Belden purchased it in 1812 or thereabouts, and occupied it till 1821. He was the last teacher of any note in the academy, which was built for Dr. Dwight in 1785 or 1786.

Mr. Belden sold the house to Walter Perry (see "Colonial," 9), of Southport. The next owner was Joseph Nichols, who transferred it to George Wilson. It came to his wife, Ellen Bradley Wilson, who sold it to Mr. Sinclair, of the New York *Tribune*. He sold it to Mrs. Sophia Bulkeley, widow of Hezekiah R. Bulkeley, who has occupied it since 1863.

No. 16. Samuel Bradley (1st) had a son Hezekiah, who built the large gambrel-roofed house standing at the southwest corner of the green or parade-ground in 1755. He had a large farm, bred horses, and had more than twenty slaves. The second owner was Hezekiah Bradley, Jr., the third was Rufus Hoyt, who married a daughter of Capt. David Hubbell, neither of whom lived over a few months.

The next owner was Mr. Charles Nichols, who purchased the house in 1822. He married Polly, daughter of Jonathan and Molly Wakeman Banks. (See "Colonial," 32.) The Nichols are an old family in Fairfield. The first settler of that name was William. He married Abigail Ward, and died young. She was the owner of one of the "long lots." Their bodies (are supposed to) lie in Fairfield old ground. His (William's) only child was Ignatious, born 1665; married Abigail Staples. They were the parents of Nathan, Ignatious, Jr., Ephraim, Abigail, and Hester.

Ignatious, Jr., is buried in Greenfield, under this inscription :

" Here lyes buried  
the body of Mr.  
Ignatious Nickolls;  
who Departed this Life  
Dec. ye 17, 1738, in  
73 year of his age."

Ephraim Nichols was born in Greenfield, Conn., and married Rebecca, daughter of Onesimus Gould.\* They were the parents of Ebenezer, Hezekiah, David, Peter, John, Jesse, and Ephraim, besides five daughters. Ephraim died in 1782. His son, Ephraim, Jr., has a history on his tombstone in Greenfield burying-ground :

" To  
the memory of  
Ephraim Nichols,  
who died  
January 23, A.D. 1852,  
aged 94 years 9 months  
and 8 days.

In his youth he took part in  
the toils and struggles of the  
American Revolution.  
Many noble qualities of mind and  
heart adorned his life and endeared  
him to his family and friends.  
He died in the Christian Faith,  
and in the hope of a blessed  
Immortality.

I am a stranger with thee and a sojourner,  
As all my fathers were. Psalm xxxix. 12."

One Ebenezer lies in Greenfield, with this tribute :

" In  
Memory of  
Ebenezer Nichols,  
who left this world  
Aug. 10, 1810,  
In the 69<sup>th</sup> year  
of his age."

One of his grandsons, Rev. George W. Nichols, A.M., in his "Fragments from the Study of a Pastor," states that his grandfather "enlisted as a common soldier at the early age of nineteen years, and, joining the Continental army, proceeded to the city of New York, and was there at the memorable time of the declaration of independence. He was present when the soldiers demolished the statue of King George that stood in the Bowling Green, near the Battery, on Broadway. He was present also when the battle was fought at Flatbush, L. I., and saw the British take possession of the fortifications on Brooklyn Heights after they had been quietly abandoned by the Americans during the night of Aug. 30, 1776. He assisted, likewise, in erecting the fortifications at Red Hook, which was done during the night, that our army might, if possible, take advantage of the enemy, and while engaged in his trying duty at this period, suffering from exposure and hardship, was visited with sickness, and spent some time in the city hospital. But, though suffering much from sickness and exposure, being sometimes obliged to sleep out upon the ground, in consequence of the scarcity of beds and tents, yet did the old soldier still keep to his post of duty and sacrifice. He still continued with the army as they marched on through the county of Westchester, after the city had been evacuated by the Americans. When, shortly after, the famous battle was fought at White Plains, he was there, and stood amid the smoke of the cannon, while balls from Brit-

\* See "Special Houses."



ish muskets flew on either side of him. After the occurrence of that signal defeat, he still followed on with the army, encamping with them at Tarrytown and North Castle; and then, leaving the army, he retired to his native town, arriving there on Christmas day, 1776. Afterwards he enlisted again in the service, and set out from his home once more to join the army, which had already proceeded on its way for the purpose of taking Gen. Burgoyne. On arriving at Ridgefield news was received of the capture of Burgoyne. Thereupon he retraced his way towards home. This was the last of his participation in the Revolutionary contest. He then came home, and soon after took up his abode upon a small farm of a few acres, which he purchased with the avails of his industry." Here he erected the "old homestead," where he spent his long life; here he brought his youthful bride, Miriam Bradley; here he brought up his family,—William, Samuel, Charles, and Bradley.

These Nichols were all blessed with large families. One of John's (brother to Ephraim, Jr.) daughters, Mrs. Ruamah Nichols, wife of Samuel Merwin, now eighty-nine, cooks her dinner if necessary. She remembers sixty first cousins. Mrs. Charlotte Banks, wife of Bradley Nichols, eighty-six years old, performs all her domestic duties and "runs the farm" herself. She has two daughters,—Mrs. William Bradley (see "Colonial," 17) and Mrs. Zalmon Wake-man, both of Greenfield.

Charles Nichols married in 1815 and built the house owned by Elizabeth Bulkeley, in which he lived till he purchased this "colonial." Mrs. Mary Nichols, wife of Isaac Milbank, inherited this property from her father. Mr. Milbank's father came from Essex County, England. His home there was a stone dwelling, "Panfield Hall," which has stood eight hundred years. It still retains its old coaches and its old styles.

This house ("colonial") has never been repaired; its lower roof has never been resingled, even. The covering is shingle sides, with the large wrought nails, but is protected by an excellent coat of paint. A bay-window and a veranda have been added, and a few changes made inside; otherwise it remains as built one hundred and twenty-five years ago.

No. 17. The house opposite Mr. Milbank's was built by Samuel Bradley, Jr., somewhere between 1750 and 1760. He was a merchant, or, as they expressed it in old colonial times, "kept store;" he was also justice of the peace, and in consequence was called "'Squire." He had three sons: (1) Samuel (3d), who was a privatersman and died during the Revolution; (2) Zalmon, who built the house known as the "Capt. Baldwin house," now owned by Mr. A. R. T. Nichols. Zalmon also was in the commercial business, and was engaged in the West India trade with Joseph Squire, of Fairfield, dealing largely in beef and pork; (3) Walter is associated with house No. 14.

A man named Frazier broke into 'Squire Nichols' store, and was found guilty of theft, for which he

suffered the penalty of death, as he was hung on a gibbet erected on a knoll not far from the late Capt. John Gould's. Crimes met with heavy penalties in those days.

The store on this ground was in a greater danger from a member of the family, Samuel (3d), who went into the room where no fire was allowed at any time with a lighted candle in his hand and put it in a cask on the counter, which afterwards he found contained gunpowder. He went back and took out the candle in safety, showing he had courage.

The property descended to two sisters, Huldah and Lucy Bradley, and they willed it to Maj. William Bradley, who remodeled it in 1845. His three children being married, he and his wife are the sole occupants.

No. 18. The first minister of the gospel on Greenfield Hill was the Rev. John Goodsell, whose ashes repose in the Greenfield cemetery under the slab with this simple inscription:

"Here lies buried the body  
of the Rev. Mr  
John Goodsell,  
who departed this life  
December 26<sup>th</sup>, 1763,  
Aged 57 years."

The Rev. John Goodsell's son Lewis in 1772 built a house which was used as a tavern before and after the Revolutionary war. It has been a house of great resort, and became famous from its associations.

Mr. Alexander T. Nichols has kindly loaned for this work a legal abstract prepared by John H. Perry, a lawyer of note, containing the "transfers of property, whether by Deed, Will, Distribution, or by way of Mortgage, arranged for the most part in their chronological order." The historic parts are interlarded as they occurred.

(1) The premises in question were owned by Lewis Goodsell in fee simple, and unincumbered in 1772.

(2) Lewis Goodsell gave a warranty deed to Zalmon Bradley, June 15, 1778, for the consideration of seventy pounds.

(3) Zalmon Bradley gave a warranty deed to Eunice Goodsell, wife of Lewis Goodsell, June 18, 1778; consideration, seventy pounds. Eunice Goodsell died some time between June 16, 1778, and Nov. 28, 1794, leaving heirs,—Peter Goodsell, Lewis Goodsell, Jr., Sarah Lyon, wife of Joseph Lyon, and probably two others, whose names are difficult to be ascertained. There is no record of a will or of the granting of administration on her estate.

(4) Peter Goodsell quitclaimed his share to Lewis Goodsell, Jr., Nov. 28, 1794, for a consideration of four pounds and divers good causes, etc.

(5) Joseph Lyon, Sarah Lyon, and Lewis Goodsell quitclaimed their shares to Lewis Goodsell, Jr., April 23, 1796; consideration, ten pounds.

(6) Lewis Goodsell, Jr., gave a warranty deed to Joseph Bulkeley, Jr., April 23, 1796; consideration, fifteen pounds.

Joseph Bulkeley lived in this house sixteen years. According to the Bulkeley Genealogy, he lived to be over one hundred years. He was the son of Daniel and Hannah Hill Bulkeley. When he first moved into the house he probably rented it, as his son Uriah states he bought portions of the place as he could obtain them of the heirs. He said, "We all moved into the place Oct. 28, 1786, my mother riding on a bed in grandfather's cart, with my brother three weeks old, and all the furniture they had at the time. My father taught school for about two years in the district school-house, on the southeast corner of the green. His business—keeping tavern—was so good that in 1787 he raised up the front of the house, put windows up-stairs in front, made a double piazza, with stairs to the ball-room, plastered the chambers,—which had not been done before,—took down the chimney to the lower floor and rebuilt in a better manner, with freestone hearths," etc.

In another place he says: "These houses [in Greenfield] were all built on one plan, with back roofs descending to the height of the kitchen." The usual style was to have the well, with the old well-sweep, in front of the house, as was the hatchway-door. The roofs were, most of them, raised the same year except the old tavern.

In 1788, Joseph Bulkeley bought of his father-in-law, John Hubbell, the store which stood on the corner where Henry Goodsell now lives. He hired men and teams to draw it on to his premises. Mr. Uriah Bulkeley further states: "It was done with much difficulty, as the road at that time, and years after, was full of rocks. He at first left it the whole width on the green, west of the house, not connected, as there were some fruit-trees where it at last stood."

In 1791, Joseph Bulkeley went to New York and bought a small assortment of goods and began store-keeping. He succeeded pretty well, and next year went to New York and took with him his son Uriah, ten years old. He describes this trip seventy-seven years later, showing the only method of going to New York except by private conveyance at that time:

"We went to Mill River (now Southport) and to New York in a small sloop. Walter Perry, master, his brother David, hand, Job Perry (these were Peter Perry's sons), my father, myself, and one female, passengers. The sloop, only twenty tons, sails and vessel old, wind fresh at N. E. When we got to Norwalk Islands it shut in so thick with snow that we could hardly see the length of the vessel, a heavy rolling sea, and every soul on board deadly sea-sick except the female. Could hardly find any one to steer, but we drifted along through the Sound to Hart Island, when it broke away, and went on to Riker's (then Hewlet's) Island, and anchored. Beat down next morning, went into Burling Slip to the head, and our bowsprit lay half-way across Pearl Street, then Queen Street, at the foot of John Street, on the corner of which was Rogers & Woolsey's hardware-store, with a large gilt padlock for a sign, which was my guide back to the sloop, as I lived on board.

"After about a week we started for home, wind S. E. In going through Hell-Gate, close-hauled on the wind. There was a large wood-sloop coming down before the wind with no one forward to look out. We hailed them, but could make no one hear until close on to us. She just grazed our side, and her bowsprit caught into the after-leach of our mainsail and unshipped our boom, broke the gaff in three pieces, and took the whole sail off her bowsprit; took off our boat which was in tow.

"We made out, as the tide was with us, to get up, under our jib, against Riker's Island and anchored. The sloop anchored near where the old Hussar frigate was sunk. Our boat had drifted ashore; they picked it up, and towed it back with the mainsail, and settled for the damages. Father and myself went ashore and slept. There was a tremendous gale that night.

"Next day was pleasant. Mended and bent our sail, and started for home. Arrived at the dock at daylight next morning, walked home, and commenced at Dr. Dwight's Academy to learn

"*'Arma virumque cano.'*"

A smart boy for ten years! The schools of to-day (1880) do no better in education than in 1792 unless Uriah Bulkeley was a grand exception as a pupil. He continues:

"The store and tavern, with its sign of a horse, which is no better than a caricature—did pretty good business that winter,—maybe produced some jealousy among the old storekeepers, who perhaps felt as if the store was encroaching on their rights.

"Father next spring brought a large supply of goods, but within a few weeks after his return some one (or more) broke into the store and took about one thousand dollars' worth of drygoods and fancy articles, and left the store bare and a considerable debt due in New York. To show the sympathy of the world, next day after the loss was known, as I was driving cows, a son of my father's friend met me and said, 'Well, your dad has lost his goods! I guess you will have to come to 't now.'

"I remained at school and father paid his debts notwithstanding."

He further states:

"My father did not keep store in Greenfield after his loss, but moved the store back to connect with the house at the southwest corner of the bar-room, and moved the old bar from the northwest corner, where it remained till William Shaw moved it away. Father used it for a dining-room when he had much company."

Again he says (in 1869):

"I am pleased to see the old home of my youthful days fitted up in such good style. The old tavern has had a great many customers of the noblest of the land and foreign countries. I recollect Talleyrand, and the Spanish minister plenipotentiary (Don Onis, or a similar name) dining there. The lawyers and judges of the court at Fairfield frequently came up and spent Sunday, among whom I recollect Judges Reeve, Edmunds, Chapman, Uriah Tracy, Gideon Granger, Ephraim Kirby, Bostwick Whittlesey, Thaddeus Benedict, Pierpont Edwards, Bissel of Norwalk, Dagget, Nathan and Nathaniel Smith of New Haven, and nearly every judge and lawyer that attended the court, Rufus King, our minister to England, Joel Barlow, minister to France, Gen. Rufus Putnam, one of the first settlers in Ohio. I recollect him for his having holster and pistols and a bearskin on his saddle. I think there have been more visitors in the old house of the best class than almost any other public-house in a country place, owing, probably, in part, to the great reputation of Dr. Dwight's academy and to the beautiful scenery on the hill, which cannot be surpassed for beauty, if it is in grandeur."

In connection with the hotel and Dr. Dwight's school he is quoted further:

"Those were lively times at Greenfield. The old house of 'entertainment' was full to overflowing. In the winter they would have a dance about once a month, having Moses Sturges to fiddle, wine and plum-cake. Dr. Dwight always came in, took a glass of wine and a piece of cake, told some pleasant story, and left within half an hour."

Joseph Bulkeley moved to Black Rock, and sold the tavern in 1810 or 1812. His son Uriah married Jane Sayre,\* of Fairfield; she died in 1831. He died at Dobb's Ferry, N. Y., July 23, 1874, aged ninety-two. Dr. Dunham relates he saw him a few months before he died, when he stated he "did not wish to live to be an old man." He has one son, William Henry Bulkeley, a bookseller in Louisville, Ky.,

\* See note to Eliot's letter.



where he resides. He has one daughter, the wife of Henry Gordon Harrison, the architect of Garden City.

It is related of Uriah Bulkeley that when he was married everything was conducted in royal style, even the wood burnt in the fire-place was planed, and, gossip now adds, "was gilded at both ends."

(7) Joseph Bulkeley, Jr., gave a warranty deed to Medad Bradley, March 23, 1812; consideration, sixteen hundred dollars.

(8) Medad Bradley mortgaged this property to Gershom Burr to secure the sixteen hundred dollars, March 23, 1812.

(9) Gershom Burr quitclaimed to Medad Bradley, April 3, 1817; consideration, sixteen hundred dollars.

(10) Medad Bradley mortgaged to Thomas Bartram to secure twelve hundred dollars, May 7, 1825.

(11) Thomas Bartram quitclaimed to Medad Bradley, March 10, 1826; consideration, one dollar.

(12) Medad Bradley gave a warranty deed Nov. 2, 1827, to Sturges Morehouse; consideration, eight hundred and fifty dollars.

(13) Sturges Morehouse mortgaged to Isaac Banks, Oct. 27, 1838, to secure twelve hundred and seventy-five dollars. Isaac Banks, the mortgagee, died about Jan. 1, 1841, leaving a will, in which William Nichols and Horace Banks were executors.

(14) William Nichols and Horace Banks, executors on the estate of Isaac Banks, deceased, quitclaimed to Sturges Morehouse, March 12, 1841; consideration, one hundred dollars.

(15) Sturges Morehouse gave warranty deed to Hezekiah Phillips, March 12, 1841; consideration, five thousand dollars.

(16) Hez. Phillips gave warranty deed to D. Burr, March 17, 1845; consideration, fifteen hundred dollars.

The property is now definitely described as "containing three acres more or less," as all transfers do after this date on this estate.

(17) David Burr mortgaged to Nathan Bulkeley to secure three hundred dollars, April 17, 1845.

(18) Nathan Bulkeley quitclaimed to David Burr, Sept. 11, 1847; consideration, three hundred dollars.

(19) David Burr mortgaged to Samuel A. Nichols to secure six hundred dollars, Sept. 11, 1847.

(20) David Burr also mortgaged to P. T. Barnum to secure one hundred and twenty-five dollars, April 21, 1849. The world knows the showman's history.

(21) David Burr gave a warranty deed, subject to mortgage, for six hundred dollars, Dec. 13, 1850, to Lewis Nichols; consideration, three hundred and fifty-two dollars.

(22) Lewis Nichols quitclaimed to Eleanor B. Burr, Dec. 13, 1850; consideration, three hundred and fifty-two dollars.

(23) David Burr and Eleanor B. Burr gave a warranty deed to Frederic S. Lyon, Nov. 5, 1851;\* consideration, thirteen hundred dollars.

(24) Frederic S. Lyon gave warranty deed, subject to mortgage, for six hundred dollars, Nov. 1, 1852, to Rebecca A. McLellan; consideration, fourteen hundred dollars.

(25) John G. D. McLellan and Rebecca A. McLellan mortgaged to secure five hundred dollars, Nov. 1, 1852, to Samuel Betts.

(26) John G. D. and Rebecca McLellan gave a warranty deed, subject to two mortgages, for six hundred dollars and five hundred dollars, to Henry B. Banks, May 1, 1854; consideration, twelve hundred and seventy-five dollars.

(27) Henry B. Banks died intestate soon after the above conveyance. Administration was granted on his estate, July 26, 1854, to his widow, Maria C. B. Banks.

(28) Maria C. B. Banks gave a bargain-and-sale deed, April 26, 1855, to Peter H. Shaw and Anna M. Shaw his wife; consideration, one hundred dollars, and conveyed "the equity of redemption possessed by Henry B. Banks at the time of his decease."

(29) Maria C. B. Banks quitclaimed to Rev. Peter H. Shaw and Anna Maria Shaw, April 26, 1855; consideration, ten dollars. Anna Maria Shaw, wife of Peter H. Shaw, died Feb. 17, 1860, leaving two children,—William K. Shaw and Isabella O. Beard (wife of Ira Beard),—and probably intestate, no will or settlement of hers appearing on record.

(30) Peter H. Shaw quitclaimed to Wm. K. Shaw, April 14, 1860; consideration, one hundred dollars.

(31) Ira Beard and Isabella O. Beard quitclaimed, Sept. 21, 1860, to Samuel Betts; consideration, one dollar.

(32) William K. Shaw quitclaimed, March 5, 1861, to Samuel Betts; consideration, one dollar, and other values considered.

(33) Samuel A. Nichols, "Treasurer of the Town Deposit Fund of the Town of Fairfield," quitclaimed, March 6, 1861, to Samuel Betts; consideration, six hundred dollars. (See "Biographical," Fairfield.)

(34) Samuel Betts gave a warranty deed, Aug. 5, 1861, to Rev. Samuel Nichols; consideration, twelve hundred and fifty dollars.

The Rev. Samuel Nichols, D.D., died July 17, 1880, in his ninety-fourth year, at his residence on Greenfield Hill. The degree of D.D. was conferred on him by Williams College. He was probably the oldest Episcopal clergyman in the United States, and was at his ordination the three hundred and eighty-seventh of that sect ordained in America. He was born Nov. 14, 1787. He graduated from Yale in 1811, and was not only the last survivor of his class, but, with one exception, the oldest living graduate of the college. He was the oldest living presbyter of the diocese to which he belonged (that of Bishop Potter), and was believed to be the oldest one of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.†

\* Editor of *Connecticut Republican*, Norwalk.

† *Evening Post*, July, 1880.

In his early days he was associated with the Rev. Virgil Barbour in charge of the school at Fairfield, Herkimer Co., N. Y., then under the special patronage of Trinity Church, of New York. Afterwards for twenty-two years he was rector of a St. Matthew's Church at Bedford, Westchester Co., N. Y. His was a blameless life, respected by all denominations, ever charitable to the poor, and universally beloved. He left a reputation which was a testimony of his Christian character, his learning and fidelity, and his devotion to his family and friends.

He married Susan N. Warner of New York, and they were blessed with several sons and daughters, of whom are the Rev. George Warner, Effingham H., a lawyer, William, and Alexander; the latter is an ex-member of the Connecticut Legislature. These sons have amassed a goodly fortune, are men of talent and of trust, and have had a test of the confidence of men of means for many years which has never been abused. They are shrewd, excellent business-managers of great capacity and foresight, and have a well-established office in New York City. Susan W. Nichols, a sister of the above, is a skillful artist and excels in oil-painting. They are all possessed with fine æsthetic tastes, and are liberal patrons of works of culture whether of literature or of art, to which their own pens and pencils contribute.

(35) Rev. Samuel Nichols quitclaimed, July 29, 1868, to Alexander R. T. Nichols; consideration, one dollar, and other divers good causes.

(36) Rev. Samuel Nichols quitclaimed to Susan W. Nichols, July 29, 1868; consideration, one dollar.

(37) Susan W. Nichols quitclaimed to Susan N. Nichols, July 29, 1868; consideration, one dollar.

(38) Susan N. Nichols died March 22, 1872, leaving a husband, the Rev. Samuel Nichols, and several children living, and a will which is recorded in Kings County surrogate's office, in the State of New York.

(39) Phineas T. Barnum quitclaimed, Aug. 25, 1874, to Alexander R. T. Nichols and the devisees of Susan N. Nichols, being John J., Susan W., and Maria S. Nichols; consideration, one dollar, which released mortgage No. 20 above, the note secured thereby having long before been paid; so that the present owner, Alexander R. T. Nichols, at last has a clear title to a much entangled property. These transfers are given to show what changes property may pass through in one hundred years, also the variation of values on the same property.

This property is contiguous to that of the Rev. Samuel Nichols, D.D. Dr. Nichols' house was built for the Rev. Richard V. Dey, 1823-1828, who officiated during those years as pastor of Greenfield.

No. 19. The house occupied by Mr. Charles P. Bradley was built about the same time as the others in Greenfield. It was owned in 1786 by Mr. John Jennings, an old blind man, who was a blacksmith in his youth, afterwards by Josiah Jennings, who married — Heron, of Redding. William Bradley owned

it in 1823. From him it came to his son, Charles T. Bradley, the present owner. This house has been so remodeled by new sidings, verandas, etc., that it misleads the uninformed as to its antiquity.

No. 20. Deacon Joseph Bradley built this house. It descended to his son Joseph, who left three heirs on this place,—Burr, Grisel, and Polly. They being deceased, it was set off to *Maria S.*, the only daughter, the wife of Lloyd N. Sherwood, who are the present owners and occupants.

As near as can be ascertained, this house was built in 1746, and was honored with a centennial party of some one hundred and thirty persons dressed in costumes of 1776 early in the Centennial year. Here is to be seen an old coat-of-arms of the Bradley family.

No. 21. The Hubbell home was built by Gershom Hubbell in —. It fell to his son Moses, and then to the late Uriah Hubbell, and is now occupied by the widow and daughter. It seems that the first Hubbell in America was named Richard. He lived in New Haven, Conn., in 1647. Having been admitted as a planter, in 1680 he settled in Fairfield, where he died in 1692.

Dr. Dwight settled in Greenfield in 1783, and kept his academy at first in Gershom Hubbell's shop, where his grandson's widow now lives. Mr. Uriah Bulkeley relates, in his "Musings of Memory," that "Gershom Hubbell was a leather-breeches maker and dresser, and his daughter made the best gloves I ever wore." The academy building was built for Dr. Dwight in 1785 or 1786. "Joseph Bulkeley, Jr., although a schoolmaster from his eighteenth year, went to Dr. Dwight's school after he was married, to study surveying and navigation. The doctor had the reputation deservedly of being a first-rate teacher, and scholars came from all parts of the world to his school. It is thought he had always an eye to the presidency of Yale College. He had a class which it was his ambition to teach superior to any graduate of Yale. Some of them were David Hill, Ezekiel Webb, Jonathan Pomeroy, Parson Bartlett, and Lemuel Sanford, from Redding; David Rogers, Abraham Davenport, of Stamford. In the next class were two Henry Livingtons, from Poughkeepsie; James Anaram, from Richmond; Dubois, from France; Joel R. Poinsett, Minister to Mexico and Secretary of War; Dexter, from Newburyport; William Williams, from Norwich; Charles Denison, of New Haven; John Hacock, from North Carolina; Charles Hobby Pond, of Milford, afterwards Lieutenant-Governor of the State; Wilson, Richard, and Philo Hubbell, of Bridgeport; two Capers, from South Carolina; Henry Baldwin, afterwards judge of the United States courts, also his brother Michael; A. Tomlinson, who wore a suit of white broadcloth. Dr. Dwight had a class of young ladies, said to be the most beautiful ever in a class together,—two of Dr. Rogers' daughters; three Miss Burrs, from Fairfield; Miss Young, of Bridgeport; Sally Nichols, of Newtown; and others."



One of the pupils never returned home, as this tombstone in Greenfield ground testifies.

"In Memory of  
William Jordan, a Native of No.  
Carolina, & Student at the Greenfield  
Academy, who died July 26th, 1794,  
Aged 15 years, 2 months & 11 days.

Sweet youth, alike to friends and strangers dear,  
On thy green turf I'll drop the tender tear;  
This last poor tribute let me daily pay,  
As here I ponder o'er the unconscious clay;  
As here I feel thy distant brother's pain  
And see thy hapless weep in vain.

In vain thy soul was bright, thy bosom kind,—  
In vain the tears of those thou leav'st behind;  
Cold is thy form and dark thy lone abode,  
Yet thou but tread'st the path thy Saviour trode,  
With him fond hope again behold thee rise  
From transient slumbers to superior skies."

The manuscript quoted from says: "Wednesday afternoons we spoke a short speech, and after choosing sides and spelling the winners had a quarter of an hour to play before the others were let out. Wednesday evening Dr. Dwight lectured on religion, and published them in four volumes of theology."

It is related of Dr. Dwight that occasionally he would ride to New Haven to preach. When he left Greenfield, the women were milking; when he got to Fairfield, the women were milking; when he got to Newfield (now Bridgeport), the women were milking; when he got to Stratford, the women were milking; and in Milford, which is known as Sleepy Hollow. It conveyed to his mind the industry of these places, in which, in his estimation, Greenfield bore the palm.

For the benefit of the citizens of to-day a word concerning Dr. Timothy Dwight may not be amiss. He was born in Northampton, Mass., May 14, 1752, and died in New Haven, Conn., Jan. 11, 1817. It is said his mother taught him the alphabet in one lesson, and he read the Bible when he was but four years of age. Latin he studied by himself at six, and was nearly ready for college at eight. He entered Yale at thirteen, in 1765, and graduated in 1769, and for two years was a teacher in New Haven. He became a tutor in his college at nineteen. Dwight taught mathematics, rhetoric, and oratory in the college for six years. In 1777 he was licensed to preach, and became a chaplain in the army, where he labored for the spiritual interest of the soldiers, and increased their enthusiasm by such productions as "Columbia." He was a member of the Massachusetts Legislature in 1781, and his popularity would have detained him in civil life had he not deliberately preferred the ministry, the duties of which he accepted at Greenfield, Conn., in 1783, and discharged twelve years. As his salary was insufficient for his support, he established an academy, to which he devoted six hours of each day, and till such a building could be erected he used the shop above mentioned. On the death of Dr. Stiles he was chosen his successor as president of Yale, and was inaugurated in September, 1795, and held the office

until his death. Besides being professor of *belles-lettres*, oratory, and theology, he taught a class preparing for the ministry, preaching in the college chapel twice every Sunday. "He was untiring in industry and research, of a great system and wonderful memory; as a teacher, remarkable for his skill and success; as a writer, interesting and sensible; and as a preacher, sound, strong, impressive, and at times highly eloquent."\* His poem "Greenfield Hill: in Seven Parts," published in 1794, will long be cherished in that village, although the original copies are exceedingly scarce. The heads of the arguments are: "I. The Prospect; II. The Flourishing Village; III. The Burning of Fairfield; IV. The Destruction of the Pequots; V. The Clergyman's Advice to the Villagers; VI. The Farmer's Advice to the Villagers; VII. The Vision; or, Prospect of the Future Happiness of America."

No. 22. Near the northern limits of the town are the Sherwood premises. Here was a house built by Eleazer Sherwood, a son of Joseph Sherwood, the original owner of Mill Hill, a descendant of Thomas, who is the first Sherwood recorded in Fairfield, he having bought land in 1653, and from whom has come a worthy host of descendants. He came from Sherwood Forest, in Scotland. This Eleazer married Mary Squire, of Fairfield, and settled on a farm mentioned above. The old colonial house was torn down not long ago, but some of the same material was used in the present structure, which stands on the same site.

It is worthy of mention that some of the people of Fairfield, fearful that their hard-earned possessions would be destroyed, removed them to Mr. Sherwood's quarters, but the British, who were on their way to Danbury, passed along this street, destroying property without mercy. In this case, however, Mrs. Sherwood fed them to the best of her ability, and thus was favored in having her own property saved.

At Eleazer's decease Hezekiah became owner; he also built a dwelling, which stands in sight of Mr. Eli Sherwood's. He died twenty-nine years ago, aged seventy-four. Eli Sherwood (the father of Deacon L. F. Sherwood, merchant and postmaster in Southport) was the late owner.

No. 23. This house has been in the family for three generations only, and was built by Joseph Sherwood somewhere between 1750 and 1760. When the British entered this house for plunder on their Danbury route, they tore up Mrs. Sherwood's silk dresses. They shot at Joseph Sherwood himself, but hit his hat only; but they took him prisoner with the intention of taking him with them, but he was lame, having had his leg broken for some time. He complained that he was unable to march. To convince them of the cause of his impediment in traveling, he exhibited his broken (though then well) leg; whereupon they released him. This place descended to his son Joseph, Jr., and from

\* See American Cyclopædia.

him to Solomon or Salmon, who is the present owner and occupant.

No. 24. This was built, about 1755, by Ensign Jehiel Sherwood, who had several children, all of whom were born here. Among them was one Stephen, born in 1775, who bought out the other heirs. All his children were also born here. This dwelling is in good repair, and is owned by Miss Sarah Sherwood, who is the present occupant, and sister of Mrs. Eliza Beers, who has a life-right in "colonial" No. 7.

No. 25. Built by Samuel Whitney, who was the owner when the British passed there, this house was vacated temporarily, but no depredation was committed by the enemy further than the appropriation of the food and drink left behind in the hasty departure of its inmates. This property was afterwards owned by David Fanton, who sold it to Charles Wakeman, who repaired and uprighted it. He dying, it fell to his brother, Eli Wakeman, who uses it for a tenement-house. Frederic Thorp is present occupant.

No. 26. This is an old-fashioned, long-roofed, red farm-house, and was built by John Banks in 1755; owned next by his daughter Ellen, who married Samuel O. Banks. The third owner was Mary Banks, who sold it to Eli Sherwood (see No. 22), and he to Jonathan Banks. The next transfer was to Thomas Goodsell, the great-grandson of the Rev. John Goodsell. (See No. 18.) The next owner was William B. Sherwood. The eighth and last is Wilson Sherwood. The British made a visit to this substantial home, but were satisfied with plundering without destroying it.

No. 27. Moses Banks was the builder of this house. He left a fine farm to his son, Timothy Banks, which is now occupied by T. Minot Banks,\* a man whose scholarly perceptions exceed his financial ability; and sister. In building, it was contemporary with the above houses.

No. 28. This was built by John Banks, and was next owned by Nathan Banks, born 1760, died 1847. His wife, Mabel Bradley Banks, attained the age of ninety-five. He had a farm of one hundred acres, but he was not sufficiently robust to cultivate it personally, so he taught a select school here for years. He held some rank in the army, and conducted twenty prisoners ("Red-coats") from Fairfield to Hartford, all parties walking every step of the way. In this house is the following record of his services in the Revolutionary war:

"1st tour, to Stratford and Green's farms, under Col. Whiting, in 1776.

"2d tour, to Fairfield, under Lieut. Nathan Seeley, in 1777.

"3d tour, to Horseneck (now Greenwich), under Capt. St. John, in 1778.

"4th tour, when Fairfield and Norwalk were burnt, in 1779.

"5th tour, to Fairfield, under Capt. Isaac Jarvis, in 1780.

"6th tour, to Compo, under Ensign Jehiel Sherwood (see No. 24), in 1781."

\* The first Banks in Fairfield was John, who purchased land there in 1649. From him are descended probably all the Banks. They were so numerous that two districts in the town are named for them: the North and South Banks District. Longevity, honesty, industry, and frugality are prominent traits in this line of settlers.

It is now owned by Miss Pamela Banks. Among her relics she had an old-fashioned clock, but one day, while absent, a boy on the place utilized (?) the leaden weights and pendulum to melt for bullets. She had two cannon balls—"British reminiscences"—for a long time, one of which disappeared; the other Dr. M. V. B. Dunham exhibits among his curiosities.

No. 29. The house built by Deacon Daniel Banks is considered to be one hundred and fifty years old. He died in his one hundredth year. Late in life he lived around among his children, but went home to the house he built to die. His son Lyman also died there, aged eighty-one years. His tomb in Greenfield is marked thus:

"In  
Memory of  
Dea. Daniel Banks,  
died Jan. 16, 1839,  
in the 100 year  
of his age."

Lyman Banks had three sons,—Lyman, Sereno, and William. Lyman was taken sick and died while a student at Yale; Sereno went to a neighbor's to assist him in removing a rock, but the lever, a large crowbar, slipped from the fulcrum and struck him (Sereno) in the pit of the stomach, which resulted in his death. The son William died not far from the age of eighty.†

This house has been repaired, and the old stone chimney replaced by a small brick one. The kitchen now awaits repair from a recent fire. The present owner of these premises is Mrs. Sarah S. Sherwood.

† In addition to the above sketch of the Banks family the following is contributed by Mr. A. B. Hull:

"BANKS.—The ancestor of all of this family-name in Fairfield County was John Banks, who married a daughter of Charles Taintor, of Wethersfield, where he was town clerk in 1643; removed soon after to Fairfield, of which town he was representative several years between 1651 and 1666; removed to Rye, N. Y., and was representative from that town 1670 to 1673. He made his will Dec. 12, 1684. In it he mentioned sons—John, Samuel, Obadiah, and Benjamin—and daughters—Susannah Sturges, Hannah, wife of Daniel Burr—and sister, Mary Taylor. He had a son, Joseph, not mentioned in this will. Obadiah died in Fairfield in February, 1691, and Benjamin the next year. Of Samuel nothing reliable is known. Both at Fairfield and Greenwich those of the name are numerous, and also at Redding, where some of Joseph's descendants settled.

"Gershom Banks was born May 1, 1712. He was married three times, and his children were Daniel, Marannah, Thomas, Jane (who died in infancy), Gershom, Joseph, Jane, Noah, Elijah, Hyatt, and Isaac. Gershom Banks, Jr., married his cousin, Ruth, daughter of Benjamin Banks, April 20, 1774. Their children were Ruth, Mary, Huldah, Noah, Gershom, Charles, Lucy, and Cynthia.

"The children of Benjamin Banks were Molly, Benjamin, Hezekiah, Mabel, Ruth, Esther, Ellen, Anna, and Jonathan.

"This family was noted for longevity. Benjamin Banks died at the age of one hundred and two years, and his oldest great-grandson, Rev. Daniel Banks, preached his funeral sermon. His oldest child, Molly, widow of Moses Ogden, lived to the age of one hundred and three. When the British marched to Danbury in 1777, Mary, daughter of Gershom Banks, Jr., was a child less than a year old, and was with others, women and children, together with such articles as could be hastily collected, conveyed in an ox-cart to a place of safety. Gershom Banks, Jr., and his brother-in-law, Jonathan Banks, were captured and taken to New York, but were soon liberated. The house was plundered of everything of value. The daughter, Mary, who had such an early experience of the horrors of warfare, married, first, Francis Bradley, Jr., and afterwards Ezra Hull, of Redding."



No. 30. This house was built by Gershom Thorpe; date not ascertained, but, from the traditions and records in families in Greenfield, its being a "colonial" is undeniable. When the British made their raid in these parts, the owner, Gershom Thorpe, hid behind the chamber-door. His wife, full of courage, met the foe at the door. They asked if there was a man or a gun in the house, to which she replied, "No." She fed them, and they passed on and took prisoner Benjamin Banks, who was driving oxen near by. They conveyed him to Danbury and to New York, where in time he was exchanged. He returned, married, settled, and multiplied.

This house is small, but large families have been brought up in it. The second owner was Eli Thorpe, son of the builder, Gershom Thorpe. The third owner was James Goodsell, grandson of the Rev. John Goodsell, first pastor in Greenfield. The fourth owner is the present occupant, Mr. Simeon Banks.

No. 31. The old house on these premises was built by Gershom Banks, who attained the age of eighty, and his widow that of ninety-seven. It has been moved from its former site to give place for a new structure, though it is to be preserved for a storage-house. A large family has also emanated from this old dwelling. It is now owned by Abraham Banks, grandson of the builder, and his wife is a daughter of James Goodsell, once the owner of "No. 30."

Jonathan Banks, brother of Benjamin Banks, above, heard the British were advancing in this direction, went into his house, seized a robin-gun, and started to alarm the neighbors. As he opened the door to this house to go to the next he met a British soldier, who asked him what he was going to do with that gun. He replied, "Shoot robins." The soldier responded, "Shoot 'Red-coats.'" He took Jonathan prisoner with him to Danbury, and then to the famous "Sugar-house" in New York, where he had the smallpox. In time he and his brother Benjamin were exchanged, and he came home to his father, who built the "colonial" No. 32.

No. 32. The first owner and builder of this house was Benjamin Banks, who was born in 1703 and died 1805. He had the two sons above, who were taken prisoners. One of them, Jonathan, was the next owner, and his wife, like himself, had a rough experience. She was Molly Wakeman, daughter of Gershom Wakeman. As soon as he heard the enemy was at Compo he mounted his horse and started in the defense of his country. A bullet struck him in the forehead, as he rode to join the forces, and he fell dead. His wife fled, leaving the children of his first wife to care for themselves. Molly, the eldest, took the rest of the children and the cow and passed up a back lane to the woods, where they spent a week, subsisting on the milk of this cow. They were terribly anxious about the animal, fearing that it might make a noise and discover to the enemy their place of seclusion. After a week they returned to their home, where in time

Molly became Mrs. Banks. These were the grandparents of Mrs. Isaac Milbanks, in house "No. 17." Jonathan's daughter was the owner next; afterwards it fell to Zalmon Bradley, who is the present proprietor. It was converted into a barn some years since, and in a few years this landmark will disappear.

No. 33 is located in the northeastern part of Greenfield. It was built by Jabez Thorpe,—a name which is of considerable antiquity in England and extensively known in this section. They had more of a maritime taste or were merchants. Capt. Stephen Thorpe was left homeless through the disaster at Fairfield, July 7, 1779. He purchased after it Chancellor Kent's home in Westport. Andrew Thorpe was a merchant for many years in New York. He died suddenly at his mansion on Mill Plain in 1876.

After Jabez Thorpe, Zalmon Price had possession; later, Samuel, son of Nathan Bradley. The present owner, William Bradley, captain in the State militia, occupies the house alone; it has undergone repairs of late, so that it is quite habitable for those of hermitical inclinations.

No. 34. This is known as the "Lobdell" house, though it is very old, having been built by Samuel Bradley (1st), who died in 1771. Here his first capital was "the jug of rum and a fiddle." Rum was a common article in those days, and one of the staples of trade. As near as can be remembered without a wearisome search of records, David Downes was the next owner, and he was succeeded by Eliphalet Meeker. The Meekers belong to an old family. Many of the descendants live in the western part of Greenfield parish, and many lie in Greenfield burying-ground. One is commemorated thus:

"HERE LYES BURIED  
THE BODY OF DEACON  
DAVID MEEKER,  
who departed this  
Life April ye 14<sup>th</sup>,  
1754,  
In the 67<sup>th</sup> year  
of his age."

The present owner is William Lobdell, who was born in Westchester Co., N. Y. This house is in good repair, but its ancient style of large beams and low ceilings is preserved.

No. 35. This was an old-fashioned long-roofed house built by Hezekiah Price about 1770. He too lies in the Greenfield ground, with this slab above him:

"In  
Memory of  
Mr Hezekiah Price,  
who died  
April 15, 1816,  
in the 73 year  
of his age."

His wife's stone is separated from his by a cedar-tree. It reads:

"Died  
on the 29 of Nov., 1843,  
Eunice Price,  
widow of  
Hezekiah Price,  
& daughter of  
David Beers,  
in the 100 year  
of her age.

She lived a life of piety & devotion to the service of God, and died in the hope of a glorious resurrection."

Their son Hezekiah inherited and remodeled it. His daughter, Mrs. Betsey Calligan, is the present owner and occupant.

No. 36. This house is of Bradley origin. Its present owner is William Hawley Bradley, son of Capt. Hezekiah Bradley, who was son of Maj. Medad Bradley, who was the son of Hezekiah Bradley, son of Samuel Bradley who occupied the house "No. 34," owned now by William Lobdell. It is difficult to ascertain who was the builder. It is a very old domicile, and in fact uninhabitable. The Bradleys were in the "colonials" so near of blood kin, and so numerous, and lie so thick in the Greenfield ground, that a few inscriptions are here given:

"In Memory of  
Abigail Bradley, who Died Sept. 1,  
1777, in her 18th Year,  
Sarah Bradley, who Died Februr 28th,  
1775, in her 5th year,  
and Abigail Bradley, who Died Oct.  
10th, 1779, in her 1st year.  
All daughters of Hezekiah &  
Abigail Bradley  
Stay, thou — maiden, stay;  
Learn how earthly joys decay.  
Here three lovely sisters sleep;  
Read their fare, and, reading, weep.  
Swift the hours, deceiving, fly;  
Death unseen is ever nigh:  
Soon the form of healthiest bloom  
Think how soon may find a tomb.  
Wisdom, then, and heaven to gain,  
Early seek, nor read in vain."

"In memory  
of  
Doct<sup>r</sup> Aaron Burr Bradley,  
born April 22d, 1769,  
died February 18th, 1814."

This is a simple inscription. The following is as short as can be found:

"Samuel Bradley, Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
Obt. Aug. 29, 1804,  
Æt. 70.

This Bradley house stands on Burr's Highway, and is on the estate of Eldad Gould, a sea-captain, who accumulated quite a property. William H. Bradley's daughter married George Gould, whose death was occasioned by a stone falling on his head while in a well, injuring him fatally.

No. 37. Another house on Burr's Highway, a large dwelling, was built by Eliphalet Lyon, who lived to be ninety-four. He was a weaver, and very skillful in the art. One day Dr. Dwight came to see him and brought a piece of carpet he had obtained in New Haven, and asked if he could weave like that. Mr.

Lyon, after raveling a piece, replied that he could, and stated that if he (the doctor) would go home and cut up his old clothes in strips, sew them together, and bring them to his shop, he would weave them. In a few days Dr. Dwight came in with his rags, which were woven into carpeting, which was the *first carpet spread down on Greenfield Hill!*

This Eliphalet Lyon had a daughter, who was married to Samuel Wilson. They were the parents of the present Samuel Wilson, the gunsmith, who is now ninety-six years old. He was born in this house ("No. 37") in November, 1784. He heard a sermon for the first time in his life when he was four years old, and that was Dr. Dwight's; he is the only man living who ever heard that celebrated divine. He related the story about old Frazier's stealing goods from Samuel Bradley's store, and said that his father went to see him hung. He also relates that Martha Harvey was a witch who lived but a short distance above Mr. Milbank's, who used to get the cows over the great girt to the barn. People were so afraid they did not venture to pass by there. He states that as he first remembers Fairfield it looked pretty shabby, as the tall black chimneys were standing, and old barns riddled with bullets. His father drew considerable of the timber for the Congregational church which replaced the one burnt during the conflagration. In his younger days there were four or five stores in Greenfield Hill which took in a great deal of flax, raised in the country about there. When he was a boy he was accustomed to avoid school by running away to the blacksmith-shop, which a Greenfield wit has said always go together in the country, and it is a question in which lies the most redeeming virtues (the school or the blacksmith-shop). From the knowledge he gained from his observation of the workers in iron, he took up the trade of gunsmith in 1812, when it took a week to make a gun. He made the first rifle-gun in the county, and the third one he completed is owned now by Eli Adams, of Easton. He must have met with some ridicule in his first work, as Darius Grant, a skilled blacksmith, examined one critically, and said it was the straightest gun he ever saw. He set up a target, which he hit every time.

Again, a neighboring woman, to test him, challenged him to hit one of her turkeys. She offered to set it up. He accepted the challenge; the second shot killed the bird, and she was, to use Mr. Wilson's words, "awful mad." His shot-guns sold at from five to ten dollars, and his rifles for thirty dollars apiece. He had more orders than he could fill, so he bought guns in New York to meet the demands of his customers. He purchased long bars of iron of Miah Perry, who was in the mercantile business opposite, where N. Jennings has his market, where Jelliff's new brick building stands. He bored out the barrels from solid iron. His tools cost him one thousand dollars. He stood in one place to file so long that he wore an oak plank



floor so thin that one day when he brought his foot down to close the vise it gave way and he went through. He never was out of work. He had orders from Norwalk, Danbury, New Haven, and various places. Some of his guns went to Ireland.

In addition to his guns, of which he made entire one hundred and repaired more than five hundred, he did a great amount of iron-work. He made twelve sets of saw-mill work, except the crank. He had a fine position offered him in a paper-mill and any price for compensation and men for assistants, but, his wife being sick, and having the farm to attend to, he would not accept. He never was a military character, but was a private in the State militia. His life has been very unassuming, yet remarkable. He has been blind about six years, owing to close application to his work and much reading, of which he was very fond; otherwise he is well and hearty.

Eliphalet Lyon, the builder of this house, was great-grandfather to Mrs. E. L. Huntington, of Fairfield, widow of the Rev. Enoch Huntington, and to her brother, Mr. Morris Lyon, an eminent teacher in New York, a graduate of Yale, and a founder of the Memorial Library in 1876 in his native town (Fairfield).

Eliphalet Lyon, Jr., was the second owner of this house. He left three heirs, Mrs. Eben Hill, of Norwalk, and Horace and Ramsen Hill. The present occupant is Barlow Hill, deacon of the Congregational Church in Greenfield and grandson of Eliphalet Lyon, Jr.

No. 38. This dwelling was erected by Ebenezer Hill in 1765. He married — Sherwood, who lived near Oak Lawn Cemetery, from a house long since torn down. They were the parents of nine children. In those days there was no conveyances other than ox-carts, so that the only way of carrying children was by the extension of the saddle called the pillion. Mrs. Hill often visited her parents with one child very easily, by taking it in her arms on horseback. When the second was born she sighed, feeling that the home visits must be foregone, but she trained the first child so it would sit on the pillion, while baby No. 2 rode in arms. When baby No. 3 was added to the family, she despaired again when thinking of her youthful home, but she trained the two former so they could ride behind, while the third rode in arms. When No. 4 was added, No. 1 had become old enough to remain home, so she was permitted to always make her filial visits to the parental roof. At the time of the conflagration two of these children were very ill. One died that night, the other two or three days later. The parents, however, in their solicitude had the cart and oxen in readiness, so that if the torch should be applied to their house no time should be lost in preserving their little ones.

Of this family, Ebenezer, Jr., studied theology to please his father and Dr. Dwight; he preached but a few years, having a parish in Saratoga County, or in

that section. He then devoted himself to politics, was judge of Probate, State Senator, and Congressman.

Another son, Jabez, who attained the altitude of six feet, was out in the meadow one day, when he started for home. Instead of crossing the bridge, he shortened his route by wading through the river while in profuse perspiration. The result was a speedy termination, with cholera morbus for an agent. In the Greenfield Cemetery is this tribute to him:

"In memory of Mr. Jabez Hill,  
Son of Capt. Ebenezer Hill,  
who, after an excruciating sickness  
of four days, died August 24, 1807,  
Aged 27 years, 1 month & 19 days.

"Another proof, Reader, that life can be ensured by nought beneath the sun. For those virtues which serve to ornament and happily domestic life in him concentr'd.

"His usefulness extended its benign effects to all around and seemed to demand for him protracted years. But suddenly cut off amid prospects bright of wealth and worldly bliss, by virtue and honest industry produced, he was consigned by the unrelenting hand of Death to an early grave."

The posthumous daughter of Jabez Hill married William, who is generally known as "Postmaster Sherwood." He at one time went to England as agent for the Jennings to secure the immense wealth which is in that family-name. They are the owners and occupants of this house, which was made of excellent material. Some of the rooms up-stairs and down were wainscoted in the best manner, being free from even a diminutive knot. The thumb-pieces to the doors were after an extremely odd pattern. There was a bullet-hole in the side of the building, but when repairs were made in 1844 the mark of service was removed. The house then lost its uniformity on low roofs, and gained a conformity on being raised so that the eaves were parallel. One of the first town clerks in Fairfield was William Hill, who served to 1684.

No. 39. This house was built by Ezekiel Hull, whose memory is at present associated with but few, as nearly all of his contemporaries passed away years ago. He lies in Greenfield. A stone thus inscribed marks his resting-place:

"In Memory of  
Capt. Ezekiel Hull,  
who died Octo 7<sup>th</sup>,  
1802,  
Aged 70 years."

There are not a dozen alive who knew him, and his house was found with difficulty.

John Philips was the next owner,—a zealous leader in the Methodist Church. His first wife was the grandmother of Tom Thumb. Mr. Philips sold to Azariah Cogswell, who died there. His heirs sold to John Brothwell, who is the present owner and occupant, and who posts a notice: "This place is for sale."

Ezekiel Hull had a son, Thomas, for whom he built a house nearly opposite. One of his (Thomas') daughters married — Sanford, from Redding. They

occupied it for a time, then sold it to — Turner, who disposed of it to Samuel Morehouse, who sold it to another Samuel Morehouse (no relation to the former one); he died here. His son, Abel Morehouse, came into possession, and he also died there, leaving one son, John Morehouse, the present owner and occupant.

No. 40. A house in Fairfield Woods known as Abel Jennings' place was once a tavern. It is supposed it was built by his father. From some records it is known to have stood in the Revolutionary war. After Abel Jennings, of whom Nelson Jennings bought it, his sisters owned it. It met with various transfers, and was under considerable mortgage when Christian Richards purchased it. He is an intelligent German, and has been the occupant thirty years.

No. 42. This "colonial" was erected by David Jennings, in 1762. It fell to the heirs and passed out of the family in 1832, when — Turner purchased it. He disposed of it to Thomas Merwin, who is the owner and occupant.

No. 43. This is also Jennings' property. It was built by Levi Jennings, between 1760 and 1770. It descended to his son David, who died here. His widow, Mrs. Eliza Jennings, with her family, is the present occupant. It was remodeled by her son, Richard Jennings, in 1877. He states there has never been a quarrel or a family feud in that house, which fact is deserving of a place in history.

Much of this property in this section ("Jennings' Woods," properly "Jennings' Farms") was owned by Joshua Jennings, who settled in Fairfield in 1655. From Joshua Jennings, who died in 1716, have sprung the many Jennings who have done much towards populating Fairfield, extending commerce and civilization, and enacting our laws.

Joshua Jennings and his wife, Mary, left seven sons and two daughters. Some report the marriage of Joshua in 1647 in Hartford, but it has not been fully authenticated. Their numerous descendants are traced down through the Probate and church records.

The house occupied by Burr Lyon, deceased, was owned and occupied by Isaac Jennings, and was the first house burnt by Tryon. Jennings' wife was sister to Col. Abraham Gould, who was killed while defending Ridgefield. Interesting records of the family were obtained, through necessity, of each connecting with Joshua, to secure his individual share of the immense fortune reported to be left to his posterity in America.

In 1846 a preliminary meeting was held in Southport, and steps taken for a general meeting, which was held in Fairfield town-hall. A committee of five was appointed,—William Sherwood, of Fairfield; David Coley, of Westport; Gould Jennings, of Norwalk; —, of Bridgeport; and Augustus Jennings, of Southport. The last named was secretary. They were instructed to raise funds to investigate the rumors by examining records in England as well as in this country.

William Sherwood, Esq. (see No. 38), was intrusted with the duty of proceeding to England, and with the counsel of the Hon. David Hoffman, the United States Minister, and others he obtained records from the Tower of London, the British Museum, the Doctors' Commons, and church records at Acton Place, where the great millionaire, William Jennings, was buried. He obtained a mass of information concerning the English family, but did not show any connection to Joshua Jennings of 1656. The efforts made here enabled the family to interest the different branches, so that each were enabled to show their connection with one of the seven sons of the first Joshua. These records are preserved, with those obtained from England, by Judge William Sherwood. Many of the descendants of Joshua are occupying the land set to him when the long lots were laid out.

Green's Farms, which was formerly Fairfield West Parish, is composed largely of people of that name; still, there is a large number of them in the township of Fairfield. There is not a burying-ground but has its old freestone of a hundred years ago and the white marble of to-day to the memory of a Jennings, among whom were Deacon Moses Jennings (Congregationalist), who died in 1813, aged seventy-nine; Dr. Seth Jennings, who died years ago; Capt. Abraham Gould Jennings, who visited all ports and dealt in the East India trade.

Deacon O. B. Jennings and Capt. Isaac (member of the Connecticut Legislature), of Fairfield, and Mr. Augustus Jennings, of Southport, are three brothers in the Japan paper-ware business. The late Capt. Jo. Jennings, of Southport, and his sons were more or less engaged in commercial business. One, however, M. J. Fred Jennings, is a Southport druggist. The Jennings name is associated with thrift and prosperity.

No. 43. In the family Bible in this house is the record, "Daniel Willson was born July 26th, in ye year 1747, and was married to Sarah Squier in ye year 1769," when this house was built. Their son David was second owner.

David Willson, Jr., next in the genealogical line, heired it. He dying, his sister, Eliza Willson, is the owner and occupant. She is a lady of intelligence, and her mind is replete with Revolutionary reminiscences. Her mother was but six and a half years old when Fairfield was burnt, and the family escaped to the hills for safety. They lost everything, but were thankful that no one of their family was among the missing. Their house was opposite the Burr Betts place, in Fairfield, and was occupied later as a bellows-factory. After the conflagration the Willsons built farther back. Capt. Daniel Willson's, of Black Rock, was raised in the forenoon, and this Daniel Willson's in the afternoon, of the same day.

In this latter house may be found some rare old books. Among them are to be seen Josephus, in four volumes, printed by Shober & Loudon for John M. Gibbons and Robert Hodge (MDCCLXXV.). On



the fly-leaf is the autograph of "G. S. Silliman, 1775." The books were obtained at an auction held for the disposal of Gen. Silliman's property.

No. 44. This property is located on Holland Hill. A title was given by Robert Silliman to Ebenezer Silliman, Jan. 7, 1740.

"Daniel Silliman, the first of the name who settled in Fairfield, was understood, in the traditions of the family, to have been an emigrant from Holland." "The Sillimans of Fairfield were settled from the beginning upon an eminence about two miles from the village of that name, and called—in consequence, probably, of the reputed origin of Daniel Silliman—Holland Hill."<sup>\*</sup>

The first Daniel Silliman, who died in 1690, had three sons,—Daniel, Thomas, and Robert. The father, dying in 1690, left unincumbered an estate amounting to two hundred and one pounds. Thomas died in 1692; his brothers were his administrators. He apparently left no children. Daniel, Jr., died in 1697, leaving six children, of whom John was a merchant and had a large estate. He married Ann Burr.

Robert married Sarah Hull, probably the granddaughter of Rev. John Jones. He (Robert) died in 1748, leaving three sons—Robert, Jr., Nathaniel, and Ebenezer—and four daughters,—Ann, Sarah, Martha, and Rebecca. Ebenezer married Abigail Sellick, daughter of Abigail Sellick, in 1728. Their children were Gold Sellick, born 1732; Ebenezer, born 1734; Amelia, 1736; Hezekiah, 1739; Jonathan, 1742; Abigail, 1748; Deodate, 1749. He was called "Date."

The father of this family lies in Fairfield cemetery, and his resting-place is marked by a freestone slab containing this inscription:

"In Memory of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Ebenezer Silliman, Esq<sup>r</sup>. For many years successively a member of the Council and one of the Judges of the Superior Court, in the Colony of Connecticut. Distinguished with a clear understanding, a sedate mind, and dignity of deportment, well versed in Jurisprudence, learned in the Law, and religiously upright, he sustain'd those high Trusts (and acted in other important Relations) with Honour to himself, to his Family, and to his Country.

"And having served his generation, by the will of God fell asleep, in the 68th Year of his age, on the 11<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>, 1775.

"'I have said ye are gods, but ye shall die like men.'"

His wife's resting-place is thus marked:

"In  
Memory of Mrs.  
Abigail Silliman,  
Late Amiable Consort  
of the Honourable  
Ebenezer Silliman, Esq.  
She died March 16 A.D. 1772,  
Aged 65 Years one month, wanting one day.  
How lov'd, how valu'd once avails thee not;  
To whom related or by whom begot:  
A heap of dust alone remains of thee,  
'Tis all thou art, and all the proud sh'll be."

This Ebenezer Silliman was a graduate of Yale College in 1727. He was the proprietor of a large landed estate, and an influential man in public affairs. In the Congregational Church records it is found that

Mr. Ebenezer Silliman was admitted as member under Rev. Joseph Webb, Dec. 24, 1727. At a meeting held in Fairfield, "ye 5th Day of Jan'y, A.D. 1733, Ebenezer Silliman was chosen Scribe," when they voted whether a choice be made of "ye Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Noah Hobart for ye head and pastor" of said church. Later we find that "in 1768 Ebenezer Silliman and Dr. John Allen were appointed a committee to take an account of the church stock," showing that he held a place in Church as well as in State. Of his children, Gold Sellick was a graduate of Yale College in 1752.

"At a church meeting, April 25, 1779:

"Voted, That Messrs. Deodate Silliman, Peter Hendrick, Samuel Sturges, David Allen, Peter Jennings, James Penfield, Israel Bibbins, Jeremiah Jennings, and any others of the church or society who are skilled in psalmody, be desired to sit together in the gallery on the Lord's day and lead the congregation in that part of divine worship, they to agree among themselves as to the person who is to pitch the tune."<sup>†</sup>

Amelia's history is found on a tombstone in the Fairfield cemetery:

"This monument was erected by order of William Burr in commemoration of his honored mother, Amelia, who lived the partner and widow of Ebenezer Burr, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Burr, late of Fairfield, deceased. Also lived the partner and died the widow of Abel Gould, son of Samuel Gould, late of Fairfield, deceased. Was daughter of Ebenezer Silliman, Esq., late of Fairfield, deceased; was born in New York, 1736, and died in the year 1794, aged 58 years."

This "colonial" passed from Ebenezer Silliman to Joseph Noyes, a lawyer, known as "'Squire Noyes," and stepson of Gen. Silliman's.

Mr. Noyes, in 1799, disposed of it to Daniel Wilson, who transferred it to his mother, Sarah Wilson. From her it came to a son, John S. Wilson, in 1803. Distribution was made in 1870 from the estate of John S. Wilson to William S. Wilson, who is the present owner and occupant. J. A. Wilson, the son of the latter, is principal of the Mill Plain graded school,—a position he has successfully occupied three years and has entered on his fourth.

The Wilsons, too, belong to Fairfield's early settlers, as the tombstones testify. A few inscriptions are here given:

"Here lies Buried  
the body of  
Mrs. Sarah Willson,  
Second wife of  
Mr. Nathaniel Willson,  
and daughter of  
Mr. Robert Silliman,  
who was born February 17,  
1728, and departed this  
Life July 23, 1795,  
Aged 67 years 4 months  
and 26 days."

"Here lyes Buried  
Body of Mrs. Mary  
Willson, Wife to Mr.  
Nathaniel Willson,  
Jun<sup>r</sup>, Who Departed this  
life Oct<sup>r</sup> 10th, 1740, in ye  
25th Year of Her Age."

\* From Fisher's Life of Benjamin Silliman.

† From the Congregational Church Records, Fairfield, Conn.

"In Memory of  
Mr. Daniel Willson,  
who was born August 6th,  
1747 and departed this  
Life Aug. 17, 1795,  
aged 48 Years and  
11 days.

Death is a debt to nature due,  
Which I have paid; and so must you."

The age of this house is variously estimated at from one hundred and twenty-five to two hundred years. It is in good repair internally, and, with a good coat of paint, would last several generations. The fastening to the door is a peculiar contrivance which the descendants of the original owners would like to possess, as there is nothing like it in the country.

No. 45. This was built for Gen. Gold Sellick Silliman, who was born in 1732 and graduated from Yale College in 1752. He married Martha Davenport in 1754. They united with the Prime Ancient Church, Fairfield, March 3, 1754, she having before been a member of the church at East Haven. She died in August, 1774, leaving one son, William, who was taken prisoner (by the British) with his father in 1779. She was buried with the Sillimans, and this is her inscription:

"Here lies buried the Body  
of Mrs Martha Silliman,  
Wife of G. Seleck Silliman,  
Esqr, who died August first,  
1774, aged 41 years 1 mon. & 23 D.  
Sweet Soul, we leave thee to thy Rest;  
Enjoy thy Jesus and thy God,  
Till we, from Bands of Clay released,  
Spring out & Climb the Shining Road,  
While the dear Dust she leaves behind  
Sleeps in thy Bosom, Sacred Grave.  
Or does she seek, or has she found her Babe,  
Amongst the Infant Nation of the blest,  
And claspt it to her *Soul* to Satisfie there  
The Young maternal Love. Thrice happy child,  
That saw the Light & turned its Eyes aside  
From our dim Regions to the Eternal Sun  
And led the Parents' Way to Glory.—WATTS."

Gen. Gold S. Silliman married, for his second wife, in 1775, Mrs. Mary Noyes, widow of Rev. John Noyes, of New Haven, and daughter of Rev. Joseph Fish, of Stonington, Conn. She had three sons by her first marriage,—Joseph, John, and James. Joseph was owner or occupant of "colonial" No. 44. John graduated at Yale College in September, 1779; was licensed as a preacher, October, 1783; was ordained to the work of the ministry and installed as pastor over the church in Norfield, then a parish of Fairfield, May 31, 1786. He continued his public ministrations till March, 1806, when his health failed him, so that he was unable to perform the duties of his ministry; and, seeing no prospect of speedy restoration after a lapse of more than a year, he took a dismission from his pastoral relation May 26, 1807. With much weakness he resumed pulpit labor Sept. 4, 1808. For many years he was employed in vacant societies within the county. He supplied his former charge a part of the time. At length he engaged for

them without intermission from year to year, and continued so to do for about fourteen years, and then proposed to the people that they should look out for a young man to settle with them, which they did. He continued to preach occasionally for ministers and vacant congregations, but never moved his residence.\*

In August, 1790, Daniel Osborn was chosen deacon in room of Gold Sellick Silliman, deceased. After he graduated from college he engaged a short time in business, and then studied law and "became a successful practitioner at the bar, as is indicated by his holding the office of prosecuting attorney for the county. He had interested himself in military affairs, and at the outbreak of the Revolutionary struggle was a colonel of cavalry in the local militia. But during the most of the war he held the rank of brigadier-general, and was charged with superintending the defense of the southwestern frontier of Connecticut, which, on account of the long occupation of the city of New York and Westchester County, as well as Long Island, by the British, was a post requiring much vigilance and efficiency. He took the field at the head of a regiment early in 1776, was in the battle on Long Island, and both in that retreat and on the retreat of the American forces from the city of New York his command was placed as the rear-guard. He bore a perilous and honorable part in the battle of White Plains, and on this, as on several other occasions, narrowly escaped the balls of the enemy. While serving in the camp of Washington, Gen. Silliman enjoyed his confidence. Gen. Silliman descried the British fleet when approaching to land the troops for the destruction of the military stores at Danbury in 1777, and, rapidly collecting the militia, he, in connection with Gens. Arnold and Wooster, interposed a resistance to their progress, sustaining the attack of superior numbers in the conflict at Ridgefield and harassing the enemy on their way back to their vessels. The estimate that was put upon the value of his services is attested by the enterprise undertaken by the British in conjunction with the Tories, which resulted in his being detained in captivity for nearly a year."

The Silliman biographer quotes the account of the capture, as taken from some of the family papers, thus:

"My father's vigilance made him obnoxious to the Tories, and he was so much an obstacle in the way of British incursions that it became an important object to make him prisoner, especially as the British in New York were, as it now appears, about to devastate the coast of New England, plundering and burning their towns and destroying their resources; and as Connecticut, on account of its strenuous opposition to British aggression on the rights of the colonies, was, in their view, peculiarly worthy of chastisement, it was determined to make this hated colony the first object of their resentment.

"A secret boat-expedition was sent by Sir Henry Clinton from New York, manned chiefly by Tories. This craft was a whale-boat; the crew were nine in number, and only two of them were foreigners. They en-

\* From letters, chiefly of a moral and religious nature, to friends of various conditions, by Rev. John Noyes (1844).



tered Black Rock Harbor, at Fairfield, drew up their boat into the sedge, and, leaving one of their number as a guard, the remaining eight proceeded across the hills, two miles, to my father's house, which at the midnight hour was all quiet, and the family asleep.

"On May 1, 1779, between twelve and one o'clock A.M., the house was violently assaulted by large heavy stones banging against both doors with oaths, imprecations, and threats. My father, being awaked from a sound sleep, seized two loaded guns standing at his bedside, rushed to the front windows, and, by the light of the moon, seeing armed men on the stoop or portico, he thrust the muzzle of a musket through a pane of glass and pulled the trigger; but there was only a flash in the pan, and the gun did not go off. Percussion-caps were then unknown, and muskets were fired by flint and steel. Instantly the windows were dashed in, and the ruffians were upon him. The doors were opened, and he became their prisoner. William, his son, although ill with ague and fever, was aroused from his bed, and became also their captive. These rude men, bearing guns with fixed bayonets, followed my father into the bedroom, a terrific sight to his wife, she being in bed with her little son, Gold Sellick (Jr.), not yet eighteen months old, lying upon her arm. The invaders were soothed by my father, as if they were gentlemen soldiers, and were desired to withdraw from the presence of his wife. They sulkily complied, and my father, by tossing my mother's dress over a basket containing the sacramental silver (to be used that day) of the church, of which he was deacon, thus concealed from them what would have been a rich prize. He also secured some valuable papers before he, with his son, was hurried off to the boat, leaving my mother disconsolate and almost alone."

In the mean time she retired to the house of Mr. Eliakim Beach, at North Stratford, now Trumbull, seven or eight miles distant, where "Benjamin Silliman, the most eminent of American teachers of natural science, was born." In later years, while speaking of his mother, he says: "Her cheerful courage contributed to sustain her; and I ought to be grateful to my noble mother and to my gracious God that the midnight surprise, the horror of ruffians armed for aggression, and the loss of her husband, as perhaps she might fear, by the hands of assassins, had not prevented my life or entailed upon it physical, mental, or moral infirmities."

Gen. Silliman died in 1790, ten years after the family reunion. This bereavement brought upon his wife much trouble. She was obliged to decide how her sons were to be educated; the eldest was not quite thirteen, and the other not quite eleven. There was considerable property in land, farming-implements, carts, carriages, horses, cows, oxen, sheep, and swine, but there was no income without labor. There were some slaves,—some by purchase and some by descent,—about a dozen in number. The slave-mothers served in the kitchen and the laundry; the boys and girls were waiters. The principal slave was an able man with a master, but without was bold and impudent; his wife was kind and faithful.

Gen. Silliman would have been much better off with his legal business alone than with the horde of servants, who consumed the products of the farm and were, in general, triflers, and some of them dishonest. His resting-place (in Fairfield's illustrious ground) is marked by a freestone slab:

"Gold Sellick Silliman, Esq., attorney-at-law, justice of the peace, and during the late war Colonel of Horse and Brigadier-General of militia, died July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1790, aged 58 years, having discharged these and other public offices with reputation and dignity, and in private life shone the affectionate husband, tender parent, exemplary Christian, and man of fervent piety."

Mr. Benjamin Silliman was reared in Fairfield. After a year's absence his father, mother, and two children were reunited in their home (on Holland Hill), where he prepared to enter Yale College, which he did in 1792, the youngest of his class, save one aged thirteen. He graduated in 1796. In 1798 he resumed his residence in New Haven, and engaged in the study of the law. In 1799 he was appointed a tutor in Yale College. In the same year he entered upon the duties of that office, and remained in the instruction and government of the institution until 1853, when he fully resigned, having made an overture for a resignation in 1850, which was not accepted. He gave, by invitation of the corporation and faculty of the college, lectures on chemistry, mineralogy, and geology till 1855.

A freestone slab in the Fairfield old burying-ground contains an epitaph which gives his and his brother's history:

"In memory of  
Gold Sellick Silliman, Esq.,  
who died in Brooklyn, N. Y.,  
June 3, 1863, in his 91<sup>st</sup> year,  
and of

Benjamin Silliman, LL.D., more than 50 years professor of Natural Science in Yale College, who died in New Haven, Conn.,  
Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864,  
in the 86<sup>th</sup> year of his age.

"Their remains are interred in the places of their decease. Eminent for honor, generosity, affection, patriotism, intellectual culture, and Christian principle, they were bound together through life by the strongest of fraternal ties.

"They were sons of Gen. Gold Sellick Silliman, who died 1790, and grandsons of the Honorable Ebenezer Silliman, deceased in 1775, son of Robert Silliman, deceased in 1748, and grandson of Daniel Silliman, deceased in 1690. All of Fairfield.

"The children add this to the records of their ancestors, A.D. 1877."

After Gen. Silliman's death an auction was held, from which many relics are in various families of Fairfield to-day. The family Bible, even, was owned by Mr. Israel Bibbins, but was afterwards restored to the family at the request of one of the Silliman descendants.

Mrs. Mary (Noyes) Silliman married, in 1804, Dr. John Dickinson, of Middletown, which became her home. She died July 2, 1818, in her eighty-third year. Her son Benjamin, in speaking of her, says:

"She was a heroic woman, and encountered with firmness the trials and terrors of the American Revolution, in which my father was largely concerned. She did not lose her self-control when, three months before my birth, the house was assailed by an armed banditti at the midnight hour, the windows demolished, and my father and elder half-brother were torn away from her, and my father detained for a year at Flatbush, L. I., as a prisoner of war. Blessed Mother! In her widowhood, after my father's death, in 1790, she struggled on in embarrassed circumstances, and gave my brother and myself a public education, forming our minds at home to purity and piety. Whatever I have of good in me I owe, under God, mainly to her, and I look with mingled reverence and delight at her lovely picture which smiles upon me still."<sup>8</sup>

The property passed out of the Silliman name not far from the beginning of the present century.

Nathan Hayes was the second owner. Then it came into possession of James Penfield (who lived

<sup>8</sup> Fisher's Life of Benjamin Silliman, vol. i. p. 275.

and died there), a man of much respectability in Fairfield, judging from the records and tombstones. The next owner was Lydia Penfield, who sold it to Lewis Penfield, of Bridgeport, who repaired it. He disposed of it to Bradley Nichols, of Nichols' Farms, who now occupies it.

It has been repaired and newly covered, yet it is a historic dwelling and in an excellent condition. The school-house stands near, where the Sillimans attended school, and tradition was teaching the public that this was the identical school-house of a hundred years ago, but the inhabitants who gathered their lore from the desk against the three sides of the house, and the plank benches held by four sticks spreading at their contact with the floor, state that this is another structure, erected in 1835 on the original site.

No. 46 is a "colonial" built by a Uriah Morehouse in 1773-75. It fell to John Morehouse in 1827, and to Uriah Hill Morehouse in 1836. The present owner is John Gould Morehouse, whose claim was valid in 1844. His wife (Mrs. J. G. Morehouse) was born in "colonial" No. 44.

The first settler bearing this name was Thomas Morehouse, who was located in Wethersfield in 1640, and joined the colony at Fairfield in 1653, when he purchased a tide-mill of Henry Jackson, together with the privileges granted to said Jackson by the town in 1648.

It appears that Thomas Morehouse was deputy at the General Court at Hartford at the autumn session of 1653. He died in 1658. In his will (on the Probate records in Fairfield) he names four sons and several daughters. These sons are the heads of the various lines of Morehouses through the country. They were Samuel, Thomas, John, and Jonathan.

Samuel was lieutenant and county marshal from 1675 to 1687. He was the ancestor of the Morehouses now living in the town of Fairfield. His sons were Samuel, Thomas, John, Daniel, and James.

John, the son of the first Thomas, was ensign in the company of soldiers raised in Fairfield County in 1676 for the campaign against the Indians that year, and afterwards removed to Southampton, L. I. Of the next generation, Ephraim and James settled in Litchfield Co., Conn.

John Morehouse, of the fourth generation, had two sons, who survived him,—Uriah, born in 1740, and William, born in 1749. Uriah had one son, John, who was commissioned ensign in 1813, and captain in 1814, of a company of volunteers organized for local defense. William's sons were Deacon William (father of Stephen Morehouse), William B., late of Greenfield, and Mayor John B.

Of the many descendants, Gould went to Saratoga and died there; another was judge of the Supreme Court in New York.

The sea-wall and the breakwater at Black Rock were in progress in 1837-40, having for contractors Jona-

than Scranton, Madison, John G., and Uriah L. Morehouse, of Fairfield. This public work, near the dwelling-house, was built by Webb and Beach Downes, of Monroe. It was continued in 1847 by John G. Morehouse as contractor, under the general superintendence of Capt. William H. Swift, United States engineer, and finished in 1849.

The oldest gravestone in the Fairfield grounds yet discovered is, from its date and initials,—“S. M. 1687,”—supposed, from its location, to be Samuel Morehouse. The people of that family-name are numerous and of stability both in Church and State affairs.

No. 47. This “colonial,” in Southport, stands nearly opposite Mr. Oliver Bulkeley's mansion, and was built a long time before the Revolution. The information given in regard to it is that it originally belonged to James Bulkeley, son of Peter and Hannah (Ward) Bulkeley. He was born Aug. 3, 1729, and married Elizabeth Whitehead, Jan. 16, 1738. The next owner remembered was Darrow, who died here. Some of his family history is given on his tombstone, which is near the gate in the old (Fairfield) cemetery:

“This stone was erected by Capt. Eleazer Bulkeley to the memory of his father, Mr. James Bulkeley, who died Feb. 3, 1803, aged 73, and Mrs. Elizabeth, his mother, who died June 27, 1809, aged 71. Likewise to his sister Mary, who died 1779, aged 22 years, and to his brother Andrew, who died 1788, aged 14. Also to Brother Moses, who died 1796, aged 20, and his brother James, who died at Norfolk, in Virginia, Sept. 13, 1803, aged 37.”

The second Mary in this family—the first died young (the eldest and youngest of the eleven children were called Mary)—married Capt. Joab Squire. They removed to Ohio in 1817. They exchanged this “colonial” for a place near the shore with Benjamin Darrow, who died in this house, leaving three daughters, one of whom married Levi Downes, who disposed of it to Joseph Furniss, present owner and occupant.

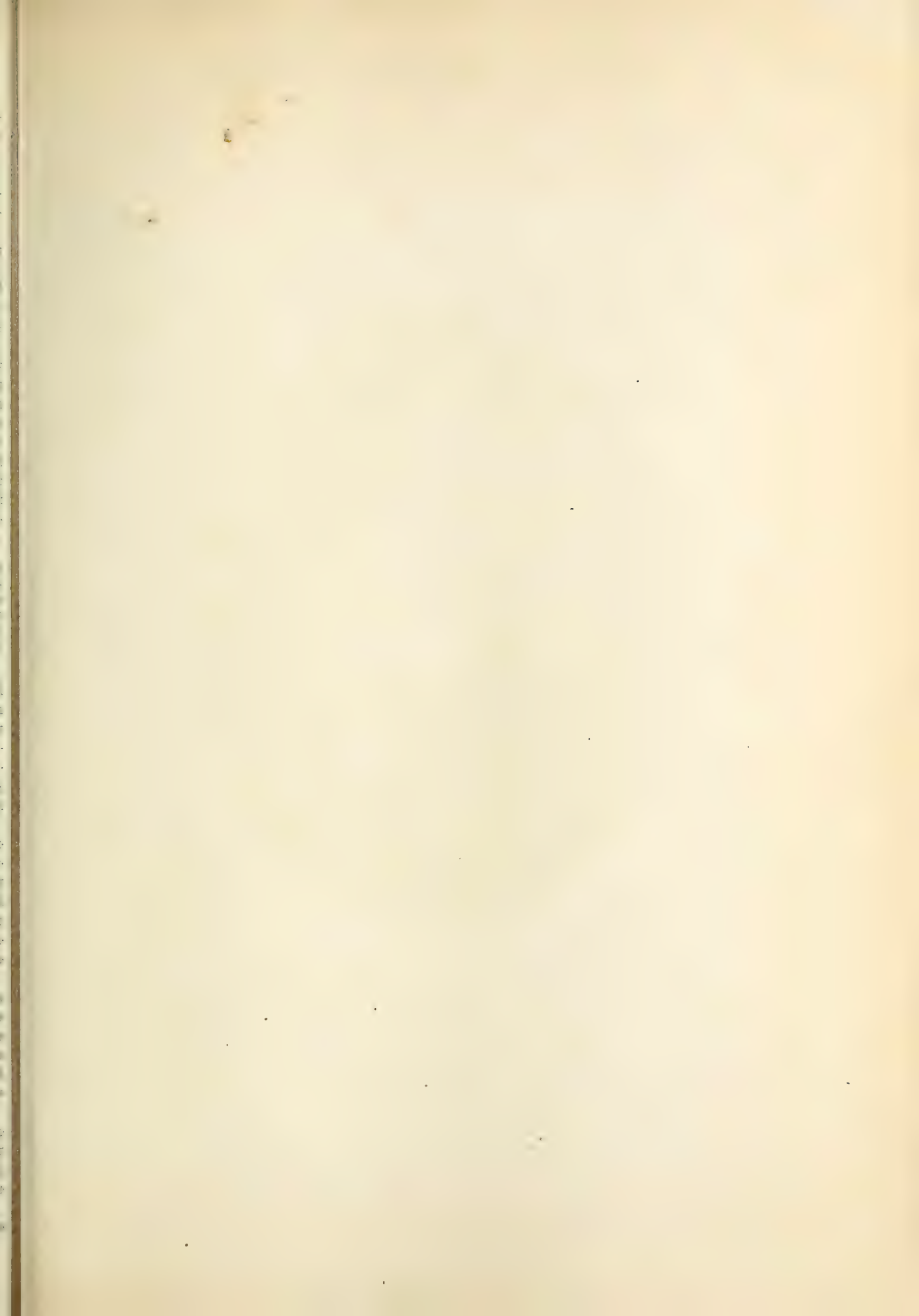
No. 48. The house now occupied by Charles Rockwell was the old farm-house kept by John and afterwards by his son Howes Osborn, who married Mary Bulkeley, daughter of Peter and Hannah Ward Bulkeley. The old stage-route was past their door, and in the rear of—Edward's house. Gen. Washington was entertained there with others, as it was considered as a public inn.

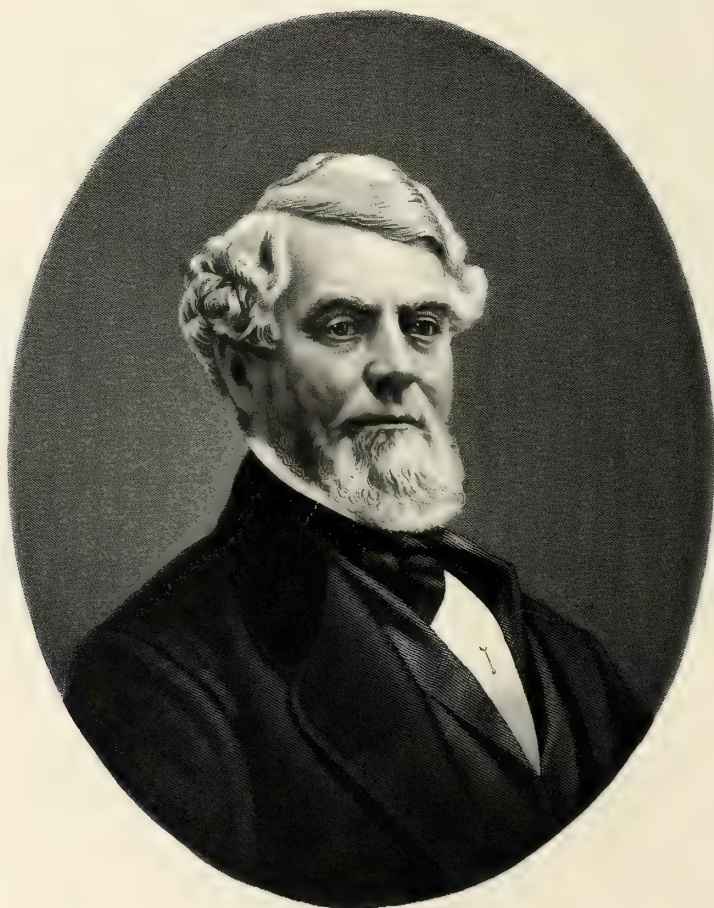
A deed conveying a portion of said estate to John Osborn is dated on the first day of August, in the eighth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the Second of Great Britain and King, Annoque Domini 1734. Signed, John Norris; signed, sealed, and delivered in presence of Lothrop Lewis, Andrew Burr.

A deed from Job Bartram to Howes Osborn conveying a certain negro woman, named *Time*, for fifty pounds, about thirty-five years old, is dated April, 1778, and witnessed by Moses Jennings, Elipha't Bartram, Jr.

A deed from Ebenezer Wakeman, Jr., to Howes







1847-1877

*John Gould*



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John Brown



Osborn, conveying a negro man, Fortin, for fifty pounds, is dated in Fairfield, Jan. 26, 1782.

Mr. Howes Osborn died in 1807, aged eighty-five, and his wife in 1812, aged eighty-one.

No. 49. There is an old building on the premises of Mrs. — Brown, known as the Powder-House. This stood on Jennings' property. The colony used this structure, made of stone, for a magazine. Here at one time a worthless fellow, for some misconduct, was imprisoned. Owing to a stroke of wit, however, his incarceration was short, as he drew his knife across a stone to produce a spark, which, in case it came in contact with the powder, would produce an explosion. As he continued the attempt he exclaimed, "Free toleration, or no toleration! Free toleration, or no toleration!" The officers, valuing the powder more than his head, permitted him to go free.

No. 50. It is not known who built this house. Capt. William Bulkeley, born in 1741, died in 1787, owned it and the store opposite. He disposed of it to Capt. Joshua Jennings, who sold it and went West. Wakeman B. Meeker was the purchaser; he subsequently died on these premises, and his estate has never been settled. His son carried on the store and shipping business for years under the name of W. B. Meeker & Son.

No. 51. This house, between Greenfield and Southport, was used as a tavern in Revolutionary times. In later years it was owned by Timothy Bulkeley, born in 1787; he remodeled and repaired it. After his death his widow disposed of it to Elijah Gray, the present owner. His son, Charles H. Gray, is one of the contributing editors to the *Southport Times*.

The reader will perceive that very little of this matter can be gathered from Probate records, or from books in general, as this has heretofore been unwritten history. The data have been carefully collected and compared. In many instances none could be given, and the only authenticity was from the circumstances connected with the subject in question.

For information concerning the "colonial houses" credit is due Miss Hannah Hobart, Miss Eliza Hull, Mr. Henry Rowland, Mrs. Jane Kippen, Miss R. S. Carew, Mrs. Isaac Milbank, Mr. A. R. T. Nichols, Mr. Henry Bradley, Mr. Samuel Wilson (the gunsmith), Mr. John G. Morehouse, Mr. T. Minot Banks, Mrs. Elizabeth Meggs, Mrs. Abigail Sturges, Mr. Oliver H. Perry, Mr. Winthrop H. Perry, Capt. Julius Pike, Mr. David Beers, Mr. J. Frederic Jennings, Mr. Augustus Jennings, Mr. Ebenezer Burr, Mrs. Ebenezer Burr, Mr. Daniel Maloney, and the various people on the colonial premises.

Manuscripts were also kindly furnished by Mr. Henry Rowland, Mr. A. R. T. Nichols (who also loaned the "Musings of Memory," written by Uriah Bulkeley in his eighty-seventh year), and Mr. J. G. Morehouse. Extracts are given from "Noyes' Letters," "Life of Benjamin Silliman," Bulkeley Gene-

alogy, Barber's "Collections," Nash Genealogy, Burr Genealogy, and the *Republican Standard* for the past thirty years.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

### FAIRFIELD (Continued).

#### SPECIAL HOUSES.\*

1. *The Home of the Late Hon. John Gould.*—"This family was connected with the earliest settlement of the State. By these first settlers for three generations the name was spelled *Gold*, but for some reason portions of the family have changed to *Gould*; yet most of those holding that name have no connection with the Golds.

"Maj. Nathan Gold married Martha, widow of Edward Harvey. They had one son, and daughters Sarah, who married John Thompson; Deborah, who married George Clark; Abigail, who married Jonathan Sellick.

"Maj. Nathan Gold removed from St. Edmondsbury, in South Britain, to Fairfield, Conn., in the reign of Charles II., and was one of the first settlers of the town. He was a wealthy and educated gentleman, and is often mentioned in Smith's 'History of New York.'

"In the first volume of the town records of Fairfield we find him a landholder in 1649, and in 1653 a purchaser of fifteen separate pieces of land, some of which remains in possession of his descendants to this day. He was one of the petitioners (nineteen in number) named in the charter of Connecticut, dated April 12, in the fourteenth year of the reign of Charles II., which petition was signed by no gentleman unless he had sustained a high reputation in England before he came to New England. He was an assistant or member of the council from 1657 to 1694, and 'departed this life into the mantions of Rest upon the day of Rest, on Saboth, it being the 4th day of March, 1693-94.' Inventory of his estate, £400 3s. 6d."†

There is a gun in the possession of T. S. Gold, of Cornwall, which is said to have been brought by this Nathan Gold from England.

There are "two sermons occasioned by the death of Maj. Nathan Gold, one of the pious and worthy magistrates of Connecticut Colony, who deceased at his own house in Fairfield, the fourth of March, 1694." These sermons are in the handwriting of Rev. Joseph Webb, minister of the Congregational Church in Fairfield in 1700, and one of the founders of Yale College. The manuscript was presented to Mrs. Elizabeth Gould, by the Rev. William A. Johnson, of Salisbury, Conn., Aug. 5, 1879. His body, in all probability, is interred in Fairfield's illustrious bury-

\* Contributed by Mrs. Kate E. Perry.

† From History of Cornwall, by T. S. Gold.

ing-ground, but at that date it was impracticable to furnish tombstones.

Along the salt meadows of Connecticut stone is scarce, and probably there was neither time to be spent in search of suitable stone, nor engravers to cut the inscription, nor means of conveyance. His son, Nathan Gold, Jr., married Hannah, born in Hartford, Dec. 8, 1663, daughter of Lieut.-Col. John Talcott and Helena Wakeman. He died Oct. 3, 1723. A low plain stone contains this simple inscription:

"Here lies the Body of  
the Honorable Nathan Gold,  
Esq<sup>r</sup>, Lievt.-Governor in  
His Majesties Colony of  
Connecticut, Dec<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>  
the 3d 1 7 2 3  
Ætatis Suae 60."

In the list of town clerks prepared by Daniel Maloney is this statement:

"Nathan Gold, chosen 1684, served to 1706,—twenty-two years. He was town clerk and deputy governor, with Peter Burr for assistant; served from 1706 to 1724, a period of eighteen years."

He was also chief justice of the Supreme Court in 1712.

On the church (Congregational) record is found:

"The first volume extant; the earlier records, both of the church and town, are lost, carried to Virginia by Mr. Ludlow in 1654.\* This statement was generally believed, but, the earliest town record being found in Fairfield, it is believed the early church records were burnt."

This volume was rebound in May, 1868. On the old cover was the following inscription:

"This Booke of Records belongs to the church of Christ in Fairfield, of which I am Pastor.—JOSEPH WEBB. Bought in the year 1704; cost 6s. in money, paid for by the church."

In this record is the following: "Mrs. Sarah Gold, wife of the worshipfull Capt. Gold, admitted Feb'y 10th 1705," which for people of to-day is interpreted 1705, Old Style. She was second wife of Nathan Gold, Jr. She died Oct. 17, 1711.

Another item from same record:

"Jenny, negro girl belonging to the Honorable Nathan Gold, Esq., D: G: bapt. June 9th, 1717."

The slaves were baptized and admitted into the church, married, and were recorded right along with the rest. Their names and their families also are on the town record.

The children of Nathan Gold, Jr., were: Abigail, born 1687, married Rev. Thomas Hawley of Ridgefield; John; Nathan; Samuel; Joseph; Rev. Hezekiah, born 1694, married Mary, daughter of Rev. Mr. Ruggles, of Guildford, (they had thirteen children); Onesimus, had a daughter Rebecca, who married Ephraim Nichols (see "Colonial," 18), of Revolutionary note; David; and Martha.

As Samuel inherited the premises under description (No. 1, "Specials"), his family is here given: He married Esther Bradley. Their children were David, born in 1717; Esther, 1719; Abigail, 1724; Abell,

1727-1769; Col. Abraham, 1732-1777, who inherited the Gould homestead. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Capt. John Burr (she died 1815, aged eighty-four), and had children: Abigail, born 1754, married Isaac Jennings (whose home is now Capt. Isaac Jennings') in 1770; Hezekiah, born 1756, who in 1789 was walking on a plank from the wharf to the vessel in New York; the end of the plank dropping off from the vessel, he struck his breast and was drowned. Anna, who married — Silliman; Abraham, born in 1766; Jason, 1771; John B., died at sea in 1781; Daniel, died at sea off the coast of France in 1796; Elizabeth, married — Curtiss, of Newtown; Sarah; Deborah, married — Osborne, died 1785.

Col. Abraham Gold was killed on his horse by the British at Ridgefield in 1777, and his body was brought on horseback to Fairfield for burial.

The homestead was inherited by Jason, who changed his name to *Gould*. His interest in the family is shown by the stone set up to his father and family:

"A. G.  
This stone is erected by  
Jason Gould  
in memory of his honored Father,  
Col. Abraham Gould,  
Who fell in defense of his Country at Ridgefield, April 27th, 1777,  
aged 44 years;  
and of his deceased brother,  
John Burr Gould,  
who died at sea, 1781, aged 20;  
and of  
Hezekiah Gould,  
who was drowned at New York,  
Oct. 20th, 1789, aged 30;  
and of  
Daniel Gould,  
who was drowned off the coast of  
France, Dec. 28, 1796, aged 20."

The sword used by Col. Abraham Gold is in the possession of his great-grandson, Abraham Gold Jennings, who resides in Brooklyn, N. Y., and his sash and coat were deposited in the Trumbull Gallery at New Haven. The sword is straight, silver-mounted, three-cornered, and at his death was found stained with the enemy's blood.

Jason had a son John, born in 1801, who possessed the ancestral acres, and died in 1871.

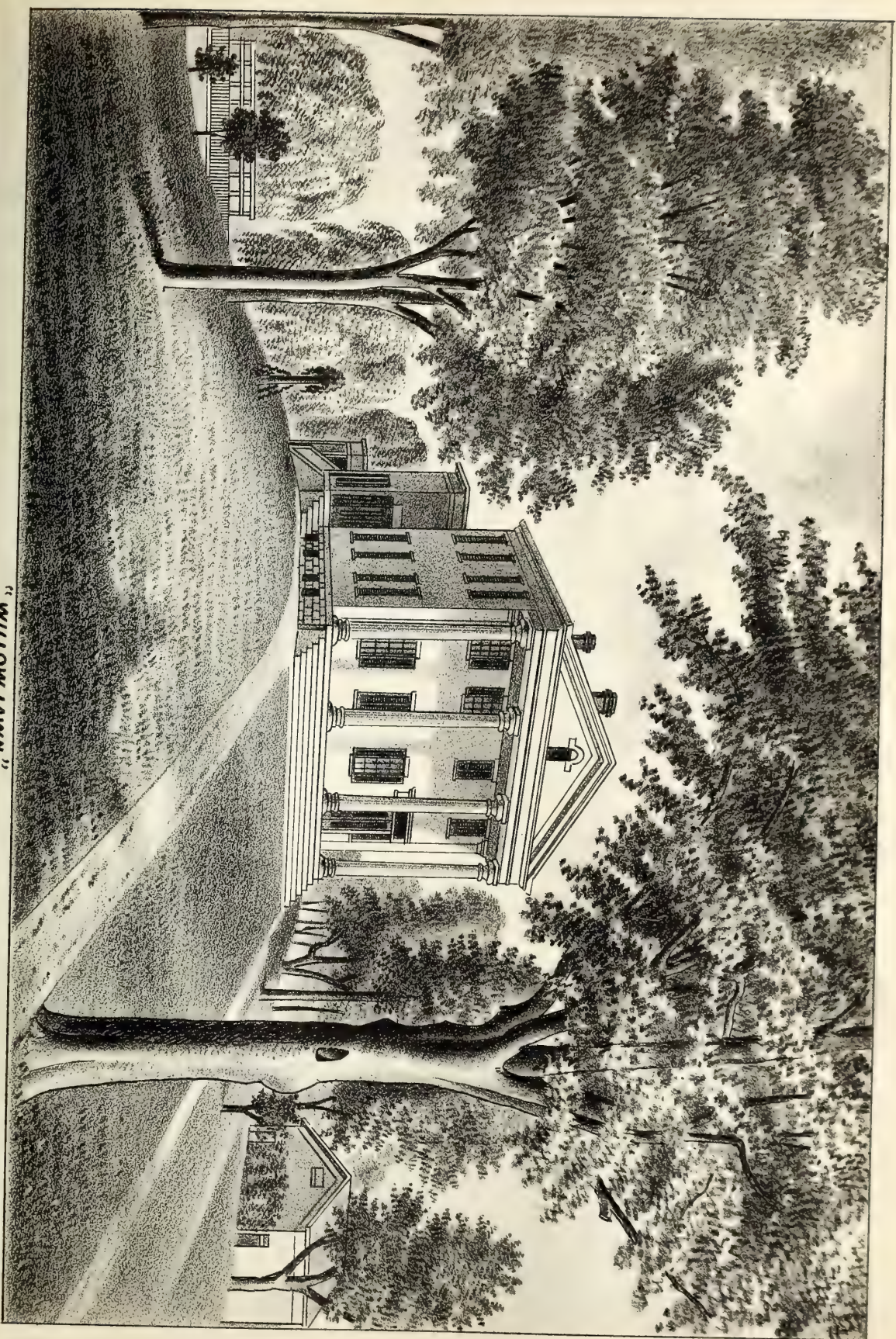
Hon. John Gould held many positions of public trust; was member of the House of Representatives from Fairfield for several sessions, and member of the State Senate from the Tenth District in 1847; railroad commissioner from 1854 to 1861; in 1864 appointed United States marshal for Connecticut by President Lincoln, and held the office for four years. His widow, Mary Wakeman Thorp, daughter of Capt. Walter Thorp, died in 1879. His daughters own and occupy the homestead.

At his death being announced the world did him honor in various ways. One obituary reads:

"The Hon. John Gould died of apoplexy at his residence in Fairfield, Sept. 5, 1871, aged seventy years. Capt. Gould has been for many years one of our most prominent and useful citizens. He has been intrusted by his fellow-townsmen with many important offices of trust, which he

\* See Trumbull's History of Connecticut.

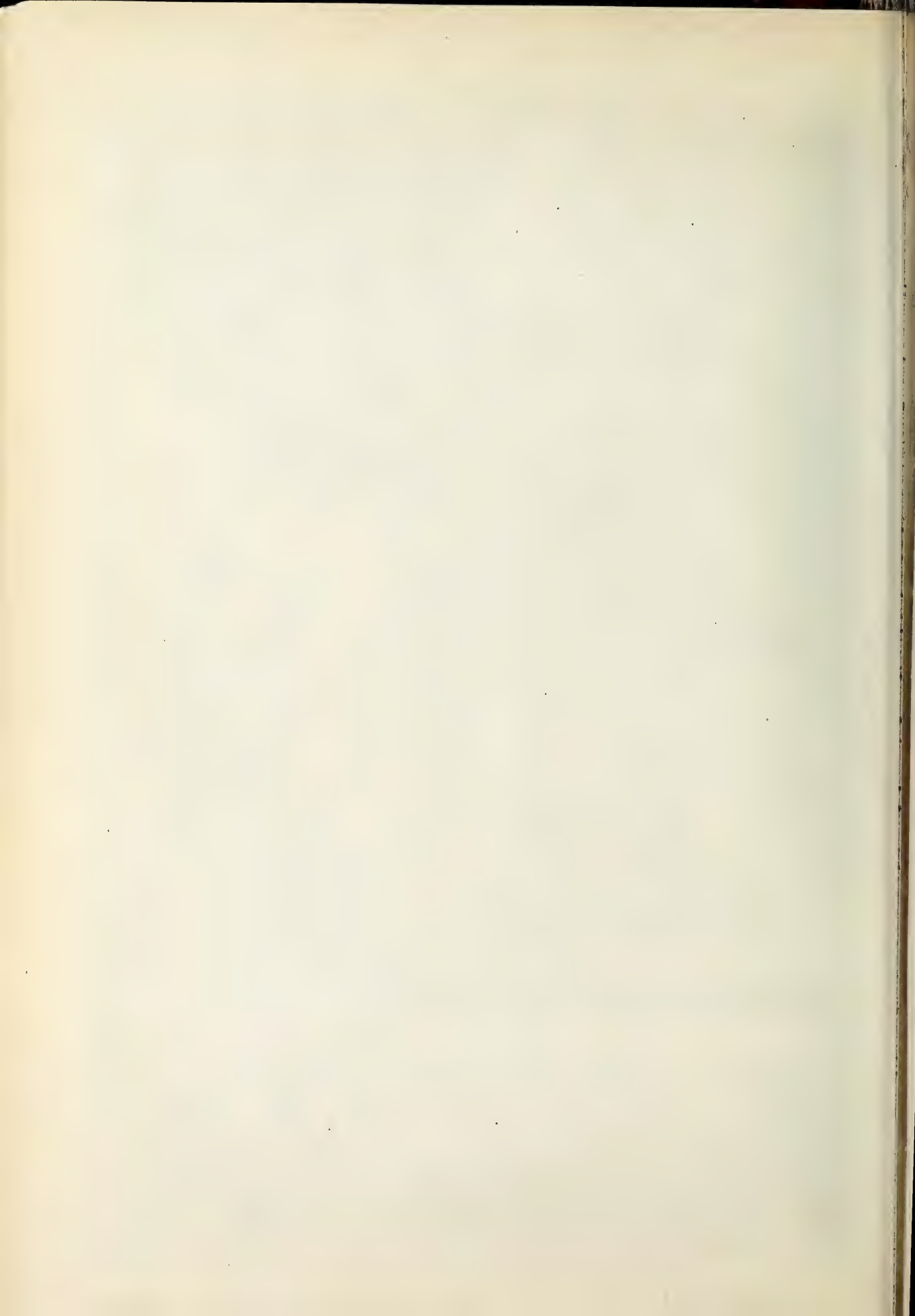




"WILLOW LAWN"

RESIDENCE OF THE LATE HON. JOHN GOULD, FAIRFIELD, CONN.







always filled with integrity and fidelity. . . . A contemporary says of him: "Capt. Gould was a natural gentleman, always dignified and courteous in his manners, and kindly in his deportment towards every one. By his industry and enterprise in early life he acquired a reasonable competence; so that, apart from his public duties, he led a life of comparative ease at his fine residence in Fairfield. He was a man of most estimable private character and a member of the Congregational Church in his native town.

"His death is lamented by his numerous friends in all parts of the State, and to his family, who were tenderly attached to him, the loss is irreparable." . . .

"It will be long before Fairfield can boast a finer gentleman, a kinder friend, a more useful citizen, and a more upright man than her departed son, John Gould."

At a meeting of the Connecticut National Bank, Capt. Jonathan Godfrey, of Southport, pronounced this eulogy:

"Capt. John Gould was a man whose whole public life had challenged the admiration of the people of the State. In whatever station he was called to, his conduct evinced the strongest evidence of sound judgment and unflinching fidelity, and whenever in the Assembly or Senate of the State his action commanded the fullest reliance, his opinions and counsel were largely sought and confided in. As general railroad commissioner his supervision gave confidence to those who traveled on the roads of the State. When President Lincoln appointed him United States marshal for this State, the bench and the bar hailed his appointment with acclaimed approval. Through years of friendship he was never known to utter an unkind word of any one nor to any one, and his home character was the same as abroad. No matter what the provocation, his noble manhood seemed to rise above it: His genial and pleasant nature always triumphed. It has been well and truly said, 'John Gould was one of Nature's noblemen.' Of commanding person and graceful carriage, he won the beholder at sight, creating impressions the most favorable."

Resolutions were passed acknowledging the traits set forth above, with expressions of sympathy, and passed to his family.

Among the many resolutions of various institutions, the board of directors of the Connecticut National Bank, at Bridgeport, met at their banking-house in Bridgeport, Sept. 8, 1871, and passed the following:

"Resolved, That the death of Mr. Gould, who was for nearly a quarter of a century a member of this board, is regarded by us as an irreparable loss to our institution and to the members individually; that he was in his personal endowments and graceful and courteous manners, as in the clearness of his understanding, the manliness of his sensibilities, and his integrity of character, a worthy representative of an old colonial family, a true New England gentleman, who adorned the society in which he lived. . . .

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to both the daily papers of this city for publication, and that they also be placed upon the records of this bank."

Capt. John Gould, his wife, Mary Wakeman Thorp, with other members of the family, lie in Fairfield East burying-ground.

There have been four houses on their homestead. The first was burnt by the British; this was once the home of Governor Ludlow. The second was a temporary house, which was improvised out of a corn-house till they could have a better one. The third was removed about 1840 to give place to the last, which is a stately mansion on a rise of ground which gives a commanding appearance and dignity to the estate. The lofty trees, extensive lawns, and the house, with its large Corinthian pillars, constitute a charming country residence.

The families of Goulds and Thorps so intermarried

that Capt. Gould's daughters state truthfully, in saying: "My father lost his father; my mother lost her mother; then, in due time, my mother's father married my father's mother, and the father's daughter married the mother's son."

Here is a museum of curiosities, many of which were purchased in foreign parts by their grandfather, Capt. Walter Thorp. Among them are elegant china, decanters and wine-glasses, antique yet handsome, also articles made of tortoise-shell, spectacles, frame and bows, snuff-box, and other things made to order from the shell he furnished. Many of the articles are one hundred years old, others older. Here are the family pictures, portraits, silhouettes, etc. A domestic asked a member of the family if one of the ancestors was *colored*, as she saw a black picture (silhouette) among the group.

Among the curiosities is a pair of scales for weighing money, which seemed essential in the days when our captains traded at all ports and we had no established currency of our own. A paper accompanies, with a table of coins and this statement:

"One Ounce of Gold is worth Five Pounds One Shilling and Four Pence, Lawful Money; and an Ounce of Silver, Six Shillings and Eight Pence. One Pennyweight of Gold is worth Five Shillings and Three Farthings; A Pennyweight of Silver, Four Pence. One Grain of Gold is worth Two Pence Half-penny. 24 Grains make 1 Pennyweight; 20 Pennyweights 1 Ounce; 12 Ounces 1 Pound.

"The Customary Method of receiving Gold in Payments is to take any of the above Pieces for the Value expressed in this Table, provided they fall short Two Grains only; but if a greater Number of Grains than Two are wanting, then every Grain short of full Weight is to be allowed for at the Rate of Two Pence Half-penny, Lawful Money, each Grain.

"The coins are Crowns, Half-Crowns, Shilling, Six-pence, Spanish Dollar, Half Dollar, Quarter of a Dollar, Five Moidore Piece, Double Johannes, Doubloon, a Two-and-a-half Moidore, Single Johannes, Two Pistole Piece, Moidore, A guinea, Half Johannes, a Pistole, Half Moidore, Half Guinea, Quarter of a Johannes, Three English Farthings, and English Half-pence, in greater or less number, in Proportion."

On the back of one of the rates of coins adopted by the Chamber of Commerce, Aug. 7, 1770, the rates of stages from New York to Philadelphia are given:

"The Flying Machine, kept by John Mercereau, at the New-Blazing-Star Ferry, near New York, sets off (during the summer season) from Powles-Hook for Philadelphia every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Mornings. From the first of November to the first of May it performs the journey only twice a week, and sets out on Mondays and Thursdays. The Waggon in Philadelphia set out from the House of Mr. Joseph Vandegrist the same mornings. As the Stages set off early in the morning from Powles-Hook, Passengers would do well to cross the Ferry the Evening before. The Price for each Passenger is 20s. Proc. and Goods as usual."

Probably the people of 1770 never once thought that in 1870 a passenger could leave Fairfield at 7.20 A.M. and arrive in Philadelphia at 4 P.M. after having spent a couple of hours in New York. A knowledge of the rates of money and of travel was necessary to traveling and commercial men.

In 1786 several of the descendants of Nathan Gold removed from Fairfield to Delaware Co., N. Y., some retaining the *Gold*, others changing to *Gould*. A large colony cut their way through the forests to the sources of the Delaware over the Catskill Mountains.

Abraham Gold was a prominent man in the town

of Roxbury, N. Y. His oldest son, John Burr, was also a prominent man, and quite a hero in the Anti-Rent war of 1846. The Fairfield colony settled on leased land; rent, twelve and a half cents per acre.

Abraham Gold had six sons and four daughters. Jay Gould, the New York banker, is one of his grandsons. Another was Daniel Gold, who studied law in Delhi, was clerk in the New York Legislature, and afterwards appointed chief clerk of the House of Representatives at Washington, D. C.

The Rev. Hezekiah Gold, of Stratford, graduated at Harvard and labored in his native town more than thirty years.

Rev. Hezekiah Gold, of Cornwall, married Abigail Sherwood, of Fairfield, for his second wife. He was a farmer as well as minister, and it is reported "that he could lay more green rail-fence in a day than any of his parishioners." His eldest son, Thomas, graduated at Yale, and was a lawyer at Pittsfield, Mass.; he acquired wealth and held an honorable position. His residence was the finest in the village. Here stood the old clock on the stairs, the subject of a poem written by H. W. Longfellow, a grandson-in-law of Mr. Gold.

Hon. Thomas R. Gold graduated from Yale in 1786; he stood at the head of the bar in Central New York. For about twenty years he represented New York in the Congress of the United States. He contributed largely to the *North American Review*.

Dr. Samuel W. Gold graduated at Williams College in 1814, and studied at Yale, where he in 1834 received the honorary degree of M.D. He practiced medicine from thirty to thirty-five years, and then returned to Cornwall and with his son, T. S. Gold, established Cream Hill Agricultural School, which was a success twenty-four years. He was State senator in 1847 and 1859, and Presidential elector in 1857.

T. S. Gold graduated at Yale in 1838, established the agricultural school with his father in 1845, and taught twenty-four years. He was chosen secretary of the State Board of Agriculture at its organization, in 1866.

Considering the whole family, Maj. Nathan Gold and his descendants, it is seen that from Fairfield have emanated a distinguished and honorable family, who have been devoted largely to public service, and have preserved an unsullied reputation.

Ellen Burr Gould married a Continental officer; she was twenty-eight, he seventy-three. He dying, she married another much older than herself, and, he dying, married another; so she had three Continental officers for husbands. She failed to secure a pension on account of remarrying, but Congress, through the intercession of Hon. Thomas Osborne (see "Colonial," 8), made a special act in her case, so that she secured her pension at last.

2. *The Burr Mansion*.—Tradition says that it was built about 1700 by Chief Justice Peter Burr, one of the earliest graduates from Harvard. He was chief

justice of Connecticut, and once lacked but a few votes of becoming its Governor.

The house stood somewhat back from the main street, on a slight eminence, beneath a canopy of elms, and, with its dormer windows, its projecting gables and ivy-covered wings, presented quite the appearance of a baronial structure, the effect of which was increased by its wide hall with its heavy oaken staircase, or by its ancient chambers with their tiled fireplaces and heavy oak panelings.

At the time of the Revolution, Thaddeus Burr, a grandson of Peter Burr, a gentleman of culture and ample estate, owned it. He, like many of the colonial gentry, exercised a princely hospitality. The ancient chroniclers recorded with pride that General Washington, in his journeys to and from Boston, was his frequent guest. Franklin, Lafayette, Otis, Quincy, Watson, Governor Tryon, Dr. Dwight, and the poet Barlow are on the house's dead-roll of famous guests. There Trumbull and Copley dreamed and painted, the latter doing full-length portraits of his host and hostess, which are preserved in the family. Governor Hancock was married there; Madam Hancock died there;\* Aaron Burr passed many of his youthful days beneath its roof as the guest of his cousin, Thaddeus Burr, and is there buried with the illustrious dead.

Burr's family was of the "bluest" blood of New England, and had been seated in Fairfield for generations. His father, the Rev. Aaron Burr, the famous Princeton scholar and divine, was a native of Fairfield. Judge Peter Burr, before mentioned, was his great-uncle; Col. Andrew Burr, who led the Connecticut regiment in the brilliant attack on Louisburg in 1745, was a cousin, and his family for generations had filled the various offices of state, from deacon in the Puritan churches to magistrates and judges of the courts. Nor can one of those who believe in the ancient traditions of the village be made to admit that Burr was any other than a bitterly-persecuted man, who suffered the fate of those who came into the world a hundred years before their time. Here is recorded the dramatic incident of which the old mansion was the theatre:

"One sunny morning in April, 1775, as Thaddeus Burr, Gold Sellick Silliman, and Jonathan Sturgis, members of the town committee of war, were engaged in earnest conversation on the porch, a horseman, breathless with haste, dashed through the town, and threw himself from his steed almost at the feet of the three committee men, with an expiring effort to thrust towards them a packet covered with broad seals, and fell back exhausted upon the steps of the porch. Silliman broke the packet, and after a glance at its contents turned with flashing eye to the eager citizens who had gathered. 'Friends,' said he, 'news from your king: hear it;' and read:

\* Her stone contains: "This stone was erected by Thaddeus Burr and Eunice Burr to the memory of their dear friend, Mrs. Lydia Hancock, relict of the Honourable Thomas Hancock, Esq., and daughter of Daniel Hinchman, Esq., of Boston, whose remains lie here interred, having retired to this town from the calamities of War during the Blockade of her native city in 1775, just on her return to the re-enjoyment of an ample fortune. On April 15th, 1776, she was seized with the apoplexy, and closed a life of unaffected piety, universal benevolence, and extensive charity, aged 63."



"WATERTOWN, WEDNESDAY MORNING,

"Near 10 of the Clock.

"TO ALL FRIENDS OF AMERICAN LIBERTY: Be it known that this morning before break of day a brigade, consisting of about one thousand or two thousand men landed at Phipps' Farm, at Cambridge, and marched to Lexington, where they found a company of our colony militia in arms, upon whom they fired without provocation, and killed six men and wounded four others. By an express from Boston we find another brigade are now upon the march from Boston, supposed to be about one thousand. The bearer, Trail Bissell, is charged to alarm the country quite to Connecticut, and all persons are desired to furnish him with fresh horses as they may be needed. I have spoken with several who have seen the dead and wounded.

"J. PALMER,

"One of the Com. of S'y."

"Before sunset the Fairfield train-band, nearly one hundred strong, set out on its march to Boston."

To this mansion of historic fame, in May, 1775, came Miss Dorothy Quincy, daughter of Edmund Quincy, of Boston, who had moved for three years as the belle of the polite circles of that town, and who was now the affianced bride of Governor John Hancock. A few weeks before, she had witnessed the battle of Lexington from her chamber-window, spiritedly refusing to obey Governor Hancock's command to return to Boston. But, now that her native city had assumed the aspect of a beleaguered town, she had consented to pass the summer in Fairfield, beneath the roof of her father's old friend, Thaddeus Burr, where she spent the stirring days of that eventful summer in the ancient village, whiling away the time as best she might. She rode, she sang, she boated; she feasted with the young people at the beach; she flirted with the village youths; she wrote letters, some of which yet exist, to her friends; and every fortnight the lumbering mail-coach brought her a packet from Philadelphia addressed in the bold handwriting of John Hancock.

In the autumn the marriage of Governor John Hancock, president of the Continental Congress, and Miss Dorothy, daughter of Edmund Quincy, of Boston, occurred. Here were Governor Hancock, who accomplished such an act as led King George to set a price on his head; he rode up to the mansion-house, attended by a retinue of gentlemen, delegates, and others, returning to their homes, followed by a more glittering train, with prancing steeds and costly equipage, with coachmen and footmen in livery, and attended by gay cavaliers on horseback, the friends of the bride. There were Edmund Quincy and his friends of Boston, grave sober men and matrons of high degree, and gallant young cavaliers, attending the stately maidens, the companions of Miss Dorothy. Hartford and New Haven, which were then the seats of refined and cultured society, contributed to the train of worth and beauty; the Governor and his staff also honored the scene. There was a courtly throng, which might have graced a royal palace, and the costumes would have been presentable at the court of King George himself. The toilets were elaborate; the coiffures sprinkled with diamond-dust, the long-waisted gowns, the shimmer of silks and

satins, the ribbons, laces, and ruffles, the gems that sparkled on wrists and bosoms, the glossy queues, the plum-colored coats and velvet small-clothes, the white silk stockings, the elaborate ruffles at wrist and throats, added lustre to the occasion. Here the Rev. Andrew Eliot, revered by every one of Fairfield's sons, performed the ceremony. This was the last merry-making ever held within its walls. During the four years of war which followed it was the scene of many secret councils of the patriot leaders, and in the British descent on Fairfield in 1779 was burned by order of Governor Tryon.\*

Edmund Quincy was eminent in public life, and became judge of the Supreme Court in 1718. Sullivan pronounced John Hancock "one of the greatest men of his age." The honor which encircled his name received added lustre from his wife. She was a leader of taste and fashion in the best circles of society. Governor Hancock came to Fairfield for safety, and was in concealment with Samuel Adams. It was not deemed safe for Mr. Hancock to return, that the marriage might take place in Boston. While in concealment their meals were privately conveyed to them, and they were kept in strict seclusion.

After a time they were permitted to sit at the dinner-table with the family, in expectation of a comfortable repast. Before they had partaken of the tempting food a farmer came in, greatly excited, requesting the host to lend him his horse and chaise to go for his wife, as "the British were coming." This news dispersed the feasters. Adams and Hancock were hurried away to their hiding-place, and Mrs. Hancock was wont to say it was always a matter of wonder to her what became of that dinner, for none who sat down to it ever tasted it. The alarm, however, was a false report, but there was a time when the enemy's balls reached the house that sheltered them.

When her first child was two weeks old Mrs. Hancock was conveyed on a bed with it to her carriage, to travel from Boston in the winter to Philadelphia, in company with her husband, then chosen president of the first Congress. She often spoke of his reluctance, from natural modesty, to accept the office. While he hesitated one of the members clasped him around the waist, lifted him from his feet, and placed him in the chair of state.†

At the burning of Fairfield, "Mrs. Burr, the wife of Thaddeus Burr, Esq., high sheriff of the county, resolved to continue in the mansion-house of the family and make an attempt to save it from the conflagration. The house stood at a sufficient distance from other buildings. Mrs. Burr was adorned with all the qualities which give distinction to her sex, possessed of fine accomplishments and a dignity of character scarcely rivaled, and probably had never

\* Charles Burr Todd, in the "Burr Mansion," in the *New York Evening Post*, Jan. 7, 1879.

† Mrs. Ellet's *Queens of American Society*.

known what it was to be treated with disrespect, or even with inattention. She made a personal application to Governor Tryon in terms which, from a lady of her high respectability, could hardly have failed of a satisfactory answer from any person who claimed the title of a gentleman. The answer which she actually received was, however, rude and brutal, and spoke the want not only of politeness and humanity, but even of vulgar civility. The house was sentenced to the flames, and was speedily set on fire. An attempt was made, in the mean time, by some of the soldiers, to rob her of a valuable watch, with rich furniture; for Governor Tryon refused to protect her as well as to preserve the house. The watch had been already conveyed out of their reach, but the house, filled with everything which contributes either to comfort or to elegance of living, was laid in ashes.

"While the town was in flames a thunder-storm overspread the heavens just as the night came on. The conflagration of near two hundred houses illumined the earth, the skirts of the clouds, and the waves of the Sound with a union of gloom and grandeur at once inexpressibly awful and magnificent. The sky speedily was hung with the deepest darkness wherever the clouds were not tinged by the melancholy lustre of the flames. At intervals the lightning blazed with a livid and terrible splendor. The thunder rolled above. Beneath, the roaring of the fires filled up the intervals with a deep and hollow sound which seemed to be the protracted murmur of the thunder, reverberated from one end of heaven to the other. Add to this convulsion of the elements, and these dreadful effects of vindictive and wanton devastation, the trembling of the earth, the sharp sound of muskets occasionally discharged, the groans, here and there, of the wounded and dying, and the shouts of triumph; then place before your eyes crowds of the miserable sufferers, mingled with bodies of the militia, and from the neighboring hills taking a farewell prospect of their property and their dwellings, their happiness and their hopes, and you will form a just but imperfect picture of the burning of Fairfield. It needed no great effort of imagination to believe that the final day had arrived, and that, amid this funereal darkness, the morning would speedily dawn to which no night would ever succeed, the graves yield up their inhabitants, and the trial commence at which was to be finally settled the destiny of man."\*

"There was also in Fairfield pleasant society. Thaddeus Burr, Esq., was a principal inhabitant and a man of wealth, especially before his large mansion was burned and his property devastated by the British, in July, 1779. He then converted a store or warehouse into a dwelling, and it was a neat and commodious mansion. Mr. Burr was hospitable, and his wife was an accomplished lady. The place is mem-

orable, having been a favorite resort of Dr. Dwight, afterwards president of Yale College. He was then minister of Greenfield, and gave celebrity to that hill both by the splendor of his talents and pulpit eloquence and by the academy for the instruction of the youth of both sexes, which he established and conducted for a series of years with great success.

"Dr. Dwight generally rode down two or three miles on horseback on Saturday afternoon to pass those hours of relaxation and take tea with his friends, Mr. and Mrs. Burr. His conversation was equally entertaining and instructive,—a feast for both mind and heart."†

Jehue Burr was born in England about 1600, and died in Fairfield about 1670. He left four sons,—Jehu, John, Nathaniel, and Daniel.

Jehu married (1) Mary Ward, of Fairfield; (2) Esther, widow of Joseph Boosey, of Westchester, Conn. They had several children, of whom was Judge Peter Burr, who graduated from Harvard in 1690, having entered in 1686. He taught school in Boston for some years, then studied law, after which he settled in Fairfield to practice. In 1700 he commenced his public career, which he continued till his death. He was several times auditor of the colony. He was also deputy for Fairfield, Speaker of the House, and justice of the peace in 1701; judge of Probate Court, 1723–24; judge of County Court, 1708–24, except 1713; judge of the Superior Court, 1711–16; chief judge of the Supreme Court, 1712, 1723–24. This last year (1724) he performed the duties of auditor, assistant judge of Probate, judge of County Court, and chief judge of the Superior Court. He was major of the Fourth Regiment. In 1702 he was on a committee with Capt. Nathan Gold and others to "endeavor to arrange an amicable agreement with the government of Rhode Island respecting the settlement of the line between Connecticut and Rhode Island." He, with Capts. Gold, Curtis, Wakeman, Judson, Olmsted, and Stiles, was clothed with full powers "to consult, advise, direct, and command in all things necessary for the defense of Her Majesty's subjects, and carrying on the war against the common enemy." (See Burr Genealogy.)

From the records, Peter Burr and Nathan Gold were two very prominent officers. It would require many pages to tell of the various public enterprises they had charge of or took important part in.

In private life Judge Peter Burr was universally beloved and respected. As a public man he exerted an influence for good in the colony not exceeded, and rarely equaled, by that of any of the fathers of the Commonwealth, and in ability, attainments, and public services he was eclipsed by none. He lies in Fairfield old burying-ground. This is the last tribute to his memory:

\* Dr. Dwight's Travels, vol. iii. p. 512.

† Life of Benj. Silliman, vol. i. p. 24.



"Here lyes interred  
ye Body of ye Honorable  
Peter Burr, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
Aged 56 years and 9 months,  
who Departed this Life  
December the 25th  
Anno 1724."

He left four children, among whom was Thaddeus, who married Abigail, daughter of Jonathan Sturges, of Fairfield. They left five children; among them was Abigail, born in 1729. Her tombstone, in Fairfield old ground, contains:

"Here lies buried the Body of  
Mrs. Abigail Hall,  
Wife of Lyman Hall, M. A.,  
Daughter of Thaddeus Burr, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
died July 8, 1753, aged 24 years.  
Modest, yet free, with innocence adorned,  
To please and win by art and nature formed,  
Benevolent and wise, in virtue firm,  
Constant in Friendship, in Religion warm,  
A partner tender, unaffected, kind,  
A lovely form with a more lovely mind,—  
The scene of life, tho' short, she improved so well  
No charms in human forms could more excel.  
Christ's life her copy, His pure life her guide,  
Each part she acted, perfected, and dy'd."

Lyman Hall was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, born in Connecticut in 1725, died in Georgia in 1790. He graduated at Yale in 1747, studied medicine, and removed, in 1752, to South Carolina, and the same year to Sunbury, Ga., where he engaged in the practice of his profession. At the opening of the Revolution he was influential in inducing Georgia to join the Confederacy. In 1775 he was chosen a member of Congress, and was re-elected annually till 1780. Georgia had in the mean time fallen under the power of the British, who confiscated all his property. He was elected Governor of Georgia in 1783, and served for one term; after which he retired from public life.\*

Another of their children was Thaddeus, Jr. At the age of twenty he graduated from Yale with the degree of A.M., which also was conferred by the College of New Jersey. He married Eunice Dennie, and then spent ten years in scholarly and social pursuits and in the management of his large estates. His first part in public life was as deputy for Fairfield. He was also justice of the peace, and in 1779 was high sheriff of the county. In 1775 he was a member of the town committee of war. In 1788 he was a delegate, with Jonathan Sturges, from Fairfield to the State Convention at Hartford, called to ratify the new Constitution of the United States and steadily voted to adopt that instrument.

An original portrait of Thaddeus Burr, and also of his wife, by Copley, is owned by Mr. J. S. Burr, of Brooklyn. He (Thaddeus Burr) died in Fairfield in 1801, aged sixty-five, and lies among the "colonials;" his wife died in 1805, aged seventy-five. The stones are richly carved, but contain only the simple inscription

found over a person in far more common walks in life.

Another of Thaddeus and Abigail Sturges Burr's children was Gershom, born in 1744, who married Priscilla Lothrop, of Plymouth, Mass. Their son, Gershom, Jr., married (1) Susannah Young, of Stratford; (2) Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Andrew Eliot, pastor of the Prime Ancient Church in Fairfield. They had nine children.

This Gershom Burr died in New York in 1828; he was a man of prominence in the State and was brigadier-general of the militia from 1816 to 1824, when he resigned. Among his children are Jonathan Sturges Burr, born in Fairfield, but who went to New York City in 1825, when there was unwonted activity in commerce owing to the opening of the Erie Canal. Mr. Burr found employment as book-keeper with Hinton & Moore, ship-chandlers and dealers in paints and oils, which position he occupied for years, then began business on his own account. Subsequently he was a partner with two or three persons, and then his brothers Arthur, Frederick, and himself formed the firm Burr, Waterman & Co., in the manufacturing of patent blocks, which business became lucrative. Mr. J. S. Burr was head and senior member from 1844 to 1877, when he withdrew. In 1842 he removed to Williamsburgh, where he has been identified with the social, political, financial, and educational interests of the community, of which he has been a modest but conspicuous and influential member. He was elected to the Board of Finance, in which he served with ability and fidelity.

When the consolidation of Williamsburgh and Brooklyn occurred (in 1855) Mr. Burr was appointed a member of the Board of Education, of which he was one of the most useful men for twenty-three years. He is deeply interested in schools, and has devoted much time and energy to public service in this line.

When the Williamsburgh Savings-Bank was established, Mr. Burr was one of the original trustees. It now has a capital of nearly fourteen million dollars, and enjoys the confidence of its depositors. He is now, and has been for years past, one of the vice-presidents. When the Republican party was formed he was active in the councils of the local organizations, and aided very much in the prosecution of their particular objects. He has also been treasurer in the Reformed Church for more than thirty years.

The following letter is from Mr. J. S. Burr, and explains itself:

"178 SOUTH 9TH ST., BROOKLYN, E. D.  
Sept. 1, 1880.

"MRS. BURR PERRY:

"DEAR MADAM,—It gives me pleasure to comply with your request, and accordingly proceed to furnish you with such recollections of affairs relating to the court and justicians of Fairfield as may come within the scope of your plan. I am proud to claim a birthright in whatever concerns the good name and fame of the dear old town, county, and State with which all my earliest associations in life were formed, and the memory of which has added happiness to my riper years.

"It is known that the town of Fairfield was for a long while the capital, so to speak, of the county. In it was the court-house, where the

\* See Appleton's Cyclopædia, vol. viii. p. 400.

judges of various grades dispensed the justice which is the bulwark of society.

"Judges Tappen Reeve, chief, with Mitchell and Edmonds, associates, formed, I believe, the high court in my earlier boyhood. On the days the court was to be in regular session it was the custom for the judges to meet in some place assigned, and the jurors in another, on opposite sides of the green, in the centre of which stood the court-house. On the hour for opening court the bell was well rung. Then presently the high sheriff, Mr. Ebenezer Dimon,\* with his staff of office, issued forth followed by the judges. Directly after came the jurymen, led by the town constable, Mr. Nathan Beers. As the procession entered the court-room the sheriff with clear and distinct voice announced the approach of the judicial dignitaries. Silence then fell on all; not a whisper was heard until the judges and jury had been duly seated. Judge Reeve then, leaning forward over the desk, with slow and measured speech, would say, 'Mr. Clerk, open this court.' That official—Col. David Burr, a portly bald-headed man of fine presence and commanding dignity—then addressed the sheriff: 'Mr. Sheriff, make proclamation;' whereupon the sheriff discharged the duty in form and manner following: 'Oh yes! Oh yes! this Superior Court is now open. All persons having any cause or action pending will take due notice thereof.' Then came the order from the bench: 'Mr. Clerk, call the jury.' That having been done, the parties to the immediate case in hand were summoned to answer, or the calendar was followed.

"The demeanor of all concerned in the administration of the law while the courts were in session was usually grave, and even reverential. Our ancestors were not without cheerfulness, but when they met to determine justice, punish the criminal, and protect the innocent, they were earnest and serious, as befitted the business committed to them.

"Very truly yours,

"J. S. BURR."

The court must have been highly imposing, with the array of powdered hair, ruffles, long stockings, etc.

Of the Burrs mentioned so far, they have owned, or were born in, or lived on, the premises in consideration (No. 2, "Special").

A few weeks after the burning, Governor Hancock paid his friend a visit, and while they were surveying the ruins he remarked to Mr. Burr that he must rebuild, and offered to furnish the glass needed, provided he would build a house precisely like his own in Boston. Mr. Burr accepted the offer, and built a house the exact counterpart of Mr. Hancock's.†

It was stated not long since to the historian that the frame was sent to Mr. Burr from Boston by Mr. Hancock as a present, and was unloaded on the green in Fairfield. It was an exact reproduction, described a few pages back, but when Mr. O. W. Jones purchased it, about fifty years ago, he remodeled it, to the regret of all, as he destroyed the dormer-windows and gambrel roof and modernized it, so that the historic cast is gone.

There would be no pardon if others of the Burr family were omitted. Parton used the name of *one* Burr (Aaron) for the subject of two volumes, and, as his father is a native of Fairfield, what shall we say for several others who have been valuable in State or public service?

Jehue, the first settler, was one who signed the deeds with the Indians in the colony, and seems from the first to have taken a high rank in Fairfield. He

represented Fairfield at the General Court, and was also commissioner on educational matters and grand juror.

Jehue Burr, Jr., was born in England in 1625, died in Fairfield in 1692. In 1670 he was deputy from Fairfield, having John (his brother) for associate; he was also lieutenant of the Fairfield train-band, also a member of the "standing council," which is similar to the committee of war of later years. He was also commissioner for Fairfield, a patron of learning, and one of the originators of the old school system of Connecticut.

Jehue, Jr., had a brother, Col. John Burr, a man of great executive ability and prominent in the affairs of the colony. He was made freeman in 1664. Two years later he was chosen deputy, afterwards a commissioner. In 1690 he was senator and magistrate of the colony. At this period the witchcraft delusion swept over the State. Col. Burr was captain in the train-band and commissary for Fairfield County in the French-and-Indian War. He was concerned in the origin of the town of Danbury.

Nathaniel Burr had a son, also known as Col. John Burr. The limits of his farm and the site of his house, and the old Council Oak under which he bought his land of the Indians, are yet pointed out. In 1874 a great-granddaughter was living; who retained many recollections of him. He was born in 1673, and was commissary of the county in 1704. He had to see that "biskett" was provided for the soldiers, keep the war accounts, and keep a stock of supplies on hand. He was next deputy from Fairfield. In 1723 he was Speaker of the House. He was auditor, justice of the peace and Quorum, and judge of the County Court, also of Probate Court in place of Joseph Wakeman, deceased, which office he held seventeen consecutive years. He was several times commissioned in the military service of the colony. In 1710 he was major of the forces in the expedition to Nova Scotia. In 1733 he was appointed one of the judges in a court of Chancery. Col. Burr was one of the largest landholders in the State. He was one of the principal founders of the old North Church of Stratfield (now the First Congregational of Bridgeport). He died in 1750, leaving an estate of fifteen thousand two hundred and eighty-eight pounds.

Col. Andrew Burr, son of John and grandson of Maj. John Burr, was a lawyer by profession, an assistant and magistrate of the colony, several times Speaker of the House, and wielded great influence in the councils of the colony, yet his chief distinction was created by his numerous and varied military services. In 1731 he was lieutenant, then promoted to be captain, then major. In 1745 he took part in the most brilliant of the colonial wars,—the Cape Breton expedition. He was commissioned colonel in 1750. He was deputy for Fairfield, assistant of the Upper House, justice of the peace, judge of the County Court, clerk in the Lower House, Speaker also, and

\* High Sheriff Ebenezer Dimon resided where J. J. Jones now does. He was highly educated, and spoke several languages. French was as fluent with him as his native tongue. He had two sons, who were physicians and went West.

† See Burr Genealogy.



sheriff. He also assisted in revising the laws in 1749. His public services were so varied and numerous that the reader is referred to the Burr Genealogy, by Charles Burr Todd.

Col. Andrew Burr's life was a pleasant one. He married (1), in 1719, Sarah, daughter of Jonathan Sturges; they had thirteen children. He married (2), Sarah Stanly, of Hartford; they had one daughter. He lies in the old burying-ground. A large moss-covered stone, richly carved, marks his resting-place:

"Here lyes Buried  
the Body of  
Col<sup>o</sup> Andrew Burr,  
Who departed this life  
Nov<sup>r</sup> ye 9th, A. D. 1783, in ye  
68<sup>th</sup> year of His Age."

His first wife, the mother of thirteen children, is buried near him. The stone contains:

"Here lyes Buried ye  
Body of M<sup>rs</sup> Sarah  
Burr, Wife to Col<sup>o</sup>  
Andrew Burr, who  
Departed this Life  
Decem<sup>r</sup> 9, Anno Domi, 1745,  
Aged 45 years wanting 13 D's."

Rev. Aaron Burr, son of Daniel (2d), grandson of Daniel (1st), and great-grandson of Jehue Burr, was born in 1716 in the northern part of Fairfield. In 1738 he became pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Newark, N. J., and in 1748 the second president of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton), of which he was one of the principal founders. He married Esther, daughter of Jonathan Edwards, who was the third president in the same college. Their children were Sarah, who married Judge Tappan Reeve, and Aaron, Jr. His duties were very arduous; his relations as pastor to this one church continued twenty years.

In 1757 he made a trip to Stockbridge, and returned home exhausted. College and public duties were so importunate that he did not pay sufficient attention to malaria, which was threatening to prostrate him, but persisted in attending to his duties. He never recovered from this attack, the malaria running into a fever, so that he expired in 1757. Few men have been more sincerely mourned than this one of Fairfield's sons. The magnates of the land were at his funeral. Governor Livingston, of New Jersey, pronounced a glowing eulogium, and the press and the pulpit vied in honoring his virtues, talents, and beneficence.

In 1752 he published a Latin grammar, used in the college long after his death. He also published several sermons and a work,—"The Supreme Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ maintained." He was more noted as a teacher than as a writer.

His son, Aaron Burr, was one of the most notorious men of the United States, in war, politics, and law.

In the Presidential election he and Thomas Jefferson had a tie. After seven days' arguing, voting, and investigating, it was decided that Jefferson should have the Presidency and Burr should be Vice-President. There is so much to say of him it is difficult to sum him up in a line or so. His duel with Hamilton, the new government schemes in the Southwest, and his family are familiar to most people. He was truly "the Napoleon of America."

Seth Burr, son of Daniel and Ann Silliman, was born in 1761, served through the war of 1776, and was present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. A few years after, being in India, he was pressed into the British service, and served under this same Lord Cornwallis.

The Burrs have always been of public service, furnishing judges, clerks, captains, colonels, legislators, and teachers. Three town clerks are of this family,—Peter (built the Smith house, opposite B. Betts), who served with Nathan Gold from 1706 to 1724; Thaddeus, from 1726 to 1755; David, from 1755 to 1759.

Samuel, son of Maj. John and grandson of Jehue Burr, graduated at Harvard College in 1697, and was one of the most famous teachers of his time. For twelve years he was master of the grammar-school in Charlestown, a preparatory school for Harvard, which had a reputation in the colonies similar to that of Eton and Rugby in England. His body was laid among the illustrious. This is his inscription:

"Here lyes the Body of M<sup>r</sup> Samuel Burr, Master of Arts. Was born in this town of Fairfield April 2nd, in ye Year 1679; was educated at Harvard College, in Cambridge, under ye Famous M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Brattle, and Thare He was graduated ye first time in ye Year 1697, ye second time in ye Year 1700, ut Moris est, Who after he had Served his generation by ye will of God in ye Useful Station of a Grammar-School Master, at Charlestown, about Twelve Years, upon a Visit to this His Native Place, Departed this Life August 7th, in ye year 1719, aged 40 Years, 4 months, & 5 Days."

Catharine, daughter of Silas and Charity (Banks) Burr, married Morris Ketchum, a banker of New York. He (Mr. Ketchum) died 1880.\*

Henry, son of Ephraim and Eunice (Sherwood) Burr, who married Mary F. Slabac, was a merchant in San Francisco, Cal., where he died in 1871. His body was brought on and interred in Fairfield. Mr. Ephraim Burr is eighty-six, hale and hearty.

Capt. David, son of Eben and Hannah (Osborne) Burr, married Ellen Magdalen, of Marseilles, France. He was a master-mariner, and was lost with the ill-fated steamer, "Evening Star," off Cape Hatteras, in October, 1866. Capt. William Knapp, whose widow and four daughters reside in Fairfield in a house that has been standing ninety-six years, was also on board.

A tombstone to his memory contains this (the Masons' emblem is above the inscription):

\* See Westport.

"Capt.  
William Knapp,  
son of  
John and Esther  
Knapp,  
Born in Fairfield,  
Feb. 21, 1825.  
Lost at sea Oct. 3, 1866,\*  
In the Steamship  
'Evening Star,'

Which foundered on her passage  
from New York to New Orleans.

"His last words when bidding adieu to the officers of the ship were,  
'If you survive, and I do not, tell them at home I died doing my duty.'

"'Twas the first time I mourned the dead;  
It was my heaviest, my worst.  
My husband, and was thine the first?"

Samuel Burr, brother of David, was lost from the barque "Palermo" in 1857. Of this family, Angeline married Deacon Samuel Morehouse (see "Colonial," No. 11); Sarah and Eliza married brothers, James and Benjamin Bulkeley (see "Colonials," 1, 2, 11, 15); Cornelia married Andrew P. Wakeman,† Mary married John Henry Jennings, of prominence in Green's Farms; and William married Catharine Sherwood. Emma and Francis reside in the paternal mansion.

In 1878, Fairfield was represented in the Legislature by Oliver Burr, of Greenfield, and Ebenezer Burr, Jr., of Mill Plain (Fairfield), who is a promising lawyer and clerk of the County Court.

The Burrs have married into about every old family in Fairfield through several generations, and, as they have never been dispersed much, there is scarcely a family but has a Burr origin.

3. *The Congregational Parsonage.*—This was built for Hon. Roger Minott Sherman, born at Woburn, Mass., May 22, 1773. He was the youngest of six children of Rev. Josiah Sherman, the Congregational minister of that place. His father was descended by four removes from Capt. John Sherman, of Dedham, England, who came to Watertown, Mass., in 1635. Hon. Roger M. Sherman was a nephew of the Hon. Roger Sherman, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. His (Roger M.'s) mother was Martha, daughter of the Hon. James Minott, of Concord, Mass., who was four removes in descent from George Minott, one of the first English settlers in Dorchester, Mass., where he was a ruling elder for thirty years. Rev. J. Sherman preached in Milford, Mass., Goshen, Conn., and Woodbridge, where he died, leaving six children.

In 1789, at the age of sixteen, Judge Sherman entered the sophomore class at Yale. In six weeks his father died, leaving no property; so the son's chances at college appeared of a negative character, but an uncle (Hon. Roger Sherman) came to his relief and rendered necessary aid. He taught school in New Haven through the last half of his college days, but attended regularly the duties of

his class, and graduated with honor. He taught next in an academy in Windsor, and began the study of law under Hon. Oliver Ellsworth. He afterwards took a common school in Litchfield, and continued the study of law under the Hon. Tapping Reeve. In 1795 he was tutor in Yale College, and instructed the class that graduated in 1797, at the same time studying under Hon. Simeon Baldwin. There were several distinguished men, both in his own class and the one he instructed. As tutor he was peculiarly successful. He resigned that office, and in 1796 was admitted to the bar in New Haven. He then established himself in Norwalk, having married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. William Gould, of New Haven. She was sister of Judge Gould, of Litchfield. They had two children, twin sons, of high promise, but they both died young. In 1807 he removed to Fairfield, where he resided till his death, which occurred Dec. 30, 1844. As a jurist he had few equals.

From 1814 to 1818, Mr. Sherman was a member of the upper branch of our State Legislature, where he showed a high power in debate and a patriotic devotion to the welfare of the people. In 1814 he was chosen by the Legislature of this State a delegate to the convention of the New England States assembled at Hartford for the purpose of devising measures suited to the exigency brought on by the war. New England sent her most gifted and patriotic statesmen. In this galaxy he shone with peculiar lustre, and an account of his labors has been published.

From 1818 to 1839 he was wholly devoted to his profession, except that he was now and then a member of the Legislature. He originated and drafted many important laws, which have become inwrought into the fixed policy of his native State. These refer to the administration of justice, tending to abridge the cost and delay involved in vindicating our rights at law, and to abolish cumbrous formalities.

In 1839 he was judge of the Superior Court and associate judge of the Supreme Court for the revision of errors in that State. His written opinions in the Court of Errors (published in Vols. XIII. and XIV. of the Connecticut Reports) are the most important monuments to his great intellect which he has left to posterity. In 1842 he resigned this office, on account of poor health, that he might have the genial support of a retired home-life. He died aged seventy-one years and seven months.

Judge Sherman was versed not only in jurisprudence, but in theology and metaphysics, and was fond of the exact and natural sciences. He was familiar with the theory of government and political economy, and with whatever a statesman should know. Neither did he neglect elegant literature. This various knowledge he made tributary to his profession in cases that could be illustrated by it, and sometimes astonished and delighted his auditors as he poured forth its treasures. He was not only great, but good, and was strictly subordinated to moral and religious principle. With-

\* In a cyclone.

† A prominent officer in town and State.



out bigotry, he believed in the doctrines of Dwight and Edwards. He was a modest, unassuming, unobtrusive man, and impressed all who became acquainted with him. He maintained the strictest integrity and uprightness in all his public, private, and professional transactions, and scrupulously adhered to truth, kept his promises, abstained from making any which he could not fulfill, would not sell his conscience for office or emolument, discouraged what seemed to him to be groundless litigation, and was a model of parental and conjugal love, tenderness, and fidelity. He was an early and powerful advocate of the temperance cause, and seemed to be everybody's friend.\*

He left a very lengthy will,—covering pages in the town records, volume for 1840, page 359,—of which the following is an abstract:

"I give the 'Edinburgh Encyclopædia,' Webster's large quarto dictionary, in 2 vols., Beza's Greek Testament, Scott's 'Family Bible,' in 5 vols. quarto, the works of Robert Hall, in 2 vols., the sermons of Dwight, Chambers, Saurin, Burder, Davies, and all other sermons and treatises on Theology, also Hume's 'History of England,' and the continuation of said history, in 12 vols., lettered on the back 'Hume's England,' the 'Life and Writings of John Jay,' Crabb's 'Synonyms,' Jay's 'Political Economy,' Bostick's 'Physiology,' Good's 'Book of Nature,' Olmsted's 'Philosophy,' in 2 vols., Murray's Grammar, octo., Spanish and French Dictionaries and Spanish Grammar, one Greek Lexicon, Alexander Adams' 'Roman Antiquities,' Barber's 'Historical Collections for Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York,' and Dufresne's 'Nature Displayed,' to the First Ecclesiastic Society in Fairfield for the use of the ministers' library. The said books shall be always kept in said library, and shall never be sold or exchanged.

"I give and devise my homestead,—bounded southeasterly on the main street in Fairfield, on land of Mrs. Knapp and on land formerly belonging to Wm. Dimon, now deceased; southwesterly on highway on land of Abraham Gould Jennings, and on land formerly belonging to said Dimon; northwesterly on highway and land of said Jennings; northeasterly on land of Wm. S. Smith, together with the dwelling-house and all other buildings on said homestead,—and I also give the double windows or Russian lights, the Venetian blinds, all the fire-grates and stoves which shall be in use at my decease, the large metallic clock, the carpet on the stairs, in the front hall, and all the carpets or mattings on the floors of the lower rooms and in use at my decease, and no other carpets or mattings, and the oil or floor-cloth which may then be on the floor of the front entry, to the First Ecclesiastic Society in said Fairfield, in trust, for the personal use, habitation, and occupation of the minister of said Society while stately ministering therein, and every minister of said Society while stately ministering therein, etc., etc.

"I also give and bequeath to said Society twenty-five shares of Stock on Fairfield County Bank, in the Fairfield County Bank, in trust, to apply the dividends thereon and the income thereof to the keeping of the building and fences of the said homestead in good order and repair; and whenever said dividends or income shall be more than is necessary for that purpose, the surplus may be appropriated to purchasing carpets for the front rooms of the dwelling-house, should new carpets be necessary, and whatever of said income or dividends shall be more than wanted for either of the said purposes shall be safely kept or invested on good security, to be used or applied for those purposes and for no other whenever the same may become necessary or expedient."

The balance of his property (which amounted to seventy-two thousand and some odd dollars) he willed to various institutions and to various relatives.

He is said never to have replied "Yes" or "No" to a question. Once a friend, meeting him coming out of the post-office, thought sure he would put an interrogation which would draw out a "Yes" or a "No;"

so he asked "Is the mail in?" Sherman replied, "Are you expecting a letter?"†

A townsman, speaking of Mr. Sherman, said, "He was a lawyer what was a lawyer."

In the Foote Genealogy (published 1849), page 309, may be found the following:

"Mrs. Elizabeth Sherman, widow of the late Hon. Roger M. Sherman, died at Fairfield, Aug. 3, 1848, in the seventy-fifth year of her age. Thus has passed away all that remained of the family of a man of eminent distinction in the Church and the State. His venerable relict, who has now followed him to the grave, adorned the station allotted her by Providence by bringing to it intellectual powers and accomplishments not inferior to those of her distinguished husband. Remarkable for her conscientiousness, prudence, wisdom, her firmness and steadfastness of attachment to the doctrine and ordinances of the gospel, her zeal in maintaining religious institutions, her liberality to the poor, and in sustaining the missionary and charitable enterprises,—she was in all these high points of a spirit congenial to his, of 'like precious faith,' his cordial and efficient fellow-helper, with him 'ready to do every good work.' In her death the poor universally mourn the loss of a great benefactor; the Church bewails the removal of a strong pillar; benevolent institutions will miss a constant and generous patron; society suffers the loss of a bright example and firm supporter of whatever is pure and lovely and of good report.

"In accordance with the mutual understanding and united wishes of herself and husband, she has made the following bequests to religious and public institutions. She has bequeathed her miscellaneous library, house, and homestead to the First Ecclesiastic Society of Fairfield, together with a fund of \$2500 for the purpose of keeping the same in repair,—the former for the increase of the ministerial library, the latter for a parsonage. She has given the law-library of her late husband to the county of Fairfield for the use of the bar and courts of said county; \$4000 to the corporation of Yale College, on the condition that they pay an annuity of \$200 to one of her nephews during his life; \$2000 to the East Windsor Institute; \$4000 to the American Home Missionary Society; \$4000 to the American Colonization Society; \$4000 to the Retreat for the Insane at Hartford; \$500 to the Female Beneficent Society of Fairfield."

A monument to the memory of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman and two sons is erected in the East ground:

"Hon. Roger Minot Sherman,  
Judge of the Supreme Court of Connecticut,  
Died December 30, 1844,  
aged 71 years & 7 mo.

"Eminent as a Civilian, a Jurist & an Orator, Adorned with rare moral and Christian excellence, in life he was widely beloved and revered, and in death greatly lamented.

"Reviviscemus!"

The inscription to his wife reads:

"Elizabeth,  
widow of  
Roger Minot Sherman,  
Died Aug. 3, 1848,  
Aged 74.

"Like her distinguished husband highly gifted by nature and education she was his associate & fellow-helper in all good works, & dying as she had lived, in the faith and hope of the gospel, her death was mourned as a public calamity."

The portraits of the judge and his wife hang in the parlor of the parsonage, which has been occupied since the demise of Mrs. Sherman by Dr. Lyman Atwater, now professor in Princeton, Dr. Willis Lord, Rev. Alexander McLean, Rev. E. E. Rankin, D.D., who at present resides in Hartford as a private citizen, and Rev. George S. Burroughs, who was elected last May a member of the American Oriental Society,

\* See Dr. Lyman Atwater's Funeral Discourse of Hon. R. M. Sherman, Fairfield, Jan. 2, 1845.

† Dr. J. T. Denison.

which was organized some fifty years since, and numbers among its members the leading American Oriental scholars, with associate and honorary members in Europe and Asia. Mr. Burroughs has entered on the study of the Assyrian language.\*

4. *Rev. Andrew Eliot's Home.*—This was not burnt in 1779, from the fact that it was not completed. Dr. David Hull, who married a Miss Susanna Eliot, daughter of Dr. Eliot, of Boston, purchased it, finished it, and resided there for a few years. That was the only house unoccupied at the time of the conflagration, and Dr. Hull intended to purchase it. There were, as near as can be ascertained, only nine houses standing at that time south of the railroad in Fairfield, five of which have been mentioned in the "Colonial Houses."† One of these was left standing till 1874, when Arthur Bennitt had it torn down. It was not burnt in 1779, as it was owned by a Freemason. The house next to it is always spoken of as the Turney house, from which those of that name in town probably originated. The principal ones remaining are Albert and Theodore Turney,‡ who reside not far from this old "colonial." Rufus Turney was town clerk from 1867 to 1870.

The present town clerk, Daniel Maloney, was born in the "colonial" on the Bennitt place. He served from 1872 to 1873, and from 1874 to 1880. He is the only one who served as town clerk who has not belonged to a colonial family, though he was born in a colonial house!

The Turney house was set fire to, but the flames were either extinguished or it failed to burn.

The house occupied by Burr Lyon, deceased, owned then by Isaac Jennings, was the first one fired and the first rebuilt.

Dr. Hull must have given up his house to Mr. Eliot within ten years, as he lived awhile with Justin Hobart, and his daughter Eliza was born in that "colonial" (No. 3). In time he purchased the house which stood close to the road in front of the residence of Gen. E. S. Parker, who is spoken of in the "American Cyclopædia" as one of the most eminent men of the Iroquois nation, and who served on President Grant's staff and became commissioner of Indian affairs.

The present home of Gen. Parker, formerly that of Col. Robert C. Wetmore, a descendant of Quartermaster Richard Hubbell, "one of Fairfield's most fearless defenders," belonged once to Dr. David Hull, and here stood the "colonial" in which he lived and died. This house was fired in common with the rest, but was saved from destruction, though the fire

burned through into the sitting-room, destroying in a great measure the base-boards, which Dr. Hull would never have replaced while he occupied it. He died in 1834, aged sixty-eight.

His two daughters, Mrs. John C. Sanford and Miss Eliza Hull, are yet living, and are in possession of several portraits of "ye olden time" and articles made a century or so ago. He was uncle to Com. Isaac Hull, and brother to Gen. William Hull, born in Derby.

It is said of the doctor that few lived more beloved and respected. He was distinguished for talent as a physician. He practiced in Fairfield more than forty years, and was conspicuous as a husband, a neighbor, and a member of the Christian Church.

During the occupation of Boston by the British a number of families left that place and took refuge in Fairfield. Among them was the family of Rev. Andrew Eliot (Sr.), D.D., a patriotic and faithful minister, who himself remained in Boston in the discharge of his appropriate duties. Dr. Eliot was born in 1718, and graduated from Harvard in 1737. He became pastor of the new North Church in Boston in 1742, and filled that position till his death, in 1778. He was elected president of Harvard University, but declined the honor. Some of his family (Mrs. Sarah Squire, Mrs. Dr. Hull, and his son, the Rev. Andrew Eliot) found a permanent home in Fairfield. His son Andrew was called to succeed the Rev. Noah Hobart (see "Colonial," No. 3) in 1774. Dr. Atwater speaks of him as a ripe scholar, a prudent, faithful, and beloved pastor. Benjamin Silliman, speaking of him, says: "In my early days much company resorted to Holland Hill,—not a few lodging-guests,—and it was a favorite excursion from Fairfield, especially with young people of both sexes; and in Mr. Eliot's family there were sensible and agreeable daughters. The reverend gentleman was not forgotten by his Boston friends, even by the great. On one occasion the celebrated Governor Hancock" (see "Burr Family"), "president of Congress, drove up to Mr. Eliot's with his coach and four horses, and while he made his call the coachman drove farther up the road to find a place wide enough to turn the horses and carriage"!

It is said that Mr. Eliot came down from Holland Hill to build his own fires in the church. The seats were mere benches, such as were used in school-houses at that era. His salary was three hundred dollars per annum. When the parish was destroyed by fire in 1779 his people told him that, being crippled financially, they could not do as well by him as others could; but his noble manhood shone beautifully in his reply: "I've been with you in your prosperity, and I'll stay in your adversity;" and he stayed. He entered the following historical note on the church record:

"1779, July 7th.—A part of the British army, consisting of Britons, Germans, and American refugees, under the command of Maj.-Gen. Garth, landed in this town from a fleet commanded by Sir George Collier.

\* W. A. Beers, in the *Southport Times*, 1880.

† The other four were the Turney and Bennitt houses; also one which stood on the site of the residence of the late Mr. George A. Phelps, a wealthy New York merchant and ship-owner, occupied for a long time by Miss Sally White; also one standing in front of the house occupied by Gen. E. S. Parker. A picture of this house is owned by Miss Eliza Hull.

‡ Sons of the late Andrew Turney.



"In the evening and night of the same day a great part of the buildings in the town-plat were consumed by said troops.

"July 8th.—In the morning the meeting-house, together with the Church-of-England building, the court-house, prisons, and almost all the principal buildings in the Society were laid in ashes.

"Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised Thee, is burnt with fire, and all our pleasant things are laid waste.

"The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away.

"Blessed be the name of the Lord.

"All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.

"Alleluia!

"The Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. Amen!"

Dr. E. E. Rankin quoted these notes one hundred years after they were written, and said, "In subsequent times of prosperity and safety these sentiments have not been wholly lost."

Mr. Silliman, in speaking of Mr. Eliot as a teacher, writes: "Mr. Eliot was a thorough scholar, and was so fully imbued with classical zeal that he was not always patient of our slow progress. He, however, devoted himself with great zeal and fidelity to our instruction in all good learning that was adapted to our age and destination, and carried us safely through. He was most faithful during the more than two years that we were his private pupils." (Mr. Eliot prepared Mr. Silliman for college.) "Mr. Eliot took great delight in reading aloud to us from the 'Æneid.' Being excited and animated both by the poetry and the story, he evidently enjoyed the subject, and would fain have imparted to us a portion of his own enthusiasm."

Mr. Eliot, wife, and daughter lie within the only inclosure of an iron railing in the old ground in Fairfield. The daughter, Mary, aged twelve, died first, then the father, whose inscription reads:

"In Memory of the  
Rev. Andrew Eliot, A.M.,  
born at Boston, Mass., Jan. 11, 1745.  
Ordained pastor of the first  
Church of Christ in Fairfield,  
June 22, 1774, in which station  
he served God with fidelity until  
Sept. 26th, 1805, when he  
rested from his labors, in the 63d  
year of his age and 32d of his ministry.

"They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."

His wife's reads:

"In Memory of  
Mary Eliot,  
Relict of the late  
Rev<sup>d</sup> Andrew Eliot,  
and Daughter of the  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Joseph Pynchon,  
of Boston,  
and Mary his Wife.  
She was born at  
Brookfield, Mass.,  
was married July 19th,  
1774,  
and died Decem<sup>r</sup> 10th,  
1810,  
in the 62d year of her age.  
Her flesh rests in hope."

Of their daughters, Ruth married Dr. William Burr Nash, Elizabeth married Gershom Burr, Mary married — Joy, father of Andrew Eliot Joy, of Bridgeport, and Susan married Rev. Nathaniel Hewit, D.D.\* (See "Colonial," No. 5.)

Mr. Eliot's "mother was Mary Pynchon, of Springfield, Mass., a lineal descendant of William Pynchon, who settled Springfield with Jehu Burr, of Fairfield."

Among the old tombstones in Fairfield is the following, to

"Mrs. Sarah Squire,  
wife of Capt. Joseph Squire,  
and daughter of the late Reverend Andrew Eliot, D.D.,  
of Boston,  
died 3d May, 1799, in her 44th year."

They lived in the house on the V or angle of the two roads converging near Capt. John Gould's estate. This was then a private residence; only half of it was plastered for years. It was the style through the State to erect a large frame, and finish as the owners were able.

The name of Squire was one of repute and respectability. David Squire lost both hands in the Revolution. John Squire's house stood on the site of George's Hotel. Samuel Squire was commissary in the army. Probably when Andrew Eliot, Jr., went to visit his aunt Mary Squire he became interested in Miss Sophia Wasson, who lived across the way with her mother, in a house belonging at present to Mr. Albert Turney. A tombstone in the old ground to her father's memory tells a portion of his history.

"Capt. John Wasson,  
died at New York,  
Nov. 11th, 1797, in  
his 43d year;  
was removed to  
this place March  
23d, 1798."

Mr. Eliot called at Mrs. Wasson's one Saturday morning, and in an interview with Miss Sophia asked her to become Mrs. Eliot on the following day. It came so sudden to her that he consented to call in the evening for the reply. On conferring with her mother, who favored it, knowing her daughter's sentiments regarding the young minister, she said, as she was baking, she could as well bake some cake, so they could pass around some cake and wine, and she (the daughter) could look and see if she had a white dress ready to wear: if she had there was nothing to hinder the marriage. He called in the evening, and the result was that next morning the banns were duly published in church, and in the evening the white dress was worn and the cake and wine passed. This Rev. Andrew Eliot (3d) was pastor of the Congregational Church in New Milford, Conn., where his people were greatly attached to him, and always speak of him in endearing terms.

After the removal of the Eliot family by death and marriage, the house came into possession (by pur-

\* See Burr Genealogy.

chase, probably) of Edmund Darrow. In time, Peter Burr Sturges owned it, and resided there for several years. Here he died, and his heirs disposed of it to Mrs. Henry Burr. The house is in excellent condition. It was finished with panelings and mouldings of delicate workmanship, which have been preserved carefully, and for the time and place it was a suitable home for Rev. Andrew Eliot, the scholar, patriot, and Christian.

5. *The Home of the late Jonathan Sturges.*—This is located in the part of Fairfield known as Mill Plain.

The name of "Sturges" is a historic one. The earliest account of the family is that of Peter Sturges, who settled in Fairfield in 1680. When Fairfield was burned, Judge Jonathan Sturges and his family were among the fugitives, leaving all their ancestral records, of date prior to and following their emigration from England, to destruction.

Jonathan Sturges (1st) left a will, bearing date 1711, in which he devised property to his three sons, Jonathan, Peter, and David. For his eldest son, Jonathan, he had already built upon the site of the old homestead. From conformity of dates and circumstantial evidence, it appears that his son Samuel graduated from Yale College in 1732. He married Ann Burr, and was the father of Judge Jonathan Sturges. The latter was a successful lawyer; for several years a member of Congress while that body held its sessions in Philadelphia, and was one of the judges of the Supreme Court of this State until his infirmities compelled his resignation. He was greatly valued and respected by his fellow-citizens. He married in early life Deborah Lewis, born in 1742, daughter of Lothrop Lewis, who came to this town from Barnstable, Mass., and married, in 1727, Sarah, daughter of Jonathan Sturges (another branch of the Sturges family). (See "Colonial," No. 9.)

Judge Jonathan Sturges kept up the English style of going to Circuit Court on horseback with his saddle-bags, and would be gone a month at a time. His life is well stated on his tombstone in the old ground thus:

"In memory of the  
Honorable Jonathan Sturges, LL.D.,  
who was born Aug. 23, 1740,  
and died Oct. 4, 1819,  
aged 79 years.

"He sustained with high reputation from an early period a number of the most important offices in the gift of his native State, and was an efficient member of Congress under the confederation which vindicated the rights and the independence of the United States. Wise and prudent as a statesman, inflexibly upright as judge, a faithful friend, an affectionate parent, and, above all, an exemplary Christian, his friends have an assured hope that in his sudden death he passed into glory and received the welcome of his divine Master."

The following is found in the "Life of Benjamin Silliman," vol. i. p. 24:

"Judge Jonathan Sturges, a noble gentleman, was an ornament to the town. He was a graduate of Yale (in the class of 1759), and, although seven years later than my father's\* class of 1752, they were friends and

contemporaries at the bar, at which both were eminent practitioners. Mr. Sturges was a member of the House of Representatives of the United States when convened in New York in 1789, in the first year of the Presidency of Gen. Washington, and the evening years of his life were devoted to the bench of the Supreme Court of Connecticut.

"With a fine person, he had the superior manners of that day, dignity softened by a kind and winning courtesy, with the stamp of benevolence. Judge Sturges had a large family, sons and daughters; the sons were gentlemen in sentiments and manners, and the daughters refined ladies, partaking of the blended traits of both parents. They were all amiable and intelligent and pleasant; some of them were beautiful. It was a delightful female circle."

The eldest son of Judge Sturges was Lewis Burr Sturges, who resided in Fairfield during the early part of his active life. He was member of Congress for several consecutive years. He resided in the house now occupied by Mrs. Catharine Beers, whose husband lies in the East burying-ground under this inscription:

"The Grave  
of  
Augustin Prevost Beers, M.D.,  
Surgeon of the  
United States Navy,  
who died  
on the 8th of June, 1831,  
aged 28 years."

The Hon. Lewis Burr Sturges moved to Ohio, where he died at an advanced age.

Capt. B. Lothrop Sturges, another son of Judge Jonathan Sturges, lived in Southport. In 1800 he built the house at present occupied by David Banks. He was a farmer and a merchant. He built a large schooner, which when it went out of Southport harbor was prophesied to bring back a fortune; but the first voyage proved the only one for Mr. Sturges, as the French took the vessel as a trophy in the war known as the French war, which occurred about that time.

Mr. B. L. Sturges died in 1831 at the old homestead, leaving one son, the late Jonathan Sturges, the "millionaire merchant," and three daughters. He married Mary Sturges, who belonged to the family on Mill Plain. Her brother, Dimon Sturges, owned the property on which the late Jonathan Sturges built his house in 1841. He purchased these premises from Hezekiah Sturges, a son of Dimon Sturges, in 1835, for the use of his mother and sisters, the former of whom died in 1840.

About 1840 there were many changes in the buildings around the green. The old church (Episcopal) was entirely obliterated, the society building in Southport. Many of the old houses were repaired or replaced by new ones, which called out some excellent poetic effusions; one was by the late Mrs. Julia M. (Beers) Burr, and another was introduced to the public by the widow of the Rev. D. H. Short, D.D. Both were copied through the papers.

Mr. Sturges did not spend all his time on Mill Plain, as this was only his country-seat, he having been engaged in commercial interests in New York, whither he went in 1823 with such intent. He was eminently successful.

\* Gen. G. S. Silliman.



Having obtained a situation with Mr. Luman Reed, he rose by successive grades to be the head of the firm. He also built the present stores, and after leaving business occupied the office in the store which his sons now hold. He married an accomplished lady, Miss Mary Pemberton Cady, a descendant of the family who gave the name to "Pemberton Hill," Boston. She was the mainspring in his prosperous career. She was trained in a literary atmosphere, her father being editor for many years of *The Virginia Herald*, one of a few papers published in the whole of that State. He died in 1874.

The late family interments, marked by beautiful and appropriate monuments,—viz., the late Mr. J. Sturges, his son, Arthur P. Sturges, a Princeton student, and daughter, Amelia, wife of Mr. Pierpont Morgan, and grandchildren,—are in Fairfield East burying-ground.

The homestead and city mansion are alternately occupied by Mrs. Sturges (who is largely associated with benevolent institutions) and her son, Henry C. Her other sons, Frederic and Edward, have also handsome estates in Fairfield. Her daughter, Mrs. William H. Osborne, and husband, are largely identified with the artistic, benevolent, and best interests of New York City.

6. *Waldstein, the Home of the Osgood Family.*—About thirty-one years ago the Rev. Samuel Osgood came to Fairfield to find a boarding-place, and possibly to locate for himself a home. He purchased a tract, not far from Fairfield depot, that no one would hardly accept as a gift, it scarcely being a sheep pasture for quality, overrun with cedars and cumbered with plenty of stones. This property he rescued from the wilds and made it to blossom as a rose, and there he built a residence after the modern cottage style of architecture surrounded by smiling and joyous nature. The apparently worthless natural incumbrances upon the place he converted into ornaments. The stones and rocks made fences, recesses, grottoes, monuments, trellises, and landscape-finishings. On a beautiful lawn near the house is a life-size figure of Dante, brought from Italy. It stands on a pedestal bearing this inscription:

"Your own Poets have said,  
For we are also His offspring."

In the rear of Dante is a ledge of rocks which appear as if Nature had some intention in arranging expressly for the purpose for which they were used,—to commemorate the poets. The names of Emerson, Longfellow, Bryant, Chaucer, Tasso, Dante (1265), Alfieri, Petrarch, Shakspeare (1564), Goethe, Schiller, Corneille, Milton (the day this name was engraved an English oak was set out over the rock bearing it), Wordsworth, Keble, Scott, Homer, and Virgil are carved in individual rocks at various angles, about and over which graceful ferns and shrubby throw a charm. The whole combination

is beautiful and poetic. The inscription, "The groves were God's first temples," is very befitting.

On a solitary rock not far from the wayside is this text and injunction, "Know thyself," which was written over the door of the temple of Apollo, and originated with the poet Menander. Dr. Osgood gave this special prominence, as he felt it should be the foundation of every man's character.

In another direction is the ecclesiastical part of the ground, in which the beauties of the place are ascribed on one rock to "God;" on the next to "Our Father;" and lastly, "In Christ." "God our Father in Christ" is the thought that pervades this place. Three stones form a complete and natural pulpit. On the rock forming the right side is engraved "God is Love;" on the one forming the left side is "Glad Tidings." The scriptural quotations in view are: "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God;" "Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty;" "Honor thy father and thy mother." Again, one sees "The Comforter," "The Holy Spirit," engraved on other rocks.

On another rise of ground is a long stone on which is engraved "The Prophets;" on another is "Watch and Pray." At the base of the undulation is the key to Christian progress, written in stone: "To do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God." This section is called Carmel, and not far from here is the dedication of the ground: "TO TRUTH: A Student's Offering," and is on the central group or ledge of rocks. This rock bears also the monogram adopted by Dr. Osgood, in which P is combined with X; the P signifying *Chi* and the X *rho*, so that the two significations are blended in *Chirho*, a Greek word meaning "Christ." The P also denotes *pax*, Latin for "peace;" so the motto of his adoption is "Christ and Peace," or "Peace in Christ."

Another nook is devoted to the family, where, on the various rocks, are engraved the initials of each member of the family, and on the return of each birthday a floral decoration of the corresponding stone is the order of the celebration. A large vase is the centre-piece.

Not far distant one is reminded, from the long stone underlying a bank on which is engraved in excellent lettering, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow," of the Sermon on the Mount.

On another slope is a circular opening, formed by rock and trees, dedicated to sentiment. On one stone is the word "Psyche," on another rock is "Strong Song of God, Immortal Love," the first line of Tennyson's "In Memoriam."

Near the street is the patriotic group of rocks, on which are noble names of history, "Alfred," "Lincoln, 1865," and "Washington." On a huge rock close by the street a fairy-like structure, called "Union Tower," composed of cedar, has a commanding view. On this rock is cut "God and our Country. 1862."

Dr. Osgood was born at Charlestown, Mass., in 1812. He graduated from Harvard in 1832, having been prepared by Dr. Willard Parker; completed his theological course at the Cambridge Divinity School in 1835; preached in the West and South about two years; took charge of the Unitarian school in Nashua, N. H., in 1837; was called to the Westminster Church in Providence, R. I., in 1842, and in 1849 went to the Church of the Messiah, New York, as the successor of Dr. Dewey, where he remained twenty years. After this he took orders in the Episcopal Church, but, owing to various and extensive literary duties, did not take the entire charge of a parish.

Dr. Osgood was a delegate to the International Peace Congress; was a member of the New England Society, the Historical Society, the Century Club, and the Union League Club; president of the Fairfield Improvement Society, and of the Memorial Library. He was also president of the Fairfield Centennial Commemoration. He compiled the record of that day, which is a valuable contribution to the centennial histories of the country. Fairfield was to him the loveliest of earthly paradises. In its praise he was unceasing, in acts for its welfare persistent, enthusiastic, and lavish. He was a voluminous writer, both for periodicals and of books.

He died April 14, 1880, at his New York residence, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. His remains were brought to Fairfield and interred in the Oak Lawn Cemetery, in a retired spot which he selected a few years since, and corresponds with his own home for thirty years. Mill River ripples at its base, and the native trees sough above him. Last year he had a large stone conveyed thither, upon the top of which a Maltese cross was erected. The pedestal, a native rock, bears this inscription: "God is our Rock. 1879." This stone, his home, and his literary works are his undying monuments.\* He intended to reside permanently in Fairfield when he retired from public life, and have a common interest with the people. His home is a lasting memento of his great intellect.

7. *The Home of Frederic Bronson.*—This was originally the place where Dr. Dwight lived and wrote the poem of "Greenfield Hill," published in 1794.

When Dr. Dwight left his charming home for New Haven, Dr. Oliver Bronson purchased it. His son Frederic heired this property, the other sons being settled elsewhere.

\* His tombstones are of granite. His headstone contains:

"Samuel Osgood  
Doctor in Divinity,  
Born in Charlestown, Mass., Aug. 30, 1812,  
Died New York City April 14th, 1880.  
"Peace I leave with you."

This is headed by the monogram before referred to, signifying "Peace in Christ."

On the footstone is the Maltese cross, under which is "Sursum Corda," which, interpreted, means "Lift up your hearts." Under this are the initials "S. O." in monogram.

About ten years since the old part, built for Dr. Dwight, was removed, and a new addition was made to the other portion of the house.

On the eastern slope of Greenfield Hill, in a romantic locality, lies an estate of some two hundred and fifty acres, owned by Mr. Frederic Bronson, which has been in the Bronson family for nearly a century. This is one of the finest country-seats in the State.

8. *The Residence of the Late Governor Gideon Tomlinson.*—This house is exceedingly plain and unpretentious. It was erected by Sturges Lewis, of Fairfield, about 1780. He married a daughter of Samuel Bradley, Esq.; neither of them lived but a short time. It was then occupied by Dudley Baldwin, a prominent lawyer, who married a sister of Mrs. Lewis, a widow of Hanford Wakeman.

The spotted fever was raging in New Haven in 1794. Dudley Baldwin went there to see his sister, who was prostrate with it. He took the fever, and died in three days. A monument in the Greenfield ground contains this to his memory and to that of others of the family:

"Sacred  
to the repose of the dead &  
the meditation of the living.  
Dudley Baldwin,  
an eminent Counselor,  
an ardent patriot,  
a faithful friend,  
died 29th March, 1794,  
Aged 41.  
Sarah Baldwin,  
his wife,  
whose virtues endeared her  
to the best of husbands,  
died 3 Dec., 1795,  
Aged 37.  
Abraham Baldwin  
lies buried at Washington.  
His memory needs no  
marble. His country  
is his monument, her  
constitution his  
greatest work.  
He died a Senator in  
Congress, 4 March, 1807,  
Aged 52."

After Mrs. Baldwin's death the house reverted to Walter Bradley, who rented it to Rev. Mr. Samuel Blatchford in 1796; he preached in this parish a year or so, then went to Pequonnock. It was sold to Samuel Broom, of New York, and repurchased again, and was rented to Rev. Mr. Horace Holly, who kept the academy and preached here from 1805 to 1808, and was then settled in Boston. Mr. Holly brought with him the first piano ever seen in Greenfield.

The house was afterwards rented for several years, until it was purchased by Gideon Tomlinson, LL.D. (born at Stratford, Conn., Dec. 31, 1780), a lawyer, who married a daughter of Walter Bradley. "He graduated from Yale 1802; became eminent as a lawyer at Fairfield; was a member of Congress 1818-1827; Governor of Connecticut 1827-1831; and United



States senator from 1831 to 1837."\* He died Oct. 8, 1844. He is described as being a very correct man, also slow and sure.

Mrs. Tomlinson survived him till 1880, when the house was sold to Miss Agnes Murray. The remains of both Mr. and Mrs. Tomlinson were interred in Stratford.

9. *The Habitation of Burr Sherwood.*—This was a perfect museum,—not of animals, but of dirt and curiosities. Mr. Burr Sherwood was really an eccentric man, and as long as his large monument in Oak Lawn remains it will be pointed out for generations, and his story told to listening ears. He was born in 179—, and was colonel in the home militia. He was a fine-looking young man, and rode a milk-white steed the envy of many.

As the changes occurred in the family, such as is the lot of all families, in which all parties are removed by death or marriage, it happened that he lived entirely alone. He dwelt in the house built by his father, Abel, from whom he also inherited considerable property. He did his own cooking and his own housework, but one thing was evident: he never did any sweeping. His furniture and crockery indicated that the family had been in good circumstances, but the most motley collection of articles ever gathered was there. When away from home he always had his hands full homeward bound; if nothing more, a stone in each hand, or a ribbon, a string, a paper, or a bit of iron. One room was devoted to papers of all sorts, which probably were sent to him on account of his connection with the *Southport Chronicle*. These papers were heaped high in one corner of the room. He had considerable of a farm, which grew up to cedars. All the old iron or wheels or chains, and things apparently worthless, he readily purchased.

Why he took a fancy to live thus or spend his money so strangely, nobody seems able to account for. He was well educated, and had quite a library, which seemed to be devoted to law, love, and piety, with some miscellaneous works. He also owned a house in Southport, not far from the depot. He, however, lived on Mill Hill till a tragedy occurred there which rather intimidated him. One evening he heard a knock at the door, to which he responded by opening to the applicant, when two men seized and gagged him. He was about eighty years old at this time. They injured him greatly, breaking out his teeth, etc. He, however, managed to escape from the burglars, who came to rob him. After that he resided in Southport till he died, in March, 1879. He probably then fell down stairs and broke his neck, as he was found doubled up at the foot of the stairs, as if he had missed his footing or lost his equilibrium. People missed him, so they persuaded the authorities to investigate his mysterious disappearance, and they found him as described above. He died as he lived,—alone. He was eccen-

tric in his wardrobe as well as in other ways, yet he was never known to be discourteous, as he was a gentleman of the old school even to the last.

After his death his effects were sold at auction, which drew a crowd. Many bought some of his articles for their intrinsic value, others purchased to secure a remembrance of the odd old things that shall assist in commemorating his eccentricities for untold years.

His neighbor, and probably a distant relative, David H. Sherwood, is the administrator of Burr Sherwood's estate.

The whole of Mill Hill was formerly owned by one family of Sherwoods, but by marrying it has passed into different branches, and somewhat into the Bulkeley name.

Burr Sherwood and his brother Abel having deceased not many months apart, John, David H., and Arthur, three brothers, are the representatives of the Sherwoods in that section. Capt. Edwin Sherwood, of Southport, comes in another line.

David H. Sherwood and P. T. Barnum ran the first mowing-machine (a Ketchum) in this county. There could not be found two men in the country who were so ready with wit or jokes on all occasions as the last-mentioned couple.

Mr. David H. Sherwood has always been interested in the Fairfield County Fair. At the time he was associated with Barnum everything from California was so immense, in grain, fruit, or stock, that when entering some of the latter for Barnum,—which was no less than some donkeys,—Mr. Sherwood entered them as "California Rabbits,"—a joke relished greatly by the great showman.

The Sherwood family have married into all the families in town from the early date of its settlement. One representative in Southport was the late Dr. Justin Sherwood, who was a graduate of Yale with Dr. Denison, of Fairfield. Their systems of practice were antagonistic, yet both were successful and highly esteemed, and they died within a few months of each other.

#### THE HULL FAMILY.†

Joseph Hull, born 1594, of St. Mary Hall, Oxford, took his first degree in 1614, and was in 1621 instituted rector of Northleigh, a parish adjoining the vicarage of his brother William. He arrived at Boston May 6, 1635, and was the first minister of Weymouth, Mass. He was freeman of Massachusetts and Plymouth, a delegate to the General Courts of both colonies, and the pioneer and founder of Barnstable, on Cape Cod. He removed to Maine in 1641, and was minister at the celebrated Isles of Shoals, at York, and at Oyster River. He died Nov. 19, 1665. Mr. Hull remained within the pale of the Established Church, and by the Puritans was suspected of episcopal, if not prelatical, tendencies. He was the life-

\* See Johnson's Cyclopedia.

† Contributed by A. B. Hull.

long opponent of the Massachusetts Bay Company, and Governor Winthrop informs us that he was a contentious man and ran a different course from the Boston party in both civil and ecclesiastical affairs. His descendants are found chiefly in Rhode Island and New York.

The parentage and birthplace of the Hulls are not known. Two well-defined family traditions have been traced back to early colonial days. One, transmitted by the descendants of George, of Fairfield, states that three brothers came from Old England, and that their immediate descendants located in Connecticut, in Massachusetts, and in Rhode Island. It evidently refers to George, John, and Joseph. The other tradition, found in the Rhode Island family (descendants of Joseph), is to the effect that their ancestor claimed descent from the family long seated at Larkebeare, in St. Leonard's parish, Exeter, Devonshire. Still another tradition has it that their father was also a clergyman, but this may point no farther back than to the brothers William and Joseph, both episcopally ordained. The probabilities are that their father was a substantial yeoman or thrifty burgher of Somerset, and that he claimed descent from the Larkebeare Hulls.

Mr. George Hull, the second of these brothers, was born about 1590. He and his daughter Marie are named in the vicar's will. To George was given a reversionary interest in an annuity issuing out of certain premises in Broad-Windsor in county Dorset, and to Marie a legacy of ten pounds. He came over with the West-Country people in the great ship "Mary and John," Capt. Squeb, which sailed from Plymouth, in Devon, March 30, 1629-30, and arrived May 30, 1630, at Nantasket (a point afterwards named Hull, in honor of his brother Joseph), and thirteen days before the arrival of Governor Winthrop at Salem. They located at Mattapan, and named their plantation Dorchester. These first comers, chiefly from Somerset, Devon, and Dorset, "were many of them persons of note and figure," and Mr. Hull was dignified then, and always after, with the title of "Mister" or "Master," "which but few in those days were." He took the freeman's oath May 14, 1633, and it is conjectured that he then for the first time attached himself to the Dorchester Church, and it does not appear that he thereafter took any active part in the ecclesiastical politics of the times. The same year he was a member of the town council which established the municipal government. In 1633 and 1634 he was one of the raters of the town, and he and Capt. John Bursley (who married his niece, Joanna Hull) were the tax commissioners. In 1635 and 1636 he was elected one of the selectmen "for the ordering of the plantation."

Mr. Hull was deputy from Dorchester to the first General Court held at Boston, May 14, 1634, the most notable body of representative men assembled among the founders of New England, which curbed the

power of the theocracy by assuming to themselves the right of law-making; and "no country on earth," says Judge Savage, "can afford the history of any event more interesting to its own inhabitants."

In 1635 his brother Joseph, rector of Northleigh, arrived with many people out of Somerset and Dorset, and with twenty-one families, including his own, sat down at Wessagusset, now Weymouth, but which until the fall of the year remained within the territorial jurisdiction of the town of Dorchester. Thus for a short time the three brothers, George, John, and Joseph, were fellow-townsmen.

During the year 1636, George Hull and family, and his son-in-law, Mr. Pinney (who had married his daughter Marie), with many others,—in all, about one-half of the first comers and grantees,—removed to the Connecticut Valley and founded the town of Windsor. In the same year he surveyed Wethersfield, in Connecticut, and the records of Plymouth colony disclose the fact that he received a grant of land at Green's Harbor Path in 1637, perhaps in compensation for professional services as a surveyor.

He was representative from the town of Windsor to the first General Court assembled at Hartford, May 1, 1637, which declared war against the Pequot Indians, and by the spirited measures adopted is memorable in the history of the times. He continued to represent Windsor every year until 1646, when he removed to Fairfield, where he made purchase of several tracts of land. After his removal to Fairfield he was elected deputy to the General Court most of the time to the year 1656.

He was the personal friend and political adherent of Governor Roger Ludlow. He emigrated with him from England in 1630, removed with him to Connecticut in 1636, and, jointly with him, obtained from the court in 1638 a grant of the monopoly of the beaver-trade on the Connecticut River. When Governor Ludlow went to Fairfield, Mr. Hull soon followed, and was selected by the court his assistant or lieutenant in the military operations of the year 1649; and in 1651, and again in 1653 and 1654, he was appointed by the General Court as associate magistrate for the towns of the "Sea Side," being in this capacity the assistant of Mr. Ludlow, the magistrate. Mr. Ludlow embarked for Virginia in 1654, and Mr. Hull, though frequently thereafter elected by the people as their deputy, is not again appointed an assistant magistrate by the court.

He was twice married. His first wife—mother of all his children—died before his removal to Fairfield. She was probably Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Russell, who died at Weymouth, in 1640, leaving a small estate to his "only child, Elizabeth Hull." After June, 1654, he married Sarah, widow of David Phippen, or Fitzpen, of Boston, by whom there was no issue.

He died in 1659, aged about seventy years. He was public-spirited, active, and intelligent, and as a legis-



lator and magistrate was instrumental in establishing two of the free and enlightened commonwealths of New England. Cotton Mather distinguished him with a place in his great book, and also places his brother Joseph in his "First Classis" or list of "First Good Men." Mr. Trumbull, historian of Connecticut, groups him with those whose names are worthy of perpetuation, and Mr. Stiles, historian of Windsor, tells us that he was a citizen of worth and distinction.

One of the pioneers of Fairfield not mentioned personally was George Hull, who was born in 1590.

Cornelius Hull, of Fairfield, Conn., born in 1626, married Rebecca, daughter of Rev. John and Sarah Jones, of Fairfield. Mr. Jones was episcopally ordained in England, and came in the ship "Defense" from London in 1635; was ordained pastor of the Concord Church April 6, 1637; removed with many of his parish to Fairfield in September, 1644. Upon the occasion of his marriage, in 1653, Mr. Hull, by deed of gift dated November 19th, granted to his son Cornelius a homestead farm in Fairfield, and November 24th he purchased a homestead lot of three acres in the village. Cornelius followed his father's profession,—that of a surveyor. He was representative to the General Court for many years,—1656-60, 1662-65, and 1667. In 1675 he was lieutenant of the Life-Guards, and in 1676 lieutenant of the Fairfield company, and was out in King Philip's war, in which service he received a grant of land in 1677. He left a will dated Sept. 16, 1695.

*Hull*.—This English surname is taken directly from the names of places and localities. It is the old English and Welsh word for the Anglo-Saxon *hill*, the French *montagne*, the Latin *mons*. The oldest estates and manors in the West of England giving names to families were *Hull* in Cheswardine, Salop; *Hull* in Arcenefeld, Herefordshire (the *La Hulla* of Domesday Book); *Hull* in Piereholle, Staffordshire; and *Hull* in Taretone, Devonshire (corrupted into Hole by the Norman scribes in Domesday); and it is probable that all bearing the name of Hull, and also many bearing the name of Hill in the West counties, derive from families originally resident or holding lands at the above-named places. Several of these families can be traced back to the days of the Norman kings, when the name was written De la Hull, Del Hull, or La Hull; but the subsequent adoption of *aliases*—such as De la Hill, Du Mont, De Monte, De la Montagne—has thrown all of these pedigrees into endless confusion. It was not uncommon for a West county family to have an *alias* down to a comparatively recent period,—such as Hull *alias* Hill or Hill *alias* Hull,—which resulted, in many instances, in the final adoption of the more euphonious form of *Hill*.

## CHAPTER XXXII.

## FAIRFIELD (Continued).

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Fairfield Graveyards—The Borough of Southport—The Southport National Bank—The Southport Savings-Bank—The Libraries—The Library of 1780—The Greenfield Library—Mill River Social Library—The Greenfield Library of 1830—The Southport Public School Library—The Library Association of Mill Plain—The Third Greenfield Library—The Second Library at Southport—The Memorial Library—The Schools—The Southport "Times"—The Fairfield Academy—The Samp Mortar Rock.

As Fairfield was settled so early in our county's history the graveyards\* are very old. The town records and the tombstone inscriptions are all that are left to tell the doings of Fairfield's first settlers.

The first burials were made in the Pequonnock, Fairfield old, and Mosquito Hill grounds. Those in the latter had no stones at all to mark the places, and, being located near the shore (west of Phipp's Beach), through the action of the winds and the waves they have been mostly washed away. In the other two grounds there was often no stone to mark the final resting-place of the dead; and if there were any, there was no mark intelligible to later generations. Then, as people had a little more time and could command tools, they improved on their first monuments, as they made a few rude initials, with the date of the year, carved in the stone in its original condition. On this account the Pequonnock (or Stratfield) ground is a curiosity, the contour of some of the stones being very irregular. The first feeling of the beholder is that he is in some foreign country,—that he is evidently not at home.

The burials of the first era are marked by no stones; those of the second are indicated by the use of a common rough stone, unwrought; the third, by the blue-stone imported from England. These stones are of excellent quality, and, being susceptible of very high polish or having great smoothness, are not so readily covered by moss. The fourth era is marked by free-stone; the fifth, by marble or granite. The fashion of carvings, designs of "grinning deaths," willows, urns, and monograms seems to mark different eras also. The different expressions, "In Memory of," "Departed this Life," "Died," "Obt.," also seem to indicate different parts of the century, as does the orthography,—“Here lyes ye,” etc. Then, again, the long epitaph or the reverse, the utmost simplicity, is in vogue at various times, an illustration of which is here given. The first is taken from Fairfield old ground, and is the longest one found:

"Here lies the Body of Thomas, Son to Mr Ebenezer & Mrs Mary Bertram. He was Born February 22, A.D. 1764, & Died July 28th, A.D. 1764, Aged 5 months & 6 Days.

"Happy the Babe, who, privileged by Fate  
To Shorter Labour and a Lighter weight,  
Receiv'd but yesterday the Gift of Breath,  
Order'd to-morrow to Return to Death.

\* Extracts from "Fairfield Tombstones," by Mrs. Kate E. Perry.

"Since all the downward *Tracts* of Time  
God's watchful Eye Surveys,  
Oh, who So wise to Choose our Lot  
And Regulate our ways ?

"Since none Can doubt his Equal Love,  
Unmeasurably kind,  
To his unerring, gracious will,  
Be Every wish Resigned.

"Good when He gives, Supremely good,  
Nor Less when He denies,  
Even Crosses from his Sovereign hand  
Are Blessings in Disguise."

The shortest is from Fairfield East ground, and is simply,—

"David Hull, M.D.,  
Ob. 1834, Æt. 68."

Probably there is not a person in town not familiar with Dr. Hull's name and reputation as a very successful and beloved physician.

The genealogist likes the following style, as it assists greatly in his research (the point referred to is in italics) :

"In Memory of Mrs  
Deborah Osborn,  
Consort of Mr Daniel  
Osborn, Jun<sup>r</sup>, & *Daugr*  
*of Col. Abraham Gould,*  
who departed this Life  
July 28, 1785, Aged  
22 years & 3 days.

"Death is a debt to Nature due,  
Which I have paid and so must you."\*

A few are here given as curiosities in tombstone lore :

"Here lyes Buried ye Body of  
Benjamin Wynkoop of Fairfield.  
He was born in New York  
May ye 5th, old stile, 1705, &  
departed this Life Sept 1st, 1766,  
in ye 62 Year of His Age."

To read these old stones intelligibly, it is necessary to bear in mind that "previous to 1752 the English legal year began with March 25th, though the change to January 1st as the beginning of the year, adopted by Catholic nations in 1582, had been gradually gaining ground. To prevent confusion between the two styles it became usual to write all dates occurring between January 1st and March 25th with double year, thus: 'Feb. 22, 173½,' meaning that the year under the Old Style would be still 1731, while by the New Style it would be 1732. Under the New Style another change took place, by which ten days should be added to all dates previous to 1700 and eleven days to those between 1700 and 1752."† For that reason one finds a birth on the church record in near the first part of February; on referring to the town record the same is registered in the last part of January, showing that the change was not uniformly adopted. As an illustration of the above the following is given :

\* See Fairfield Ground.

† Redfield Genealogy gives this explanation.

"Here lyes Buried ye  
Body of Mrs Ann  
Allen, Wife to Lieut  
Gideon Allen,  
Who departed this life,  
Mar 14th, Anno Dom.  
174¾, Aged 72 years."

The oldest inscription familiar to the historian so far reads :

"Here lyes ye Body  
Joseph Phippene,  
Aged about 26  
years. Died ye 10<sup>th</sup>  
of July, 1712."

The letters are all in capitals. It is a very short stone, just high enough for five lines of inscription. The margin is broad and richly carved.

Two others :

"Here  
lies interr'd the body  
of Doctr Thomas Hill,  
who died March 8<sup>th</sup>,  
A.D. 1781, in the 36<sup>th</sup>  
Year of his Age.

"Some hearty friends shall drop a tear  
On our dry Bones and say  
Those once were strong as mine appear  
And mine must be as they."

"Here lyes ye Body  
of Sarah Burr,  
the DAUGHTER of  
Peter Burr, Esq.,  
Aged about 16 years.  
Dec. —  
1—7—2—3."

The month indicating her death is lost, as the slate has scaled off. The year is stretched across the stone.

Another :

"Here lies ye body  
of Abigail, ye wife  
of Joseph Gorham,  
who died January  
ye 23<sup>d</sup>, 172½,  
Aged 31 years."

I was "old stile" for J.

Another :

"In  
Memory of  
Lieut. Gideon Hawley,  
who died  
Sept. 11. 1784.  
Aged years.  
Gideon, son of  
Gideon & Hannah Hawley,  
died Jan. 6, 1788.  
Aged 3 years & 6 months.

"Death, like an overflowing stream,  
Sweeps us away; our life's a dream,  
An empty *tail*; a morning flower,  
Cut down and wither'd in a hour."

Another :

"In  
memory of  
Grisel,  
wife of  
Gershom Osborn,  
who departed this life  
January 1<sup>th</sup>, 1820,  
Aged 76 years."



"Grisel" and "Gershom" were common names in Fairfield, but they, like the dead who bore them, are objects of the past.

Another:

"Horace  
son of  
Walter & Lucretia  
Sherwood  
born Aug. 13, 1811,  
& drown'd  
June 15, 1816.  
"of such is the kingdom  
of God."

Another:

"Here lies the  
Body of Peter  
Burr, son to Mr  
Thad<sup>s</sup> & Mrs Abi-  
gail Burr, died  
Sept<sup>r</sup> ye 13<sup>th</sup>, 1745,  
in ye 15<sup>th</sup> Year of  
his Age."

The next is a slab, though it says:

"This Monument  
is put up in Memory  
of Mr Gershom Burr."

The next has a lovely face at the top of the stone, the inscription beginning with:

"The Reader  
is hereby informed  
that the Body of  
Thaddeus Burr," etc.

The next begins:

"The Corruptible of  
James Dennie Sayre,  
son of James Sayre,  
Minister of the Gospel, &  
Sarah his wife, who fell  
asleep on the 25<sup>th</sup> Day of  
May, A.D. 1793, Aged  
almost 17 years.  
Young man trust not thy  
Youth, health or strength; Trust  
in the Lord with all thy Heart,  
and remember thy Creator, who is  
also thy Redeemer."

Another:

"In  
Memory of  
Stephen Morehouse,  
who was drowned  
Oct. 28, 1817,  
Æ. 30 Yrs & 6 Mo.  
"Behold and see as you pass by;  
As you are now, so once was I;  
As I am now, so you must be:  
Prepare for death & follow me."

Another:

"Memento Mori.  
Here lyes ye Body of  
Mr Joseph Bartram.  
He was Born February  
ye 21<sup>st</sup>, O. S., 1728, and Died  
March ye 28<sup>th</sup>, N. S., 1759,  
Aged 30 Years & 24 Days.  
"Princes, this Clay must be your bed,  
In spite of all your towers;  
The tall, the wise, the Reverend head  
Must lie as low as ours."

Another:

"Here lyes Buried  
the Body of Mr  
Ebenezer Jennings,  
the husband of Mrs  
Rebeckah Jennings, who  
died April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1768, in ye  
76 Year of His Age."

Another:

"Underneath  
this tomb lays the body  
of Ebenezer Burr, son  
of William & Eunice  
Burr, who was born  
Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, 1783, and Died  
April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1784, aged 6  
months.  
The parents' Joy in-life was lost  
in death,  
To be found in Christ."

Another:

"To the Memory of  
Mrs Althea Lamson, wife of  
The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Joseph Lamson,  
and Dau<sup>r</sup> of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr JAMES  
Wetmore, Rector of Rye in  
New York Province,

Who departed this Life ye 8<sup>th</sup> of Febr, 1766, Aged 44 Years."

Another:

"In memory of  
Samuel Squire, Esq.,  
Who departed this Life  
27<sup>th</sup> May, 1801,  
Aged 86 years.

"Praises on tombstones are but vainly spent,  
Assured life to come is our best monument."

Another:

"In memory of Noah Jarvis, son of Mr. Isaac & Mrs. Lydia Jarvis,  
who died May ye 19, 1766 in ye 9<sup>th</sup> year of his age.

"He on the waves of watere graves  
The last breath he did fetch:  
In blooming youth to tell the truth,  
Death did him quickly snatch."

There was an old burying-ground on Mill Plain, thought at one time to contain the oldest stones, but the boundaries and the site are now only traditional. All that remains of it are five tombstones,\* which will probably be set in the old Fairfield ground.

As land was plenty, there were no particular boundaries given at first to the burying-grounds, but people, with a very few exceptions, buried their dead in rows, in a general lot. As the Fairfield ground was the most central and the first church was located

\* These stones contain tributes to:

- (1) "Mr. Abraham Adams  
who dec'd Aug. ye 9<sup>th</sup>, 1729.  
in ye 80<sup>th</sup> year of his age."
- (2) "Mrs. Rebecca Brown,  
dec'd June ye 3<sup>d</sup>, 1730,  
In ye 75<sup>th</sup> year of her age."
- (3) "Mr. Benjamin Lines,  
Dec'd February ye 21<sup>st</sup>, 1732,  
In ye 44<sup>th</sup> year of his age."
- (4) "David Jennings, son of  
Mr. Joshua and Mrs. Rebecca Jennings.  
Dec'd March ye 9<sup>th</sup>, 1735, Aged 10 months."
- (5) "Mrs. Esther Lord, aged 67 years."

there, it was natural that it should be the most used. The one on Mill Plain was in the rear of or near the first Episcopal church. In all probability, the burials made there were on "common or undivided land," which in time was apportioned to various individuals, and, as generations succeeded, these portions passed to different owners; and, being disused for burials, all traces of this ground are lost. Mr. Frederic Sturges owns the original site of it.

Another reason: The second Episcopal church being built near Mr. Henry Rowland's, the burying-ground in Fairfield was used jointly by the two denominations. The old ground being filled, a new one was a necessity; but, as the town would not harmonize on the location, two cemeteries were laid out simultaneously,—one to accommodate Black Rock and such other portion of Fairfield as would prefer a burial there, and the other to accommodate Southport, Mill Plain, and Fairfield. The former (once owned by Mr. Jonathan Lewis, who possessed all that square) was in the rear of the Methodist church; the latter was on the Southport road, opposite, in later years, the original site of St. Thomas' (Catholic) church.

These cemeteries were calculated for a certain number of lots capable of holding a specified number of persons, for each of which lots a sum of three dollars gave a "warranty deed, fee simple," for all time. Many "took up" a lot without paying; others purchased, and they or their posterity are holders of the deeds.

As Green's Farms and the Pequonnock ground were originally in Fairfield, the early inhabitants were buried in them. A very few gravestones were erected previous to 1700, but they were not in general use till about 1730 or 1740. The grounds mentioned above, with Greenfield ground (Greenfield was the name given to Fairfield Northwest Parish Oct. 12, 1727), contain the dead whose burials occurred from the above dates till 1827.

The first interment in the East ground is marked by a stone which contains:

"The Grave of  
Eliza Burr,  
wife of  
Silliman Burr,  
who died  
Feb. 11, 1827,  
aged 31 years."

The first interment in the West ground was that of Robert Pike, in 1830.

There is apparently a large vacant space in one corner of the old ground, which would make it appear to a stranger as if there was no necessity for a new ground, but on investigation it will be found that this portion was used exclusively for slaves and the poor.

The old way of settling a town was to select a site for a church, a town-house, a school, a burying-ground, and a green or parade-ground, and these were

for the public benefit. Buying a burial-plot in this country is a recent custom, except in large cities. Southport, Mill Plain, and Fairfield placed their dead in this old ground for years. Some bodies have been removed to other resting-places, but the most of the illustrious dead of Fairfield for two hundred years lie here.

In 1865 the citizens who possessed due reverence for their ancestors had a mortar-laid wall built to preserve this old Fairfield burying-ground.

It is a wonderful coincidence that many of the original owners (and their descendants for three or four generations) of the "colonial" houses lie in this inclosure.

Fairfield West Parish (now Green's Farms), like Stratfield, had a graveyard of its own; likewise Fairfield North Parish (now Greenfield) had a ground to itself, but the latter has more antiquity, as it is said this was an old Indian burying-ground. The Indians buried their dead six feet deep, but they permitted the whites to use their ground, providing they would not bury deeper than four feet.

As the Indians passed away the whites continued to use it till it was full, and then they would have been obliged to extend this old ground or lay out a new cemetery had not Southport obviated that necessity by creating a cemetery of grand proportions for a rural community. The East ground was well occupied, the old, or middle, was disused, the West inadequate, and Greenfield ground was full; so a number of Southport gentlemen—Messrs. Benjamin Pomeroy, William W. Wakeman, Moses Bulkeley, Warren D. Gookin, Jonathan Godfrey, Edwin Sherwood, John A. Alvord, Oliver H. Perry and his sister Delia, George Bulkeley, and Frederic Marquand—formed an association, Dec. 29, 1865, under the Statute Laws of Connecticut, and purchased a portion of land lying between Greenfield and Southport, along the bank of Mill River. This has been laid out in beautiful walks and drives. The land being undulating, it is diversified by "glade and glen" and groves. The grounds are sold to parties wishing to purchase, and in consequence many people of wealth have contributed freely towards making their final resting-places comparatively as attractive as their earthly dwellings; so that the Oak Lawn Cemetery—named from a huge oak near the entrance—is rich in copings, inclosures, monuments, and tributes to departed friends. Here are stately monuments erected to the bearers of the names of Pomeroy, Wakeman, Bulkeley, Gookin, Sherwood, Alvord, Perry, Black, Nichols, Beers, McLean, Osgood, Jennings, Hull, Dimon, Goodsell, Ogden, Godfrey, Banks, and many others.

A portion of the East burying-ground is elegantly laid out, with the inclosures of coping and velvet turf. In the summer the dead appear as if inclosed in a sarcophagus of flowers labeled in beautifully carved marble. Here are the names of Sanford, Curtis, Phelps, Thorp, Gould, Lyon, Rowland, Hull, Brown,



Jennings, Betts, Smith, Sturges, Jones, Jessup, Cogswell, Rogers, Wilson, and Burr, besides hosts of others, many of whom were the occupants of the beautiful mansions of Fairfield which have been standing from a quarter to half a century.

It is not an uncommon occurrence to find the members of a family buried in three cemeteries, which does not greatly facilitate the work of the historian or the genealogist.

In the old ground this inscription is found:

"W. P.  
This Monument is erected  
by Mrs. Molly Pike  
to commemorate her Husband,  
Mr. William Pike,  
who died April 1<sup>st</sup>,  
1806,  
in the 55<sup>th</sup> year  
of his age."

In the West ground a stone is

"Sacred  
to the memory of  
Molly Pike,  
widow of  
William Pike,  
who departed this life  
15<sup>th</sup> Sept., 1834,  
Aged 74 Years,  
After having discharged a mother's duty to  
15 children.  
"Behold, and see what death has done!  
This is the race we all must run,  
Repent in time, while time you have:  
There's no repentance in the grave."

In the old ground is found a stone erected

"In Memory of  
Capt Eliphalet Thorp,  
who departed this Life  
Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1795,  
in the 56 Year  
of his Age."

He died of yellow fever; he was father of Mrs. Molly Pike. She married (1) Jonathan Darrow, who was taken prisoner by the British, and died on their prison ship. He left one son, Jonathan. In 1779 his mother took him and her sister and their colored female slaves to the woods and remained till the danger was over. She married (2) William Pike, who was lieutenant under Gen. Washington. Of their fourteen children there are two living,—Capt. Julius Pike, of Southport, who formerly ran a packet from Charleston to New York, now is in his eighty-third year, and his sister, Charlotte, widow of James Perry, of Fairfield Woods, now eighty-seven. These children were born in Southport. Three of them were lost at sea,—one a young man eighteen years old; another, Capt. William, who started on a voyage with his vessel from Charleston and was never heard from afterwards; Capt. Robert, who lies buried near his mother, and has this inscription to his memory:

"The Grave  
of  
Capt. Robert Pike,  
who departed this life  
on Barnegat Beach.  
After humanely preserving the  
lives of his crew from shipwreck  
in the memorable gale  
on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, 1830,  
aged 37 years, 11 months,  
and 6 days.  
"Behold, vain mortals, fleeting forms  
Beneath this clay-cold sod;  
Here lies, a prey to nauseous worms,  
The noblest work of God."

In this West ground is this inscription:

"In memory of  
Capt. John F. Langley,  
who was born in New Market, N. H.,  
Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1819,  
and, together with his crew,  
was lost on  
Eaton's Neck, Long Island,  
in a snow-storm,  
Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, 1845,  
Aged 25 years, 2 mo.,  
& 14 DAYS.  
"He's gone and left me here below  
To mourn his loss with grief and wo.  
But God is just: may I be still.  
Since 'tis my heavenly Father's will."

Another stone in the same ground contains:

"To the memory  
of  
Aaron I. Hubbell,  
Born Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1807,  
and came to his death by the  
Melancholy loss  
of the schooner 'Reeside,' which  
was wrecked in the  
severe snow-storm of  
FEB. THE 4<sup>th</sup>, 1845,  
on Eaton's Neck, Long Island,  
Aged 37 years, 11 mo.,  
& 12 Days.  
This stone  
commemorates  
the affectionate regard  
of the bereaved mother of  
him whose earthly remains  
repose beneath.  
May he rest in peace!"

Among the epitaphs in the East ground are:

"Died  
in the hopes of the Gospel,  
Euretta,  
wife of  
Jeremiah T. Denison, M.D.,  
the 7<sup>th</sup> of February, 1844,  
In the 33 year of  
her age.  
Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord"

Another:

"Here rests in hope  
of a glorious immortality  
the mortal remains of  
Leander M. Sammis,  
who died  
Nov. 3, 1850.  
Æ. 25 yrs., 6 mo., & 6 d's.

"Unvail thy bosom, faithful tomb;  
Take this new treasure to thy trust,  
And give these sacred relics room  
To slumber in the silent dust.  
So Jesus slept, God's dying Son,  
Pass'd thro' the grave & blest the bed.  
Rest here, blest saint, till from his throne  
The morning break and pierce the shade."

Another:

"Capt.  
Rufus Knapp,  
son of  
John & Esther  
Knapp,  
Born in Fairfield,  
Dec. 7, 1813.  
Sailed from New York  
for Liverpool in the  
Ship 'Leviathan,'  
Nov. 24, 1853.

We waited, watched, and hoped, but no tidings ever came.  
"Sad, dark, mysterious thy fate and hard to bear, yet pleasant remembrances crowd the memory, and like a halo of light relieve the sadness and best bespeak thy worth."

There are more epitaphs and odd inscriptions in Greenfield ground than in all the other grounds in Fairfield. Here are a few specimens:

"In Memory of  
Capt Ebenezer Hill,  
Son of  
Deac<sup>n</sup> Joseph Hill,  
who departed this Life  
March 27<sup>th</sup>, 1798,  
in the 57<sup>th</sup> year  
of his age.

He was virtuous in Life, and resigned in Death."

The next stone contains:

"In  
Memory of  
Marel, wife of  
Capt. Eben<sup>r</sup> Hill, who died  
Oct. 26, 1820, in her  
75 year.

"She was the mother of six sons and three Daughters.  
"In life she was industrious, equinomical, and virtuous, and in Death happy."

Another:

"In  
Memory of  
Uriah Burr,  
who died Oct<sup>r</sup> 12, 1813,  
Æ. 27.

"Learn, ye who view the silent tomb,  
And round its borders tread,  
I was cut down in perfect bloom  
And number'd with the dead.

"As you are now, so once was I,  
With youth and health adorned;  
And soon like me you here must lie,  
A helpless prey for worms.

"Then seize, oh seize, the transient hour,  
Make sure your peace with God;  
Youth, like the morning flower,  
Is blasted in the bud."

Another:

"Francis Samuel Bulkley,  
Born at Black Rock, Ct.,  
June 3, 1811.  
Died in New York  
March 30, 1855.

"Death teaches heavy lessons hard to bear,  
And most it teaches us what we have lost  
In losing those who loved us."

Another:

"In  
memory of  
Elijah Banks,  
who died  
April 12, 1840,  
in the 50<sup>th</sup> year  
of his age.

"The beloved partner of my heart,  
Which Heaven so lately gave,  
'Tis called with earth for Heaven to part  
And left me here to grieve.  
But soon, ah! soon, we'll meet again:  
In Heaven we hope to dwell,  
Free from all care and toil and pain:  
Then, dearest one, Farewell!"

Another:

"A \* in glory,  
Henry B. Banks,  
Died  
July 20, 1854.  
Æ. 32 Yrs & 4 mo.

"Yes, again we hope to meet thee,  
Where no farewell tears are shed:  
Jesus' precious blood hath bought thee,  
And thou speakest all-though dead.  
"He being dead, yet speaketh.—Heb. 17: 4."

Another:

"Sacred  
To the memory of  
Abbey Bradley,  
wife of  
Silas Wakeman,  
& Daughter of  
Nathan & Clarine Wheeler,  
Who Died  
June 19, 1842,  
aged 34 year  
& 8 mos.

"Farewell, my partner & children dear;  
Prepare for death while I sleep here."

Here is a memento of the late war:

"AMOR  
PATRIÆ  
DUCIT.  
Francis B. Merwin,  
Co. I, 23<sup>d</sup> Regt C. V.,  
Died in the service  
of his Country  
at Lafourche, La.,  
Apr. 17<sup>th</sup>, 1863,  
Aged 23 yrs.  
& 11 mo.

Erected by his young associates,  
A last sad tribute of their affection  
and esteem for their departed comrade."

Another:

"Sacred  
to the memory of  
Hosea Hulbert, M.D.,  
who departed this life  
April 5, A.D. 1825,  
in the 80<sup>th</sup> year  
of his age.  
Quiescat in pace."

He built the house occupied by Mr. Henry Bradley, and resided there. He was an antagonist in practice to Dr. Rogers.

St. Thomas' ground is a new one, and in consequence has had but few burials in it. It is a neat little ground, belonging to the Catholic church.



There are some fine stones and monuments here. Of the latter one large one bears this :

"Rev. Thomas Mullen,  
Obiit Aug. 5, 1877.  
Ætat 33.  
Requiescat in Pace."

He was greatly beloved by his people, and respected by all. He died under these trying circumstances : There was some unpleasantness existing between John Conklin and George Allen, whereupon the latter shot the former, the wound proving fatal. Rev. Mr. Mullen attended him faithfully as long as life was spared, but, being troubled with the heart-disease, the excitement was so great that he fell down dead. Allen was sent to prison for life.

There are several very sensible inscriptions in this ground; then, again, there are sentiment and epitaphs. Here is one :

"Martha Ann,  
daughter of  
Gamaliel & Jane  
SMITH,  
Died Nov. 17, 1870.  
Æ. 9 y'rs, 10 D's.  
May her soul rest in peace! Amen.  
"We loved her! Oh, no tongue can tell  
How much we loved her or how well :  
God loved her too, and thought it best  
To take her home with him to rest."

Another :

"Father!  
Michael Kincella,  
died Sept. 19, 1872.  
Æ. 44 yrs.  
May his soul rest in peace!  
We miss thee."

As an introduction to the records of the Oak Lawn Cemetery, Mr. O. H. Perry wrote therein an elaborate and excellent history of the burying-grounds of the town, which has suggested many items in this paper.

Associating the present "colonial" houses with Fairfield old and the Greenfield burying-grounds, a good idea of the colonial times may be evolved into an interesting history. The East and West grounds will, with the homes erected in the early part of the century, bring that history down seventy-five years later; while the historian in the next century will look to the extension of the East ground and Oak Lawn for the people of to-day.

There are, however, owing to the conflagration of 1779, many names of note, the bearers of which neither lived in "colonials" nor had they odd inscriptions; neither does space give them "special" history, but a worthy mention is due them. They are those of Allen, Barlow, Thorp, Lewis, Brewster (of whom was Capt. Caleb, who died in 1827, aged seventy-nine years, and "was a brave and active officer of the Revolution;" so says his tombstone), Fowler, Knap, Whitehead, Bartram, Benedict, Rev. Joseph Webb (one of the founders of Yale College), Ely, Trubee, and Squire.

The only ground kept now under any system is the

Oak Lawn, which has a perfect directory. Up to date there have been four hundred and thirty-five burials in it. There is a directory of the other grounds now being compiled for public use.

For information on the subject of burying-grounds credit is due to Mr. Samuel Wilson (gunsmith), Mr. Charles M. Johnson, Mr. Ebenezer Burr, Mr. David Banks, Mr. Oliver Perry, Capt. Julius Pike, and Miss Annie R. Jennings.

#### THE BOROUGH OF SOUTHPORT.\*

The charter of the borough of Southport was granted May 26, 1831, and the first borough-meeting was held July 4, 1831. At this meeting the following officers were chosen; Jonathan Bulkeley, Warden; Ebenezer Dimon, First Burgess; Charles Perry, Second Burgess; Andrew Bulkeley, Third Burgess; Justus Sherwood, Fourth Burgess; Jesup Alvord, Fifth Burgess; Wakeman B. Meeker, Sixth Burgess; Simon Sherwood, Treasurer; Julius Pike, Bailiff. The last borough-meeting was held Dec. 30, 1854.

#### THE SOUTHPORT NATIONAL BANK.\*

This bank was chartered as a branch of the Connecticut Bank of Bridgeport, January, 1832, and called "The Connecticut Branch Bank," with Jeremiah Sturges president, Jonathan Bulkeley cashier. Francis D. Perry was elected cashier Dec. 20, 1839, in place of Jonathan Bulkeley, resigned. In 1844, Jesup Alvord was elected president, to succeed Jeremiah Sturges, deceased. In 1847, Wyllis Atwater was elected cashier, to succeed Francis D. Perry, resigned.

In July, 1851, the connection with the Connecticut Bank ceased. The bank obtained an independent charter, and was known as "The Southport Bank," with Jesup Alvord president, and Wyllis Atwater cashier. In 1852, Wyllis Atwater resigned as cashier, and Francis D. Perry was elected instead.

Jan. 2, 1865, the bank adopted the national banking system, and was known as "The Southport National Bank." In February, 1865, Francis D. Perry resigned as cashier, and E. C. Sherwood was chosen to fill the vacancy. June 19, 1865, Jesup Alvord resigned as president, and Francis D. Perry was chosen.

The capital of the bank has been one hundred thousand dollars from the organization as a branch to the present time. The surplus at present is twenty-seven thousand dollars.

#### THE SOUTHPORT SAVINGS-BANK.\*

The Southport Savings-Bank was chartered by the General Assembly at its May session of 1854. It was organized in September, 1854, by the election of the following board of managers: President, Frederick Marquand; Vice-Presidents, William W. Wakeman, Edwin Sherwood, Augustus Jennings; Trustees, Jesup Alvord, Moses Bulkeley, George Bulkeley, Oliver H. Perry, Ebenezer Jesup, Simon Sherwood, William

\* By various contributors.

Bulkeley, Allen Nichols, Jonathan Godfrey, Samuel A. Nichols, William Bibbins, John Gould; Secretary and Treasurer, F. D. Perry. Only six of this board now survive.

Deposits were first received Sept. 25, 1854, in the Southport Bank building. A new structure was erected, opposite the Southport National Bank, for the savings-bank and occupied June 24, 1865, nearly eleven years after its organization, and then having on deposit \$287,655.41. The present amount of deposits (April 24, 1880) is \$524,056.18.

Present board of managers: President, Frederick Marquand; Vice-Presidents, Edwin Sherwood, Augustus Jennings, Jonathan Godfrey; Trustees, George Bulkeley, F. D. Perry, W. B. Meeker, O. B. Jennings, Oliver Bulkeley, Paschal Sheffield, George Bulkeley, Jr., Francis Jelliff, Franklin Bulkeley, Benjamin A. Bulkeley, Simon C. Sherwood, Royal G. Skiff, John H. Wood, Edward Henshaw, Ebenezer Monroe, John H. Gorham; Loaning Committee, F. Marquand, Edwin Sherwood, and F. D. Perry; Auditors, L. F. Sherwood and Henry Davis; Secretary and Treasurer, O. H. Perry.

#### LIBRARIES.

The writer is indebted to Dr. Dunham and Miss Catharine A. Blakeman, of Greenfield, Mr. J. F. Jennings, of Southport, and the *Bridgeport Standard* for the following:

The first public library in the town of Fairfield was established about 1790-1800, and disbanded about 1850. It was originally a stock concern. The only account so far advanced is taken from an old bill, in which it is stated that Alfred Perry, in 1827, "bought of the executors of the estate of David Beers, deceased, at public vendue, one share in Fairfield Library for fifty-five cents." Some of the books of the original library are in the present Fairfield Library.

The second library was established in Greenfield in 1813. Each share in the library was sold at two dollars and fifty cents. The original by-laws, subscribers, and catalogue of books are in possession of M. V. B. Dunham, M.D., of Greenfield Hill. Among the subscribers' names are those associated with the colonial houses, some of whom took two shares,—viz., Rev. William Belden, Walter Bradley, David Hill, William B. Nash, A. D. Baldwin, Gideon Tomlinson, Gershom and Daniel Wakeman. They each paid a yearly tax of fifty cents. For keeping books beyond the allotted time there was levied a fine, and every one was mulcted some time.

As people may be curious to know of what libraries were composed in the pre-novel age, a quotation from the catalogue is given: "'Spectator,' 8 vols.; 'Rambler,' 4 vols.; 'Lives of the Poets,' 4 vols.; Rollins' 'Antient History,' 8 vols.; 'Cælebs,' 2 vols.; 'Practical Piety,' 'Christian Morals,' 'History of Charles Twelfth,' 'Vicar of Wakefield,' 'Life of Calvin,'

Clark's 'Palestine,' 'Robinson Crusoe,' Jay's 'Sermons,' etc.

The third library was founded in Southport in February, 1830, under the name of "Mill River Social Library." In this the cost of life-membership was ten dollars. Of life-members there were Jeremiah Sturges, Hezekiah Davis, Julius Pike,\* Simeon Sherwood, and Joseph Bulkeley.

The fourth was formed in Greenfield in May, 1830, when the members agreed to constitute a joint stock by subscribing five dollars apiece. This time they purchased Arnett's "Physics," "Phrenology," Gibbons' "Rome," "Geology," and works of a similar character.

The fifth was at the Southport public school, which was established in 1858 by Mr. Frank D. Brinsmade, the principal of said school, who raised by public exhibitions a sufficient sum to purchase two hundred volumes, of which there are only two known to be in existence.

The sixth is the "Library Association of Mill Plain," abbreviated to "L. A. M. P.," which was established in 1871. The founders were Miss R. S. Carew, Ebenezer Burr, Jr., and Mrs. Burr Perry. It was originated by the latter, and began with no public meeting, but was started with one dollar by Mrs. Perry for capital. It has a circulating library of more than seven hundred and fifty volumes, has been successful, and retains its popularity. It is the only library organization in the town that has never changed its principal officers. It has been largely augmented through the donations of Mr. D. M. Redfield and his sisters, Mrs. Lounsbury, of Portchester, and Mrs. John Abendroth, of New York.

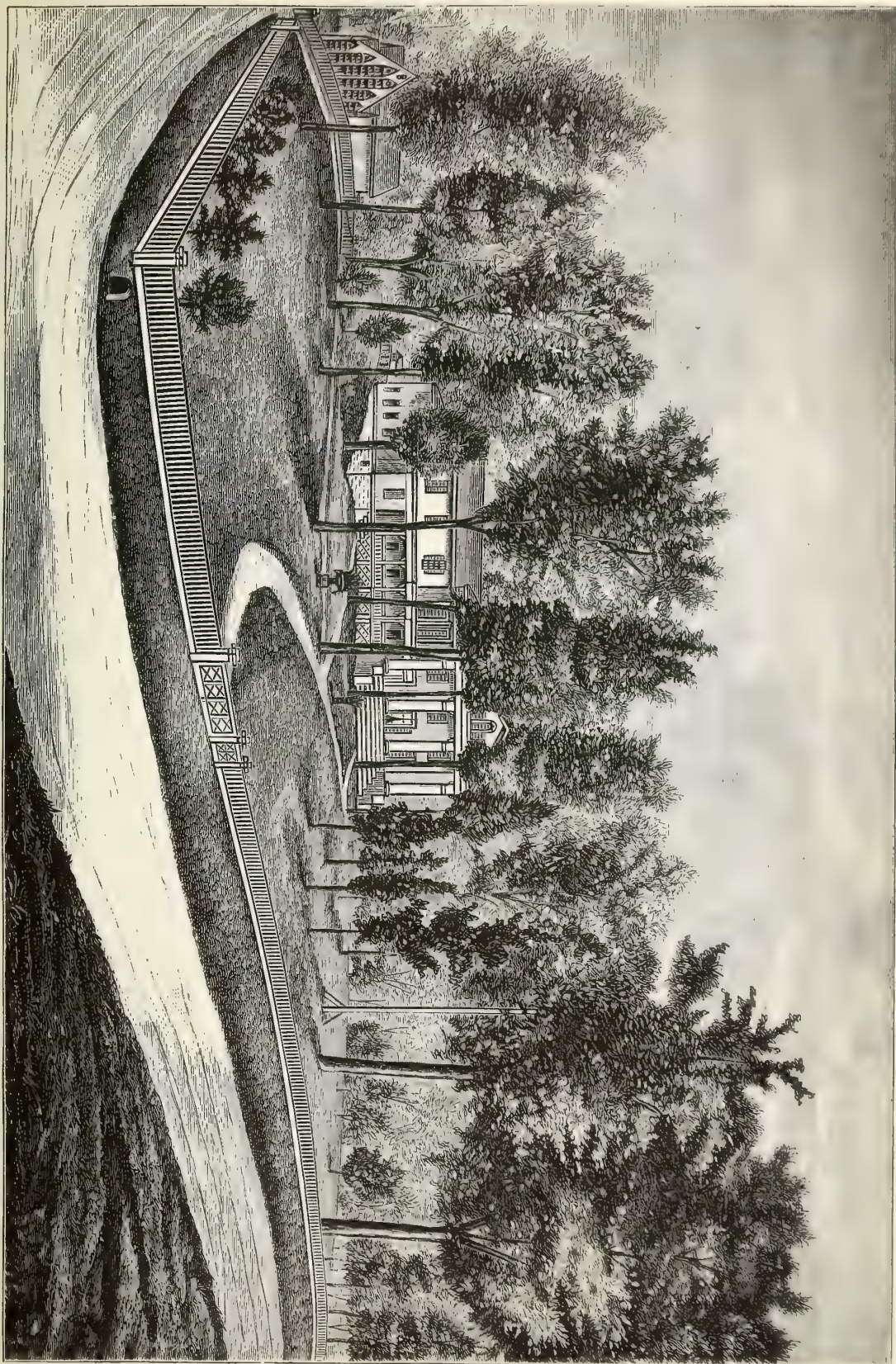
The seventh library was founded in Greenfield about the time the "L. A. M. P." was organized, and had for a nucleus the remains of its former libraries. The people of Greenfield preserve a warm interest in its behalf. It also numbers over seven hundred and fifty volumes, and is a decided success.

The eighth was organized in Southport in 1875. Two hundred and fifty dollars were subscribed by private individuals, which sum was increased by yearly dues. This library was given to the temperance organization.

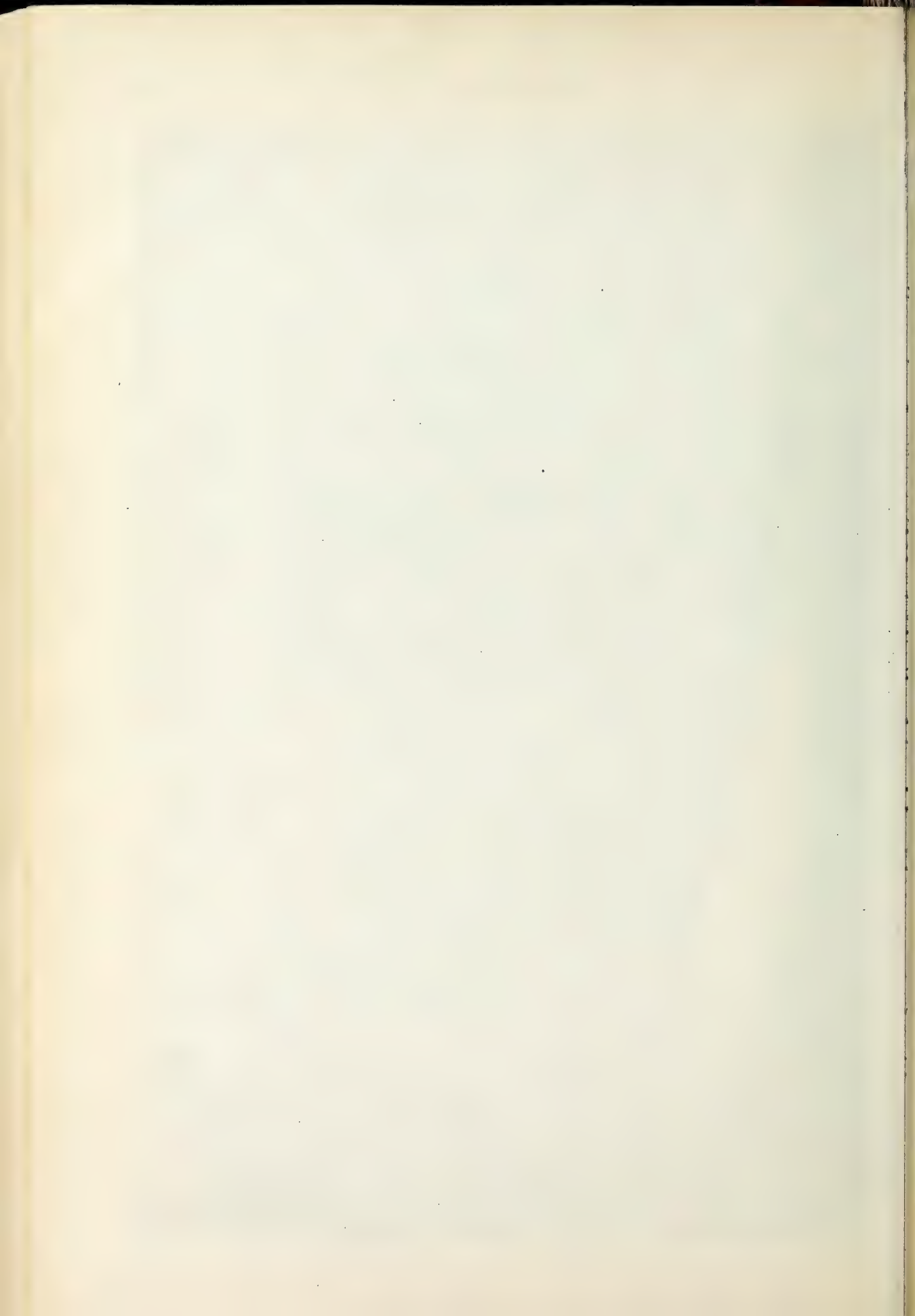
The ninth, and last, was the "Memorial Library," given to Fairfield in 1876 by Mr. Morris W. Lyon, who donated the generous sum of one thousand dollars for its establishment. Mr. Lyon is a native of Fairfield, but for the past twenty-four years has resided in New York, where he still has a collegiate institute for boys. The original directors were: Rev. Drs. E. E. Rankin (who, leaving town, resigned), Samuel Osgood (who deceased while he was its popular and efficient president), Rev. James K. Lombard (present president), and Messrs. J. H. Glover, O. B. Jennings, Deacon Samuel Morehouse, and Deacon H. W. Cur-

\* Only living member.





RESIDENCE OF MRS. WM. W. WAKEMAN, SOUTHPORT, CONN.





tis (deceased). At present it has a circulation of one thousand volumes.

Mr. Lyon has recently added a large sum to the original gift, and proves himself a benefactor to the literary world and to his native town.

The Mill Plain school also owns the "American Cyclopædia" complete (this is also in Greenfield and Fairfield libraries); so that, with the reference books in all the public libraries, the readers in Fairfield are well accommodated. But, this being a wealthy town, there is not that need of circulating libraries which there would be if so many private individuals had not such extensive ones of their own.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first reference to schools in the old town records is under date of Dec. 27, 1661, as follows:

"Whereas y<sup>e</sup> town hath formerly voted y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> school-master shall have ten pounds towards his wages out of y<sup>e</sup> town-rate; and it is now ordered for y<sup>e</sup> fifteen pounds y<sup>t</sup> remains of his wages it shall be paid by y<sup>e</sup> master and parents of such Children as need teaching from six years old and upwards; and if any shall send their Children under six years old or girls they shall be esteemed payable scholars."

From that time to the present a lively interest has ever been manifested in the educational training of the youth, and the schools of Fairfield have ever been ranked among the best in the State.

The old academy on Greenfield Hill was one of the leading educational institutions of the day. It was established by Timothy Dwight, D.D., and conducted by him about twelve years. In 1838 it was being conducted as a young ladies' seminary, but has long since been abandoned.

For present condition of the schools, see General History.

#### THE SOUTHPORT TIMES.\*

The managing editor of this popular family newspaper is Henry A. Van Dalsem, and it is issued early every Friday morning. It entered upon its third volume Nov. 1, 1880, and since its first issue has been twice enlarged to meet public demands; which tells its own story of successful growth.

Independent in principles, clean in its utterances, and representing the interests of Southport, Fairfield, Mill Plain, and Greenfield, it meets with a cordial welcome at pretty much all the family firesides in the town of Fairfield. Besides its managing editor, it has a corps of contributing editors, who, residing in the several villages which make up the township, not only write up the current news of their respective localities regularly each week, but also contribute original articles of pertinent interest. Its columns are also enriched with frequent communications from the leading literary, agricultural, and commercial people of the vicinity, which makes the journal invaluable to many subscribers in various parts of the country who claim Fairfield as their native town, and who

through this pleasant medium are kept in regular correspondence with relatives and acquaintances.

While the *Times* presents each week a carefully-condensed digest of all that is going on in the world, and is breezy and gossipy, strict care is observed that its tone shall always be pure and wholesome. Abreast with the times as to topics and sentiment, conservative in politics and religion, fresh and interesting in matter, it merits the success attained.

#### THE FAIRFIELD ACADEMY.

This was organized Nov. 4, 1802. The largest subscriber was Gershom Burr, who gave sixty dollars to the fund. The first charter granted was in 1804, and was given to Hon. Jonathan Sturges and Samuel Rowland, Esq., as they were appointed by the proprietors of the academy to receive the same. The original trustees were Jonathan Sturges, Andrew Eliot, David Judson, Nathan Beers, Jr., and Samuel Rowland.

The first teacher was William Stoddard, who studied medicine with Dr. David Hull. He taught three years; salary, five hundred dollars per annum. There is one person living who attended the academy the first day it was opened to the public, and she is Miss Eliza Hull.

In 1808, Matthew Rice Dutton, who was studying under Dr. Heman Humphrey for the ministry, taught here and occupied the position two years. He became professor of mathematics, natural philosophy, and astronomy in Yale College. He was ordained first over a church in Stratford. He died in New Haven.

1810.—Samuel J. Hitchcock followed as preceptor for two years, with entire satisfaction. He received the title of LL.D., and became a professor of law in Yale College, and was judge of New Haven County Court. Died in New Haven about 1844 or 1845.

1811.—Samuel Turney taught for a short time. He was a native of Fairfield. He died in 1823.

1812.—Elihu W. Baldwin taught for the ensuing two years. He was a most estimable man, beloved and respected by all. After a long and successful ministry he was called to preside over Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind.

1814.—A Mr. Worthington followed for a short time, when Dr. Humphrey took charge temporarily till a permanent teacher could be found.

1815.—Orrin Fowler followed. He was born in Lebanon, Conn., July 29, 1791; graduated at Yale, 1815; taught the Fairfield Academy one year; entered the Congregational ministry; became a missionary in the West; settled in 1819 as pastor at Plainfield, Conn.; was twenty years a minister at Fall River, Mass.; often in the State Legislature; in Congress 1848-52; distinguished as a temperance and anti-slavery orator; author of a treatise on Baptism (1835), Historical Sketch of Fall River (1841); died at Washington, D. C., Sept. 3, 1852.

\* By W. A. Beers.

1816.—George E. Pierce, D.D., born at Southbury, Conn., Sept. 9, 1794; graduated from Yale, 1816, and taught in Fairfield Academy two years. He graduated from Andover Theological Seminary, 1821; was ordained pastor of a Congregational Church at Harwinton, Conn., 1822; president of Western Reserve College, 1834–55; died at Hudson, Ohio, May 27, 1871.

1818.—Henry Dutton was preceptor for the ensuing two years. He was brother of the Mr. Dutton previously mentioned. He was a jurist, born at Plymouth, Conn., Feb. 12, 1796, and graduated at Yale in 1818, was professor of law in Yale (1847–55), became Governor of Connecticut in 1854, and was a judge of the Superior Court and Court of Errors (1861–66). He prepared several digests, compilations of State statutes, etc. He died April 26, 1869.\*

1820.—Rev. William Belden had the academy for two years. This school had a wide reputation until Mr. Belden had charge. There were many students who attended it from the South, as institutions of high rank were not numerous through the country. Mr. Belden had a large class of youths prepared for Yale College, but not one of them could pass examination! From that date the glory of the academy began to depart. Mr. Belden was settled as pastor of Greenfield Congregational Church from 1812 till 1821.

In 1821, "upon the petition of Gen. Gershom Burr, Samuel Rowland, and Roger M. Sherman, Esq., agents of the proprietors of Fairfield Academy," "at a General Assembly of the State of Connecticut holden at Hartford, a new charter was granted, the former having by accident expired."

1824.†—H. Benedict was preceptor.

1825.†—C. Whittlesey occupied that position.

The trustees were men of considerable note in the world, and all at this period (1821–30) were of much local celebrity. They were the Rev. Messrs. Nathaniel Hewit, Edward Hooker, Andrew Eliot, Leonard Bacon, Deacon David Judson, Hon. R. M. Sherman, and William B. Nash, M.D. But with all their learning, charters, and account books, the first mention of a teacher in all the academy records is in 1828, when the building was leased‡ to Rev. C. G. Lee, for which he paid no rent further than to keep it in repair. He taught this school in 1828, 1829, and 1830.

In 1832–33, A. A. Pettengill, the late editor of the *Bridgeport Standard*, acted as preceptor. The next mention in the records after Mr. Lee (1828) of a teacher is: "Voted, That Mr. Wallace be requested to continue his school for another year and that he have the use of the academy for that purpose."§ This was April, 28, 1836. Hon. Thomas B. Osborne, lawyer, trustee, and secretary, records in 1838: "Voted, That Mr. Tufts, of the Senior Class of Yale

College, be contracted with to take the place of Mr. Carter, as instructor."||

In 1839, Mr. James Tufts became the preceptor. He now is pastor of a charge in or near Rochester, N. Y. 1840, Deacon David Judson resigns. The Board "Resolved to tender to him their thanks for his great services and strict fidelity in promoting the interests of this Institution from its first establishment" (thirty-six years). Capt. John Gould was voted in as trustee in place of Deacon Judson resigned.¶

1840–1850.—Among the teachers of this decade were Daniel March, now D.D., with a pastorate near Boston, Mass.,—an excellent instructor; — Marsh, who died recently while missionary to Turkey (with one of these men originated the famous "Iron Horse," his graduating poem at Yale); — Benton; Willis Atwater, brother of Prof. Lyman Atwater, of Princeton, N. J.

In 1847 it is to be regretted that the boys were very destructive, so much so this entry is made in the records: "Voted, That while we desire the pupils of the school to enjoy themselves in all reasonable sports and recreations, we strongly disapprove and exhort them to refrain from the practice of throwing stones or other dangerous missiles."

The next meeting recorded is in 1853, and the next in 1866, making about two meetings in nearly twenty years!

In 1866 the rates for tuition were: For Greek, Latin, and higher mathematics, ten dollars per quarter per scholar.

Common and higher English branches, eight dollars.

Primary department, four dollars and seventy-five cents.

In 1867, E. E. Rankin, D.D., was elected a member of the board.

In the decades from 1840 to 1870 the academy was under the preceptorship of Mr. Morris W. Lyon, a native of Fairfield, a graduate of Yale; and since he taught in the academy he has established a collegiate institute for boys in New York City, which he has continued for twenty-four years. He also founded the Fairfield Memorial Library in 1876, to which he has donated greatly since. This library occupies the lower floor of the academy. He also originated the "Commemoration of the Burning of Fairfield, in 1779," which was very successful; Rev. Platt T. Holly, father of Mrs. L. N. Norton, M.D., of Bridgeport; — Chamberlin; Thomas H. Pease; Lewis Beers, a lawyer, who was established later in Norwalk, and died, aged thirty-five; — Dey; — Moore; F. S. Lyon, editor of *Connecticut Republican*, Norwalk, Conn.; and Geo. F. Robinson, a graduate of Yale. In 1867, Geo. F. Robinson resigned. While he taught here, Mr. Thomas Rowland,

\* For the above, credit is due E. E. Rankin, D.D., of Hartford, and Mr. J. S. Burr, of Brooklyn.

† See Deacon Judson's Account Book.

‡ See Academy Book, p. 14.

§ Ibid., p. 19.

|| Ibid., p. 20.

¶ Ibid., p. 21.



an inventor and builder of monitors, presented the academy with a quantity of various shaped blocks, which, when properly arranged, formed a perfect globe or ball. When nearly arranged the coins of the period, the prominent dailies, and all the names of the pupils at that time in attendance at the academy were placed in this ball. It was then gilded and placed on top of the building, where it is daily seen by passers-by.\*

In 1867,† after various conferences and Rev. L. B. Stimson's agitating the question of starting a private school, Mr. A. P. Somes, a native of Lebanon, N. H., and a graduate of Dartmouth, was employed, with his wife, to take charge of the school, \$1000 a year guaranteed to them by Messrs. John H. Glover, O. B. Jennings, A. W. Sanford, H. T. Curtis,‡ M. G. Betts,§ and D. M. Bunker.¶ The tuition per quarter of 11 weeks was raised to \$10 for English, \$12 for Latin and Greek, and \$6 for the primary. The sessions for school were to be from nine o'clock A.M. to two o'clock P.M., during which a half-hour's recess was to be given.

In 1868 the committee, Capt. D. M. Bunker, reported the board \$25 in debt, and Mr. Somes reported the want of seats and stove, and suggests that a Webster's Unabridged Dictionary would be a valuable acquisition to the academy!!! The seats and stove were obtained!!!

In 1870, Mr. Oliver B. Jennings donated \$100 to the academy for the purchase of apparatus.

In 1871 the income of the school was \$1250, and a committee of Messrs. O. B. Jennings, Samuel Morehouse, and Samuel Glover were appointed to increase the rates or guarantee a certain price. As blackboards were needed, a better mode of heating and repairs on the building necessary, the tuition rates were raised to \$8, \$12, and \$14 per quarter.

In 1872 this entry is made: "Mr. A. P. Somes, who has taught the academy school for a number of years, resigned and left."‡

The statement is recorded "that so many children are sent away to school it was inexpedient to employ a male teacher,"|| so a Mrs. M. E. Powers, from Maryland, was employed, with a salary of \$800 per annum guaranteed her. The pupils then numbered twenty.

In 1873, there being some dissatisfaction with Mrs. Powers, she resigned, and Mr. A. P. Somes returned and took the academy, to be conducted at his own risk, paying twenty-five cents per scholar for academy tax. School reopened September, 1874.

In 1875, Mr. Somes was to collect an academy tax of fifty cents per scholar for the use of the building.

1879.—Mr. A. P. Somes resigned, and Miss Lily

Huntington¶ completed the scholastic year on the same terms as her predecessor.

An item worth mentioning is that during the time of Mr. Somes' connection with the academy, from 1867 to 1879, there was not a death occurred among his numerous pupils.

At an informal meeting of three, the trustees employed Mr. Thomas E. Rochfort to take charge of the academy at his own risk. In 1880, Mr. Rochfort resigned, and a vacancy ensued, which promises to be indefinite, owing to the high grade of studies and system adopted in our free public schools and the migratory habits of several of the wealthy families.

For more than two hundred years Fairfield was the queen of the county: the courts were held there till 1852, or thereabouts; its educational advantages for both males and females ranked very high; and it was formerly a port of entry. It had for these various reasons an enviable reputation, but time has changed all these things, and Fairfield's future glory will be accorded from its being a town noted for its healthfulness and beauty, as the drift of public spirit of late expends itself mostly on sanitary measures and æsthetic culture.

#### SAMP MORTAR ROCK.

About three and a half miles from the Sound, and near the centre of the township of Fairfield, is a wonderful natural curiosity, attractive not only for its grandeur, but for the tradition associated with it. In visiting Niagara one should obtain the first view by looking upward from the foot of the fall; here one should take the first view from the top of the rock, looking down into the ravine below.

Theory asserts that the origin of Niagara was through the wearing away by the water of the brittle stone till it formed the stupendous cataract witnessed at this period; it must assert that here was a modified glacier of diluvial structure, which has suffered greatly by some great natural convulsion.

Approaching this freak of nature from the direction of the Sound, there is not the least intimation of anything unusual till the visitor is brought suddenly upon it. Conveyances stop at the foot of a massive ledge of immense layers of stone, which appear to have been regularly broken, but through some great agency have been separated slightly. The impulse is to stop and examine the species of stone, to note the marked difference between the severed strata and the under surface of the layers as they project beyond their supports, the layers being as discernible as the component parts of pastry when they are improperly incorporated; in fact, the face of the rock is decidedly streaked. The top, seen from above, bespeaks granite; the under layer seems semi-perforated by symmetrical indentures, as if sand-swallows had attempted to build their nests in reversed positions. In front of this ledge

\* Thanks to E. Burr, Jr., for this information.

† For applications to Rev. Ira Pettibone and Rev. L. B. Stimson, see Academy Book, pp. 28-32.

‡ Deceased.

§ See Academy Book, p. 41.

|| Ibid., p. 42.

¶ Now Mrs. Wm. Burr, of Green's Farms.

a cart-path begins, which leads up a gradual inclination, across which are large stones which appear to bear grooves caused by much usage. The ascent is easy, and, the top once reached, a distance of a few rods brings one to the brink of a rocky precipice, over which he peers cautiously and passes on mindful of his steps, watchful that a proper margin is observed, so that, in case of a slip or a misstep, he shall not be instantly hurled into eternity.

After traversing a few rods the traditional mortar—a round hole in the rock capable of containing from twelve to sixteen quarts of corn—is found; also the footmarks worn in the rock by the person grinding—rather cracking—the corn are identified. This is said to be the place where the Indians were wont to carry their corn to be prepared for food.

At this point the descent to the ravine below has already begun. Another section of the ledge is at the left, and contains a cave accessible to an average-sized individual, where he may enjoy a dark retreat at his option. The contour of the rocks, trees growing from the crevices, is worthy of observation.

The ravine gained, one is desirous of obtaining a glimpse of the great precipice over which he so carefully looked a few minutes before. A few feet above him is an overhanging rock; several feet above this is another, of similar form, projecting still farther, and away above this is still another, from whose top a birch-tree a foot and a half in diameter at its root, with a uniform trunk of nearly a foot, rears itself as if proud of its situation and view, apparently as secure as in a forest on a level plain. At its root ferns of the polypod species furnish a bit of trimming for a border. Long rock-like shelves appear at intervals, upon which one would be secure from northwest storms. From various crevices good-sized trees are growing, where it would seem impracticable for plants to obtain a root hold.

The ravine is here blocked by a mass of large rocks, whose size is rendered insignificant from their proximity to those so much greater. These rocks are broken and detached, but if one is dextrous he may pass through, over jagged edges, underneath a huge rock spanning the chasm, underneath which is a small cave, where some animals of rodent proclivities have reveled in their feasts, and which would furnish comfortable quarters for a hunter or a fugitive escaping the law.

This blockade in the ravine has evidently been, ages ago, rock overhanging from the main ledge, and, falling, has broken into various immense fragments. The western portion, having an inward slope upward from the base, remains as when first formed and located.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### FAIRFIELD (Continued).

#### ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

The First Congregational Church—Congregational Church, Greenfield—Congregational Church, Southport—Trinity Church, Southport—St. Paul's Church, Fairfield—Methodist Episcopal Church, Southport—Roman Catholic Church, Fairfield.

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, FAIRFIELD.\*

THE foundation of this church was coexistent with the settlement of the town, and the first pastor was Rev. John Jones, from 1639 to 1664.

"This first date is five years earlier than one which appears in a history of Concord, whence he came. He was one of the two elders of the church in that place, being associated with Peter Buckley, who had the title of teacher, while Mr. Jones was pastor. He was the son of William Jones, of Abergavenny, in Monmouthshire. He entered Jesus College, Oxford, in 1624, at the age of seventeen. Coming to New England, Oct. 2, 1635, he was ordained at Concord, Mass., April 6, 1637, sustaining the relation of colleague minister at Concord for some eight years. On account of 'the poverty and meanness of Concord, together with the badness and wetness of the meadows,' a seventh or eighth part of the people of that place emigrated in 1644 to Fairfield, and Mr. Jones came with them. These Concord people, with the previous colony from Windsor and others from Watertown, formed the first community, the fathers and mothers of our church and village. Few traces are left of this, the earliest minister of this church. He bore, according to tradition, a most highly respectable character. His position and education in England gives lustre to the occasion of his emigration, for he came when few save those who were devoted to the cause of liberty were willing to encounter for its sake trials and privations such as we can hardly estimate. At the age of seventy he fell asleep, leaving six children.

"A daughter was married to Thomas Bulkeley,† son of Rev. Peter Bulkley, and removed with her father to Fairfield, where he died in 1652.

"One son, John, graduated at Harvard in 1643, and another, Eliphalet, was the first minister of Huntington, L. I., where he died about one hundred years old.

"A copy of the will of Mr. Jones may be seen at the Probate office, and is a document of interest.

"Rev. Samuel Wakeman succeeded Mr. Jones in the pastoral office, and his ministry continued from 1665 to 1692. He appears to have been a man of mark, and was one of five ministers appointed by the Legislature in 1668 to proceed to Saybrook and devise a way of uniting the churches in some general

\* Compiled chiefly from a historical discourse delivered by Dr. E. E. Rankin, D.D., Nov. 24, 1870.

† Bulkeley is considered as the correct orthography, though the common method, Bulkley, has been commonly accepted.



plan of communion and discipline. This was forty years previous to the adoption of the Saybrook Platform, and appears to have been the first step towards forming a religious constitution in the State.

"In 1694, Rev. Joseph Webb became pastor of the church, and with his ministry commences its earliest records now extant. The society records date no further back than 1694, owing to the fire of 1779.

"The first deacon of the church whose election is mentioned was Lothrop Lewis, chosen May 29, 1729, and when in June, 1733, Deacon Lewis declined to serve longer, Capt. Moses Dimon was chosen to succeed him. May 29, 1739, we have the record again of the choosing of Mr. Lothrop Lewis as deacon. There is the name of another deacon on the records of the same date, for 'the church appointed Mr. Lothrop Lewis and Mr. Samuel Rowland a committee to take an account of the church's stock which was in the hands of Deacon Hill, deceased, and is now to be delivered to Deacon Dimon.' So Deacon Hill's name probably stood in the destroyed records.

"In Mr. Webb's day some of the inner workings of the church and society are seen. Thus, at a church-meeting in May, 1729, it was voted that the worshipful John Gold should set and read the Psalm, and in case he be absent or indisposed, that his brother, Mr. Samuel Gold, should do it.

"The Psalm was set and read in this wise: After the minister had given out its number, this chosen leader of song whose social position is clearly a high one, for he is called the worshipful, rose in his place and after reading the first line sung it with the aid of a tuning-fork, or perchance a violin, and then reading the second line went on with the music, and so on to the end of the Psalm. The version used was probably the quaint collection of Sternhold and Hopkins, for although Dr. Isaac Watts was a cotemporary with Mr. Webb, his version of Psalms and hymns did not come into use until a later day.

"It was not until more than thirty years after the death of Mr. Webb, and late in the pastorate of Mr. Hobart, his successor, that the society voted and agreed 'that the rendering of Psalms line by line in ye established religious congregation in this society shall be omitted for the future.' Mr. Webb's ministry seems to have been a pleasant and successful one, although it is evident from some hints in the records that late in its continuance both he and the meeting-house in which he preached became sadly out of repair.

"The people showed their appreciation of his services by voting several years in succession an annual increase to his salary, and in March, 1732, the society voted to call some suitable person to assist him in the work of the ministry. Mr. Webb died at a place called Unity, on the 19th of September, 1732, and was brought home the next day and buried the day after. He was a Fellow of Yale College from the year 1700 until his death. Respecting his family no

account is found further than several of the members lie in the old burying-ground.

"Rev. Noah Hobart, who had been invited to assist Mr. Webb a few months before he departed this life, was called Oct. 30, 1732, to be pastor of the church. The salary promised was two hundred pounds, current bills of credit, or in silver money at eighteen shillings the pound, provided he resign the whole use of the parsonage to the society. This parsonage land seems to have been a somewhat extensive tract, and it was ordered by the society to be leased.

"He accepted the call and conditions, and was ordained by the Consociation of Fairfield County on the 7th of February, 1733.

"Mr. Hobart was born in Hingham, Mass., Jan. 12, 1706. He was the son of David Hobart, and grandson of Rev. Peter Hobart, first pastor of the church in that town. President Dwight gave this testimony concerning him: He possessed high intellectual and moral distinction. He had a mind of great acuteness and discernment, was a laborious student, was extensively learned, especially in history and theology; adorned the doctrine which he professed by an exemplary life, and was holden in high veneration for his wisdom and virtue. His ministry here covered a period of forty years, 1733 to 1773, and was one of great activity. He was largely engaged in controversy, especially with respect to the validity of Presbyterian ordination, which he successfully defended. Dr. Sprague writes of him that he lived to bury two wives, eight children, and one thousand and ninety-three parishioners. He died in great peace on the 6th of December, 1773, having on the Sabbath previous to his death preached twice with more than his usual animation. During his ministry David Rowland and Nathan Buckley were elected deacons. The old meeting-house seems to have been fast hastening to decay, and December, 1739, two disinterested persons, Messrs. Edward Lewis, of Stratford, and John Betts, of Norwalk, were appointed a committee to see and give their opinion whether it were worth repairing. Whatever the report of this committee may have been, the society decided to make repairs, and we may judge something of the nature of the building by the resolutions that were passed. It was voted 'to put in new sills, two lites between the posts, excepting where the doors are and that square where the pulpit is dark; the meeting-house to be covered with white-wood siding, the seats (benches, I suppose) to be put closer together, and pews to be built in convenient places, to be sold to pay for these repairs.' This luxury of pews (probably square with high backs over which the children could scarcely look) seems to have somewhat perplexed and troubled the good people of these early days. A committee had to be called in from Norwalk and Stratford to say who shall have the pew places and what price they should pay for them, and when some persons on their own responsibility erected something like

them in the meeting-house, the society ordered these to be removed and such persons to be hereafter prosecuted. Time and again afterwards at the annual meetings of the society, and after a new meeting-house had been built, it was voted 'that no person should hire one who was not the head of a family, that no one should hire more than one, and that no one should bid for one unless he belonged to Mr. Hobart's meeting.'

"Six years after making the repairs alluded to a new meeting-house was ordered to be built, its dimensions to be sixty by forty-four feet, and twenty-six feet in height, with a steeple one hundred and twenty feet high. A bell was subsequently procured and the County Court asked to help obtain it and to use it, with which request it is uncertain whether the court complied.

"This bell was rung every night at nine of the clock, and afterwards also at noon. Thus the new sanctuary was finished, but not to be so lasting as its predecessor. The bell that tolled at the funeral of Mr. Hobart, in December, 1773, was doomed within less than six years to fall with the burning steeple on which it was hung.

"On the 7th of February, 1774, the society sent Mr. Elijah Abel to Cambridge, to wait on Mr. Andrew Eliot, Jr., of Fairfield, and as the result of this mission, Mr. Eliot was called to the pastorate of the church on the 4th of the following April, and, accepting the call, was ordained and installed on the 22d of June, 1774. On this occasion his father preached the sermon, and Messrs. Mather, Dickinson, Wells, Sherwood, and Lewis, all pastors of churches in the Con-sociation of Fairfield West, performed other parts of the service.

"Mr. Eliot was the son of Rev. Andrew Eliot, D.D., the distinguished pastor of the North Street Church in Boston, and was born in that city in 1743. After his graduation, in 1762, at Harvard, he was appointed to the office of butler in that college, and at a fire which destroyed the old building lost all his personal property. In 1768 he was chosen tutor, and in 1773 fellow of the corporation, which offices he resigned on coming to Fairfield. During his connection with Harvard, he preached often and with great acceptance at Boston and Cambridge, and brought gratifying testimonials from the ministers there of his learning, prudence, and piety, which his ministry of thirty-one years among this people fully justified. The society promised for his support one hundred and twenty pounds lawful money and use of the parsonage, he to release all claim and demand or use of lands called parsonage lands, except the lot called Applegate's lot, adjoining the house where John Whitear, Sr., once lived. The early part of Mr. Eliot's ministry was passed in the troublous times of the American Revolution.

"The latest record concerning the meeting-house built during Mr. Hobart's pastorate is as follows: At

a church-meeting, April 25, 1779, voted that Messrs. Diodate Silliman, Peter Hendricks, Samuel Sturges, David Allen, Peter Jennings, James Penfield, Israel Bibbins, Jeremiah Jennings, and any others of the church and society who are skilled in psalmody, be desired to sit together in the gallery on the Lord's day and lead the congregation in that part of divine worship, they to agree among themselves as to the person who is to pitch the tune.

"May 6th, voted that the thanks of this church be given to Mr. Daniel Osborne, for his services in setting the psalm for the two years past. Here then we have another advance, showing that it is just ninety years ago last April since the occupation of precentor ceased, and a choir was introduced into the public services of the church. Although the names of only eight persons are mentioned, and these all men,—probably young men,—there can be no reasonable doubt that the *others who were skilled in psalmody* were of that gentle sisterhood, without whose presence the choir would have lacked the needful constituents of full and perfect harmony.

"There are several pages in the old record in the clear and beautiful handwriting of Andrew Eliot.

"The resignation to the will of God in this dispensation appears all the more beautiful when we remember that Mr. Eliot's house, which, with a few others, had been marked for preservation, was by some accident consumed, together with his furniture and a large and choice library. Thus for a second time was he called to pass through the fire.

"It was on Thursday morning that the church building was consumed.

"On the next Lord's day the church and the society met with the pastor and carried on religious exercises as usual at the house of Deacon Bulkeley.

"Afterwards, for five successive Sabbaths, public worship was conducted at the dwellings of Diodate Silliman, Peter Perry, and Justin Hobart, the Lord's Supper being celebrated at the usual time at the last-named place.

"An interval of three weeks followed, in which there was no service on account of the illness of the pastor, and then, after an afternoon service at the house of Elizabeth Morehouse, in Jennings' Woods, Mr. Justin Hobart's house was appointed the stated place of public worship, except that once in a month it was agreed to hold it in Jennings' Woods.

"This arrangement continued for a year, until Sept. 10, 1780, when the public service was carried on and continued afterwards in the new court-house.

"The conflagration of Fairfield in 1779 brought much distress upon the people, and an abatement of society taxes was made to those not able to pay. Mr. Eliot received some aid at the hands of his friends in Boston, but his salary was for a number of years sadly behind in its payments. The society sold the iron and nails of the burned meeting-house, and applied the proceeds to the building of the town-house.



Thither they were summoned for more than five years by the beating of a drum,\* and meanwhile were making efforts to rebuild their own sanctuary. An application was made to the General Assembly in 1782 for a grant of one thousand pounds, from confiscated estates, and such grant seems to have been made to them, as well as to Green's Farms and Norwalk. On the 19th of January, 1785, after inquiries as to the estimated cost had been made, it was voted and agreed in society meeting, more than two-thirds of those present voting in the affirmative, to proceed to the building a new meeting-house. The honorable court was petitioned at its next session to fix the place and set up a stake where it should be built. It was further resolved to have it made of the same dimensions as the last, and within the same foundations, if the honorable court approve. A tax of six pence on the pound was laid, and a subscription paper started.

"The frame was raised in June, 1785, and on the 26th of March, 1786, it was so far advanced towards completion that divine service was held in it, the pastor preaching both morning and afternoon from Genesis xxviii. 17: 'This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of Heaven.'

"The appearance of the building on this day of its dedication must have been far from prepossessing. The walls were unplastered, the gallery floors unlaid, and with no stairway. There were no casings around the steeple doors or gallery windows; the only seats were rough benches, and there was no permanent pulpit. Yet the people acknowledged God's goodness in bringing them on thus far. It was not until some eleven or twelve years after the meeting-house was occupied that it was fully equipped with a pulpit 'after Mr. Bullfinch's plan,' and with long pews, having a door at each end in its centre, and others, like those in the former church, next to the wall.

"In March, 1799, the following resolution was passed:

"*Whereas*, Col. David Burr has generously offered to paint the pulpit in the meeting-house at his own expense, he have liberty to do the same, provided the paint be of a light stone color.'

"It may be in keeping here to say that the generous spirit which actuated Col. David Burr is still alive in the society, as the fence they have put up bears testimony. Mr. Burroughs, the efficient and persevering pastor, endeavors to preserve it with various original and commendable efforts, which, united with the co-operation of the church, must certainly be successful.

"To return to the old meeting-house in which so many were wont to gather on every Lord's day. Eight of the long pews in front and eight in the rear were at first reserved in common, but subsequently some of these were ordered to be leased. A bell was

procured and rung every day during the summer at twelve o'clock noon, and in the winter at nine o'clock at night.

"Mr. Eliot pursued the even tenor of his way, and among the earliest of the many children he baptized was William Henry Bibbins, who afterwards married his grand-daughter and died in July last. During his ministry four deacons were at different times appointed and solemnly ordained with prayer and the laying on of hands: David Judson, Jan. 7, 1787; Gold Selleck Silliman, at a date not ascertained; Daniel Osborne, Sept. 5, 1790; and Moses Jennings, 1804.

"Mr. Eliot died on the 26th of September, 1805, in the sixty-second year of his age. He left a widow and six children. One of his sons graduated at Yale College in 1799; was ordained pastor of the church at New Milford in 1808, and died in 1829.

"One of his daughters became the wife of Rev. Dr. Hewit; another of Deacon Bibbins; a third of Dr. Wm. B. Nash, of Bridgeport; and a fourth of — Burr. His children's children are with us unto this day.

"Dr. James Dana thus wrote of him: 'In Mr. Eliot the bereaved flock have lost a judicious, affectionate, and faithful pastor, to whom God had given the spirit of fortitude, love, and a sound mind,—who attended continually on his ministry unentangled with the things of this life. The steady affection and esteem, the deserved estimation in which he was ever held by his brethren in the ministry, and his acceptance in the churches, are honorable testimonies to his worth, candor, and unaffected piety, which, with the wisdom that dwells with prudence, were distinguishing parts of his character. His acquaintance with general science, his urbanity and friendly and social affections, conciliated the esteem of all ranks.'

"After Mr. Eliot's decease it was agreed that his salary be continued to the widow so long as the ministers of this district supply the pulpit, each one Sabbath, which probably they did.

"In March, 1806, Mr. Porter was invited to preach on probation, and on the 12th of January, 1807, Herman Humphrey was called on a salary of six hundred dollars. His history is well known by the whole church in New England, and his life-labors have left a deep and lasting influence for good upon the whole country. He was ordained April 16, 1807, and dismissed May 15, 1817. After a ministry here of ten years he was settled as pastor of the first church in Pittsfield, Mass., and subsequently became president of Amherst College, an office which he filled for many years with distinguished success. He was the first pastor of this church who did not die in the office. Dr. Humphrey prepared the confession of faith and covenant still in use. Two deacons were chosen during his pastorate, both in 1810, viz., Elijah Bibbins and Roger M. Sherman. The memory of both of these is fragrant, and to the latter, who adorned the

\* An improvement on the old system of calling the people to church by striking two boards together, which was done on certain hills, from which circumstance Clapboard Hill derives its name.

Church and State alike by his wisdom, eloquence, and piety, the society is indebted for the commodious parsonage which it possesses.

"In the year of Mr. Humphrey's installation a remonstrance was made by the society against the removal of the court to Greenfield. Another specimen of the trust reposed by the society in the generosity of individuals appears in the following vote, April 4, 1815: 'Voted, that any person may at his own expense paint the outside of the meeting-house, under the direction of the society's committee.'

"On the 1st day of May, 1817, Consociation was called to dismiss Mr. Humphrey. He was an able and faithful minister, and among the fruits of his labors were eighty-nine persons who made confession of Christ during his pastorate of ten years. Of these, three remained on the roll as late as 1867. The last of these, Mrs. Deborah Bennett, died early in 1880, in New Haven, at an advanced age. Dr. Humphrey died in Pittsfield, amid the scenes where he had previously witnessed the greatest and richest trophies of the gospel, in the year 1861."

The successors of Dr. Humphrey were as follows: Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Hewitt, Dr. Hunter, Dr. Willis Lord, Alexander McLean, Edward E. Rankin, D.D., and G. S. Burroughs. The present church edifice was erected in 1849.

Engraved on a stone in the foundation of the church, near the entrance, is the following inscription:

"First Church built about A.D. 1640.

"Second Church built A.D. 1675.

"Third Church built A.D. 1747, and burned by the British, 1779.

"Fourth Church built A.D. 1785."

On a tablet on the other side of the entrance is the following:

"This Church erected MDCCCLXIX."

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, GREENFIELD.

The petition for the organization of this parish was granted by the General Court, Oct. 14, 1725. It was incorporated as the Northwest Parish, and two years later its name was changed to Greenfield. At its organization Greenfield Parish embraced all the northern part of the original town of Fairfield, and in Dr. Dwight's days numbered one thousand.

#### CHURCH EDIFICES.

The first move towards the erection of a church edifice was made in 1726, when it was voted that a meeting-house, fifty-two by forty-two feet, and twenty-two or twenty-five feet between joints, should be built, but it was not completed and occupied until 1743. In 1760 a new meeting-house was voted, and completed in the following year. This was occupied as a place of worship until the completion of the next church, in 1848. This was destroyed by fire on the night of Nov. 14, 1853. In the following March it was voted to build a new church, which is the present structure.

#### LIST OF PASTORS.

The pastors of this church have been as follows: Rev. John Goodsell, who was ordained at the time of the organization of the church, May 18, 1726. He officiated until 1756; Mr. Pomeroy, from 1757-70; William Mackey Tennant, 1772 to about 1780; Timothy Dwight, D.D., 1783-95; Samuel Blatchford, 1796-97, as supply; Stanley Griswold, 1803-4, as supply; Horace Holly, 1805-8; David Austin, 1810-12; William Belden, 1812-21; Richard Varrick Dey, 1821, —he remained but a short time, and was succeeded for a year or two by Charles Nicoll; he was followed by Nathaniel Freeman, who remained nine years. In 1840, Rodney G. Dennis preached for some months; Thomas B. Sturges, 1842-67; R. P. Hibbard, 1868-72; Henry B. Smith, 1873; he was succeeded, in 1878, by I. O. Rankin, who continued six months. Rev. Chester Bridgman commenced preaching Oct. 1, 1879, and is the present pastor.

The following persons were pew-holders in the first church edifice erected: Joseph Wheeler, Benjamin Banks, Joseph Diamond, Nathaniel Hull, Daniel Bradley, Benjamin Gilbert, John Thorp, Joseph Banks, Samuel Wakeman, Daniel Burr, John Gilbert, Samuel Bradley, Benjamin Sherwood, heirs of Eliphalet Hull, Joseph Hill, Jabez Wakeman, David Williams, and Samuel Price.

The covenant in 1726 was signed by John Goodsell, Cornelius Hull, Obadiah Gilburd, John Hide, George Hull, Peter Burr, Daniel Bradley, Theophilus Hull, John Burr, Stephen Burr, and Ebenezer Hull.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, SOUTHPORT.

The village of Southport was originally included in the parish of Fairfield. A general desire on the part of its residents to enjoy the privileges of the sanctuary within a more convenient distance led to the completion of a church edifice in their village in the year 1843.

A meeting of the brethren of the Fairfield Church residing in the village was held Feb. 18, 1843, at which it was resolved to take the necessary steps to organize themselves into a separate church of Christ, to be denominated "The Congregational Church of Southport." Letters were accordingly sent to five churches in the vicinity,—namely, the First Church in Fairfield, the First Church in Bridgeport, the Second Church in Bridgeport, the church in Greenfield, and the church in Norwalk,—inviting them by their pastors and delegates to meet in council "for the purpose of organizing a church of Christ in the Borough of Southport."

The council thus called met March 7, 1843, and, after hearing and approving the purpose of the petitioners, proceeded to organize them into a church of Christ. The number of members so organized into the new church was twenty-eight. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Atwater, of Fairfield. In the evening the house was dedicated to the worship



of Almighty God, the Rev. Dr. Hewit, of Bridgeport, preaching the dedication sermon. On application, the church was received into the Consociation of the Western District of Fairfield County, June 6, 1843.

The house completed in 1843 was used by the church as its place of worship until 1874, when it was removed and the present handsome and substantial stone edifice erected on its site. This was completed and dedicated Feb. 2, 1876. The Rev. S. J. M. Merwin, of Wilton, the first pastor of the church, preached the dedication sermon from the text, "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of Hosts, and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts." Hez. ii. 9. He was assisted in the services by the Rev. Dr. Atwater, the Rev. Charles E. Lindsley, and the Rev. George E. Hill.

The first members of the church were Mrs. Elizabeth B. Alvord, Elias P. Benham, Mrs. Rachael M. Benham, Mrs. Miranda Bulkeley, Levi Down, Mrs. Peggy Lacey, Frederick Marquand, Mrs. Hetty Marquand, Anna Osborn, Mrs. Eleanor Osborn, Jeremiah Osborn, Mrs. Abigail Osborn, Austin Perry, Mrs. Emily A. Perry, Mary A. Perry, Delia F. Perry, Francis D. Perry, Mrs. Ann Eliza Perry, Oliver H. Perry, Mrs. Eliza P. Robinson, Mrs. Mary A. Sherwood, Mrs. Mary B. Sherwood, Mrs. Catherine G. Sherwood, Edward A. Smith, Mrs. Esther M. Smith, Walter Thorp, Mary C. Thorp, and Maurice Wakeman.

The pastors of the church have been as follows: Rev. Samuel J. M. Merwin, ordained Dec. 18, 1844, dismissed May 3, 1859; Rev. Charles E. Lindsley, installed Feb. 29, 1860, dismissed Feb. 16, 1869; Rev. George E. Hill, installed March 22, 1870, dismissed Dec. 27, 1876; Rev. William H. Holman, ordained June 12, 1878, present pastor.

The officers of the church are as follows: Deacons, Frederick Marquand, Charles Lacey, Oliver H. Perry, E. Cornelius Sherwood, and Levi T. Sherwood. Superintendent of Sunday-school, John H. Perry.

The membership of the church Jan. 1, 1880, was one hundred and sixty-seven.

#### TRINITY CHURCH, SOUTHPORT.\*

It appears from letters preserved in the archives of the society, that in the year 1723, Dr. James Laborie, a French physician of eminence, who had left his native country towards the close of the seventeenth century and been "ordained by Mr. Kinglet, *antistes* of the Canton of Zurich," in Switzerland, taught and held service according to the usage of the Church of England, in his own house in Fairfield, on those Sundays on which Mr. Pigot preached in Stratford or some other place. In one of those letters, Dr. Laborie says, moreover, that he "came to this country as a teacher under the patronage of the Bishop of London,† and

being disturbed by Indians in the vicinity of Boston, came to the colony and county of Fairfield, and began by an introductory discourse to act as missionary to the English and native inhabitants, but was interrupted immediately by one of the magistrates." This commencement of his efforts in Connecticut was probably made at Stratford, where he seems to have resided from 1703 till 1717.‡ But it appears from the records of this town that he resided in Fairfield as early as 1718; having bought at that time of Mr. "Isaac Jennings" a place known as "the stone house on the rocks," probably the same of which he afterwards said, in the letter just referred to, that he had "destinated it to the service of the Church of England." It seems probable, therefore, that some steps were taken at that time for the formation of an Episcopal parish and the stated performance of its religious services in this town. But I find no record of the organization of a parish here, separate from that of Stratford, until the year 1724. At the close of the preceding year, Mr. Pigot, removing to Providence, had been succeeded in the mission at Stratford by the Rev. Samuel Johnson, who, with another Congregational minister, the rector or president of Yale College and a tutor of the same institution, embraced the doctrines of Episcopacy in 1722, and was ordained in England, with his two friends and companions, by the Bishop of Norwich, acting in behalf of the Bishop of London. In one of his earliest communications to the society from Stratford, Mr. Johnson stated that his parishioners in that town had "lately opened their new church, called Christ Church," and that at Fairfield the people were also "vigorously going forward in building a church."§ Soon afterwards he reported that "the church at Fairfield was going on apace," and that "the people at New London would also build with all expedition." And on the 10th of November, 1725, the day of the annual thanksgiving of the colony, he opened, with a "suitable discourse," the church which the Episcopalians of Fairfield had built, and which they then named "Trinity Church." In that church, which seems to have stood on Mill Plain, a few rods northeast of the place where the

"The Society having thought fit to admit into their body several eminent Divines and other persons of Holland, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, and other countries, being of the Protestant religion; it has been resolved, for the dignity of the Society, and to show them the greater respect, that the notice of their admission should be sent them, under the seal of the said Society." Page 37.

‡ His medical diploma, dated London, 1697, written in Latin, and describing him as the son of a celebrated physician of France, was recorded by the clerk of the Fairfield County Court in 1703. And in 1713 leave was granted him by the town of Stratford "to build a pew" in the Congregational meeting-house, where Mr. Blacklatch, one of the struggling and waiting churchmen of Stratford, then had "a pew."

§ In a "registry-book" kept by Mr. Pigot and Mr. Johnson, at Stratford, there is a record of the appointment, in 1724, of two wardens and nine vestrymen "for Stratford," one warden and two vestrymen "for Fairfield," one warden and two vestrymen "for Newtown," and two wardens and three vestrymen "for Ripton;" the warden for Fairfield being Dougal Mackenzie, and the vestrymen, James Laborie, Sr., and Benjamin Sturges. At the same time James Laborie, Jr., was one of the vestrymen for Stratford.

\* Compiled principally from an address delivered by Rev. N. E. Cornwell, Aug. 10, 1851.

† The following extract from the proceedings of the Society for 1710-11 is worthy of notice here:

country seat of the late Jonathan Sturges now stands,\* Mr. Johnson preached a part of the time for some two years, dividing his labors for the most part between Stratford and Fairfield. At the same time Mr. Henry Caner, a graduate of Yale College, but as yet too young to be ordained, read service in Fairfield whenever Mr. Johnson preached at Stratford and other places. He was "son of the Mr. Caner who built the first college and rector's house" at New Haven. His parents are generally supposed to have been Congregationalists.† But Dr. Trumbull calls England "the land of his nativity."‡

Mr. Caner was ordained in England, and appointed missionary to Fairfield in 1727, having been very highly recommended to the society and to the Bishop of London by Mr. Johnson, under whose supervision he had pursued his theological studies for some three years. And from the time of his settlement here until the Revolution this parish seems to have been established on a permanent foundation, and to have been generally in a very prosperous condition, exhibiting, in the leading facts of its history, a very interesting view of the gradual, steady progress of Episcopacy in Connecticut during those fifty years of its struggles against various adverse influences, British as well as American.

It is to be much regretted, therefore, that by the burning of the church and parsonage in the conflagration of the town in 1779, the ancient records of the parish previous to that time were destroyed.§ And it is hardly less to be regretted that there is also in the records of this town a singular omission, extending from the year 1722, when the Rev. Mr. Pigot began to preach in Stratford and Fairfield, to the year 1728, when Mr. Caner had taken full charge of this parish, and including the whole period of its organization and incipient stages. This singular circumstance is especially unfortunate on account of the importance of the period in question. It was evidently a time of much excitement and change in the public affairs of this town. And the omission of all the acts and projects of that period from the copy of records, which contains an account of annual meetings and

votes of the town during all the rest of the time from 1661 to 1728, in the same book which has the original record of annual meetings and votes from 1729 to 1800, leaves us almost entirely to the testimony of one of the parties interested in certain important changes.

It appears, then, from the reports of Mr. Johnson to the society, that in the year 1724 the prospects of Episcopacy in this town were very favorable in some respects. Speaking of the sufferings of "sundry people of both sexes" who had been persecuted and imprisoned on account of their attachment to the Episcopal system, and expressing his fear that if not soon relieved people would be quite discouraged, he at the same time expressed his belief that "the whole town would embrace the church if they had a good minister at Fairfield," and added, "I have a vast assembly every time I visit them." Within a few months afterwards he had "in Stratford and the neighboring towns more than a hundred communicants;" of whom about forty had been admitted to communion by him. And in 1727, just before Mr. Caner took charge of this parish, Mr. Johnson informed the society that there were about forty families of Episcopalians in Fairfield. These were, according to his account, "mostly of the poorer sort;" as Mr. Caner also testified in his first report of the state of his mission. It is evident, however, from various circumstances noted in the records of this town, and upon tombstones in its old burial-places, that the parish at that time embraced some persons who had been, for many years previous, men of much consequence and influence in the town, and the most of them, if not all, Congregationalists. The same fact is manifest from the success which attended an application made the Colonial government at that time by the wardens and vestrymen of Trinity Church, Fairfield, for an alteration of the laws concerning the support of religion. A petition was presented to the Assembly, signed by "Moses Ward and Samuel Lyon, church wardens, and Dougal Mackenzie, John Lockwood, Nathan Adams, Benjamin Sturges, and others, in the name and behalf of all the rest of their brethren," dated May 15, 1727, stating that ten of them had been lately imprisoned for taxes, contrary to the Hon. Governor's advice, and notwithstanding solemn promises before given to sit down and be concluded in the affair; praying that the sums of money so taken from them might be restored; and declaring that if their grievances might be redressed, they should "aim at nothing but to live peaceably and as becometh Christians among their dissenting brethren." And, in response to this petition, an act was passed, providing that the taxes collected from Episcopalians for the support of religion might, under certain circumstances, be paid to the Episcopal missionaries instead of the Congregational ministers. This movement of the early churchmen of Fairfield, about a hundred years after the settlement of this colony, was the first effectual step ever taken towards the establishment of

\* The tangible evidences of the locality of the church were a few tombstones, which have been recently removed and are awaiting resetting in some place where they may remain undisturbed. They are at present in possession of Mr. Frederic Sturges. One of them was erected to "Abraham Adams, a worthy founder and liberal benefactor of Trinity Church," who was probably buried, according to the times, near the church.

† President Stiles' Diary, and MS. Letter of Prof. Kingsley to the author.

‡ The name of "Henry Caner" was enrolled in the "registry-book" of Mr. Pigot, upon the list of communicants at Stratford, "Sept. 2, 1722," and that of "Henry Caner, Jr.," by Mr. Johnson, "March 28, 1725." It may be well to observe here that while the original orthography of Mr. Caner's name was that which is here employed, the received pronunciation of it was doubtless indicated more precisely by Dr. Trumbull, who wrote it *Caner*, and by the early churchmen of Fairfield, who sometimes wrote it *Conner*.

§ With the exception of those which are included in the registry-book of Mr. Pigot and Mr. Johnson.



religious liberty in Connecticut; an object which it required about another century to accomplish. And that those zealous churchmen, so worthy of honorable remembrance, were persons of good character, against whom their adversaries could find no occasion; may be safely inferred from the previous existence of a custom disclosed by the early records of this town: the practice of expelling from its limits, by a public vote, those who from time to time became obnoxious on any account to the majority of the community; which may be supposed to have been thus kept very pure and select, from the highest to the most humble citizen.

In view of these and other similar indications that the period of the organization of this parish was one of much excitement and change in the social aspect as well as the public acts of this town, it is to be regretted on all hands that the record of its acts during that most interesting period of five or six years is wanting in the copy which was made from an "old book," and preserved evidently safe and sound,\* having never lost a leaf of what was transcribed. Some clue, however, to the posture of public affairs in this town at that interesting crisis may be obtained from a record of colonial acts, which is preserved among old manuscripts in the office of the Secretary of State at Hartford. It is in these words: "May 14, 1725. On advice of the infirmities of Rev. Mr. Webb, and the present circumstances of that society of which he is pastor, we"—the General Association of Congregational ministers convened at Hartford—"could not but think that their case called for a speedy visitation, and that nothing less would attain the end designed and so earnestly to be desired for that people, than an act of this Hon. General Assembly, requiring that one or more of the ministry from the several counties or associations of this colony be sent to convene at Fairfield for the consideration of their state and the application of proper expedients for their united continuance in the faith and established order of the church of Christ in the colony." Whereupon a resolution was "passed by the Hon. Assembly, that Fairfield should call some other orthodox minister to help Mr. Webb, that their sorrowful and sinking circumstances might be relieved."†

This interesting record also serves to illustrate a remark made not long afterwards by Mr. Caner, in

one of his reports to the society, that Fairfield was "the chief seat of opposition" to Episcopacy, a remark in which he also had reference to the fact that the seat of the County Court and its prison were in this town.

Some idea of the state and materials of the mission at Fairfield, when Mr. Caner took charge of it after his ordination, may be gathered from a comparison of the small number of the communicants whom he found here as a lay reader under Dr. Johnson in 1725, namely *twelve*, with the number of families belonging to the parish in 1727, namely, *forty*. It is manifest from such a comparison that few of the early members of this parish were originally churchmen. Most of them were doubtless converts from the Congregational Society. This appears, indeed, from a remark of Mr. Pigot, in one of his reports, that "the people of Fairfield, Ripton, and Newtown, were very desirous of a minister, many of them having conformed to the Church of England." And the changes of this kind, by which a very promising parish had been gathered here before 1727, in part by Mr. Caner himself as lay-reader, seem to have increased very rapidly after his appointment to the mission of Fairfield.

The first church edifice, as mentioned above, was completed in 1725, and was located on Mill Plain, near the residence of the late Jonathan Sturges. In 1738 liberty was given to "the members of the Church of England, upon certain conditions, to erect a house for public worship on the highway near the Old Fields-Gate." It was fifty-five by thirty-five feet in size, twenty feet in height, "with a handsome steeple and spire of one hundred feet and a good bell of five hundredweight." This church was burned by the British in 1779, and for about twelve years the parish was destitute of a convenient place of worship.

The third church edifice was erected in about the year 1790, and was located on the parade-ground at Mill Plain. This was occupied until the completion of the fourth church building, in 1835.

Mr. Caner remained until 1747, when he removed to Boston, and was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Lamson, who officiated as rector until his death. He was interred in the old colonial burying-ground. He was followed in the ministry by Rev. John Sayre, who was rector when the town was burned by the British, in 1779.

The first rector of the parish after the Revolution was Rev. Philo Shelton, of honored memory, a graduate of Yale College, who was ordained at the first ordination held by Bishop Seabury, Aug. 3, 1785. Mr. Shelton commenced lay reading here about six weeks after the burning of the town, which he continued until his ordination, in 1785.

Rev. Mr. Shelton served this parish faithfully for nearly forty years. He died Feb. 27, 1825. He was born in Ripton (now Huntington), May 5, 1754. He was succeeded by his son, the Rev. William Shelton, who remained until 1829. He was succeeded by Rev.

\* The remark of Dr. Trumbull (c. xix) that "the first records of Fairfield were burnt," seems, by long repetition, to have established an impression very widely that the archives of this ancient town are not worthy of examination. But even the writer of a recent "History of the Indians of Connecticut" (De Forest) might have found here some interesting particulars of purchases of land from the natives if he had not trusted too far the strange report that "the records of Fairfield have been destroyed." Page 167.

† The first meeting of the Prime Ancient (Congregational) Society of Fairfield, "distinct from 'town-meeting,'" was held, according to its own record, on "the 9th of December, 1727."

‡ In the old manuscript here cited the last clause of this resolution has been partially erased. But without that clause the resolution of the Assembly is a very tame response to the memorial of the Association.

Charles Smith. Mr. Smith resigned in 1834, and Rev. N. E. Cornwall, M.A., became rector, and officiated until 1854. The succession since that time has been as follows: J. S. Purdy, 1855-57; Rufus Emery, 1858-70; E. L. Wells, 1870-76; T. F. Caskey, 1877-79; C. S. Adams, 1879, present rector.

#### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.\*

Early in the year 1707 the "Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts" sent out from England the Rev. Mr. Muirson,† who visited Fairfield at irregular intervals, officiating at the homes of families by invitation.

After the death of Rev. Mr. Muirson, which occurred in the latter part of 1708, occasional services were held by Revs. Talbot, Sharpe, and Bridge, of New York and New Jersey; but until 1722, when Rev. Mr. Pigot was sent out, no regular services were observed. It was at Stratford that Rev. Mr. Pigot was located, which town seems to share with Fairfield the honor of establishing the oldest Episcopal parish in our State, services being alternated between these places, and held at appointed occasions. The form was that of the Church of England and the house of Mr. Thomas Hanford the place of service when Rev. Mr. Pigot was present, although the Episcopalian families met formally every Sunday.

In 1723, Dr. James Laborie, an eminent French physician, came here from Stratford, and purchased the dwelling of Mr. Isaac Jennings, known as "the stone house upon the rocks,"—probably the same which he afterwards devoted entirely to the church,—in which he held services on the Sundays when Rev. Mr. Pigot was absent.

The first reliable record of the establishment of a separate and distinct organization of an Episcopal parish in Fairfield is that of Rev. Samuel Johnson, who succeeded Rev. Mr. Pigot in 1724, who regularly administered the rites of the Church of England, and who at this time reports: "The church in Fairfield is going on apace." Nov. 10, 1725, the day of annual thanksgiving appointed by the civil authorities, Rev. Mr. Johnson opened with an appropriate service and discourse the original Trinity church, which was located a few rods northeast of the present residence of Mr. Jonathan Sturges, in Mill Plain. A few tombstones, until quite recently, marked the spot, one of which bore the inscription: Abraham Adams, worthy founder and benefactor of Trinity Church.

Rev. Mr. Johnson divided his time between Stratford and Fairfield for about two years, being succeeded by Rev. Henry Caner, who was graduated at Yale College, ordained in England in 1727, and appointed missionary to Fairfield. From this period until the Revolution permanence and prosperity are indicated from the facts that the parish included one hundred

and seventy families, and that in 1732 the church was enlarged, a gallery sufficient to seat two hundred persons being added.

It appears that even these extensive additions soon became inadequate, and in 1738 a more complete edifice was built on the highway, near Old Field Gate, where, a few years since, stood the Marine Hotel, destroyed by fire in 1860. This second church was a fine, conspicuous edifice. Its dimensions were fifty-five feet in length, twenty feet in height, and thirty-five feet in width, with a steeple‡ of the unusual height, at that period, of one hundred feet. Rev. Mr. Caner continued his work here until failing health in 1747 compelled him to seek a smaller parish, greatly to the general regret, as he was singularly beloved, and had been very successful in building up the church, which at his departure numbered among its congregation two hundred communicants. His successor was Rev. Joseph Lamson, a native of the vicinity, whose ministry of twenty-six years terminated only at his death, and whose resting-place is marked by a stone in the old burial-ground of the village.

Rev. John Sayre§ succeeded in 1774. He was a talented and successful clergyman, but, being a native of Great Britain, refused to sign articles prescribed by the Continental Congress, and seems to have been subjected to a temporary banishment to New Britain. This suspension, however, was of brief duration, as his parishioners soon effected his return, and he continued his offices until Trinity church was destroyed by the burning of Fairfield by the British troops, July 8, 1779. It is an act of historic justice to Rev. Mr. Sayre to state that he used every endeavor to avert the disaster by both protest and entreaty; that his private effects, including a valuable library, shared the general fate; and that, though he took refuge on a British man-of-war after the conflagration, the purity of his motives and acts was above suspicion.

One month after this terrible calamity meetings were held at the house of Mr. John Sherwood (the great-grandfather of Mrs. C. A. Short, to whom we are indebted for much valuable material in this church history), at which it was determined to erect yet another edifice, Mill Plain being again selected for the site. This edifice was the scene of the first ordination by Bishop Seabury, the first bishop of Connecticut, an event of the profoundest interest to all churchmen. The recipient of this peculiar honor was Rev. Philo Shelton, who served at the altar thus signalized upwards of forty years. He died in February, 1825.|| A memorial tablet built in the chancel

† From which Samuel Rowland saw the British land in Fairfield in July, 1779.

‡ Rev. John Sayre and several of his family lie in the old "colonial" burying-ground.

|| His body was placed, by his wish, under the church, which, when torn down, was conveyed to Mountain Grove Cemetery, Bridgeport, Conn. The bell from this church was used in the Universalist church, Westport for a time, when it was bought by the Methodist organization, and is now used in their church in Westport.

\* Contributed by William A. Beers.

† Heathcote Muirson (probably his son) lies among the colonials.



wall was a conspicuous ornament, and he is still tenderly remembered by many now living as "the devout and dear old man who taught us the catechism."

Rev. William Shelton, the honored son of this revered father, succeeded, remaining until 1829, when he was called to St. Paul's Church in Buffalo, where, at the age of eighty-two, he still officiates (the writer of this has a letter, under date of July 30, 1880, in which this venerable divine and excellent gentleman tenderly alludes to his own and his father's connection with the church in Fairfield).

Rev. Charles Smith took charge in 1830, continuing four years, until a new chapel was built in Southport, and Rev. N. E. Cornwall assumed the duties of the two churches.

Regular services at Mill Plain now began to be unfrequent, and were finally discontinued; the reason for which was that a majority of the attendants, who resided nearer Southport, were of opinion that the Mill Plain church was, in view of the size of the parish, a superfluity. A warm discussion arose, the matter was submitted to arbitration, a decision adverse to the minority was rendered, and to the great sorrow of Episcopalians in the vicinity, the Mill Plain church was torn down and portions of it utilized in the construction of a rectory at Southport. As a reminiscence recalling the prejudices of those times, it is well to record that the arbitrators whose votes turned the scale were Presbyterians, and a tradition has been handed down that the decision was not wholly disconnected with a Puritanic desire to put the "Church of England" as far away as possible.

It was nearly twenty years after that practical efforts were made to revive the parish and build another church. The families with Episcopalian preferences living here at that time might have been counted on one's fingers, but among them were men and women who were full of the spirit that builds up the kingdom of Christ. Of these, the names of Knapp, Glover, and Ogden deserve honorable place in history. To the late Henry A. Knapp, however, whose indomitable work, both of soul and hands, was, through many trying years, pre-eminently conspicuous, must be accorded chiefest honor for the permanent establishment of the present parish and church of St. Paul's in Fairfield.

The site of St. Paul's church is identical with that of the old county jail, where among criminals were incarcerated men who could not pay money owed their fellow-men, and from whence certain offenders were led to the whipping-post on the adjacent green to receive lashes "well laid on" that the stern justice of the period inflicted. It was here that a new jail was being built, when, luckily for the rural as well as spiritual beauty of the village, the county offices were appropriated by Bridgeport, and the ground, together with partially-built side-walls for the new prison, offered for sale. They were purchased by the parish for the nominal sum of one thousand dollars.

Again might it have been said, "The work of the church in Fairfield goes on apace," for presently these prison-walls were converted into a sanctuary of Him who came not to bind, but to unloose,—a change, too, that had the remarkable precedent recorded in the fifteenth chapter of Acts, where the prison at Philippi, in Macedonia, was suddenly transformed into God's temple, and trembling men fell down before St. Paul, crying, "What shall we do to be saved?" It was this scriptural scene that by its coincidence gave the present edifice its name.

It was a day of rare beauty—Tuesday, May 20, 1856—that the Right Rev. Bishop Williams consecrated the building to the beauty of holiness; when, instead of iron-clamped doors giving emphasis to the "rarity of human charity," portals were thrown wide in honor of One who never put forth His hand to scourge, save in the one instance of the money-changers, and whose precept, "Owe no man anything," was supplemented with the prayer, "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."

The consecration sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Hallam, from the appropriate text, "He loveth our nation and buildeth us a synagogue." Seventeen clergymen, in their surplices, were present, besides the bishop, the church was crowded to overflowing, and a liberal offering was made to the funds of the new parish. The clergy dined at the house of Mr. John Glover; other hospitable homes were opened to friends who had come from far and near to share the glories of the day. Rev. C. S. Leffingwell was installed as rector, and the parish increased and prospered under his kindly supervision. He was called to a larger field, and his place filled in 1860 by Rev. Levi B. Stimson, who remained for eleven years. Rev. Frederick S. Hyde was the next successor, and on his resignation, at Easter, 1871, Rev. Andrew Mackie, Jr., entered upon the duties, and on June 1, 1873, was called to a Western parish. July 13, 1873, the charge of the parish was accorded to the present rector, Rev. James K. Lombard.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTHPORT.\*

From about the year 1805 to 1820, Methodist meetings were held at Green's Farms in the houses of Peter Jennings and Noah Osborn, and in the school-house. Green's Farms formed part of an extended circuit, and was visited by the Conference preacher once a month. In the absence of the preacher, Bradford Croft, a local preacher, supplied for them. Ebenezer Washburn was the first preacher appointed by Conference; Samuel Croft was the first class-leader. He and Bradford Croft and Joshua and Peter Wakeman were among the first official members of the church. The Crofts and their wives, Mrs. Wakeman, and Mr. Stratten were among the first members of the church.

In 1820, when the Green's Farms church was built, there were about forty members. They worshiped in

\* Contributed by Rev. Joseph Smith.

that church till 1845, when the present church was built at Southport, largely by the liberality of Capt. Davis, a noble, generous, and faithful Christian, who is still living. The determination to build the present church was made during the ministry of Rev. Zachariah Davenport, still living and greatly respected; he preached on the circuit that included Green's Farms during the years 1843-44. In 1845 it was dedicated.

The following is the list of preachers who have been appointed to Southport since the erection of the present church: Charles C. Keys, 1845; Charles Bartlett, 1846; James H. Perry, 1847-48; G. Gilbert, 1849-50; Levi S. Weed, 1851; William McAllister, 1852-53; Reuben H. Loomis, 1854; George Hollis, 1855-56; Samuel A. Seaman, 1857-58; Seymour Landon, 1859-60; David Osborn, 1861-62; Charles Kelsey, 1863; — W. Smith, 1864-65; G. Gilbert, 1866; David Nash, 1867-69; William Stebbins, 1870-72; L. W. Abbott, 1873-75; William Brown, 1876; Henry A. Van Dalsem, 1877-78; Joseph Smith, 1879-80.

The present official members of the church are: Stewards, Bradley Goodsell, Sr., Benjamin N. Hawkins, Andrew W. Jennings, Lewis B. Jennings, William F. Northrop, George E. Northrop, George F. McKeel, A. P. Jennings, Elijah Gray; Trustees, B. N. Hawkins, A. W. Jennings, L. B. Jennings, Bradley Goodsell, Elijah Gray, Josiah Hawkins, William F. Northrop, A. P. Jennings, and George E. Northrop. The present number of members is one hundred and twelve.\*

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, FAIRFIELD.

The Roman Catholic Church of St. Thomas was consecrated about 1854, under charge of Rev. Father Thomas J. Synnot, of Bridgeport, and has been a distinct parish about four years. Within a few years the house, with a list of owners, among whom were Rev. N. E. Cornwall, Capt. Rufus Knapp, lost at sea, on board the "Leviathan," was purchased by the parish of St. Thomas' Church for a parsonage, and the church itself was removed on to these premises, and, being remodeled in part, was re-dedicated in November, 1880.

### CHAPTER XXXIV.

#### FAIRFIELD (Continued).

#### CIVIL AND MILITARY.

Roger Ludlow and the Records—Selectmen in 1661—List of Representatives from 1670 to 1880—Military History—List of Soldiers.

It has been stated in various historical works that when Roger Ludlow left Fairfield he carried with him the town records, but such, it seems, is not the case.

\* The dedication of the building known as the old Methodist church in Fairfield, Nov. 9, 1843, is recorded in Miss Sarah White's journal. It was disused for several years for lack of support, but for a late period it has had services held in it by the colored people.

No mention is made in any book of records to this effect, either here or at Hartford, as Book A is still in the archives of the town, and was filled with grants, etc., four years before his departure. If he had carried away the records, as has been claimed, in all human probability Book A would have been among the number. Furthermore, there was no reason for an act of this kind. He held no enmity against the town which he had founded, and where he had passed so many eventful years. His feeling of resentment could only have been aimed at the General Court. Certain it is, however, that its ancient records are missing, but it is stated by the old inhabitants that some time prior to the Revolution an Englishman was employed to copy the records, and upon the completion of his work, the charges made were deemed exorbitant and payment refused, whereupon he left for the West Indies, taking the books with him. Furthermore, the ancient documents not destroyed by fire have been restored to the town, which exculpates Roger Ludlow from censure.

In 1661, Mr. Gold, William Hill, John Burr, A. Knowles, Jehu Burr, William Ward, and John Banks were townsmen.

In the vestibule of the town-house at Fairfield is the following tablet:

BUILT A. D. 1720.  
DESTROYED }  
BY THE BRITISH } A. D. 1779.  
REBUILT A. D. 1794.  
REMODELED A. D. 1870.

The following is a record of a number of the early births, etc.:

"Mary Turny, the daughter of Robert Turny and Ruth Turny, was born the 9th Dec., 1673."

"Martha Turny, the daughter of Robert Turny, was born the 5th of June, 1676."

"Benjamin Turny, the son of Robert Turny, was borne the —"

"Benj. Turny maryed Rebeca Rader the 16th of Nov., 1671."

"Sarah Middlehook, daughter of Joseph Middlehook, was born the 12th of Nov., 1675."

"Hannah Middlehook, the daughter of Joseph Middlehook, was born the 25 June, 1677."

"John Read, the son of Will<sup>m</sup> Read, was born the 29th of Jan'y, 1679."

"Daniel Burr, the son of Daniel Burr, was born the 30th of July, 1670."

"Joseph Middlehook, the son of Joseph Middlehook, Jr., was born ye 15 April, 1680."

#### LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1670 TO 1880.†

1670, Jehu Burr, John Burr; 1671, William Hill, John Burr, John Wheeler; 1672, Jehu Burr, John Wheeler; 1673, Jehu Burr, John Bankes ‡; 1674, Jehu Burr, John Burr, John Bankes, John Wheeler; 1675-76, Jehu Burr, John Bankes, Lieut. Corn. Hull; 1677, John Bankes, John Wheeler, Corn. Hull; 1678, Jehu Burr, Richard Hubbell, John Bankes, John Wheeler; 1679, John Bankes, Richard Hubbell, Jehu Burr, John Bankes; 1680, Jehu Burr, John Bankes; 1681, John Wheeler, Richard Hubbell, Joseph Lockwood; 1682, Jehu Burr, John Bankes, Lieut. John Bankes, Sergt. John Wheeler; 1683, Jehu Burr, John Bankes; 1684, Jehu Burr, John Tyler, John Wheeler; 1685, Jehu Burr, Thomas Joanes, John Burr, Sergt. John Wheeler; 1686, Jehu Burr, John Burr; 1687, John Wheeler, John Burr; 1688, no State records; 1689, John Burr, John Wheeler, James

† "Commences with vol. iii. of the Colonial Records, the first that can be found.—SECRETARY OF STATE."

‡ Secretary of State.



Bennet; 1690, John Wakeman; 1691, John Burr, Samuel Warde; 1692, Capt. Mathew Sherwood, Nathan Gold, John Wakeman, Nathan Burr; 1693, Isaac Wheeler, John Wakeman, Nath. Burr; 1694, Samuel Wakeman, Eliphalet Hill, Nathan Gold, John Wakeman; 1695, James Benit, Nath. Burr, Lieut. James Benit; 1696, John Wakeman, Joseph Lockwood; 1697, John Wakeman, Lieut. James Bennet, Nathaniel Burr, Jr.; 1698, Ensign Philip Lewis, Nathaniel Burr, Lieut. John Wakeman; 1699, Lieut. James Bennet, Lieut. John Wakeman, Ensign John Osborn; 1700, Samuel Squire, Nathaniel Burr, Lieut. John Wakeman, Peter Burr; 1701, Lieut. James Bennet, Peter Burr, John Wakeman; 1702, Lieut. James Bennet, Samuel Squire, Peter Burr, John Edwards; 1703, Lieut. John Wakeman, Samuel Squire, Samuel Hubbell; 1704, Ensign John Osborn, Sergt. John Burr, Samuel Squire, Thomas Jones; 1705, Lieut. Joseph Wakeman, Capt. John Wakeman, John Burr; 1706, Capt. John Wakeman, Lieut. James Bennett, Lieut. Joseph Wakeman; 1707, Lieut. Joseph Wakeman, Jonathan Sturge, Capt. John Wakeman; 1708, Ensign Theophilus Hull, John Burr, Capt. John Wakeman, James Bennet; 1709, Capt. John Osborn, James Bennet, Theophilus Hull, David Sherman; 1710, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, Capt. John Burr, James Bennett, Samuel Couch; 1711, Maj. John Burr, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, John Edwards, Samuel Hubbell; 1712, Maj. John Burr, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, Capt. Samuel Couch; 1713-14, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, Ensign Richard Hubbell, Maj. John Burr, Capt. Joseph Wakeman; 1715-16, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, Richard Hubbell; 1717, Maj. John Burr, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, Richard Hubbell; 1718-19, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, John Edwards, Maj. John Burr; 1720, Maj. John Burr, Capt. Samuel Couch, Capt. Joseph Wakeman; 1721, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, Maj. John Burr, Jonathan Sturgis; 1722, Robert Silliman, Capt. Joseph Wakeman, Capt. Moses Dyman; 1723, Maj. John Burr, Robert Silaman; 1724, Maj. John Burr, Robert Silaman, Ebenezer Wakeman; 1725, Maj. John Burr, Ebenezer Wakeman; 1726, Maj. John Burr, Ebenezer Wakeman, Capt. John Osborn, John Lockwood; 1727, Robert Silliman, Capt. John Osborn; 1728, Robert Silliman, Samuel Burr, Maj. John Burr; 1729, Maj. John Burr, Samuel Burr, Andrew Burr; 1730, Samuel Burr, Thaddeus Burr, Ebenezer Silliman; 1731, Samuel Burr, Ebenezer Silliman, Andrew Burr; 1732, Andrew Burr, Ebenezer Silliman; 1733, Samuel Couch, Andrew Burr, Samuel Burr; 1734, Samuel Burr, Ebenezer Silliman, Samuel Couch, John Silliman; 1735, Andrew Burr, Samuel Burr, Ebenezer Silliman, John Silliman; 1736, Ebenezer Silliman, Andrew Burr, John Silliman; 1737, Capt. And. Burr, Eben. Silliman, John Burr; 1738, Eben. Silliman, Capt. And. Burr; 1739, Capt. And. Burr, Ebenezer Silliman, Capt. Sam'l Burr; 1740, Maj. Andrew Burr, Capt. John Read; 1741-43, Maj. Andrew Burr, Samuel Burr; 1744, Maj. Andrew Burr, Thaddeus Burr, Capt. Samuel Burr; 1745, Capt. Samuel Burr, Thaddeus Burr, Col. Andrew Burr, Capt. John Read; 1746, Col. Andrew Burr, Capt. Samuel Burr, Capt. John Read; 1747, Capt. Samuel Burr, Thaddeus Burr, Capt. John Read, David Rowland; 1748, Thaddeus Burr, Capt. John Burr, Capt. John Read, Capt. Samuel Burr; 1749, Capt. John Read, David Rowland, Thaddeus Burr; 1750, Capt. John Read, David Rowland; 1751, David Rowland, Thaddeus Burr, Capt. Samuel Burr; 1752-53, David Rowland, Capt. Samuel Burr; 1754, Maj. John Read, Capt. Samuel Burr, David Rowland, William Burr; 1755, David Rowland, William Burr; 1756-57, Capt. Thomas Hill, Lothrop Lewis, David Rowland; 1758-59, David Rowland, William Burr; 1760-63, David Rowland, David Burr, Jr.; 1764, David Rowland, David Burr, Jr., Capt. David Burr; 1765, David Rowland, Capt. David Burr, Nathan Bulkley; 1766, Lothrop Lewis, Col. John Read, David Burr, Ebenezer Silliman; 1767, Ebenezer Silliman, Capt. David Burr, Lothrop Lewis; 1768, Ebenezer Silliman, Capt. David Burr; 1769, Ebenezer Silliman, Capt. David Burr, Thaddeus Burr; 1770, Ebenezer Silliman, Capt. David Burr; 1771, Ebenezer Silliman, Capt. David Burr, Thaddeus Burr; 1772, Ebenezer Silliman, Jonathan Sturges, David Burr; 1773, Ebenezer Silliman, Jonathan Sturges; 1774, Ebenezer Silliman, Capt. Samuel Squire, Jonathan Sturges; 1775-76, Jonathan Sturges, Capt. Samuel Squire, Thaddeus Burr; 1777, Capt. Samuel Squire, Maj. Elijah Abell; 1778, Thaddeus Burr, Capt. Samuel Squire; 1779, Capt. Samuel Squire, George Burr, Capt. Samuel Wakeman; 1780, Capt. Samuel Wakeman, Brig-Gen. G. S. Silliman, Hezekiah Hubbell; 1781, Brig-Gen. G. S. Silliman, Hezekiah Hubbell; 1782, Maj. Elijah Abell, Col. Hezekiah Hubbell; 1783, Jonathan Sturges, Capt. Samuel Wakeman, Thomas Nash; 1784, Jonathan Sturges, Thaddeus Burr; 1785-86, Col. Elijah Abell, Andrew Rowland; 1787, Samuel Waterman, Joseph Strong, Andrew Rowland, Elijah Abell; 1788, Col. Elijah Abell, Joseph Strong, Thad-

deus Burr; 1789, Col. Elijah Abell, Andrew Rowland; 1790, Col. Elijah Abell, Andrew Rowland, David Burr; 1792, Andrew Rowland, Elijah Abell; 1793, Andrew Rowland, David Burr, Elijah Abell; 1794, Andrew Rowland, Lewis B. Sturgis; 1795, Lewis B. Sturgis, David Burr; 1796, Andrew Rowland, Walter Bradley, Lewis B. Sturgis, David Burr, Jr.; 1797, Lewis B. Sturgis, David Burr, Jr.; 1798, Walter Bradley, David Judah, David Burr; 1799, Lewis B. Sturgis, David Burr, Elijah Abell; 1800-1, Lewis B. Sturgis, David Burr; 1802, Lewis B. Sturgis, David Burr, Walter Bradley, Robert Wilson; 1803, Lewis B. Sturgis, David Burr; 1804, Walter Bradley, Jesup Wakeman, Robert Wilson; 1805, Walter Bradley, David Hill, David Burr, Samuel Rowland; 1806, Walter Bradley, John Hull, David Burr, Ebenezer Banks; 1807, David Burr, Samuel Rowland, Walter Bradley, John Hull; 1808, Samuel Rowland, Aaron Sherwood, Ebenezer Banks; 1809, Samuel Rowland, Gershom Burr, David Burr, Samuel B. Sherwood; 1810, John Hull, Seymour Taylor; 1811, David Burr, Jeremiah Sturgis, James Beatty; 1812, David Burr, Gershom Burr, Samuel Rowland, Samuel B. Sherwood; 1813, Samuel Rowland, Samuel B. Sherwood; 1814, Samuel B. Sherwood, Gershom Burr, William Thorp; 1815, Samuel B. Sherwood, Samuel Rowland, John Hull, William Robinson; 1816, David Hill, John Hull; 1817, David Hill, Gideon Tomlinson; 1818, Thomas F. Rowland, Gideon Tomlinson; 1819, Jeremiah Sturgis, John Hull; 1820, Jesup Wakeman, Seymour Taylor; 1821-22, Abraham D. Baldwin, Jonathan Bulkley; 1823, Jesup Wakeman, Seymour Taylor; 1824, Robert Wilson, Henry Sherwood; 1825, Thomas F. Rowland, Roger M. Sherman; 1826, Abraham D. Baldwin, Robert Wilson; 1827, Robert Wilson, Obadiah Beardsley; 1828, David Hill, Jonathan Bulkley; 1829, Abraham D. Baldwin, Andrew Bulkley; 1830, David Hill, Andrew Bulkley; 1831, David Hill, Jeremiah Sturgis; 1832, John S. Wilson, David Hill; 1833, David Cooley (2d), John S. Wilson; 1834, David Hill, Robert Wilson; 1835, David Hill, Hezekiah Allen; 1836, Andrew Bulkley, Thomas B. Osborne; 1837, David Coley, Geo. Peck; 1838, Roger M. Sherman, Moses A. Sherwood; 1839, Rufus Blakeman, Joseph Bartram; 1840, Jonathan Bulkley, John Gould; 1841, Jonathan Bulkley, Rufus Blakeman; 1842, Jonathan Bulkley, Horace Banks; 1843, Joseph Bartram, Thomas Robinson; 1844, Robert Wilson, Jonathan Bulkley; 1845, George Peck, Jonathan Godfrey; 1846, Horace Banks, Thomas Robinson; 1847, Oliver H. Perry, Ira B. Wheeler; 1848, Oliver H. Perry, John Burr; 1849, Oliver H. Perry, John Gould; 1850, Thomas B. Osborne, Horace Banks; 1851, Jonathan Godfrey, Charles Bennett; 1852, Jessup Alvord, Horace Banks; 1853, O. H. Perry, George B. Kissam; 1854, Jessup Alvord, Arthur D. Osborne; 1855, H. Davis, Zamon Wakeman, Jr.; 1856, W. H. Bibbins, John Burr; 1857, O. H. Perry, Sherwood Sterling; 1858, Jonathan Godfrey, John Gould; 1859, O. H. Perry, Franklin Smith; 1860, Sherwood Sterling, O. H. Perry; 1861, Sherwood Sterling, John H. Glover; 1862, Sherwood Sterling, Edward J. Alvord; 1863, Sherwood Sterling, Benjamin Pomeroy; 1864, Sherwood Sterling, Oliver H. Perry; 1865-66, Phineas T. Barnum, Franklin Smith; 1867, A. N. Benedict, Frank B. Wakeley; 1868, Henry Hall, John H. Glover; 1869, Cyrus Sherwood, B. L. Budd, M.D.; 1870, L. W. Clark, Seth Wakeman; 1871, Seth Wakeman, A. J. Sherwood; 1872, Paschal Sheffield, Joseph M. Morehouse; 1873, Seth Wakeman, Charles S. French; 1874, Zalmon B. Bradley, Charles S. French; 1875, Francis Bulkley, George W. Bradley; 1876, Samuel Pike, Charles S. French; 1877, John Hoyt Perry, Alexander R. Nichols; 1878, John Hoyt Perry, Isaac Jennings; 1879, Oliver Burr, Ebenezer Burr, Jr.; 1880, Isaac Jennings, Morris M. Merwin.

## MILITARY RECORD.

The following list of those who enlisted from Fairfield was prepared from records in the adjutant-general's office at Hartford:

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company D.*

James Bosworth, sergeant; must. Aug. 6, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Nov. 15, 1863.  
Gilbert Worden, corporal; must. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Henry Huss, musician; must. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Hurd, Edwin D., must. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Howe, Elias, Jr., must. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Larkin, James, must. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Pinn, Jacob Jr., must. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Wilcoxson, Edgar S., must. Aug. 19, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant;  
must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company F.*

Riggs, Smith, must. Dec. 11, 1863; disch. for disability, June 12, 1865.

*Company G.*

Bennett, Abner, must. Aug. 19, 1863; wounded; trans. to Inv. Corps,  
March 15, 1864.

*Company K.*

John J. McCarty, captain; com. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Dec. 16, 1863.  
John H. Norris, first lieutenant; com. Aug. 18, 1862; res. May 12, 1863.  
John C. Mills, second lieutenant; com. Aug. 14, 1862; res. Jan. 11, 1863.  
Theodore Neilson, must. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
John Cavanagh, must. Aug. 15, 1862; missing July 3, 1863.  
William Price, must. July 31, 1862; disch. for disability, Aug. 7, 1863.  
Morris Batterson, must. July 30, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 19, 1863.  
Allen, James R., must. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Allen, George W., must. July 31, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Allen, John, must. Aug. 16, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, Jan. 1, 1865.  
Banks, Benjamin, must. Aug. 15, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Jan. 15,  
1864.  
Brown, John, must. Aug. 19, 1862; disch. for disability, Oct. 17, 1862.  
Cabill, Michael, must. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. for disability, Aug. 22, 1863.  
Carpenter, Edward H., must. Aug. 20, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 1,  
1863.  
Cable, James W., must. Aug. 19, 1862; missing July 3, 1863.  
Cogswell, Eli, must. Aug. 20, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Dawson, William T., must. July 31, 1862; rejected by surgeon.  
Dougherty, Anthony, must. Aug. 21, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, Jan.  
1, 1865.  
Goodsell, Marvin, must. Aug. 18, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Hawley, Abijah R., must. Aug. 15, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Jan. 15,  
1864.  
Hawkins, Elihu S., must. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Hale, Mathew, must. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Hill, Frank, must. Aug. 20, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Irving, James H., must. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Kelly, James, must. July 31, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Looney, Peter, must. Aug. 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Morris, William, must. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
McKay, Frederick, must. Aug. 19, 1862; wounded July 2, 1863; disch.  
for disability, Dec. 26, 1863.  
Mills, Francis, must. Aug. 13, 1862.  
O'Conner, Morris, must. Aug. 20, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Picker, Michael, must. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 23, 1863.  
Sturll, Charles, must. Aug. 20, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Sherwood, Bottsford, must. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Sherwood, Andrew, must. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Sherwood, Stephen, must. Aug. 27, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 19,  
1863.  
Seerey, John, must. Aug. 13, 1862; wounded July 1, 1863; disch. for dis-  
ability, May 14, 1864.  
Steward, Thomas, must. Aug. 3, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 19, 1863.  
Troutt, James A., must. Aug. 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Tyrell, John M., must. Aug. 14, 1862; wounded July 2, 1863; must. out  
July 19, 1865.  
Ells, William E., must. Aug. 18, 1864; disch. Oct. 8, 1864.  
Jones, Charles, must. Aug. 11, 1864.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company C.*

Kongslin, George, must. Nov. 5, 1862.  
Kwaner, Henry, must. Nov. 5, 1862.  
Milnes, Thomas, must. Nov. 6, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company D.*

Hull, Henry, must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Nichols, Franklin W., must. Aug. 25, 1862; died July 23, 1863.  
Wilson, Samuel S., must. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Wakeman, Tyler, must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company F.*

Miller, Charles, must. Oct. 26, 1862.

*Company G.*

Bryant, John, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Green, George, must. Oct. 29, 1862.  
Hunt, Gideon L., must. Oct. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Lewis, Sidney E., must. Oct. 31, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Nolan, Patrick, must. Oct. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Sanzes, Pedro, must. Oct. 31, 1862.  
Smith, William, must. Oct. 29, 1862.  
Wall, Charles E., must. Oct. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company I.*

Ahern, Daniel, must. Oct. 20, 1862; died July 20, 1863.  
Anderson, Henry H., must. Oct. 27, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Allen, George, must. Nov. 4, 1862.  
Atzbach, Paul, must. Oct. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Baldwin, George B., must. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Bell, Thaddeus H., must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Bulkley, David B., must. Nov. 17, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Burke, Thomas, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Bell, Martin, must. Nov. 1, 1862.  
Crossman, Bradley, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Craig, Abram D., must. Nov. 4, 1862.  
Dimon, Benjamin R., must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Doley, Michael, must. Nov. 4, 1862.  
Edwards, William, must. Nov. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Frank, Charles, must. Oct. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Gallagher, James, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Hoffman, John, must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Howard, Henry, must. Nov. 4, 1862.  
Judson, Charles J., must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Jackson, George, must. Nov. 1, 1862.  
Kelly, John, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Klein, William, must. Oct. 29, 1862.  
Kellum, John, must. Oct. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Loud, Simeon W., must. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Loud, Rufus J., must. Oct. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Locklum, John, must. Nov. 1, 1862.  
Legrand, Henry, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Lange, Otto, must. Nov. 1, 1862.  
Miller, Jacob, must. Nov. 3, 1862.  
Miller, George, must. Oct. 25, 1862.  
McGuire, James, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Munson, George, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Merion, Francis B., must. Nov. 3, 1862; died April 17, 1863.  
Passmore, Edmund, must. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Rhinaldi, Charles, must. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Riley, Henry, must. Oct. 22, 1862.  
Ryan, William, must. Oct. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Rengir, Augustus, must. Nov. 10, 1862.  
Slawson, Eugene, must. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Snow, Stephen, must. Oct. 28, 1862.  
Sheuster, Fritz, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Stern, Max, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Stroh, Carl, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Sheuster, Carl, must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Stapler, John H., must. Nov. 3, 1862.  
Smith, Charles, must. Nov. 3, 1862.  
Singhi, Martin U., must. Sept. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Simpson, Frank, must. Nov. 4, 1862.  
Thompson, Darius, must. Aug. 30, 1862.  
Turney, David, must. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Van Buskirk, David, must. Sept. 10, 1862.  
Williams, Robert W., must. Oct. 30, 1862.  
Wilson, Charles, must. Nov. 3, 1862.

THIRD REGIMENT.

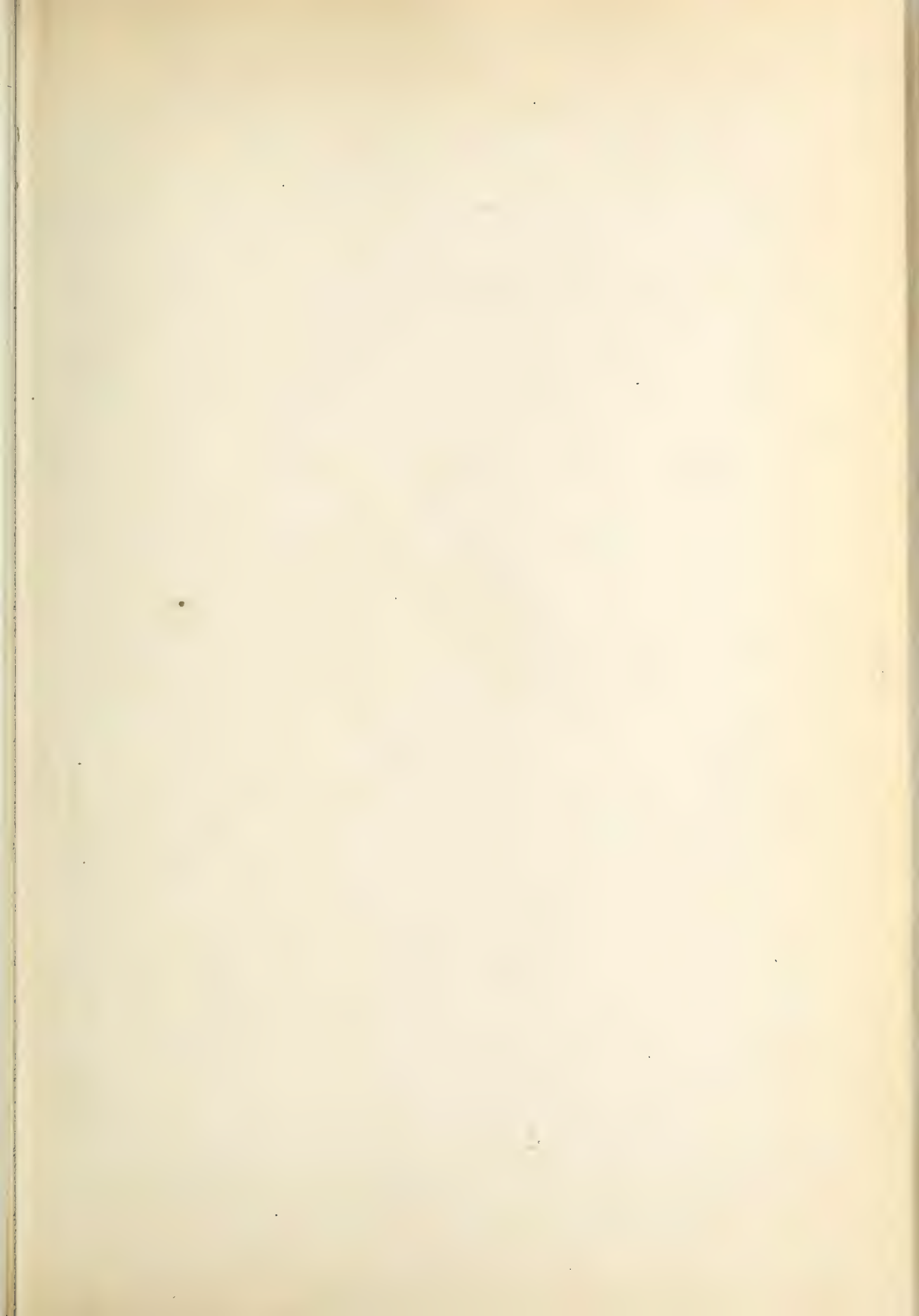
*Company D.*

Hendricks, Frederick B., must. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY, CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Kane, Patrick, must. Dec. 10, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Jones, Mathew, must. Dec. 10, 1864.  
Lawrence, James B., must. Dec. 1, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Logan, John, must. Aug. 11, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Myers, James, must. Dec. 15, 1863; not taken up on rolls.  
Murphy, Charles, must. Aug. 5, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
McCune, John, must. Aug. 16, 1864; not taken up on rolls.







*Cherry*



Moore, John, must. Dec. 5, 1864; disch. 28, 1864.  
 McIntyre, Thomas, must. Dec. 5, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 McBride, John, must. Dec. 15, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Minder, Richard, must. Dec. 15, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Robinson, John, must. Dec. 8, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Small, John, must. Dec. 14, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Simpson, Henry, must. Aug. 11, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Smith, Thomas, must. Dec. 7, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 White, Patrick, must. Aug. 5, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Williams, Joseph, must. Aug. 18, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Watson, William H., must. Dec. 1, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Welsh, John, must. Dec. 13, 1864.  
 Watt, Burt, must. Dec. 13, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

## SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

William W. Waramore, artificer; must. Aug. 12, 1864; disch. Aug. 4, 1865.  
 Blackman, Frederick, must. Aug. 20, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Gould, William J., must. Aug. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Leigh, Frederick G., must. Aug. 12, 1864; disch. July 17, 1865.  
 Moody, Edmund T., must. Aug. 5, 1864; died July 30, 1865.  
 Nichols, Gideon, must. July 24, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Sterling, David, must. Aug. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Stillman, David G., must. July 29, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Buckley, Nathan, must. Feb. 16, 1864; died March 30, 1864.  
 Burr, Abel M., must. Feb. 20, 1864; must. out June 27, 1865.  
 Clark, Charles A., must. Feb. 16, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Crawford, John, must. Feb. 16, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Crawford, Charles, must. Feb. 16, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Dempsey, James, must. Feb. 23, 1864.  
 Nichols, Dwight R., must. Feb. 22, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Thompson, John, must. Feb. 23, 1864.

## FIRST ARTILLERY.

*Company B.*

Sherwood, Ely J., must. Nov. 6, 1864; wounded; disch. March 13, 1865.

*Company I.*

Clancey, William, must. Dec. 5, 1864.  
 Tompkins, William, must. Aug. 24, 1864.

*Company M.*

Beers, Lathrope, must. Feb. 12, 1862; disch. for disability, Aug. 14, 1862.

*Unassigned.*

Smith, William, must. Dec. 15, 1864; disch. June 9, 1865.

## SECOND ARTILLERY.

*Company C.*

Manley, Philip, must. Dec. 16, 1863.

## FIFTH INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

Shaw, William K., must. July 22, 1862; wounded May 3, 1863; disch. for disability, Nov. 17, 1863.

*Company K.*

Irving, George W., must. Nov. 24, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864, Co. D; must. out Aug. 5, 1865.  
 McFarland, Peter, must. Dec. 10, 1861; died Dec. 8, 1862.

## TENTH REGIMENT.

*Company H.*

Green, William, must. Dec. 9, 1864.  
 Hogan, Patrick, must. Dec. 4, 1864; missing at Hatcher's Run, Va., April 1, 1865.

## ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company K.*

Lewis, James, must. Dec. 13, 1864.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

John C. Schuyler, Co. C, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 14, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 George W. Peterson, Co. C, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 10, 1863; died Nov. 14, 1864.  
 B. Maticer, Co. C, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 14, 1863; died April 11, 1864.

Rich. Copeland, Co. C, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 14, 1863; died June 10, 1864.  
 Edward Luke, Co. D, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 15, 1863; died Jan. 4, 1864.  
 John T. Thomson, Co. D, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 16, 1863; trans. to U. S. C. T.  
 James Rolin, Co. D, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 16, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 J. H. Pell, Co. D, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 16, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 William Wessel, Co. F, 1st Art.; must. Dec. 3, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Sylvanus N. Beckwith, Co. A, 2d Art.; must. Feb. 24, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
 M. Phillips, Co. M, 2d Art.; must. Aug. 16, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
 S. S. Reynolds, must. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out Aug. 31, 1865.  
 George Smith, Co. I, 15th Regt.; must. Aug. 18, 1862; died Nov. 23, 1862.  
 Joseph Alexander, Co. A, 27th Regt.; must. Feb. 23, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Charles Harrison, Co. A, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 5, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 James Trusty, Co. D, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 16, 1863; must. out June 12, 1865.  
 John Clark, Co. D, 29th Regt.; must. Aug. 25, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Charles H. Cole, must. Dec. 16, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Hiram T. Beam, must. Dec. 15, 1863; disch. March 5, 1865.  
 T. M. Thomson, must. Dec. 16, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 G. H. Washington, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 15, 1864.  
 James Minel, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 16, 1863.  
 B. Roberts, Co. C, 30th Regt.; must. Feb. 12, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 Samuel Moore, Co. D, 29th Regt.; must. Dec. 16, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Henry Johnston, must. Dec. 15, 1863; trans. to U. S. C. T.  
 Henry Jackson, must. Dec. 16, 1863; disch. June 16, 1864.  
 Thomas Jackson, must. Dec. 18, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 C. H. Scudder, must. Dec. 12, 1863; disch. July 29, 1864.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## OLIVER HENRY PERRY.

Oliver Henry Perry, son of Walter Perry, was born at Mill River (afterwards the borough of Southport), in the town of Fairfield, Feb. 21, 1815.

The genealogy of the Perry family in America, so far as it has been ascertained, begins with Richard Perry, the immigrant, who is frequently mentioned in the records of the New Haven colony from 1639 to 1647 as "Mr. Richard Pery," often as a freeholder, and at one time "Secretarie for the Court of New Haven." In 1647 he "had liberty to go a voidage." These memoranda indicate that he was a man of substance and of note in that colony, and it is supposed that he came to Fairfield and was the ancestor of the Perry family there,—viz., Richard, who died 1658; Nathaniel, who died 1682; Joseph, who died 1753; Joseph, Jr., who died 1753; Peter, who died 1804; and Walter, who was the third son of Peter, born at Fairfield, Jan. 8, 1770, and died March 1, 1831.

Walter Perry was a merchant and ship-owner at Mill River, and was a thorough and successful man of business. He married Elizabeth Burr Sturges,

daughter of Joseph Sturges, who gave his life for his country, as elsewhere stated in this volume. They had ten children, the youngest of whom was Oliver H., the subject of this notice.

Mr. Perry was fitted for college at the Fairfield Academy, under Rev. Chauncey S. Lee, and entered Yale in 1830, at the age of fifteen, but was obliged to leave college during his Freshman year on account of ill-health, and, in consequence of the death of his father, did not return. He studied law at the Yale Law School from 1838 to 1841, and was admitted to the bar at New Haven, Dec. 8, 1841, but never engaged in the active duties of his profession. He was always, however, a public-spirited and patriotic citizen, and took a lively interest in everything that concerned the welfare of his native village, State, and country. The confidence of his fellow-citizens in his ability, fidelity, and incorruptible integrity is shown by the many instances in which the most important trusts, both public and private, have been committed to his keeping. In his native village he served as the active member of the several committees which designed and erected the school-house for the graded public school in 1851-52, the building for the Southport Savings Bank in 1864-65, and the new Congregational church in 1875. He was one of the projectors and original trustees of the Oak Lawn Cemetery Association in 1865; was for many years a director in the Southport Bank under its original charter, and also after its organization as a National Bank, and was warden of the borough of Southport from 1846 to 1854.

He also filled other posts of duty in the town and State, such as quartermaster of the Fourth Brigade of Connecticut Infantry in 1836; representative from the town of Fairfield in the General Assembly of 1847, 1848, 1849, 1853, 1857, 1859, 1860, 1864; and Speaker of the House of Representatives in 1859 and 1860. He was an unsuccessful candidate of the Whig party for State Senator in 1852, and of the Republican party for Lieutenant-Governor in 1867. He was elected Secretary of State in 1854, and was also one of the Connecticut commissioners for the survey and settlement of the State boundary-line between New York and Connecticut in 1859-60. In 1854 he procured the charter for the Southport Savings Bank, was one of its original trustees, and since 1865 has been its treasurer.

In 1875, Yale College conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts. He was one of the number that organized the Congregational Church of Southport in 1843 (which was an off-shoot from "ye ancient church" in Fairfield), and in 1878 he was chosen one of its office-bearers.

Mr. Perry was married Sept. 9, 1846, to Harriette E. Hoyt, only daughter of Hon. Eli T. Hoyt, of Danbury. Their children are (1) John H., born July 26, 1848; graduated at Yale College 1870, at Columbia Law School, New York, 1872; is now of the law-firm

of Woodward & Perry, at Norwalk, Conn., and has three times represented the town of Fairfield in the General Assembly. In 1874 he was married to F. Virginia Bulkley, daughter of George Bulkley, Esq., of Southport, whose ancestry is given in another place.

(2) Henry H., born Dec. 8, 1849, graduated at Yale Sheffield Scientific School 1869; was a civil engineer for two years, and afterwards engaged in trade. He was married in 1874 to Florence P. Sanborn, daughter of William Sanborn, of Ashtabula, Ohio.

(3) Winthrop H., born Sept. 20, 1854; graduated at Yale College, 1876; was married in 1880 to Louisa Huidekoper, daughter of Prof. Frederick Huidekoper, of Meadville, Pa.

(4) Hattie H., born July 27, 1858.

This record of the public life of Mr. Perry would be incomplete without a tribute to his moral worth. A firm believer in the Christian religion, a diligent student of the Holy Scriptures, a humble follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, a man of prayer, and exemplary in all the relations of private life, he has always sought to promote "whatsoever things are true and honest, and just, and pure, and lovely, and of good report."

His influence in favor of the cause of education and public improvement and "pure and undefiled religion" will never cease to be felt in the community in which he resides, and throughout a wide circle of friends and fellow-citizens.

#### REV. THOMAS BENEDICT STURGES,

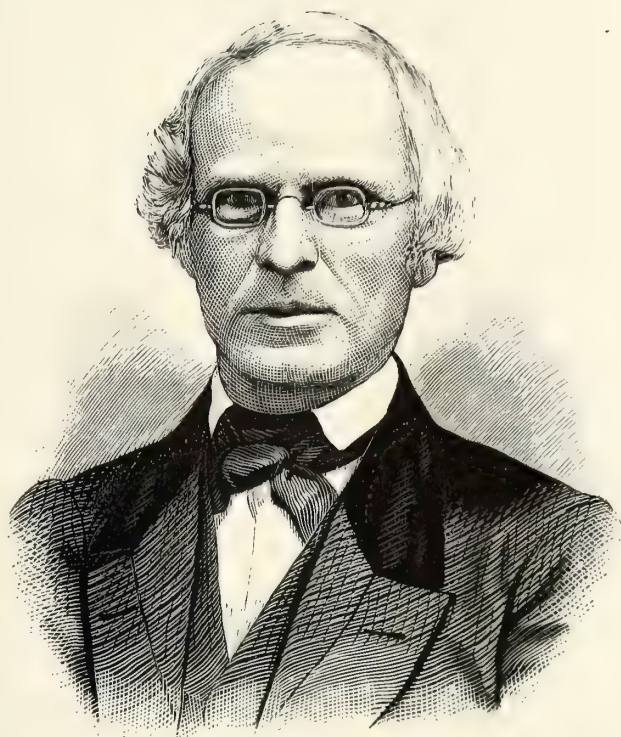
only son of Joseph Porter Sturges and Laura Benedict, of Danbury, Conn., was born in Bridgeport, Conn. His grandfather, Lewis Sturges, was of English descent; married and had two sons,—viz., Isaac and Joseph P. He removed to Greenville, Ohio, where he followed farming until his death.

His father was a carpenter and joiner in the earlier part of his life, and later was engaged in the lumber trade. He was a member of the Congregational Church. He died at the residence of his son, Rev. Thomas B. Sturges, of Greenfield Hill, Conn., in 1861, aged seventy-six years.

The mother of Rev. T. B. Sturges descended from Thomas Benedict, an Englishman of noble qualities, who settled in Connecticut at a very early day. She died in 1850.

Rev. T. B. Sturges prepared for college under the tutorship of Mr. Hamlin, now Bishop Hamlin, of Ohio, and Dr. Judson,—two noble men long to be remembered by their pupils, many of whom are alive till this day, 1880. In the year 1831 he entered Yale College, from which he was graduated in 1835, and immediately went to Andover Theological Seminary, where he remained one year; thence to New Haven Theological Seminary, where he remained two years. After spending some little time in regaining his health, he went to Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., where

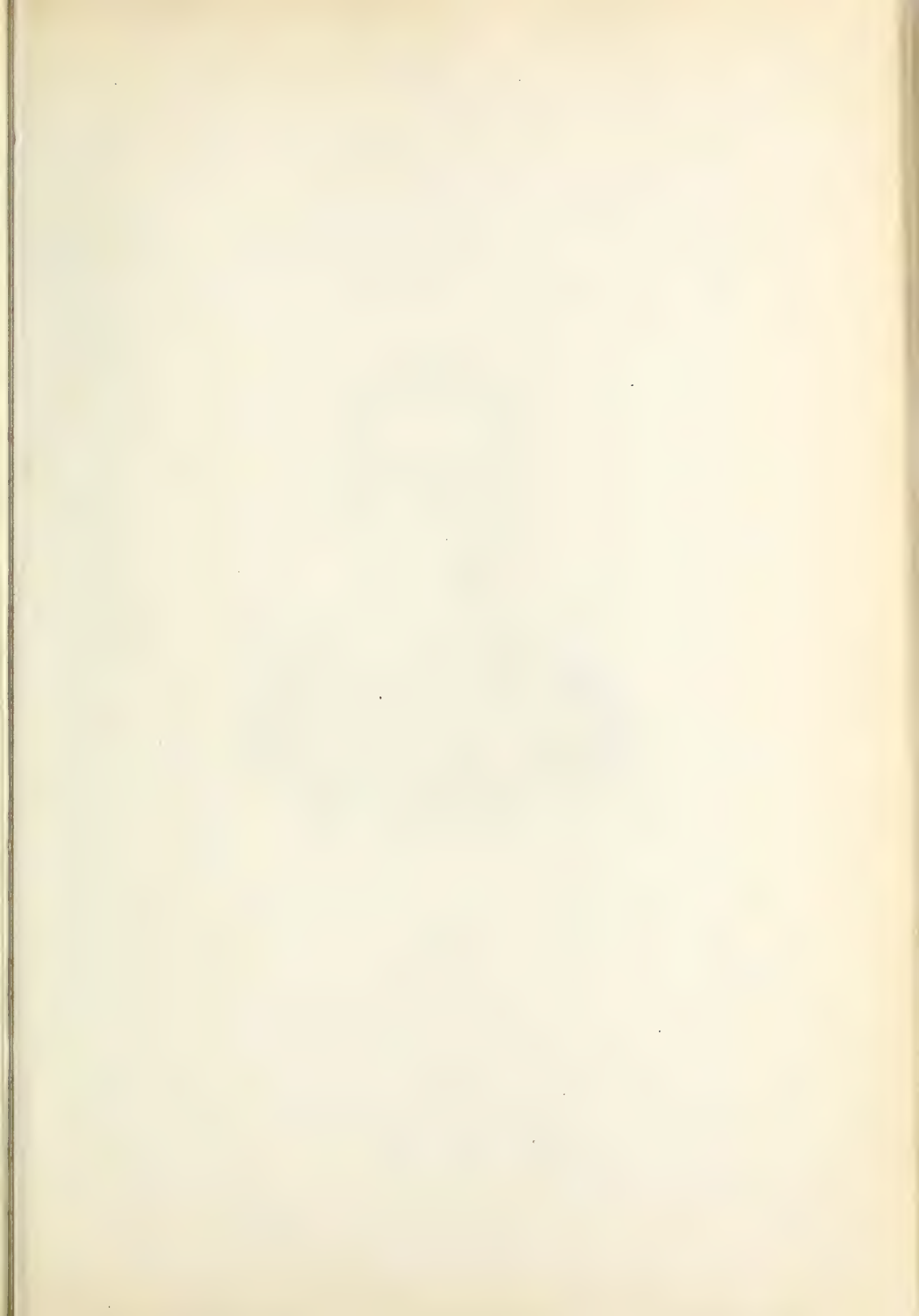




J. B. Sturgis









*Samuel A. Nichols*



he was engaged as a pastor of the Congregational Church at that place. Here he made many warm friends, and would have remained, but the lake winds proved too much for him, and he was compelled to resign his pastorate, much against the wishes of his people and his own inclinations. It was here he formed the acquaintance of Hannah W., daughter of Chauncey Baker, whom he married, Aug. 16, 1841.

Of this union five children have been born,—viz., Edward B., a lawyer in Scranton, Pa.; Laura E., at home; William H., a merchant in St. Louis; Frank C., a lawyer in Wilkesbarre, Pa.; and Annie M., at home.

Soon after his marriage, in the fall of 1841, he returned to his native place, Bridgeport, where he remained the following winter. During this time he preached for the Congregational Church at Greenfield Hill, Conn. June 10, 1842, he was installed pastor of that church, and continued in active duty, except a few months spent abroad, until the summer of 1867, when failing health compelled him to resign, since which time he has not engaged in any business. In 1869 he visited the Holy Land, Egypt, Turkey, and other places of interest, and remained six months. In 1872 he took his wife and two daughters and visited England, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and many other countries, and returned in the fall of 1876. He now resides in Greenfield Hill, Conn. He was a good preacher, and a better pastor. He enjoys the confidence of his brethren in the ministry, and the love and friendship of those who know him.

#### SAMUEL ALLEN NICHOLS.\*

Samuel Allen Nichols, son of Hezekiah and Anna Penfield Nichols, was born in the town of Fairfield, Conn., May, 1789. His father was a farmer by occupation. He had five sons and four daughters, of whom Samuel A. was the youngest. Samuel A. had such advantages for an education as the common schools of his time afforded. Thus he laid the foundation of an education which, aided by a life-long perusal of the best books and papers at his command, made him one of the best-informed men of his day.

On the 20th of March, 1816, he married Wilsana, daughter of Capt. Wilson Wheeler, who died at sea. Mrs. Nichols was born in Bridgeport, Conn., in 1789, and died in Fairfield, Conn., in 1857, aged sixty-eight years and three months. Their children are as follows: Abby B., Julia B. (deceased), Anna P., Jane A., John (deceased), John (2), Henry (deceased). He was a farmer and dealer in general merchandise. He was by choice and the general bent of his mind a Whig and Republican, and as such one of the leading men of his town. He was town clerk of Fairfield from 1837 to 1863, a period of twenty-six consecutive years, and the books kept by him attest his ability;

selectman several years, and magistrate for many years. His efficiency and popularity were such that he was elected by a unanimous vote of both the opposing parties.

Mr. and Mrs. Nichols were members of the Congregational Church of Fairfield for more than forty years, and he was elected deacon of the same in 1840, which position he filled at the time of his death, Feb. 4, 1864. Deacon Nichols is spoken of by those who knew him as an upright Christian gentleman, a man respected by all. He was courteous in his bearing towards others, and thus won a host of friends. He was a man of trust, and occupied an honorable place in society. He took a great interest in town matters, and in a measure the citizens are grateful to him for the elms which beautify the green in Fairfield, as he assisted in setting them out, and in watering them through a drought till they were self-sustaining. He left a family of daughters, who are engaged in every good work, and are ladies of education, refinement, and culture, and one son. He was a firm friend, kind and hospitable to the poor, and the church found in him a strong pillar. As a husband he was affectionate and true; as a father, kind and indulgent; as a citizen, patriotic and benevolent, and as a man, honest. Mr. Nichols built a fine residence, opposite H. J. Beers', in Fairfield, which is occupied by his daughters, Mrs. Kippen, Anna, and Abby B. This family is descended from William Nichols, an early settler in Fairfield. (See "Colonials," 16, 18.)

#### WILLIAM WEBB WAKEMAN.

William Webb Wakeman was the eldest son of Jesup Wakeman, who was a lineal descendant of Rev. Samuel Wakeman, the second pastor, from 1665 to 1692, of the old church of "The Prime Ecclesiastical Society" of Fairfield, coexistent with the town itself. Samuel was the son of John Wakeman, who was the first treasurer of the New Haven colony, and one of the founders of New Haven. The genealogical order is: John, Samuel, Joseph; Stephen, Jesup, Jesup, Jr., and William Webb. Samuel was educated in part at Harvard College, and became an able and strong man. He was not only one of the ecclesiastical lights of his day, but exerted a large influence in State matters as well, and left his impress upon the legislation of those early colonial times. His "election sermon" before the General Court in 1685 called forth the thanks of that body, with a vote to print it at its expense.

Jesup Wakeman, fifth in descent from the above, was born at Green's Farms, in the then "West Farms Parish of Fairfield," Feb. 12, 1771, and settled in Mill River, a village situated at the mouth of the river of that name, in the western part of the town of Fairfield, now called Southport, and who, with the Perry and Bulkley families, by their industry and enterprise, may rightfully be called the founders of its prosperity.

\* By Mrs. Kate E. Perry.

Jesup engaged in trade and navigation, in which he was successful, and died May 4, 1844, leaving for his children a comfortable inheritance. He married Esther Dimon, daughter of William Dimon and Esther Sturges, of Fairfield. They had eight children,—Susan, William Webb, Maurice, Zalmon, Jesup, Julia, Hetty, and Cornelia.

William Webb, the subject of this sketch, was born at Mill River, now Southport, on June 19, 1799. After his education at the "Fairfield Academy," he first went into business with his father at Mill River, and soon after engaged in navigation on his own account, and while yet a young man became master of his own vessel. He then embarked in the coast trade between New York and Salem and Boston, and while so employed had the misfortune to wreck one of his vessels near Holmes' Hole, in which was brought out his characteristic coolness and determination, for every man on board was sent in safety to the shore before he would leave his stranded vessel. He then extended his coasting trade to Georgetown, D. C., and to other Southern ports, and soon, with others, established a line of vessels to run between New York and Savannah, Ga. He was also engaged in the China trade, and was one of the first that sent his vessels to California after its annexation to the United States. With the increase of capital and of vessels, he found it expedient to organize a shipping-house in New York, under the firm-name of Wakeman, Dimon & Co., afterwards Wakeman, Gookin & Dickinson, and subsequently W. W. Wakeman & Co.

To the prosperous line to Savannah, a few years afterwards, Wakeman, Gookin & Dickinson added a ship-line to Galveston, Texas, known as the "Star Line," and which before the war of the Rebellion gave place to a line of steamers, by which for some years they carried on a large and profitable traffic.

Besides their heavy shipping interests, this house became largely interested in gold and silver mining in California and Nevada, and at one time acted as the New York agent for some of those mines.

On Oct. 29, 1833, Mr. Wakeman married Mary Catharine Hull, daughter of Lyman Hull and Amelia Bulkley, of Hull's Farms, town of Fairfield.

Their children were: Eliza H., married Charles M. Taintor, of New York City; Delia M., married Dwight Baker, of New York City (both now deceased); Cornelia C., married Charles B. Tompkins, of New York City; William W., married C. Augusta Wood, daughter of Ross Wood, of New York City; Mary C., who died young; Jesup, married Elizabeth Dutton, daughter of James Dutton, of Utica, N. Y.; and Susan A.

Mr. Wakeman was by nature a man of great energy and force of character, and so he made his influence felt, and often paramount, in whatever he undertook. This not only gave him success in business, but made him a valuable acquisition to any cause that he was led to espouse. In all public movements that prom-

ised moral or material improvement to the place or people among whom he lived, he was ever ready by labor or contribution to give his efficient aid.

He warmly advocated, and was one of the committee to build, a suitable house for a good graded public school in Southport in 1851-52; one of the original trustees of the Southport Savings Bank in 1854, and of the Oak Lawn Cemetery Association in 1865.

He became a member of the Congregational Church of Southport March 7, 1847, and was elected to the office of deacon Jan. 5, 1849. His church life, like his daily life, was earnest and faithful to whatsoever duty called, allowing no ordinary obstacle to hinder or defeat its conscientious performance. True to his convictions, prompt in his engagements, and open-handed to the poor and needy, he was always found a staunch friend on the side of right, and an outspoken foe to whatever he esteemed to be wrong. His works live after him, not only in his wholesome example and consistent religious life, but in his testamentary benefactions to his church, and to the leading benevolent institutions of the day, bearing testimony to those objects which in his later years lay very near to his heart.

Late in 1868 he went to California to look after his Pacific interests, and while there was developed the disease which, after his return to New York, put an end to his life on the 19th of April, 1869, in the seventieth year of his age,—a true, earnest, well-rounded life.

#### HENRY J. BEERS.

Henry J. Beers represents an old and honorable New England family, and was born in Fairfield in 1810. When a lad of fifteen he went to New York City; and, after serving diligently as a clerk for several years with a firm in the wholesale grocery business, a thorough knowledge of which his natural force and persistent application enabled him soon to acquire, he in connection with Peter L. Bogart formed a partnership in the same line. Under the title of Beers & Bogart the new firm started at 177 South Street, from whence they removed to 34 Broadway, where they, for upwards of twenty years, were widely known as a reliable and successful grocery-house.

Mr. Beers retired from active mercantile life in 1856 with a fair competency, and, returning to his native town, built the residence which the accompanying engraving fairly represents.

With the publication of this History, Mr. Beers enters upon his seventy-first year, and is as hale and hearty as if a quarter of a century younger.

Hospitable and open-handed, taking a lively interest in all that concerns his native town and its people, he has a large acquaintance, and commands that sterling regard that comes from manly straightforwardness and good citizenship.

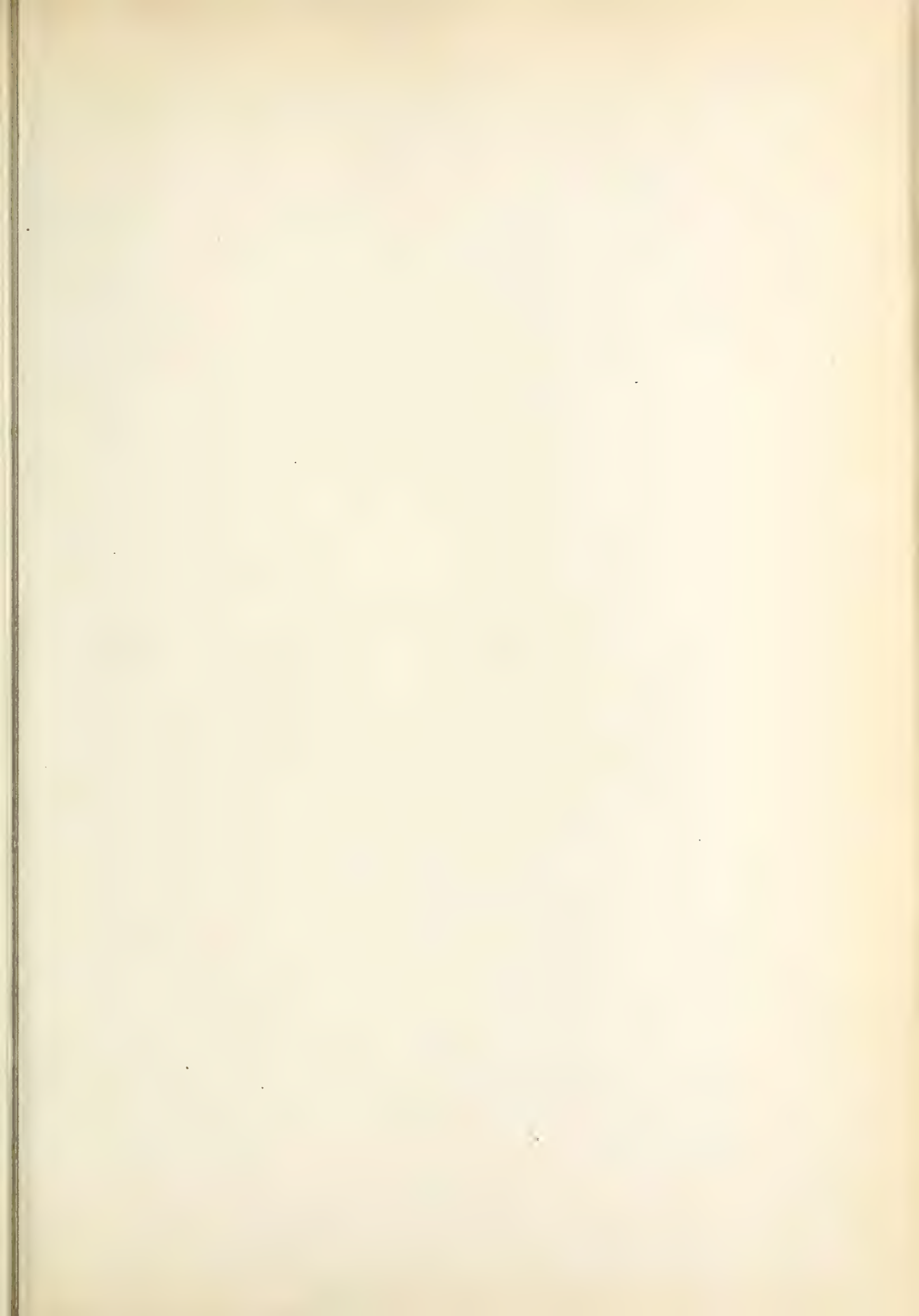




RESIDENCE OF H. J. BEERS, FAIRFIELD, CONN.



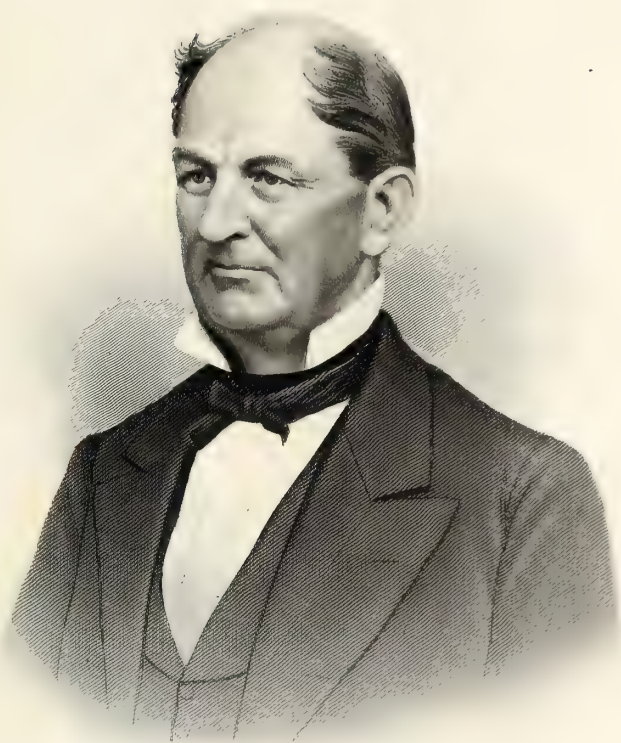




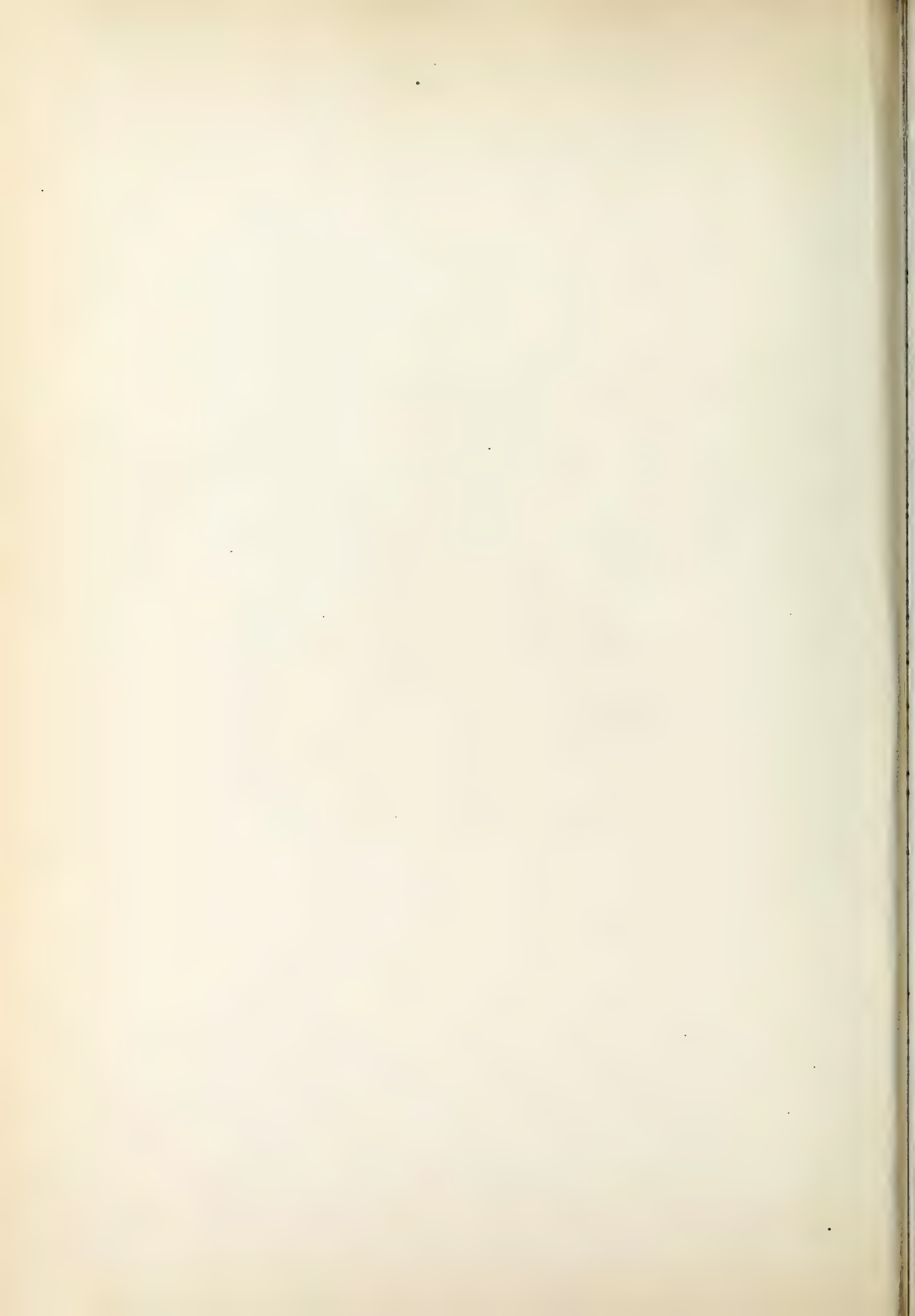


Henry A. Pease

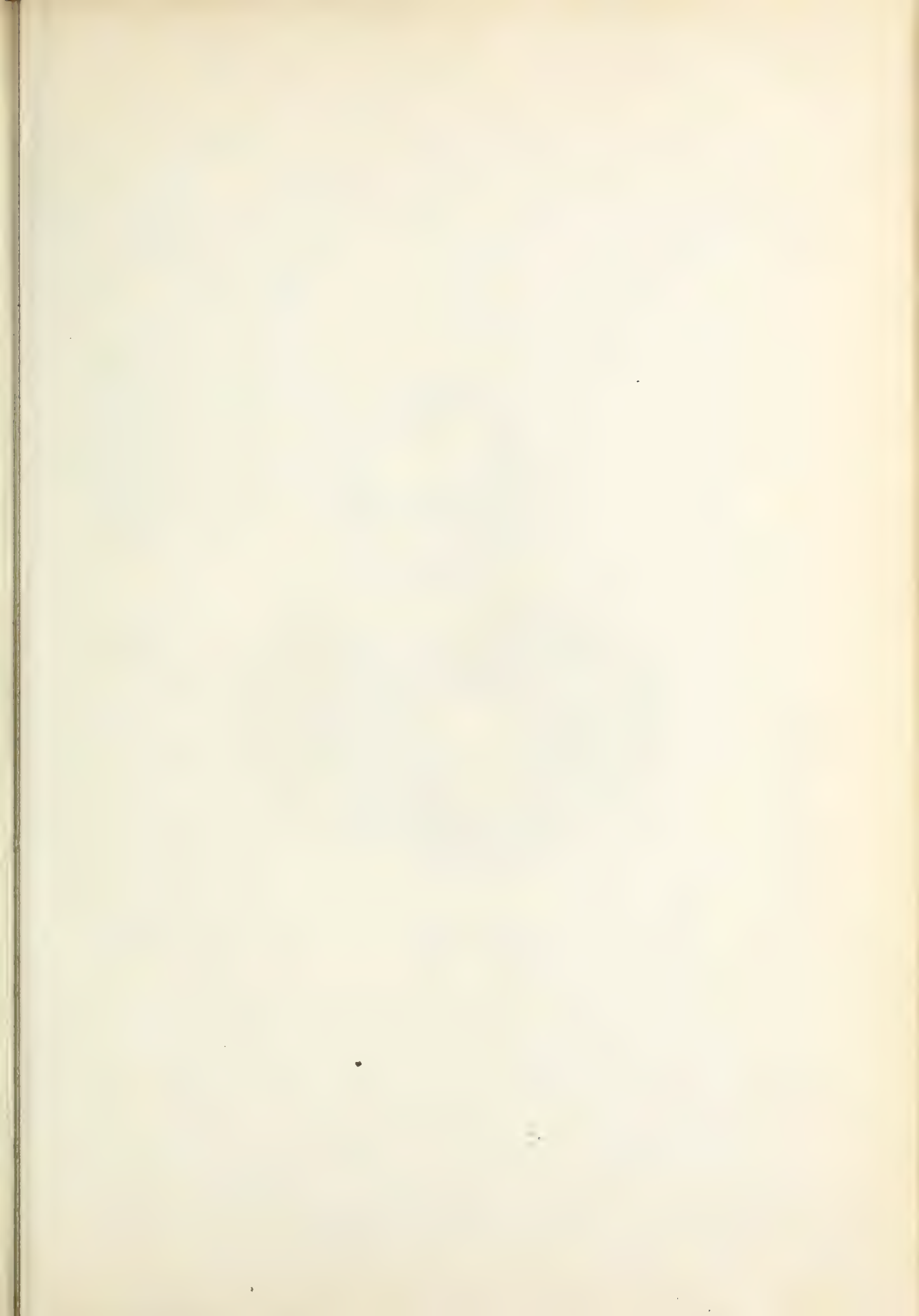




*Wm. U. Wakeman*



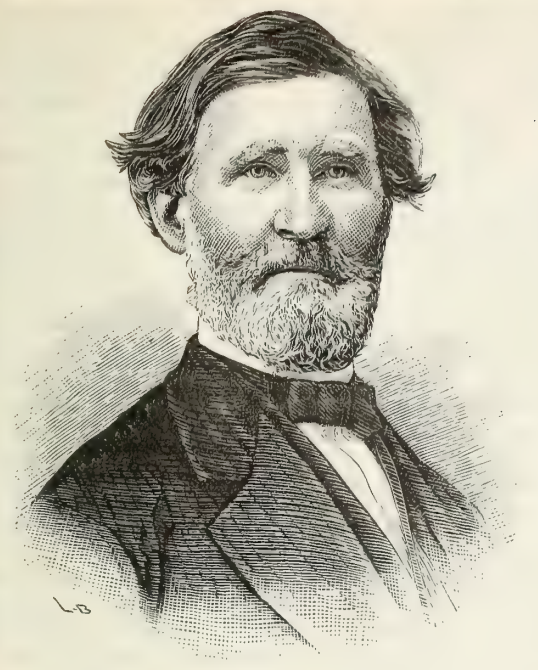






*Calvin Therrwood*





*Jesup B. Wakeman*

Jesup B. Wakeman was a son of Jesup Wakeman, and was born in Southport, Conn., June 17, 1806. He received an academic education. He married Amelia A., daughter of James Jarvis, of New York City, Dec. 30, 1830, and to them were born three children,—viz., James J., Julia F., and Henry J.,—all of whom are dead.

Soon after his marriage he settled on a farm, where he continued to lead a quiet, unassuming life until his death, March 6, 1878. He was a member of the Episcopal Church at Southport. In politics he was a Republican. He never held any official positions, always preferring the quiet of home to official honors. He was a firm friend, a good citizen, and a kind husband. For a more extended history of the Wakeman family, see biography of William W. Wakeman.

#### CAPTAINS EDWIN AND CYRUS SHERWOOD.

Away back in the early history of England Sherwood Forest has often mention, and from the proprietors of that historic ground are descended the Sherwoods of Fairfield, Conn. It is an old, old family of good repute always, and leal and loyal ever. Thomas Sherwood, progenitor of the American Sherwoods, came to Fairfield from England before the organization of the town. He died about 1675. His son Thomas died about 1698. His son was Samuel. He had a son Daniel. This Daniel had a son who bore his own name, Daniel, and whose son, William, was the father of Capt. Edwin and Cyrus. The

original place of settlement of Thomas was Hull Farms, and here for two or three generations his posterity was born. DANIEL (2d) graduated from Yale College in 1756. His diploma, yet in existence, gives as the faculty at that time: Thomas Clapp, President, Jared Eliot, Ben Lord, Solomon Williams, and Noah Hobart. He married Abigail, daughter of Deacon John Andrews, of Green's Farms. He was a farmer and a magistrate, an office of dignity in those days. Their children were Abigail, born April 21, 1760, married 1779, died Dec. 24, 1844, mother of four children; Eleanor, born April 16, 1775,—no children; Elizabeth, born July 24, 1771, died Sept. 11, 1826,—no children; Daniel (3d), born June 8, 1761; Ralph, born Nov. 19, 1764; Justice, born Aug. 13, 1768; Abraham, born May 15, 1763, died Oct. 18, 1799; Walter, born Sept. 12, 1773, died Oct. 20, 1799, leaving no children; Aaron, born Nov. 28, 1766; Stephen, born March 2, 1779, had no children; William, born March 23, 1777.

WILLIAM SHERWOOD was a farmer and merchant. In politics, a Whig. He remained on the old homestead with his father until his marriage with Abigail Couch. She was born at Green's Farms, Aug. 14, 1782, was a member of the Congregational Church, and both her husband and herself died at Hull's Farms. His death occurred in April, 1844. From an old manuscript now in possession of Capt. Edwin Sherwood we give a synopsis of the American line of her descent. Thomas and Simon Couch were apprentices to a tailor in England. One finishing his apprenticeship, the other ran away, secreted himself on board of a vessel, and came to America with his brother. They landed at or near New Haven, and, holding up a stick, let it fall to direct them. Thomas went eastward, Simon, westward, as far as Green's Farms. The people at this place wanting a tailor, gave him a lot of land to settle with them. This lot lay on the hill near the bridge built over one of the branches of the New Creek, and commonly called Bridge Hill. He soon kept an inn, and, having married, had three sons, Thomas, Simon, and Samuel. Thomas received the best education the times and circumstances of the family could afford. Their father dying when they were young, unmarried men, Simon and Samuel agreed to send their elder brother to England (he having the best education) to receive an inheritance of five million dollars, which had there fallen. But at this time France and England were at war, and Thomas was taken at sea, carried into France, and never again heard of. Samuel settled at Benjamin Hill, about a mile northwest of the old burying-ground in Green's Farms. Simon had two sons—Thomas and Simon—and four daughters. Fourth generation: Simon Couch occupied his father's place at Turkey Hill; had four sons—Thomas, Simon, Gideon, Stephen—and three daughters, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Mary. So far the old manuscript. From another record we compile as follows: Simon Couch,

grandfather of Mrs. William Sherwood, lived in a house on Great Lot, near the sea-shore, which was burned by the British during the Revolution. He afterwards removed to Redding Ridge, and married a daughter of old Capt. Nash, who lived near Green's Farms, on a place now belonging to Daniel Burr's estate. His son Simon was born at Green's Farms, in a house which was built by his father, in 1743. He married Abigail Chapman, Nov. 25, 1779. She was born Oct. 10, 1758. Their children were Simon, William, and Abigail, mother of Capt. Edwin and Cyrus Sherwood. All of the nine children—Simon, William, Edwin, Cyrus, Aaron, Albert, Abby, Elizabeth, and Mary—were born at Hull's Farms.

EDWIN SHERWOOD, son of William and Abigail (Couch) Sherwood, was born Feb. 24, 1805. He had a common-school education; at the age of seventeen left his father's farm and shipped as a sailor before the mast on a vessel plying between New York, Boston, and the Southern cities. He was mate for two years, and was master of a sloop of sixty tons, called "John," owned by Meeker & Sherwood, before he was twenty-one. About 1827 he became fourth owner of the brig "America," carrying one hundred and forty-seven tons, of which he was made captain. He ran her about four years; then purchasing an interest in the schooner "Georgia," two hundred tons, running between New York and Savannah, commanded her four years. Capt. Sherwood then superseded the "Georgia" by a brig carrying four hundred tons, which he built expressly for this route and commanded ten years, when he sold it, and has not been on active duty since 1845 or 1850.

Capt. Sherwood is now a director of Danbury and Norwalk Railroad, and vice-president of Southport Savings Bank, and, with his wife, belongs to the Congregational Church. He married Mary A., daughter of Deacon Joseph Hyde, Dec. 12, 1837. Their children are Edwin H. and Simon C. Edwin H. is a farmer at Omaha, Nebraska, and Simon also a farmer at the old home. Mrs. Sherwood was born at Green's Farms, July 12, 1813. She claims direct descent from Humphrey Hyde, whose name appears on the early records of the town of Fairfield as one of its earliest tax-payers, having possession of a large tract of land in what was called the "long lots." Her ancestors originally came from England, where, at different places, they have impressed their name on various locations, as Hyde Park, and left property valued at millions of dollars. Her father, Joseph, was born in 1761, married Arete Jesup, and had a family of fourteen children, of which Mrs. Sherwood was youngest. Her grandfather was Joseph, born in 1739, and married Betty Sherwood. Her great-grandfather was John, third of the name, the father of the first being the Humphrey Hyde above spoken of. He was born in 1692, and married Rachel Holmes. John Hyde (2) was born in 1668, and married Rachel Rumsey. John Hyde, son of Humphrey, married

Elizabeth —, and inherited from his father various tracts of land, in connection with his sisters, Hannah and Sarah, under will bearing date May 8, 1666, and recorded in records of the town of Fairfield on the same day.

CYRUS SHERWOOD, son of William and Abigail (Couch) Sherwood, was born Aug. 24, 1807. He remained on the farm with his father, receiving a common-school education, until he was about twenty years old, when he shipped as sailor before the mast on a vessel making trips from Southport to Providence. Shortly after he became captain of the sloop "Cornelia," running between Southport and New York. Following this for a year or so, he discovered that it was not good for man to be alone, and married, on March 6, 1831, Sally Bradley, daughter of Lyman and Amelia Hull, of Fairfield. For nearly fifty years this worthy pair have trodden life's pathway together, in peace and harmony with all, and with "kindness to all and malice to none" as a guiding maxim of their life. Soon after their marriage they settled on the old homestead of her ancestors. He left it once to engage with Wakeman B. Meeker and Simon Sherwood as captain of sloop "John." Selling his interest, he bought a share, with Capt. Joseph Jennings, in the sloop "Ganges." He was afterwards a merchant for a short time, but after he sold his store to Capt. Joseph Jennings he has made his home permanently on the farm.

Mr. Sherwood is a Republican in politics; has been selectman several years, member of the Legislature, and magistrate for a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood have only one child, Mary C., who married John Dimon Bradley, of Easton. She has one son, who is named Cyrus Sherwood, in honor of his grandfather.

Mr. Sherwood is a good citizen, a staunch friend, a kind neighbor, and has the esteem of a large circle of friends.

#### LYMAN HULL.

Lyman Hull, son of John and Eleanor (Sherwood) Hull, was born in the town of Fairfield, Aug. 22, 1776. He was a farmer, and resided always in the town of his birth. He was a quiet, undemonstrative man, caring little about publicity, and strong in his attachment for home and its surroundings. In 1798 he married Amelia Bulkley. Their children were Benjamin S., Eliza (Mrs. Simon Sherwood), Amelia Eleanor (Mrs. Capt. Joseph Jennings), Sally Bradley (Mrs. Cyrus Sherwood), Delia Maria (second wife of Capt. Joseph Jennings), Mary Catharine (Mrs. William Wakeman).

Mr. Hull was an attendant of the Congregational Church, and in his day was well considered by his associates. He was upright, generous, honest, and blessed not only with a fair share of this world's goods, but, better far, with that spirit of content

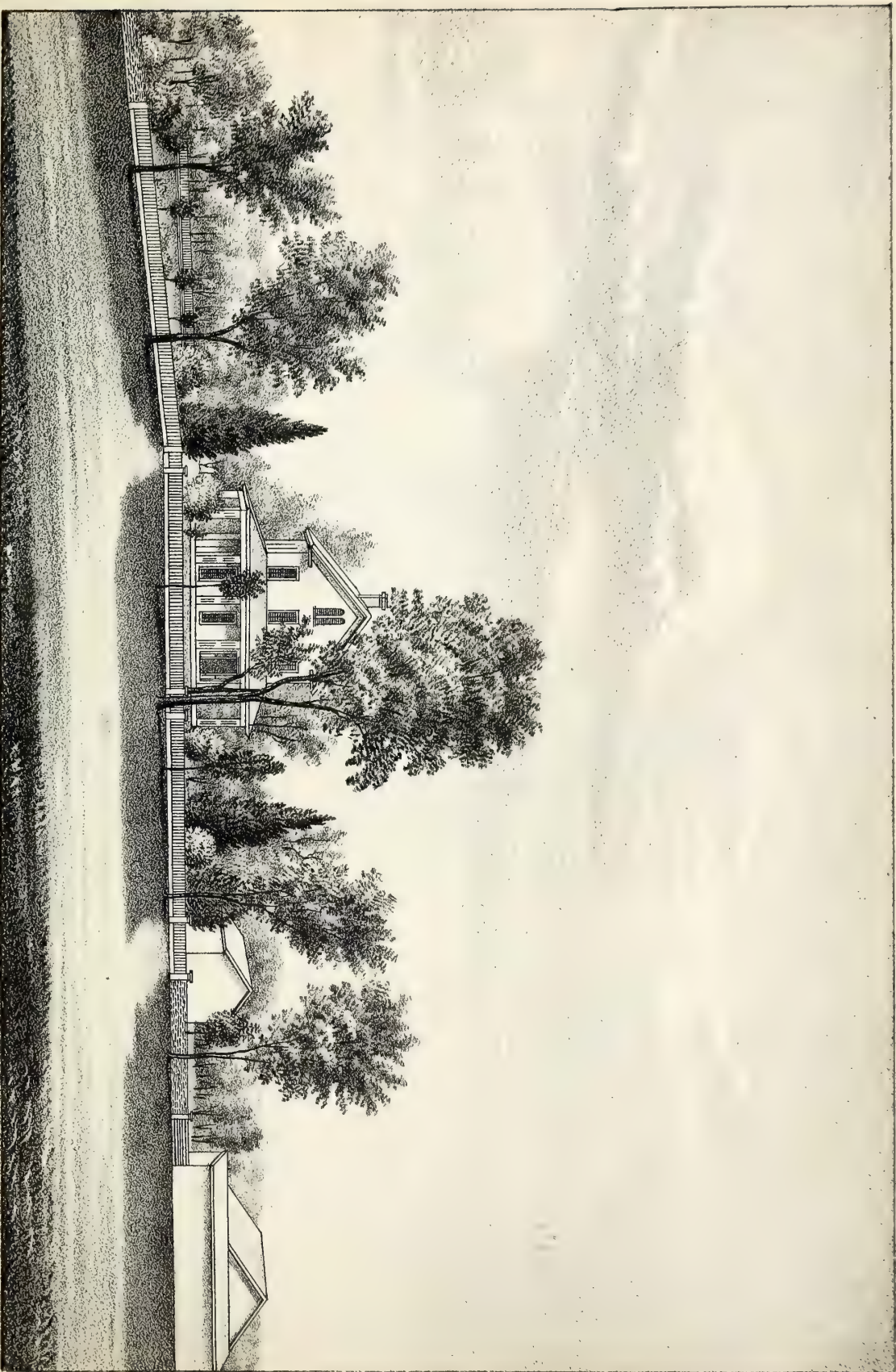




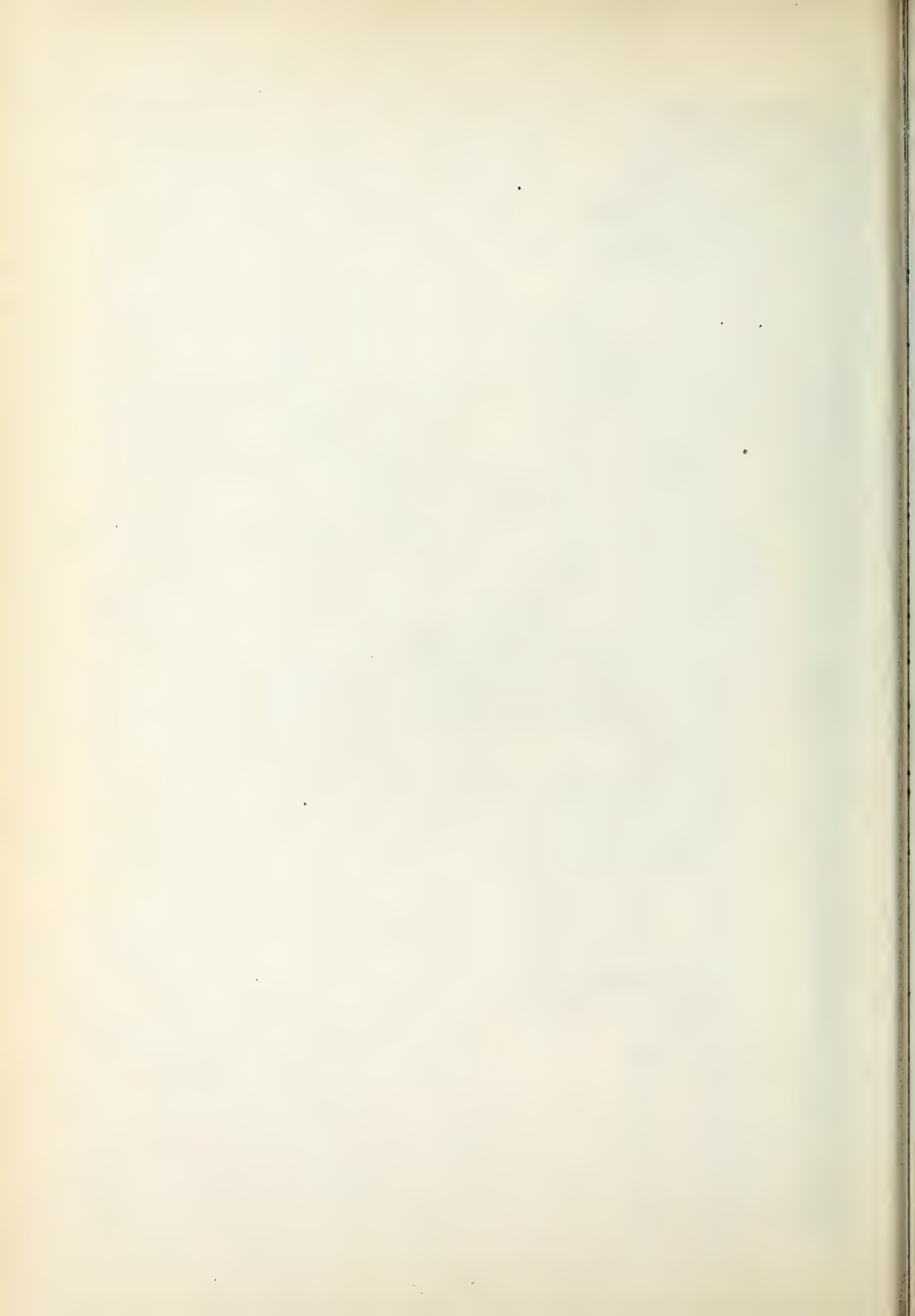


*Cyrus Sherwood*





RESIDENCE OF CYRUS SHERWOOD, HULL'S FARMS, FAIRFIELD Co CONN.







EPHRAIM BURR.











which is more than riches. He died Oct. 11, 1822, from disease resulting from exposure while engaged in farming, leaving to his children the inheritance of an unblemished name.

The home of Cyrus Sherwood, on the place so long owned and occupied by Mr. Hull, is represented on another page.

#### EPHRAIM BURR.

The name Burr, formerly spelled Buer, is of German origin, but the ancestors having lived several generations in England are generally termed English. Between the years 1630 and 1640 three Puritans, heads of families, set sail for the New World, then, above everything else, attracting the attention of the bold and daring in every country of Europe. The first of these to arrive in this country was Jehu Burr. He came with Winthrop's famous fleet in 1630, and on his arrival settled in Roxbury, Mass.; thence he accompanied William Pynchon to the founding of Springfield, Mass., and eventually settled at Fairfield, Conn., where his descendants became the firmest pillars of the old colonial structure, and prominent in both civil and military affairs. The second was Benjamin Burr, who aided in the settlement of Hartford in 1635, and from whom has descended a very numerous and highly respectable family, known as the Hartford branch. The third was the Rev. Jonathan Burr, founder of the Dorchester branch. He was a man of fine education and eminent abilities.

Jehue, or Jehu, Burr was born in England about 1600, and died in Fairfield, Conn., about 1670, leaving a family of four sons, perhaps daughters, viz., Jehu (2d), John, Nathaniel (1), and Daniel. Nathaniel (1) was probably born in Springfield, Mass., about 1640, and settled with his parents in Fairfield; made freeman in 1664; was constable in 1669; representative during the years 1692, '93, '94, and '95. He was a farmer. He was twice married, and had two children by his first marriage, viz., Sarah and Nathaniel (2), and six children by his second, viz., John, Daniel, Ann, Mary, Esther, and Rebecca. His will is dated Feb. 22, 1712, and approved March 5, 1712.

Nathaniel (2) Burr was born in Fairfield, Conn., was a lawyer by profession and well reputed in the colony. He was deputy for Fairfield from October, 1697, until 1700. His children were as follows: Joseph and Nathaniel (3), twins, died in infancy, Sarah, Anna, Nathaniel (4), and Ephraim (1).

Ephraim (1) Burr was a native of Fairfield, Conn., married Abigail, daughter of Judge Peter Burr, Jan. 7, 1725. Their children were as follows: Eunice, Anna, Ellen, Ephraim (2), Ebenezer, Abigail, Sarah, and Peter, born Nov. 2, 1754. Ephraim Burr died in 1776, and his wife died in 1810.

Peter Burr married Esther, daughter of Dr. Seth Jennings, of Fairfield, Conn. Their children were

as follows: Thaddeus, Sarah, Eunice, Anna, Esther, Abigail, Mary, Ephraim (2), and Ebenezer, or Eben, all of whom were born in Fairfield, Conn., and all had families except Mary.

Peter Burr was a farmer. He died July 4, 1816.

Ephraim (2) Burr was born in Fairfield, Conn., Oct. 7, 1794. He remained at home until he was twenty-two years of age, except some six months which he spent in coasting, and while thus engaged he was taken prisoner by the British in the war of 1812 and retained sixteen days. He then returned home and worked on the farm.

He married Eunice, daughter of Daniel Sherwood, May, 1823. Of this union two children were born, viz., Henry S. and Frances. Henry S. went to California, where he died in 1871, and left one son, Henry S.

Capt. Burr has been a farmer, and many years ago owned an interest in a vessel. He was for many years a captain of a company of State militia. He is one of the staunchest Republicans in the town. While he is not a member of any church, he gives to the support of the Congregational Church. His wife died June 9, 1864, aged seventy-two years.

#### BRADLEY H. NICHOLS.

Bradley H. Nichols, son of Ephraim and Mary (Bradley) Nichols, was born in Fairfield, Conn., in September, 1792, and died in the same town, Nov. 8, 1874. Ephraim Nichols was a tanner and currier and boot and shoemaker. Bradley was early initiated into his father's business, and followed it until his love of agriculture caused him to become a farmer. Into this new employment Mr. Nichols carried not only a love for rural life, but the system and precision acquired in the practical business life of his early manhood, and was a thorough, successful, and good farmer. Through all the changes of his long life he never forsook the farm, but continued a live, progressive agriculturist until his death. He had a large stock of vitality, inherited from his Puritan ancestry, and, with a genial and social nature, was universally a favorite.

Mr. Nichols married Charlotte, daughter of Isaac Banks, a former resident in Fairfield, Jan. 19, 1815. Their children were Susan W., who married Zalmon Wakeman, an influential citizen of Fairfield, who left her a widow in 1865, and Eleanor Maria, who married William Bradley, a farmer, and formerly a merchant at Greenfield Hill.

Intelligent, of quick perceptions, ever active in works of progress and improvement, Mr. Nichols was held in high repute by his many friends and those who met him in business relations, and when, in the fullness of a hale old age, he was called away from earth, all felt the loss of an honest man.

ISAAC BANKS was born May 26, 1766, and married Eleanor Sturges, who was born May 20, 1765. They

had four children,—Eleazur (deceased), Charity, Charlotte, and Horace. Mr. Banks died Dec. 26, 1840. His wife survived him six years, dying Feb. 19, 1847.

## CHAPTER XXXV.

### GREENWICH.

Geographical—Topographical—Indian Occupancy—Petuquapaen—The Indian Purchase—The Deed—Greenwich Manor—Patrick and Feaks as Patrons—Indian Troubles—The War—The Pioneers—"Horse-neck"—Early Interest in Church Matters—The First Marriage—List of Voters in 1688—Town-List for 1694-95—Extracts from Records—The French War—Early Merchants—Physicians—Lawyers—Post-Offices.

THIS town lies in the southwest corner of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Westchester Co., N. Y.; on the east by the town of Stamford; on the south by Long Island Sound; and on the west by Westchester Co., N. Y. The surface of Greenwich is hilly, and the soil is very fertile.

#### INDIAN OCCUPANCY.—PETUQUAPAEN.

Prior to the advent of the white settler this was one of the most thickly-settled portions of the Indian country, the permanent residents at Petuquapaen numbering about five hundred. The ruling sachem was Ponus, who died prior to 1640, having long wielded a powerful influence among the various tribes of the East. Wascussue, a brother of Ponus, was the ruling sachem of the Rippowams, at Stamford. The tract of land embraced within the bounds of what may properly be styled Petuquapaen extends from the present boundary-line between Stamford and Greenwich westward to the two streams known as the Brothers. On the west of this tract, extending to Byram River, was Miossehassaky, and still west of Byram was a smaller village, known as Huseco, which was located not far from the present village of Portchester, N. Y.

#### THE INDIAN PURCHASE.—THE DEED.

The first purchase from the Indians of land lying within the bounds of the present town of Greenwich was made by Capt. Daniel Patrick and Robert Feaks, July 16, 1640. The following is a copy of the deed which conveyed the lands to Patrick and Feaks:

"Wee Amogeron, Sachem of Asamuck, and Rammatthone, Nawhorone, Sachems of Patomuck, have sold unto Robert Feaks and Daniell Patrick all their rights and interests in all ye severall lands betweene Asamuck river and Patomuck, which Patomuck is a little river which divideth ye bounds betwene Capt. Turner's Purchase and this, except ye neck by ye indians called Monakewego, by us Elizabeth neck, which neck is ye peticaler perchase of Elizabeth Feaks, ye sd Robt. Feaks his wife, to be hers and her heirs and assigns, forever, or else to be at ye disposal of ye aforementioned purchasers forever, to them and theire heaires, executors or assigns, and theye to enjoy all rivers, Islands, and ye severall naturall adjuncts of all ye forementioned places, neither shall ye indians fish within a mille of aney english ware, nor invite nor permit any other indians to sett down in ye forementioned lands; in consideration of which lands ye forementioned purchasers are to give unto


ye above named sachems twenty-five coates, whereof they have reserved eleven in part payment; to witness all which, they have hereunto sett their hands this 18 July, 1640.

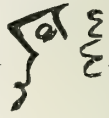
"Witness:

Robert Heusted,  
his

Keofram hath sold all his Right  
in ye above sd Necks unto Jeffere  
Ferris as witness underwritten:

his

Andrew  Messenger.

Feslifieth  Amogeron.

mark.


his abelt.

mark.

mark.

his

his

Whawhoron 

mark.

his


Saponas 

Akerogue 

mark.


mark.

his

Ampell-  
heettone 

mark.

his

Whawhoron 

Kefferam 

mark.

mark.

his

Witness or hafhanones to ye last  
named

Richard Williams,  
Angell Huested.

his

A. H.

mark.

Panorohas 

mark.

his

Powiatoh 

mark.

"The above written bill of sale was entered in ye years 1686 pr Samuel Peck, recorder."

#### GREENWICH MANOR.

The purchase was made ostensibly under the auspices of the New Haven colony, but Patrick, who, with various others of the early settlers, not regarding with favor the Puritanical restraints of the church, and having received but little assistance from that colony when the Dutch laid claim to the land included within his purchase, signed the following deed:

"Whereas, we, Capt. Daniel Patrick and Elizabeth Feake, duly authorized by her husband Robert Feake, now sick, have resided two years about five or six miles east of the New Netherlands, subject to the Lord States General, who have protested against us, declaring that the said land lay within their limits, and that they should not allow any person to usurp it against their lawful rights; and whereas, we have equally persisted in our course during these two years, having been well assured that his Majesty the King of England had pretended some to this soil; and whereas, we understand nothing thereof, and cannot any longer presume to remain thus, on account both of this strife, the danger consequent thereon, and these treacherous and villainous Indians, of whom we have seen so many sorrowful examples enough. We therefore be-take ourselves under the protection of the Noble Lord States General,



His Highness the Prince of Orange, and the West India Company, or their Governor General of New Netherlands, promising for the future to be faithful to them, as all honest subjects are bound to be; whereunto we bind ourselves by solemn oath and signature, provided we be protected against our enemies as much as possible, and enjoy henceforth the same privileges that all Patroons of the New Netherlands have obtained agreeably to the Freedoms. 1642, IXth of April, in Fort Amsterdam.

"DANIEL PATRICK.

"Witnesses, EVERARDUS BOGARDUS,  
JOHANNES WINKLEMAN."

Greenwich now became a manor, with Patrick and Feaks as patroons.

#### INDIAN TROUBLES.\*

For five or six years after the first settlement (1640-46) the people of Greenwich had much trouble with their Indian neighbors, the indirect cause being rum,—"cussed fire-water," as the savages called it,—bought of the Dutch at New York. To begin with (1642), some Dutch traders, a drunken Indian, cheating in a bargain for furs, and a murdered Indian, all near New York. Next, the killing of two Dutchmen, as an offset to the murdered Indian. Next (February, 1643), by way of retaliation, the treacherous and indiscriminate butchery, by order of the Dutch Governor, of more than one hundred sleeping Indians, men, women, and children, who had fled into the city for refuge from the pursuit of a band of Mohawks. Next (summer and fall of 1643), in revenge for such a deed of infamy, a general Indian war, waged by a confederacy of fifteen hundred warriors, up the east side of the Hudson, on Long Island, and on the Sound, eastward from New York, as far as Stamford,—everywhere murders, burning buildings, desolation, all the atrocities of savage warfare.

Ann Hutchinson was among the victims. Says De Forest, "Until the last moment the Indians came to the house in their usual friendly manner; then the hatchet fell, and the ill-fated woman perished, with seventeen others, in the massacre. To close the scene, the horses and cattle were driven into the barns, the barns were set on fire, and the helpless animals were roasted to death in the flames." So great was the devastation and so wide-spread the alarm, that the settlements were well-nigh broken up all along the shore from Stamford to New York.

Greenwich at that time being under the jurisdiction of New York, the settlers called on the Dutch Governor, Keift, for help. Accordingly (January, 1644) one hundred and twenty men, in three vessels, were sent to Greenwich, where their commander was informed by Capt. Patrick of a large encampment of the enemy a short distance inland. It was nearly night, but, desiring to surprise the Indians, the Dutch at once set off, and marched all night in a mistaken direction without finding the object of their pursuit. Next day the Dutch captain met Patrick; accused him of treachery and of purposely giving false information, and finally gave him the lie direct. The al-

tercation resulted in Patrick's death. The Dutch force soon returned to New York, having succeeded only in surprising a small Indian village, killing eighteen or twenty men, and taking a few women and children prisoners.

Soon after, receiving fresh news of a great body of savages at Greenwich, Governor Keift (February, 1644) dispatched a second expedition in quest of them. The force consisted of one hundred and thirty men, under command of Capt. John Underhill, who reached Stamford in the evening and in a heavy snow-storm, which detained him there all night. Next day he made a slow march through two feet or more of snow, and about eight o'clock in the evening reached the Mianus River, where he rested two hours till the moon rose. Crossing the river at, or not far above, the present village of Mianus, and ascending the high western bank not far north of the present main road between Greenwich and Stamford, he had in front of him "Strickland's Plain," lying to the north and northwest of the present village of Cascob. On the western border of this plain, half a mile distant, he could see the lights of the "long-sought-for Petuqua-paen,"—a village containing "more than a hundred permanent huts," partially protected by palisades, with numerous outside wigwams, the whole village lying under a low wooded rise of ground, which sheltered it from the northwest winds. The savages had warning of the approach of their enemies, and were prepared to give them a warm reception. Only the warriors held the village, the women and children having been sent to a place of safety.

Space is wanting for a full description of the midnight battle, which was long and desperately fought. The undisciplined valor of the red man, with his bow and tomahawk, was no match for the musket, the bayonet, the broadsword, in the hands of the whites. The savages finally betook themselves to their fortified dwellings, but not till nearly two hundred of their number had fallen. Within their rude defenses they fought obstinately, till the terrible lesson taught to the Pequots a few years before recurred to Underhill's mind, and the fearful order, "*Burn 'em out!*" rang through the midnight air. The huts were built of bark and other light materials, and took fire as readily, almost, as tinder. In a very few minutes the whole village was in flames, and its wild and tortured tenants were yelling and howling in the agonies of despair and death. Such as darted out of the inclosure were mercilessly shot down by the soldiers who surrounded the village; and of the whole body of warriors who were gathered at the spot not more than eight or ten, at most, are supposed to have escaped.

The Dutch passed the night on the field they had so signally won, "warmed and cheered" by the fires which suffocated and roasted their enemies. The morning revealed a horrid sight. More than six hundred—some authors say more than one thousand—dead Sinawoys lay bathed in blood over an area whose

\* Contributed by Hon. Myron L. Mason.

circumference must have been considerably less than one mile.

#### THE EARLIEST SETTLERS.

Daniel Patrick was a fighting Englishman from Massachusetts; he had bravely seconded Mason in the Pequot war and in the great swamp-fight in Fairfield. He was shot dead in Greenwich in 1644 by a Dutch officer into whose face he spat on being called a liar. He was high-tempered and reckless, scarcely fearing God or man, and indefatigable in promoting the interests of the settlement he planted. It is believed that no descendant of his is now living in Greenwich.

During 1640, Capt. John Underhill settled on the Patrick and Peaks' purchase, where he lived till his restless nature led him to New York in 1644, and finally to Killingworth, where he died in 1672. A warrior also, he was wounded at the burning out of the Pequots, in which engagement he was with Mason; he fought and defeated the Sinawoy warriors in a hard-fought battle; and, like Patrick, he had turned his back on Massachusetts on account of her Puritanic restraints.\*

Jeffere Ferris was an early settler, whose descendants now abound in "Old Greenwich." Several Dutchmen were among the first comers, and one of them, Cornelius Labden, left his name to a ninety-foot precipice, now known as Labden's Rock, over which he is said to have plunged on horseback rather than be taken prisoner by some pursuing savages.

Among the first settlers also were the following: Robert Heusted, Andrew Messenger, John Winkelman, Angell Heusted, Richard Williams, Everardus Bogardus.

The prophetess, Ann Hutchinson, spurned by Massachusetts, lived secluded in Greenwich forests till a band of Indians hunted up and murdered both herself and family in 1643.

The numerous Meads, Heusteds, Pecks, Lockwoods, *et alii*, now residing in Greenwich are representatives of its early people. Such Dutch settlers as escaped the wrath of the savages soon gravitated, under political stress, to New York, with their families, and few, if any of them, are now represented among the people of Greenwich.

Up to 1665 the little settlement, now under the jurisdiction of the New Netherlands, showed no marked signs of activity. Among the few who came in 1656 were the ancestors of the Hubbards, the Studwells, and the Hobbys. Peter Disbrow, John Coe, and Thomas Studwell settled about this time, and Jeffere Ferris returned from Fairfield, whither he had gone when the town was ceded to the Dutch. John Mead and John Hobby settled in 1660. This year the settlement numbered about twenty adult males.

From this time on the settlement increased with

marvelous rapidity, and not much time elapsed ere Greenwich became peopled by an intelligent and sturdy class of settlers, who have left their impress upon their numerous descendants. Meetings were held and in 1666 a school-house was built, but no record or tradition tells us of its location or who had the honor of wielding the pedagogue's sceptre.

In 1669 a demand was made by Daniel Patrick, son of the pioneer, Capt. Daniel, for all the land which had been formerly owned by his father. A compromise, however, was finally effected, and for a horse, saddle and bridle, and fifty pounds he relinquished "all his right, title, and interest in any land or estate in the settlement."

#### HORSENECK.

West Greenwich (now the borough) was called "Horseneck," from a peninsula of high ground, now known as "Field Point," west of Greenwich Harbor, and one and a half miles southwest of the borough, the peninsula having been a horse pasture.

Horseneck was purchased of the Indians in 1672 by twenty-seven individuals, known as the "27 Proprietors of 1672," as follows: Ephraim Palmer, Jonathan Reynolds, or Renolds, John Hubbe (Hobby), Stephen Sherwood, Joseph Mead, John Bowers, Joseph Finch, William Rundle, John Mead, John Asten, Jeremiah Peck, John Palmer, Walter Butler, Samuel Peck, Joseph Seres, Angell Heusted, William Hubbard, Samuel Ginkins (Jenkins), William Ratere, John Marshall, Jonathan Lockwood, John Renalds, Gershom Lockwood, James Seres, Thomas Close, Thomas Close, Jr., Daniel Smith.

#### CHURCH MATTERS.

The town now seemed to manifest a decided interest in church matters, and, although there had been occasional preaching prior to 1676, this year at a "full meeting" it was resolved to call a minister. A Mr. Nizwale was accordingly called, but, he not accepting, two years later, in 1678, a call was extended to Rev. Jeremiah Peck, of New Jersey, who was one of the twenty-seven proprietors mentioned above. He promptly accepted the call, and in the fall of the same year settled in the town, receiving for his salary sixty pounds.

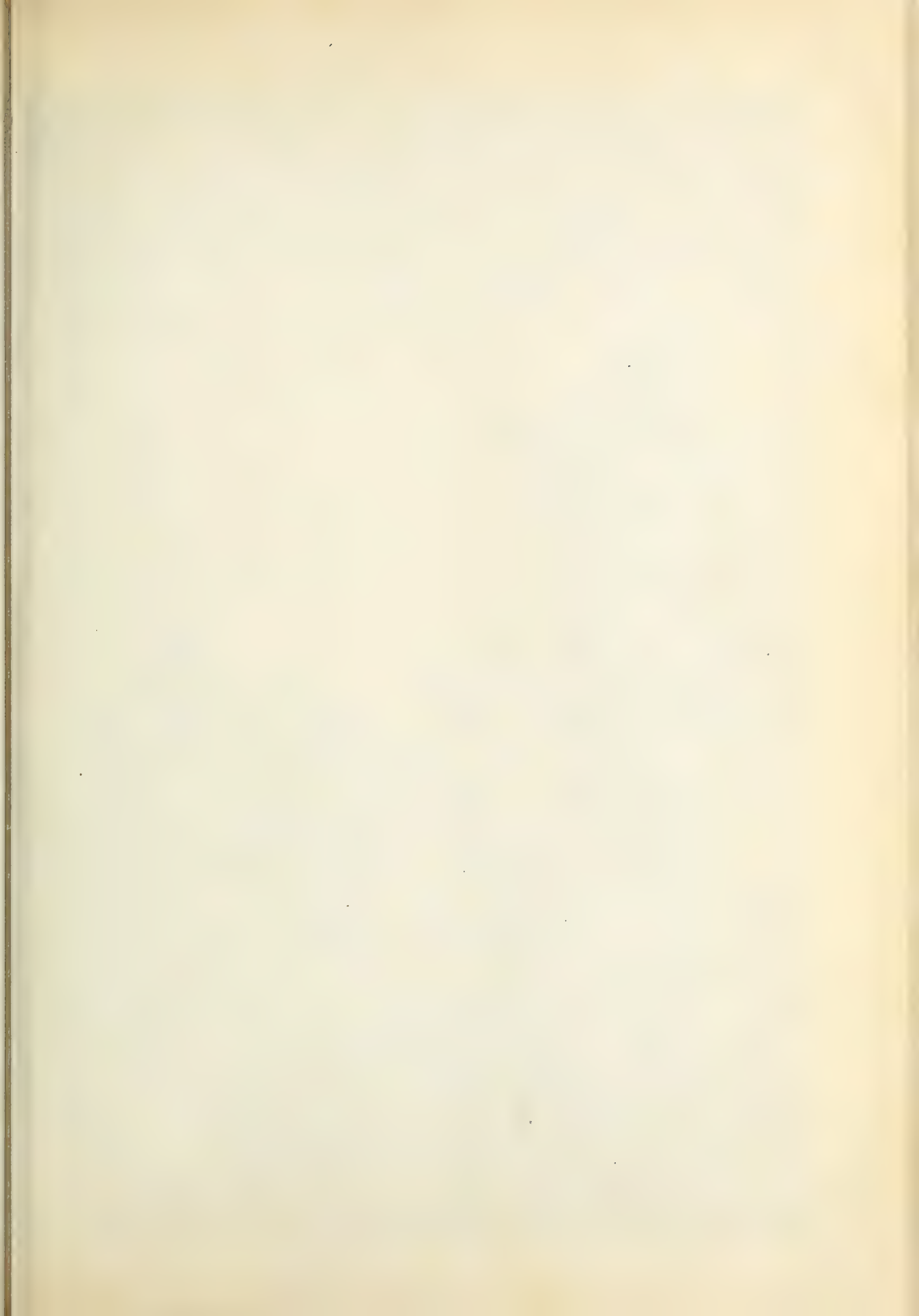
#### THE FIRST MARRIAGE, Etc.

The first *recorded* marriage in the town is that of John Mead, Jr., and Miss Ruth Hardey, by Rev. Mr. Peck, in 1681. In 1685, Lieut. Lockwood died, and the town passed resolutions of regret. In this year a saw- and grist-mill was erected at Dumpling Pond. In 1686 the Indians sold nearly their last acre of land in the town. These lands were on the western bank of the Myanos, near its mouth.

During the year 1687 permission was given to the citizens of the town to build fish-pounds on the seashore "anywhere outside ye feelds." John Mead, Jr., was elected constable, then the most remunera-

\* He had also been bearer of dispatches to Queen Elizabeth, confidential servant to the Earl of Leicester, Governor of the Dover colony in New Hampshire, etc.

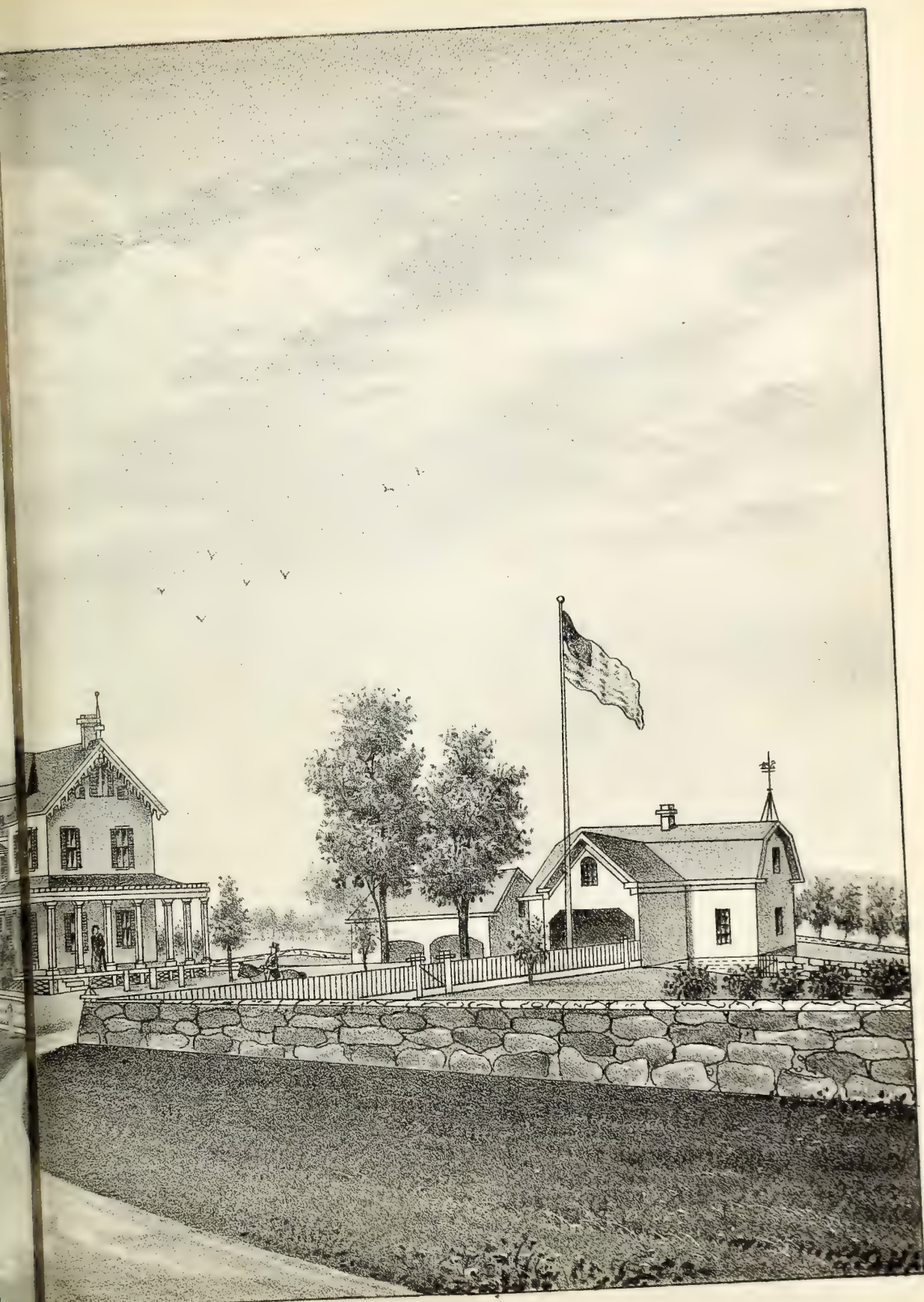






RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL ADAMS





ADAM GREENWICH FAIRFIELD CO. CONN.





tive as well as important office in the gift of the town. Gershom Lockwood and his brother William during this year agreed to build a bridge across the Myanos at Dumlpling Pond, and receive in payment *whatever the town should see fit to give after the work was done.*

## EARLY VOTERS.

In 1688 the legal voters numbered about fifty, and the settlement had increased to three hundred inhabitants. The following is a list of the legal voters in 1688: "Jonathan Lockwood, Angell Heusted, Joseph Mead, John Mead, Joseph Ferris, John Renalds, John Hubbe, Meriam Hubert, Jeames Ferris, Jonathan Renalds, John Bowers, Joseph Finch, Meriam Hubert, Jr., Thomas Lyon, John Banks, Thomas Close, Frances Thorne, Nathaniel Howe, Joseph Palmer, William Rundle, Gershom Lockwood, John Marshall, Daniel Smith, Jonathan Husted, Ebenezer Mead, Ephraim Palmer, Jeames Palmer, Walter Butler, Samuel Peck, Rev. Jeremiah Peck, John Mead, Jr., Henere Rich, Jonathan Mead, Joshua Knapp, George Hubbert, Joseph Husted, Angell Husted, Jr., John Renalds, Jr., Peter Ferris, Thomas Hubbe, John Hubbe, Jr., Job Ferris, Jonathan Lockwood, Robert Lockwood, Caleb Peck, Joseph Mead, John Mead's son, Joseph Mead, Joseph Mead's son, Joseph Knapp, Jr., John Tash."

In 1689 it is voted that "ye towne per vote hathe agreed to bye a bulle." In 1691 it was voted to have a *new meeting-house*; and John Mead, Sr., John Mead, Jr., John Hubbe, Daniel Smith, and Samuel Peck were appointed a committee to procure materials and build the house. A subsequent meeting made its dimensions thirty-two feet long, twenty-six feet wide, and fifteen feet high. A controversy which lasted for years concerning the site delayed the putting up of the building. It was finally built upon a small rise of ground northwest of the old burying-ground in Old Greenwich.

## TOWN-LIST FOR YEARS 1694-95.

The following exhibit shows the comparative wealth of the town in 1694 and 1695:

	£	s.	d.
John Rundle.....	102	10	0
Samuel Peck.....	81	0	0
Joseph Ferris.....	154	0	0
James Ferris and Son.....	103	0	0
Robert Lockwood.....	61	0	0
Jonathan Heusted.....	77	0	0
Joseph Finch and Son.....	105	0	0
John Hobby.....	94	15	0
Angell Heusted and Son.....	33	10	0
John Heusted.....	30	0	0
Samuel Heusted.....	45	10	0
Moses Ferris.....	22	0	0
Benjamin Ferris.....	24	0	0
Gershom Lockwood & Son.....	153	15	0
Joseph Knapp.....	73	0	0
Jonathan Rundle.....	47	5	0
Benjamin Mead.....	87	0	0
Daniel Smith & Son.....	161	0	0
William Rundle.....	60	10	0
William Hubbard.....	40	10	0
Ruth Mead, widow of John Mead.....	22	10	0
Daniel Mead.....	42	0	0
Zachariah Mead.....	30	0	0
Caleb Knapp.....	39	10	0
Thomas Marshall.....	34	0	0
Ebenezer Mead.....	103	10	0
Joseph Mead, the tanner.....	45	10	0

	£	s.	d.
Jonathan Whelpley.....	45	0	0
John Marshall & Son.....	145	10	0
Henry Rich.....	39	10	0
John Ferris.....	35	0	0
Joseph Palmer.....	38	12	0
Jonathan Mead.....	45	0	0
John Marshall, Jr.....	45	0	0
John Rundle & Son.....	43	14	0
Nathaniel Mead.....	39	0	0
Timothy Knapp.....	47	5	0
John Austen.....	31	0	0
Joseph Finch, Jr.....	29	0	0
Caleb Peck.....	28	0	0
Thomas Close, Jr.....	26	0	0
Joseph Heusted.....	54	0	0
Thomas Hobby.....	34	10	0
Ebenezer Rundle.....	30	0	0
Stephen Holmes.....	51	5	0
Thomas Close, Sr.....	40	0	0
Angell Heusted, Jr.....	41	0	0
Elisha Mead.....	38	0	0
Thomas Studwell.....	30	0	0
William Palmer.....	39	0	0
John Rundle, Jr.....	51	5	0
James Ferris, Jr.....	40	10	0
Thomas Butler.....	21	0	0
Gershom Lockwood, Jr.....	47	0	0
Joseph Lockwood.....	25	0	0
Benjamin Knapp.....	31	0	0
Benjamin Hobby.....	29	0	0
Joshua Knapp.....	54	0	0
Samuel Mead.....	27	10	0
Joseph Studwell.....	18	0	0
John Banks.....	76	10	0
Samuel Lyon.....	88	10	0
Thomas Lyon.....	57	12	0
Joseph Mead, <i>not the tanner</i> .....	25	0	0
Joseph Close.....	24	0	0
Total.....	2638	8	0

The selectmen for this year were Daniel Smith, Jonathan Heusted, Joseph Finch, and John Hubbe.

In 1703 it was voted that the town-meetings be held one-half of the time at "Horseneck." Prior to this time the meetings had been held at "Old Greenwich."

The following are extracts from the records:

"At a Town meeting baring Date May ye 3 1704 the town taking into consideration that which hath formerly been Don by ye towne in order to Mr. Nathaniel Bowers settling in the towne hath been ineffectual & considering Mr. bowers hath promised to setle at Horsneck if ye inhabitants did not call him to office on ye East sid Mianus river & being informed mr. bowers Designs to leave ye town these things considered ye towne pr vote see caus & reson to invite Mr. Bower to setle at Greenwich towne plott on ye west side Mianus river which if Mr Bowers sees cause to except, Then ye town doth promis & Engage to make suitable provision for himself & for settling him in his ministerial office."

"At a town meeting, December ye 19: 1704: The Town per vote grant Liberty unto Corinal hethcut to build tow small sloops sum where about Mianos river."

"Furthermore, moved ye towne put it to vot whether Mr. bowers should have fifty-five pounds, and it passes in the Negative.

"Furthermore, ye town pr vot do not Desire Mr. Bowers to continue any longer in ye work of ye ministrye in Greenwich."

"Furthermore, ye Town per vot grant Liberty unto ye inhabitants on ye east sid mianus to bueld a mill upon any strem where they shall think convenient.

"Furthermore, the Town per vot do grant Liberty unto the inhabitants of greenwich living on the west side Mianus river, to build a tide mill upon Sticklin brook or Coscob river themselves or to imploy som other parson whom they shall think fitt and likewise Do grant them use of ye streams for that end."

"At a meeting of ye Inhabitants of ye town of Greenwich on ye west side of Myanos river legally named and met on ye nineteenth day of June, 1705. Whereas, ye sd inhabitants have had a grant from ye town at a town meeting on ye 9th day of January 1704 of ye stream of ye tide or creek of Coscob river to own a grist mill, or imploy whom the see cause therein the sd inhabitants have granted sd stream to Mr. Joseph Morgan to build a grist mill, and do therein oblige him, his heirs and asines to grind for ye inhabitants of ye towne of Greenwich for about one 12 part of all the grain and do grant that toll and do oblige him and his heaires asins, to grind for said inhabitants what grain they bring to mill

on Tuesdays and Fridays forthwith not to hinder them for strangers and do oblige him his heirs and successors by virtue of ye grant to keep a sufficient hous for to secure ye grain yt is brought to sd mill."

#### THE FRENCH WAR.

In the beginning of this war Greenwich had no volunteer company, and several of the inhabitants were pressed into the service. "James Green," says the late D. M. Mead, "now long since dead, used to relate that while a company of young people, himself among the number, were quietly enjoying themselves at the tavern (then kept by one Mead, but now occupied as a dwelling-house by Epenetus Sniffin, Esq.), they were surprised by a press-gang and several of them forced into the service, while he with a few others escaped from a window. After this time a regular volunteer company was raised. This company seems to have marched directly to Ticonderoga in 1759, and joined the Third Connecticut Regiment. One of the company, a Mr. Coit, residing in King Street, was mounted upon a rather sorry nag, which by the time the company had reached Nine Partners, in Dutchess County, had become quite leg-weary, and Coit, thinking perhaps that all is fair in time of war, took a noble horse from a pasturage and turned his own there instead, without any whys or wherefores with the real owner. His new horse did him good service during the company's stay at Ticonderoga, which was but little more than a month; and on his return the company halted, that Coit might deliver the horse to his owner. So well pleased was the latter with the boldness of Coit that he made the whole company stop for the night at his house free of expense. After the war Mr. Coit went to Vermont and settled there permanently; several years after, having become wealthy, he came to Greenwich in his carriage, and visited all his old comrades of the volunteer company."

Greenwich formed an association for the relief of the soldiers, of which Mrs. Abraham Mead was president.

An ancient powder-horn is still preserved by Col. Thomas A. Mead, upon which is almost perfectly delineated the relative positions and forts of the hostile armies while at Ticonderoga. This work was done by Dr. Amos Mead, who was surgeon of the Third Connecticut Regiment, while at Ticonderoga. The horn beside this chart has engraved upon it this inscription:

"Amos Mead  
Surgn of ye 3d Conn Reg  
Ticonderoga October 1759."

At a town-meeting March 2, 1756, it was

"Furthermore voted that Mr. Nehemiah Mead should have liberty to sell the Town stock of Powder as soon as he can conveniently to ye Towns best advantage and lay out all the money that he shall sell said powder for, in powder that is good and put the same into Town stock as soon as he conveniently can."

In 1757, December 3d, Monday,

"Voted to Mr. Edmund Brown and associates liberty to build a saw mill on Horseneck brook at Hangroot."

By this agreement Brown and his associates were to build and keep in repair the bridge at Hangroot, and be responsible for damages that might thereby occur by accident to any person.

The following record, taken with other similar extracts, shows that in 1758 the town-meetings were held alternately in all the places of worship in the town:

"At a Town meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Greenwich, legally warned and attended at the House Built by the Professors of the Church of England in the Society of Horseneck on the top of the great hill on the Third Monday of December A. D. 1758, being ye 18th day of said month," etc., etc.

But on the 15th day of December, 1760, it was

"Further Voted to Build a Town House and leave it to the authority and select men how large it shall be and where it shall stand."

"Further Voted that the Rate for building the Town House shall be paid by the first day of September next."

In 1767 the following petition was presented at town-meeting, relating to the dock at Coscob:

"To the benevolent inhabitants of the Town of Greenwich, in Fairfield County, the petition of Nathaniel Close, of said Greenwich, Humbly sheweth, that your Petr. being under a necessity of a store-house, as his performing a weekly Panquet or stage boat from here to New York lays both him and the inhabitants under a great disadvantage, in Respect he hath no proper place to store the effects of his Freighters, nor for them to store what effects and produce they severally bring when his vessel is not there to Receive it; which Disadvantage hath been sensibly Felt during the last summer. He therefore Prays Liberty of this meeting, that he may be permitted to build a store-house of 26 feet by 30, adjoining the Bank, between the Dwelling house of Mr. John Bush and the Gristmill of David Bush, so as to leave about sixteen feet from said mill to sd store, for a cartway, if need be, & that he may build it by the bank adjoining thereto, & to sd mill Pond; and as your Petr. conceives a House so built would Incommode no particular Person, but be a General profit to the inhabitants, as well as your Petr. He therefore hopes that you, gentlemen, in your Prudence will grant his Request and your Petr. as in duty bound shall ever pray.

"NATHANIEL CLOSE.

"December, 21st, 1767."

The above was passed, and the acting selectmen were appointed a committee to select the exact site of the building, which was afterwards erected.

"At a Town meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Greenwich legally warned and holden on the 5th day of May, 1768, this question is put to vote, whether this town, in conjunction with the Town of Norwalk, in the County of Fairfield, will send their agent to the next ensuing Assembly to prefer a memorial to sd Assembly, that the Court House and Goal in said county of Fairfield may be built at said Norwalk. Resolved in the affirmative."

Afterwards, in the following October, after the session of the Assembly, in reference to the same subject the town voted, that

"Whereas, the Town of Norwalk, in conjunction with several other towns in the County of Fairfield, Preferred a memorial to the General Assembly, held at New Haven, in October last, and now lyes before said Assembly to be heard at the adjournment, in January next, praying that the said Town of Norwalk may be the Head or county town, &c.; and whereas Mr. David Bush signed the same as agent, for and in behalf of said Town. It is therefore now voted and agreed that this Town allows and approves of the said David Bush's signing said Memorial as agent for this Town, and he is hereby fully Impowered and authorised in the name and behalf of this town to appear and Prefer sd Memorial to a Final determination in the General Assembly, and that it is the earnest Request and Desire of the Inhabitants of this town, that the General Assembly would take the matters contained in said memorial unto their wise consideration, and Grant the Prayer thereof, and that a copy of this



vote may be used in the Tryal of sd memorial, in order to signifye the minds of the inhabitants of this town in the premises."

In 1773,—

"Further voted, the Town in sd meeting Grant Liberty unto David Bush, upon his Petition for building a mill upon sticklin's brook Sticklin's brook under the overseeing of a Committee by sd Town appointed to grind for Town Inhabitants, and not to put them by for strangers. Voted in the affirmative.

"Edward Brush, Nehemiah Mead, and Deliverance Mead, Jabez Mead jun., Nathaniel Finch, and Caleb Mead, enters their protest on ye proceedings of sd meeting in sd vote."

#### EARLY MERCHANTS.

Among the earliest merchants at Greenwich were J. & B. Brush, in about the year 1827. This firm also had a store at Coscob. Knapp & Bush were also early merchants there. Jabez Mead was a pioneer merchant at Mianos, and Reuben Finch at Stanwick. The "red store" on West Street was built by Abra Smith. On Round Hill, Nathaniel Knapp, father of O. C. Knapp, was an early merchant.

#### PHYSICIANS.

Among the physicians who have practiced in this old town, and some of whom are still here, are mentioned the names of Shadrack Mead, Darius Mead, Sylvester Mead, James H. Hoyt, Barto F. White, Joel W. Hyde, D. W. Teller, James H. Brush, Francis M. Holly, James L. Marshall, John C. White, and Leander P. Jones.

#### LAWYERS.

The first permanent Gamaliel of the law in Greenwich was Julius B. Curtis, who now resides in Stamford. The present attorneys are Col. H. W. R. Hoyt, R. Jay Walsh, firm of Hoyt & Walsh, and Myron L. Mason and Frederick O. Hubbard, firm of Mason & Hubbard.

#### POST-OFFICE.

The first post-office at Greenwich was established at an early day, and was kept in a building which stood on the premises now owned by W. H. Knapp. It was subsequently removed to the place now occupied by Jacob T. Weed. The postmasters have been as follows: Isaac Mead, Stephen Holly, Samuel Close, Dr. F. M. Holly.

In 1849, J. E. Brush was appointed, and the office moved to present site. In 1853, Samuel Close was reappointed, and the office removed to a new building, which stood on premises now owned by William Scofield. In this building, also, Stephen Holley had kept the office. In 1861, Mr. Brush was reappointed, and the office came back. In 1866, William B. Westcomb held the office three or four weeks, when John Dayton received the appointment, and remained postmaster until 1869, when Mr. Brush was reappointed, and is the present incumbent.

The present postmaster at Stanwick is Geo. A. Lockwood; at Round Hill, O. C. Knapp; at Mianos, Allen J. Phinney; at Glenville, Webster Haight; at Riverside, William F. Thall; and at Banksville, ——. The office at Riversville has been discontinued.

## CHAPTER XXXVI.

### GREENWICH (Continued).

#### THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

Resolutions in Answer to Continental Congress—Letter to the Delegates—Committee of Inspection and Safety—Committee appointed for Supplying Necessaries to Families of Continental Soldiers—Charges against Rev. Jonathan Murdock—Incidents of the Revolution—Governor Tryon's Expedition to Greenwich—Rivington's Press—The King Street Skirmish—The British in North Stamford—Putnam's Ride, etc.

THE first reference to the war of the Revolution found in the old town records is under date Oct. 11, 1774, as follows:

"At a Town meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Greenwich, legally warned and holden on Teusday, the 11th day of October, Anno Dom. 1774, A Letter is Read from the Honorable Eliphalet Dyer and Roger Sherman, Esq., from ye Continental Congress, at Philadelphia. It is proposed to this meeting whether there shall be a committee appointed to Draw a set of Resolves and an answer to said letter from said Congress, and to lay the same before the next meeting of this town for their approbation. Resolved in the affirmative, and Dr. Amos Mead, Messrs. John Mackay, Jesse Parsons are per vote appointed a committee for the purpose aforesaid, on which the town per vote adjourned their meeting to the 17th day of Instant October, to the place where their annual Town meetings are held in said Town.

"At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Greenwich, in the County of Fairfield, & Colony of Connecticut, holden on the 17th day of October, 1774.

"This Meeting taking into their Serious consideration the alarming State of American Liberty, do unanimously approve of and adopt as the Sentiments of the Inhabitants of this Town the Resolves of the Honorable House of Representatives of this Colony, passed in their sessions at Hartford, in May last.

And Whereas, Certain Acts of the British Parliament have appeared since the above resolves were entered into; Particularly an act for altering the Government of Massachusetts Bay, and another for Establishing the Roman Catholic Religion in Canada, etc.

"Resolved by this meeting, that those acts are repugnant to the free principles of the English Constitution, and in a High Degree Dangerous to the Civil and Religious Liberty of both British and American Protestant subjects, and that notwithstanding the Torrent of False and malicious aspersions poured forth by designing men, We believe and declare the Contrivers and Devisors of these and all such unconstitutional acts Their Dupes and Emissaries, to be the only enemies to our Gracious Sovereign, and the Illustrious House of Hanover that we know of in his majesty's dominions.

"Ordered, That this meeting hereby approve of the Honorable Congress of Delegates from the several American Colonies, and will acquiesce and abide by their final determination.

"Resolved, That as the Province of Massachusetts Bay, especially the Town of Boston, is now suffering under the Iron Hand of Despotic Power and ministerial Influence, it is the Indispensable duty of this town, in Imitation of ye noble Examples set up by most of the Colony to contribute to the relief of the oppressed and suffering Poor in said Town of Boston, and that Messrs. David Bush, John Mackay, Benjamin Mead, Jr., Daniel Merritt, James Ferris, Nathaniel Mead, Jr., Joseph Hobby, Jr., be a Committee to receive and keep an exact account of all donations that shall be Given by the Inhabitants of this town, and Transmit the same to the Select men of the Town of Boston, to be by them appropriated for the purpose aforesaid.

"Ordered by this meeting, that Dr. Amos Mead, Messrs. John Mackay, and Jesse Parsons be Desired to write to the Honorable members of Congress for this Colony an answer to theirs of the 19th ultimo, Inclosing a Copy of the Present Doings of this meeting, and transmit another copy thereof to the Printer, at New Haven, in order to be published.

"Recorded by me,

"JESSE PARSONS.

"Town Clerk."

## COPY OF THE LETTER TO THE DELEGATES.

"GENTLEMEN,—We acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 19th ult., inclosing the Resolutions of the Honorable Congress, and with the Highest gratitude receive the assurance of the earliest intelligence of the proceedings of your Honorable Board, as soon as they shall be made Public. We have called a meeting, and communicated to them your letter and those proceedings, and do now inclose their resolutions thereon

"We are, Gentlemen, your most obedient, Humble servants,

"AMOS MEAD,

"JOHN MACKAY,

"JESSE PARSONS.

"P. S. Upon enquiry into the Present State of the magazine of this Town, the Inhabitants are much surprised to find that the price of that most necessary article for our defence, viz., Gunpowder, is now doubled, which we are Desired to mention as worthy the notice of your Honorable Board.

"The Honorable Eliphail Dyer and Roger Sherman, Esqs."

At the same meeting it was further voted that

"As the Town Stock of ammunition wants a supply, there be a Committee appointed to examine the state of the Town Stock of Powder, Lead, &c., and the Selectmen are appointed a committee for that purpose and to take care to supply what is wanting at the expense of the town."

On the 8th of February, 1775, it was

"Proposed to this meeting whether they will send Delegates to attend a County Congress at Fairfield on the 19th of February instant pursuant to a letter from Fairfield Committee agreeable to the Association of the Continental Congress, entered into and adopted by the Honorable House of Representatives of this Colony and said Committee to attend on their own expenses. Resolved in the affirmative, and that Doctor Amos Mead and John Mackay be their Delegates for the purpose aforesaid."

On the 3d of December of the same year (1775) the following persons were appointed a committee of inspection and safety. They, besides their duties as a vigilance committee, were empowered to appoint two or more from their own number to attend the next County Congress, should any be called: Amos Mead, Samuel Peck, James Ferris, John Mackay, Benjamin Mead, Jr., Nehemiah Mead, Col. John Mead, Roger Brown, Bezaleel Brown, David Wood, Maj. Thomas Hobby, Odell Close, Nathaniel Mead, Jr.

It was also

"Voted, That no body of men presume to assemble together and go upon any expedition, unless by order of the Honorable the Continental Congress, the Honorable the General Assembly, the County Congress, or Committee of Safety for this town, either of whom are to ascertain the number and direct the measures."

"At a special meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Greenwich, legally warned and holden on the 15th day of January, Anno Dom. 1776, The Town per vote Add to their Committee of Safety the following persons,—viz: Israel Knapp, Jr., Samuel Seymour, John Hobby, Messenger Palmer, and Peter Mead, Esq.

"In this meeting comes Jesse Hallock and presents himself to set up the Salt Peter works in this town, on encouragement Given by act of Assembly."

March 11, 1777, the town voted to send for the six-pounder and shot for the same, which had been granted to them on account of a memorial addressed to the General Assembly.

At a special town-meeting of the inhabitants of Greenwich, legally warned and held at the town-house in said Greenwich, on Monday, the 14th day of April, 1777, the town, by vote, made choice of Nehemiah Mead to be moderator for this present meeting. Further, the town, by vote, made choice of Messrs. Titus Mead, Nehemiah Mead, John Mackay,

James Ferris, Enos Lockwood, Roger Brown, Daniel Merritt, to be a committee to inspect into and see that the families of those who enter into the Continental army shall be supplied with the necessaries of life at the prices as stated by law according to the Governor's proclamation. Further, that this meeting assist and support the ministers of justice in putting into execution the act of the Assembly respecting the stating prices. Same was repeated at the next regular town-meeting.

During this year, Col. Enos, of Hartford, was stationed in this town with Connecticut troops. His quarters were during a part of the time at Palmer's Hill, and a part of the time at the old Esquire Knapp place, now occupied by J. K. Stearns, Esq. The foraging of Col. Enos' troops was so excessive that the town, at a legal meeting, voted:

"Whereas the troops of Col. Enos regiment quartered in this town have committed great outrages upon the property of some of the Inhabitants of this town (viz.), in burning rails, cutting young growth of timber, etc. Therefore, it is proposed to this meeting, whether they will recommend unto the Select men of this Town, to apply to the Field Officers, for redress of the aforesaid grievances. Voted in the affirmative."

"At a special Town meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Greenwich, legally warned and held in said Greenwich, on Monday ye 12th day of January, 1778, in pursuance of the Requisition from his Excellency the Governor, of ye 15th of December, 1777, communicate to the Inhabitants the Introduction to, and the Articles of Confederation & Perpetual Union between the States of America, that the sense of the Town might be known thereon, the town by vote made choice of Bezaleel Brown to be Moderator of this present meeting. The said Articles being in said meeting deliberately read and considered, were by vote, *Nem. Con.* (no one opposing), accepted and approved.

"It is proposed whether this meeting is willing, that non-commissioned officer and soldier who is draughted and voluntarily serves in this two months expedition, receive a proportionable part of all the fines paid in consequence of said draught. Voted in the affirmative, and that the Selectmen receive the said fines of the Town Treasurer and pay them out accordingly.

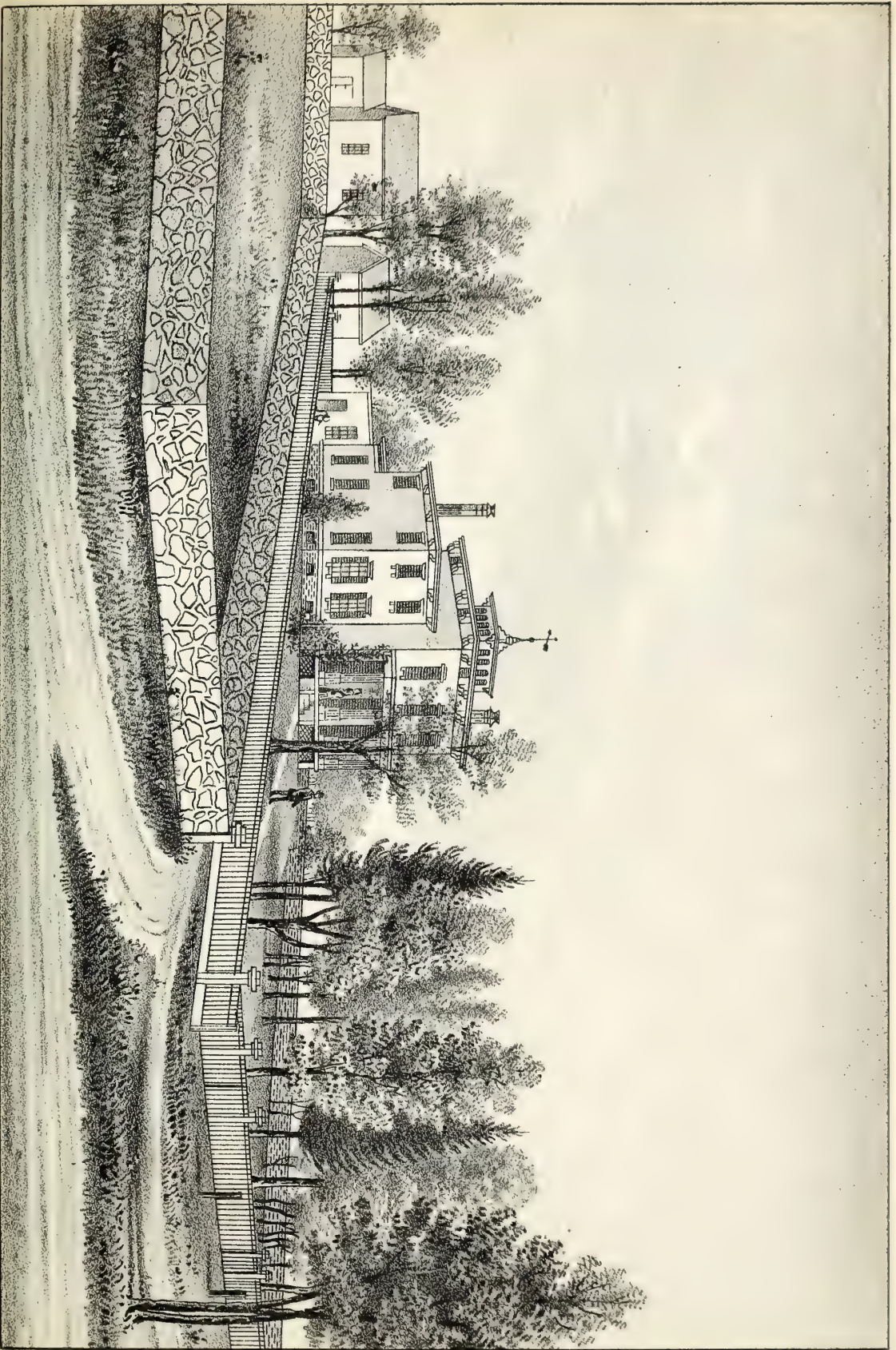
"Voted that the artillery men may have the Town House for a guard-house, and have liberty to build a chimney to it, and that the Town will be at the cost of having Masons for that purpose. The Town, by vote, made choice of Bezaleel Brown to be Barrack-Master, to supply the troops with wood and other necessaries. Meeting then adjourned."

"At a Town meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Greenwich, holden in the Town House of said Greenwich, on Monday the 19th day of December, 1778, having made a choice of Bezaleel Brown for Moderator, and Jabez Fitch for Clerk, the meeting adjourned to the Meeting-House. This meeting taking into serious consideration the danger & distress of the inhabitants of this town, and the great loss and damage sustained by many of the good citizens thereof, occasioned chiefly by a number of vile abandoned wretches, who have gone over to and joined the common enemy of the United States of America, against the laws of this State, and the liberties and privileges of the good people thereof. Thereupon, it is resolved by this meeting, that it is, in their opinion, dangerous to the safety, liberties, Peace and good Government of this town, that any person that hath gone over to, and joined, aided, or assisted the common enemy of the United States, or taken Protection under them to remain in this town, or to return to it or ever be capable of obtaining any settlement in it. Resolved, that it is the opinion of this meeting that the authority and selectmen take all proper and legal steps to free the town of all such vile Miscreants. Further the town then voted for Capt. Sylvanus Mead to be Barrack-Master for the year ensuing. For Messrs. Sylvanus Mead, Isaac Howe, Reuben Rundall, Abraham Mead, Josiah Ferris, Matthew Mead, Edmund Mead, to be the Committee of Safety."

"At a special town-meeting, etc., on the 12th day of August, 1783, the town voted for Benjamin Mead, Esq., to be their moderator," etc.



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM A. HUSTEN GREENWICH, FINEFIELD CO. CALIF.







"The town taking into consideration the distress to which the inhabitants were reduced by the war-ring and plundering of the enemy, and the constantly quartering of troops for the defence of this State in the town during the late war with Great Britain and the great injury done thereby, and that it was brought to the town during the course of a war undertaken for the defence and security of the common liberties of the State in which it was understood and expected that the whole body should bear the extraordinary burden and whereas the General Assembly make a grant for the whole and make payment of a part of the damages done at Danbury accidentally thrown on any particular part and considering it is altogether just to us, have thereupon agreed and voted that Brigadier-General John Mead be agent for the town to make use of such measures by memorial to the General Assembly or otherwise to obtain redress of the town grievances in this behalf and for a repair of the damages to the sufferers occasioned by the war excepting to those sufferers who are known to be inimical to the liberties and independence of the United States of America. This meeting is adjourned to next Freeman's meeting day in September to begin immediately after freeman's meeting is over."

"At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Greenwich convened in town meeting September the 16th, 1783. The inhabitants resumed the consideration of the grievances partly discussed at the preceding meeting and on reading a copy of the resolve of the Honorable General Assembly of this State on a memorial preferred to said Assembly by the representatives of this town in May last, the Inhabitants thereby agree in the following propositions:

"First, That the commission granted to the committee decreed by said resolve does not empower said committee to enter fully into the grievances complained of, and damages done to the inhabitants during the late war (not heretofore estimated) as it extends only to losses and damages occasioned by the enemy but does reach the losses and damages occasioned by this being a garrison-town and its inhabitants harassed and distressed by both parties.

"Second, That from the confidence that the inhabitants of this town have in the wisdom and justice of the Legislature of the State they are persuaded that nothing but the misrepresentations of some men either through ignorance of their real suffering or worse motives could have induced that Honorable body to appoint a committee with such limited powers as only warranted to consider partially a subject that ought in Justice and Equity to be taken upon a larger scale.

"Thirdly, That the burden of a war carried on for the General defence of a State whether occasioned by friends or foes ought to be borne as equal as possible by the citizens at large and that unless the principle is adopted and applied to the sufferings of the inhabitants of the town they are so far from being on equal footing with the greater part of their fellow citizens in the State, that the contrary must doom them to a species of oppression incompatible with the equitable maxims of legislation.

"Fourthly, That the inhabitants of this town do not entertain the most distant thought of an exemption from such part of the public burden as they are able to bear but when they view the present alarming situation of the town for want of resources occasioned by the check put upon their industry for years past and the powers of Providence on their labor in permitting their crops of wheat on which they chiefly depended to be cut off this season should they under these circumstances be called upon for a collection of their full proportion of the state taxes they will be reduced to such hardships as must terminate in uncomfortable ruin to themselves and families;

"Whereupon it is agreed and voted by the said inhabitants that Brig-Gen. Mead the town agent do pursue such means by memorials to the General Assembly at the ensuing October session predicted on the foregoing sentiments or otherwise as he may judge most eligible for the purpose of obtaining redress of the grievances aforesaid by the appointment of a judicious committee invested with such power as the complicated distresses of this town evidently require or in such other way as the Honorable Legislature may in their wisdom direct."

It was also

"Resolved by this meeting that it is their opinion that the selectmen do not take bonds of any person or persons that have gone over to the enemy for the purpose of making said person or persons inhabitants of this town, or giving him or them a residence therein."

On July 12, 1784, the people, having passed through the troubles of the war, and now having some opportunity to turn their attention to other topics, met and preferred the following solemn charges against their

minister, the Rev. Jonathan Murdock. The original copy of these charges is in the possession of Col. Thomas A. Mead, and reads as follows:

"Whereas, At a meeting of the Church of Christ, in the West Society, holden at the House of Mr. Benjamin Peck, in said Society, on the 12th day of July, 1784. The said church Voted, That the Association of the Western District, in Fairfield County, be called to meet on the 20th Tuesday of August next, at the house of Capt. John Hobby, in said Society, at 12 o'clock, at noon, then and there to Enquire into all matter of Difference and Grievance Subsisting between Mr. Jonathan Murdock, the Pastor, and the Church of Christ in this place, and to give their pastoral advice thereon; and that it was also Voted that Amos Mead and Benjamin Mead, Esqrs., be a Committee to call the said Association and to lay all matters of Difference and Grievance before them.

"Pursuant to the above said appointment take leave to offer the following matters of fact as the cause of the Difference and Grievances subsisting between the said Church and the said Pastor,—viz:

"1st, with Respect to his the said Pastor's public performances as a Minister of the Gospel in this place.

"2d, with Respect to his conduct since he was settled in the Worke of the ministry in this place.

"1st, as to the first, it is the opinion of this church that the said pastor hath not followed the apostolick advice of Studying to make himself approved, Rightly dividing the word of truth, etc.,—for instance, in a discourse from the 13th chapter of Luke and the 24th verse, 'Strive to enter in at the straight gate, for I say unto you that many will seek to enter in and shall not be able.' In which discourse he said that striving and seeking meant the same thing, and attempted to prove it. In another sermon against oppression and high prices, he observed that it was the crying sin of the land, for which the judgments of God were on the land; and in the close observed that everybody had gone into it, so that some must practice it, and could not live without it. He has lately in two sermons attempted to describe Evangelical Repentance, and did it in these words, viz., that it consisted in an unfeigned sorrow for sin & sincere intention to forsake it. There are many others that might be mentioned.

"2nd. His general mode of proof has not been taken from the Scripture or Reason of things, But that he has heard so, that he believes it, and that he verily believes it.

"3d. That he dwells on general heads and does not descend into particulars, or adapt them to the Consciences of the hearers; but so delivers himself that it hath been frequently observed by his hearers that a person might be a Deist, & not be offended, but join with him.

"Secondly, with Respect to his conduct since he was settled in the work of the ministry in this place.

"1st. That soon after he was Installed in this place he began to enter into a multiplicity of Business, and wickedly neglected his study, and has continued so to do to this time.

"2nd. That although he early took the Oath of Fidelity to this State, and in the beginning of the late War showed much zeal in the American Cause in the pulpit as well as elsewhere, yet contrary to his said oath of Fidelity, in 1779, on or about the 10th day of July, he voluntarily went to a British officer with a flagg then at the house late Seth Mead's, in this place, and there acknowledged his Political Friendship to the British, and that soon after he began to justify trade with the then enemies of this State among the people in this place, and Encouraged it by his own example.

"3d. In May, 1780, he was (with his own consent) taken by Delancy's Core and Paroled, only to come to their lines a prisoner when called for, but under no restraint by his parole as to his preaching or prayer. Yet after that he totally neglected in public to pray for protection to us, Discretion to our Councils, or Success to our arms, to the great Grievance of the people here.

"4th. That he was offered an exchange, but his friendship to the British interest prevailed over his oath of Fidelity & duty to his country as well as people, and he refused the exchange.

"5th. That on or about the 10th of October, 1779, his cows were (as he said) taken from him on a Friday night, and on the next Sabbath he went after them down among the Enemy, he obtained a permit to take them, he found them and sold them and bo't British Goods with the money & brought the Goods into this State, contrary to law, and in thus doing he broke the Sabbath, set an ill example, and broke covenant with the church in neglecting his duty on the Lord's day.

"6th. In 1780, in the summer season, he frequently left the House of God in this place vacant in the afternoon of the Lord's day, & without

the consent of the Church, in neglect of his duty here, went and preached to the separate Baptists at their place of worship, thereby countenancing that separation, to the great Greife of this Church and all the good people here.

"7th. In 1780, between fore and afternoon worship on the Lord's day, he sent Mr. Samuel Peck, jun. and called Mr. Silas Mead to his house, Mr. Benjamin Peck being present; he dunned him for what they owed him, and desired them to do the same to their neighbors. Yet not far from that time he reproved Mr. Theophilus Peck for breaking the Sabbath only for bringing back a sermon book in his pocket on the Lord's day. In other instances he admonished Mr. Philips, the Baptist minister, against marrying upon the Sabbath as a great Immorality, since which he has frequently practised it himself.

"8th. He has frequently and abroad knowingly misrepresented and traduced this Church & society, in particular Capt. Marsh, before the ordaining Committee at North Stamford, in declaring that this Society had never paid him in any thing but Continental money, which words so spoken, he Mr. Jonathan Murdock then knew were false, he himself being possessed of the means of knowledge that they were so.

"9th. He has frequently, as this Church takes it, been guilty of the breach of the 9th command in denying facts and appealing in an unchristianlike manner to the father of lights for confirmation of what he said. Viz.—On or about the 30th of April last, before the Society's meeting in this place, he publicly declared that the report that he had refused to settle accounts with the people of this society was without foundation, groundless and false; which declaration he, the said Mr. Jonathan Murdock, at the House of Mr. Henry Mead did in a publick manner make a few days before.

"10th. That the foregoing matters of Greivance and many more which might be mentioned have so disaffected the people in this place that there are many who have left the Society and gone over to and joined other denominations, and but few who attend Mr. Jonathan Murdock's ministry in this place.

"11th. That in the opinion of this church the breach is become so great between the said Mr. Jonathan Murdock & this Church & great part of the said Society that it can not be healed, but that his usefulness is at an end in this place."

Says Mead's "History," "Upon these charges Mr. Murdock was heard, and he was dismissed, being found guilty. He appears to have been a man of but little mind and energy, and at the time when dismissed had no friends in the church whatever. He graduated at New Haven in the class of 1776, with Dr. Timothy Dwight, Dr. Backus, David Ely, Dr. David Macclure, and Dr. Nathan Strong. Soon after his settlement at Greenwich he fell in love with Miss Ann Grigg, a bouncing girl of sixteen or seventeen, who was a much greater lover of fun than of Mr. Murdock. He persecuted her with epistles of love by bribing the blacks to bear his messages to her, or, when that was impossible, by thrusting them under her room-door. The blacks gladly carried his notes, and greatly enjoyed the reading of them with Miss Grigg herself. Once, on seeing him coming in at the door, she hid away in the garret, while a favorite negro woman politely informed Mr. Murdock that she, in a spirit of fun, had climbed up the chimney to hide from him. He, innocent of any thought of a joke, really believed the story, and put his head up the large winding chimney to find her. Finally raising himself high enough in the chimney with the greatest difficulty, he not only found her not there, but also found his clothes covered with soot and his throat exceedingly well choked with hot smoke.

"He visited considerably in his parish; and on a certain visit at Mr. Theophilus Peck's, where he was obliged, on account of the distance, to take dinner, he

was much surprised, when being seated at the table, that Mr. Peck did not ask his pastor to implore the divine blessing, but that Mr. Peck performed the duty himself, using the following words: "*O Lord! we have a wolf in sheep's clothing amongst us. Put a bridle in his mouth and a hook in his nose, and lead him back to the place whence he came.*"

#### INCIDENTS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Thus far we have given to our readers the simple records of the town-meetings held during these times so trying to true patriotism. At the outbreak of the war some, from their loyal and religious zeal, immediately sided with the enemy. However, they did not at that time openly avow their design. So little spirit was shown on the part of the Tories within the limits of the town up to 1777 that a vote sustaining the Declaration of Independence and the Continental Congress was passed in town-meeting without a dissenting voice. Yet there were disaffected ones, as the event proved, and before the war was finished ninety-two men had gone over to and openly joined the ranks of the enemy from the Second Society alone. A complete list of the names of these was made years ago by one of the committee of safety. The number of family names in the list is thirty-four, and twelve of these names are not now to be found in the town. The immediate descendants of the others are but few, and in many instances the race is quite extinct. There seems to have been a doom upon them and their descendants.

After the British had occupied New York there arose another class of men, much worse than the first. This body was composed of certain lawless characters, who seized with avidity upon every opportunity for plunder. They committed their depredations upon both the Americans and their enemies. Old grudges contracted before the war were now satisfied with relentless vigor. Hence the Americans suffered most from these wretches. And, inasmuch as they did by far the greater injury to the Americans, they were often assisted by British troops to carry out their foul cruelties and barbarities, and were always sheltered by the enemy when hotly pressed by the citizens. They banded together to carry out their nefarious designs. Skulking about at night in the woods and by-places, they would shoot down the inhabitants when they least supposed an enemy near. Their mode of warfare can only be compared with that of the Indians in the early history of the country. A few instances will show the refinement of blood-thirstiness which they had attained about the close of the war.

Shubal Merritt, whose family is now extinct, was one of these. With one of his boon companions, he was once lurking about the village of Rye for the accomplishment of some hidden purpose. An aged man was plowing a field hard by their hiding-place, and as he diligently pursued his labors backward and



forward across the lot they were whiling away the time by playing cards. Finally, Shubal proposed a game to decide which should shoot the victim. The result was against Shubal, who, as the old man approached them slowly with his team, deliberately raised his musket and shot him through the heart. After the war was over the murderer suffered his just deserts. A son of his victim met him face to face at White Plains, and shot him dead upon the spot, and so great was the feeling of hatred to him on the part of the citizens that no notice was taken of the act.

Dr. Amos Mead, one of the committee of safety, was so chased and hunted by these men as to be obliged, with dog, horse, gun, and blankets, to travel about back in the country for a whole winter. He retraced by night the tracks he had made by day, and then, moving off a short distance in another direction, spent the night in the first sheltered place that could be found. At the close of winter he came down to look at a field of wheat, but when arriving at a certain point he turned back, deeming it unsafe to proceed farther. Soon after, one William Sackett, a refugee, met him, and told him that five men bent on his life had been hidden in that field of wheat with their muskets all aimed at a certain point in the road where he must have passed had he proceeded onward. Sackett had not become so hardened but that he gave this timely warning, and Dr. Mead wisely retired again into the country.

Among the most inveterate Tories were a family of the name of Knapp, living on what is now known as the Tracy place. One of them, Timothy Knapp, had been paying attentions, with a view to marriage, to a daughter of Titus Mead, then living in the old house, at present Mr. Solomon Mead's, a little northeast of the village, and on her refusing his hand he proudly told her that she should yet speak to him and he would in his turn take no notice of her. This threat was verified in a more terrible way than he intended. Horses were the most valuable booty that the refugees could lay their hands upon, and, knowing that Mr. Mead possessed a fine animal, which he every night led up the oaken stairs to his garret, Knapp with two of his brothers went to the house to take it. Mr. Mead had knowledge of their approach, and stationed a man who was with him at a back window up-stairs. It was at dusk, and when the three men had come to the door-step, after some words, Mr. Mead fired, the ball passing through the door and entering the heart of Timothy Knapp. Without waiting to see the result of the shot, his brothers ran off in an easterly direction, and at the same time the man stationed at the back window sprang out and ran with all his might. The remaining refugees, seeing him and supposing it to be their brother, called out, "Run, Tim, run!" which made him run the faster. At last the daughter, opening the door and seeing Timothy lying there, asked him if he were badly hurt, and he, making no answer, was found

dead. She had spoken to him and he had taken no notice of her. On finding him dead, word was sent to the family that his body was lying as it fell on the door-step. They paid no attention to the messenger; and after the body had lain there for a considerable length of time, Mr. Mead buried it in a lot belonging to the Knapps in a pair of bars, where they must have driven over it in going out and in. Afterwards the family took up the body and buried it close by the house where he was shot, and his bones still rest there. A line of willow-trees now marks the spot, a little way south of the house.

Another class not so violent in their individual conduct, but equally inimical in other respects, were those who, under guise of permits from the English, resided here without molestation from the enemy, and in return for this privilege gave them sufficient and well-timed information of the doings of Americans in this quarter. There were quite a large number of this class among us, and we cannot but deplore the situation of our forefathers, thus situated with spies and villainous Tories in their midst and ready enemies close at hand.

#### GOVERNOR TRYON'S EXPEDITION TO GREENWICH.

The attack made upon Greenwich by Governor Tryon, and the escape of Gen. Putnam down the precipice, are the most prominent incidents in the history of the town. It is an exceedingly difficult task for a historian to collect facts merely from tradition, with the assistance of no other record than the official report of the commanding officer and short letters written from a distant part of the county. An officer, when forced to retreat after being almost, or perhaps quite, surprised at an outpost, feels in duty bound to represent the facts in as favorable light as possible, to avoid discouraging the patriots fighting for their country. Putnam, according to his own account, spent but little time in the village while the enemy were here, and the letters are obviously incorrect in many prominent points. Here is Putnam's account:

"CAMP AT READING, March 2, 1779.

"A detachment from the enemy at King's Bridge, consisting of the Fourteenth, Forty-fourth, and Fifty-seventh British Regiments, one of the Hessians, and two of the new levies, marched from their lines for Horseneck on the evening of the 25th ult. with the intention of surprising the troops at that place and destroying the salt-works.

"A captain and thirty men were sent from our advance lines from Horseneck, who discovered the enemy at New Rochelle in advance. They retired before them undiscovered as far as Ryeneck, where, it growing light, the enemy observed and attacked them. They defended themselves as well as possible and made their way good to Sawpitts where they took advantage of a commanding piece of ground and made some little stand; but the superior force of the enemy obliged them to retire over Byram bridge, which they took up, and by that means had an opportunity of reaching Horseneck in safety.

"As I was there myself to see the situation of the guards, I had the troops formed on a hill by the meeting-house, ready to receive the enemy as they advanced. They came on briskly, and I soon discovered that their design was to turn our flanks and possess themselves of a defile in our rear, which would effectually prevent our retreat. I therefore ordered parties out on both flanks with directions to give me information of their approach, that we might retire in season. In the mean time a

column advanced up the main road, where the remainder of the troops (amounting to only about sixty) were posted. We discharged some old field-pieces which were there a few times, and gave them a small fire of musketry, but without any considerable effect; the superior force of the enemy soon obliged our small detachment to abandon the place.

"I therefore directed the troops to retire and form on a hill a little distance from Horseneck, while I proceeded to Stamford and collected a body of militia and a few Continental troops which were there, with which I returned immediately, and found that the enemy (after plundering the inhabitants of the principal part of their effects and destroying a few salt-works, a small sloop, and a store) were on their return. The officer commanding the Continental troops stationed at Horseneck mistook my orders and went much farther than I intended, so that he could not come up with them to any advantage. I, however, ordered the few troops that came from Stamford to pursue them, thinking they might have an opportunity to pick up some stragglers. In this I was not mistaken, as Your Excellency will see by the enclosed list of prisoners. Besides these, eight or nine more were taken and sent off, so that I cannot tell to which particular regiments they belonged; one ammunition- and one baggage-wagon were taken. In the former there were about two hundred rounds of canister, grape, and round-shot suited to three-pounders, some slow-matches, and about two hundred tubes; the latter was filled with plunder, which I had the satisfaction of restoring to the inhabitants from whom it was taken. As I have not yet got a return, I cannot tell exactly the number we lost, though I don't think more than ten soldiers and about that number of inhabitants, but a few of which were in arms.

"*List of Prisoners taken at Horseneck on the 26th ult.*—Seventeenth Regiment, 15 privates; Forty-fourth do., 5 privates; Fifty-seventh do., 3 privates; Loyal American Regiment, 5; Emmerick Corps, 8; First Battalion of Artillery, 1; Pioneers, 1. Total, 38.

"N.B.—Seven deserters from Emmerick's Corps."

The following is from "Barber's Historical Collections of Connecticut," being extracts from two letters from Fairfield County, dated March 1, 1779, four days after the occurrence:

"The enemy have made an excursion within four miles of Stamford by the best accounts of about fourteen hundred or fifteen hundred, under the command of Governor Tryon; they reached Horseneck on Friday morning about nine o'clock. At Stamford they were not alarmed till ten o'clock, notwithstanding the enemy was discovered at nine o'clock the preceding evening by a small guard of Continental troops at East Chester, under the command of Capt. Titus Watson, who were obliged to give way, though they fought on their retreat, and some of them were wounded and taken prisoners. Capt. Watson was closely pursued by a light-horseman whom he had the good fortune to kill, and by the . . . made his escape. Gen. Putnam was accidentally at Stamford, but the Continental troops were too much scattered to be collected in season to oppose the enemy. About two hundred militia and a few Continental troops fell in with the enemy's rear, just as they were leaving Horseneck, about the middle of the afternoon, who killed eight or ten of them and took about fifty prisoners, who had made too free with the liquor they had plundered. They destroyed a small salt-work and burnt a schooner which lay at Mianos Creek. They plundered the inhabitants of everything they could lay their hands on, broke windows, etc., and many families were stripped of everything but the clothes they had on; even the house where Governor Tryon had his headquarters was not spared. They retreated to Rye on Friday evening, and next day to King's Bridge. Their retreat was so precipitate that they left behind two wagons loaded with plunder."

From the above reports, and from twenty or more different accounts, some of which have been handed down by the hottest of the Tories and some by over-zealous Americans, we have arranged the following account of the expedition, as being the most consistent and reliable. It is necessary that we should contradict some accounts, and even dispute some of the facts stated by Gen. Putnam himself. We ask all, therefore, who would relate the matter in a different manner to look upon our account in a spirit of leniency,

remembering that where there is so much disagreement all cannot be right.

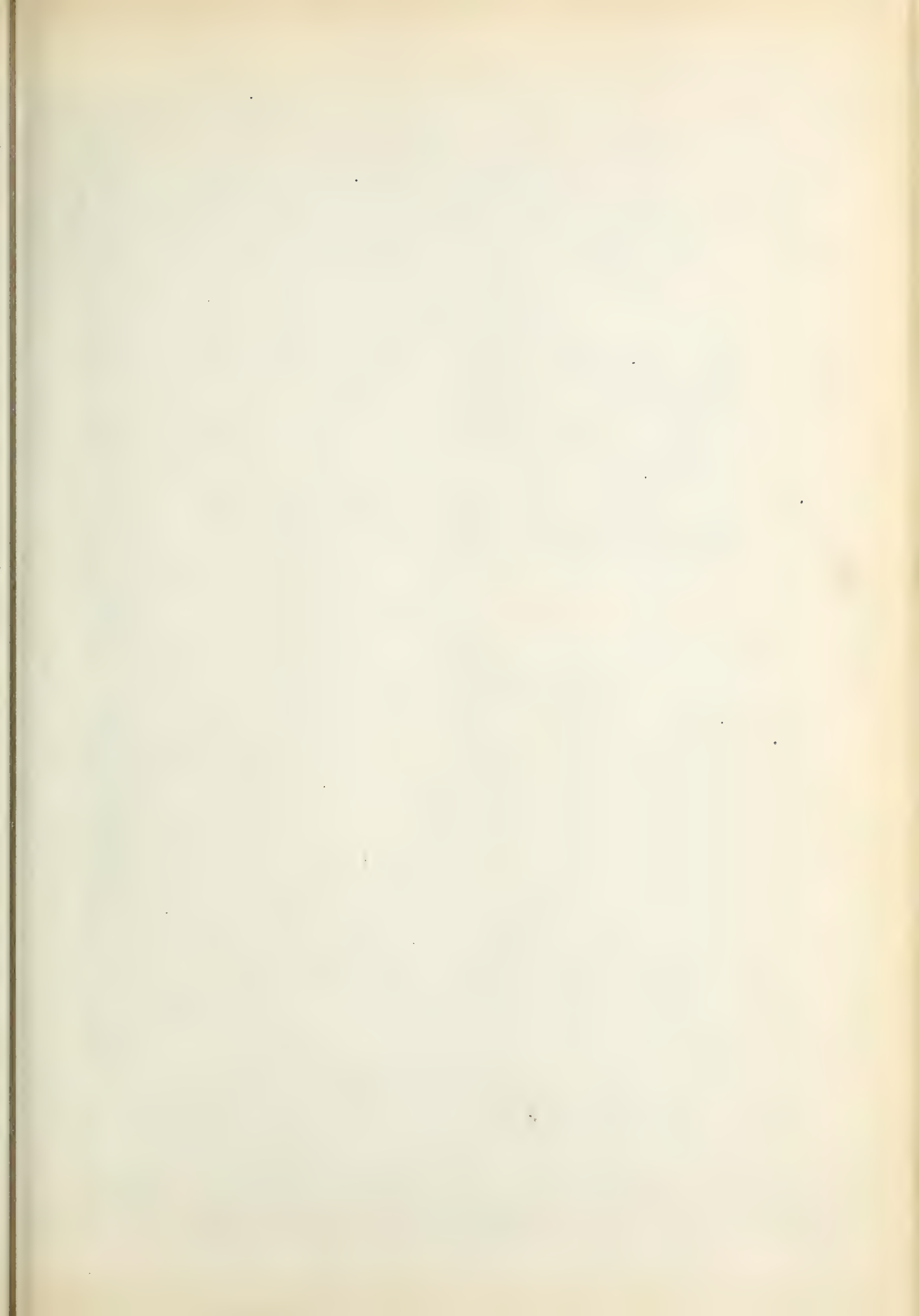
The headquarters at this time were at the house of Capt. John Hobby. Col. Holdridge, of the vicinity of Hartford, an officer much disliked by the Americans, was in command of the outpost. The house was situated a few feet south of the one now occupied by Henry M. Benedict, Esq., and a small guard-house was erected in the corner of the yard, but a few feet south of Mr. Benedict's western entrance, close by the side of the street, of which the carriage-path ran more than its width farther south than it now does.

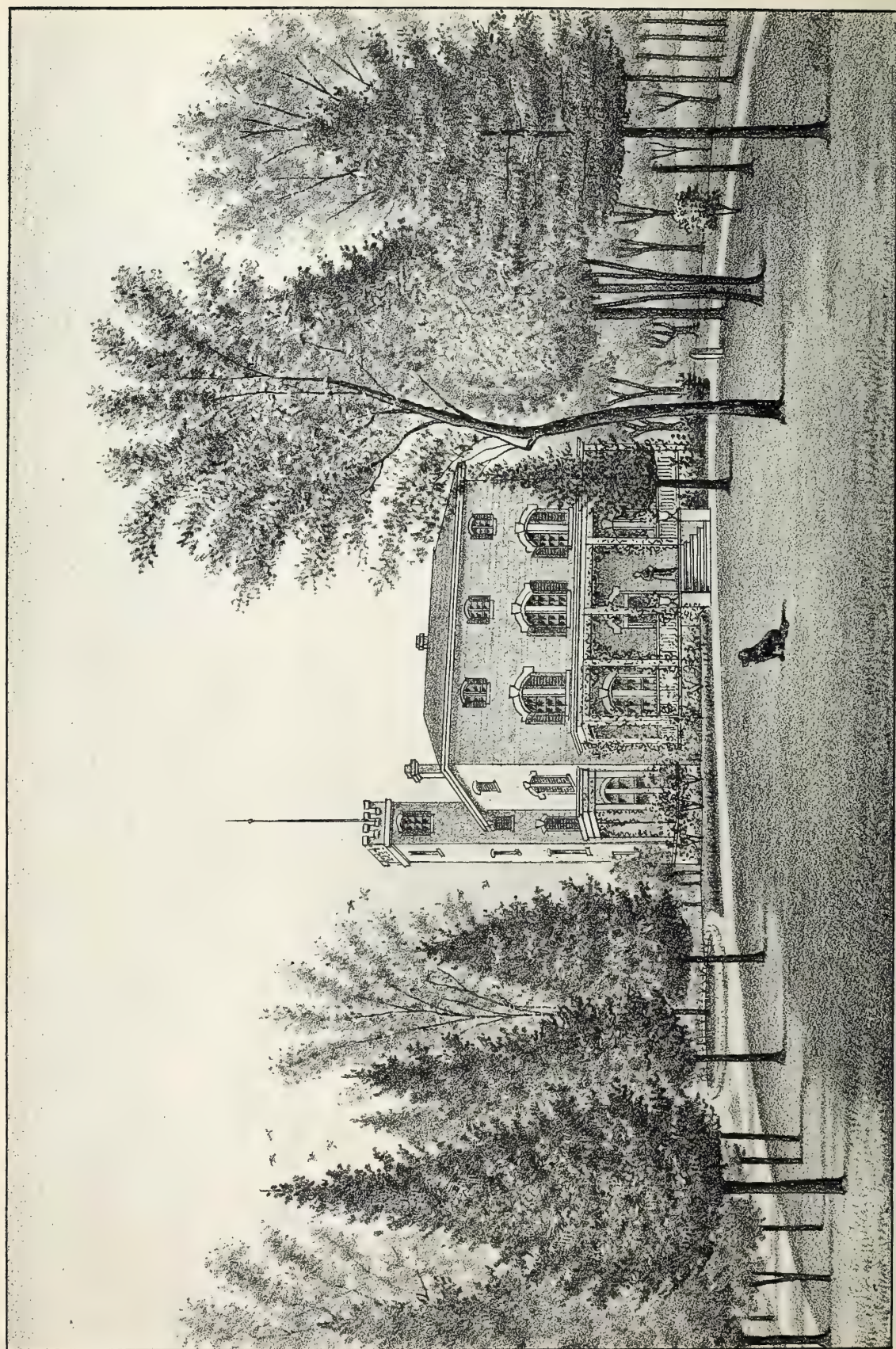
Some say that this outpost was at the house of the late John J. Tracy, but this was a hot-bed of Toryism, and further, those giving this account say that Putnam arose from the breakfast-table, sprang upon his horse, and rode for Stamford; in which case he could have given no orders to the men who were drawn up by the meeting-house, which he in fact did. We therefore take this account to be a mistake.

On the evening of the 25th of February, 1779, Gen. Putnam was at Horseneck, quartered with the picket-guard, where it was his custom to come almost every day to gain information of the doings of the enemy below. That evening a ball was held at the house of Moses Husted, Pecksland, on the same site where is now the residence of William A. Husted, Esq. Putnam attended, taking a lady on his horse behind him, according to the custom of those days. This lady, afterwards Mrs. Rogers, was a daughter of David Bush, of Coscob, living in the same house now occupied by George J. Smith, Esq. It was late when he accompanied her home, so that he did not leave her father's residence for Horseneck until nearly daylight on the morning of the 26th. This fact has led many to suppose that his headquarters were at Coscob, which is evidently a mistake.

The day before (the 25th) a small company of the Continental light-horsemen, under Capt. Titus Watson, consisting of about thirty men, had been ordered forward by Putnam to observe the doings of the enemy. They went down nearly as far as New Rochelle, where, between eight and nine o'clock in the evening, they found the enemy approaching, with Delancy's body of Tories in the van. The Continentals retired before them, but were discovered and come up with. By reason of superior numbers they were defeated, and many of them were killed. The enemy drove them from the stage-road down into Milton, where they managed to keep away from their pursuers, crossing the heads of the creeks, many of them hiding in the swamps. A few of them, with Capt. Watson, succeeded in reaching Byram Bridge, which they had time to take up when their pursuers were just in sight. Watson, with one or two others, then rode directly to Horseneck, with the company of Tories in full pursuit. Five of them turned southward and were pursued by a body of the enemy, who came up with one of the fugitives in the lot recently excavated

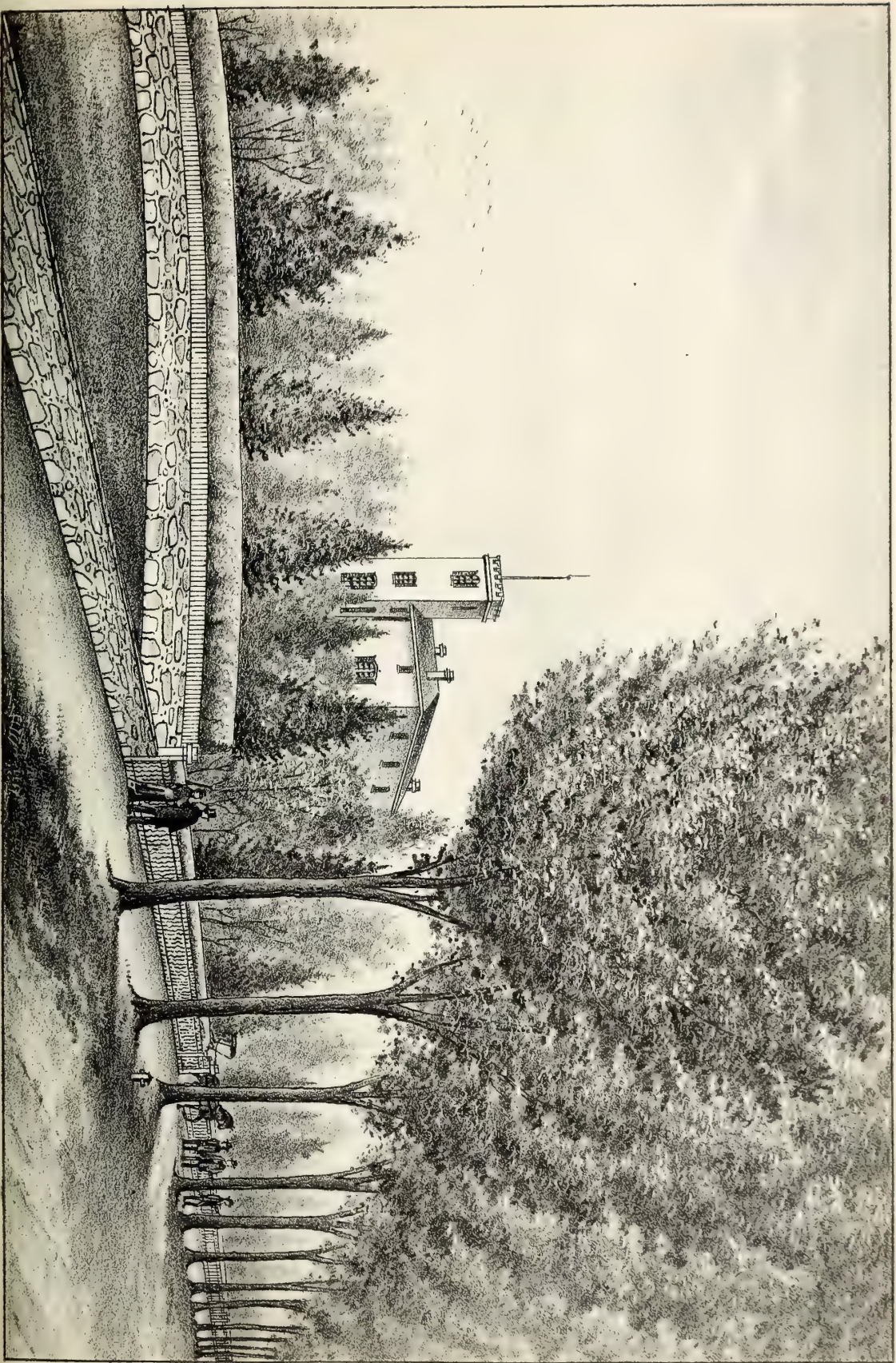






RESIDENCE OF SOLOMON MEAD ESQ. MAPLE AVENUE GREENWICH FAIRFIELD Co. CONN.





STREET VIEW OF THE RESIDENCE OF SOLOMON MEAD ESO. MAPLE AVENUE GREENWICH CONN.

MADE BY J. H. FAIRFIELD CO. CONN. RESIDENCE OF SOLOMON MEAD ESO. MAPLE AVENUE GREENWICH CONN.





by the New York and New Haven Railroad Company, now owned by Capt. Caleb W. Merritt. The soldier was there shot down and the horse inhumanly butchered, from which the inclosure has since been known as the "Horse Lot." The other four succeeded in reaching the Myanos in safety, where they were set across by Daniel Banks.

The alarm was given to the picket-guard by Capt. Watson, but there was little or no time to prepare for defense. The enemy had been informed of the weakness of the outpost, and advanced steadily for it. Mr. Matthew Mead, then a boy of twelve, was back of his father's house, where Mr. Bush Mead now lives, when he saw them at the top of the hill by Horseneck Brook. His father sent him off, with the other children and the cattle, back in the lots, where he reached a place of safety. The Americans, warned by Capt. Watson, numbering, according to the various accounts, from one to two hundred, having no cavalry, formed in front of the meeting-house and fired a six-pounder three times—which was a signal of alarm—just as the Tories passed the house of Mr. Matthew Mead. They then were walking their horses, but when they came in sight of Capt. John Hobby's they saw Putnam spring on his horse at the barn with his coat on his arm and ride with full speed to the meeting-house, where the Americans were drawn up. They now gave him full chase. He stopped a moment to order his men to retreat to a convenient distance, while he should ride on to Stamford for reinforcements. Being nearly come up with, he dashed on, and by the time he reached the precipice now known as Putnam's Hill, the commander of the Tories, Thomas Merritt, of Westchester County, was within two lengths of him.

The road, before reaching the brink of the precipice, then ran nearly east and west, then turning a short right angle ran north about thirty rods, when it turned directly about and ran south along under the precipice to about five rods below the causeway forming the present road, where it again turned eastward.

Putnam plunged his horse down this steep, which, being overgrown with stunted bushes, presented a wild appearance, at a headlong pace, across the road at the foot of the hill, into the thicket which then lay between the post-road and the swamp, now known as the "Ten Acres," and pursued a sort of drift-path through the thicket till he was beyond the present residence of Theodore H. Mead, Esq., where he again took to the road. The hill now presents a totally different aspect from what it formerly did, and the hardest part of Putnam's descent was after he crossed the road running along the side of the hill.

Some will have it that he started down the hill from the same point, but took a southeastern course, reaching the road at the foot of the stone steps, where the enemy had full aim at him all the while; others, that he rushed headlong down the seventy-four stone steps placed roughly one above another for the con-

venience of foot passengers, his weight being two hundred and forty pounds. Others, again, claim that he followed the road as long as it ran on the top of the hill, and then set off in a northeastern direction above the Ten Acres; while the author has been coolly told that he was in no danger of being taken at all, and rode slowly around the hill as other people did. We have carefully traced and examined these different accounts, and have the fullest evidence, by the testimony of eye-witnesses, that the account first given is correct. One of the many balls fired at him by the Tories from the brink of the hill as he passed through the bushes passed through his hat. Old Put on this occasion could not refrain from his customary exclamation when in trouble from the Tories, which he shouted as the balls whistled thickly past him: "God cuss ye! when I catch ye I'll hang ye to the next tree."

Col. Holdridge, who was in command of the Continental soldiers, retreated in an unsoldierlike manner to Stanwich, while Putnam intended that he should retire only a short distance. From the account by the Americans of this officer, who was a Hartford man, he was totally unfit to be a soldier at all, much less an officer.

The citizens hung about the village as near as they dared, hiding in the swamps and by-places during the whole day, taking advantage of every opportunity, by some daring feat, to secure prisoners, and even fire upon the enemy.

About an hour after the arrival of the body of Tories, Governor Tryon, with his full force of about twelve hundred men, took full possession of the town. He made his quarters at the house of Mr. Henry Mead, who then kept a public-house on the site of the present residence of Miss Sarah Lewis and Mrs. Mason. The soldiers, meantime, separated themselves into squads and pillaged every house in the neighborhood; a large body of them visited Coscob, where they destroyed the salt-works, which were upon Bush's Point, a small sloop, and a sloop's store-house.

A party of them also entered the house of Daniel and Joshua Smith, which was situated a little way south of the present parsonage of the Second Congregational Society. They found this house deserted by all its inhabitants excepting a deaf old lady, the mother-in-law of Joshua Smith. As they entered they saw her standing at the head of the front stairs. As she could not hear, she disobeyed their orders to come down, which so enraged the soldiers that one of them sprang up stairs and cut her down with his sword. After this murder the house was set on fire and burned to the ground. This is said to have been the only house wholly burned by the British.

The houses of those who held the enemy's permits were safe from these depredations, but the others were ransacked and plundered of every valuable. The wagons brought to carry back the plunder were

filled to their utmost capacity. After that, everything was destroyed. The farmers made granaries of their garrets, and the enemy, after cutting holes through the garret and main floors, shoveled all the grain into the cellars, where the cider-barrels were knocked in and all mingled in one useless mass.

The cider, however, was not all permitted to run upon the ground, but by the middle of the afternoon nearly all the privates had become so drunken with it as to be unfit for the least defense, and so little guard was kept by the enemy that an American crept slyly into the orchard by the Henry Mead house, in the midst of the enemy, and fired a ball through the clapboards, which whistled close by Governor Tryon's head and struck the mantel-piece, from which it rebounded upon the floor. This startled Tryon so much that he, without waiting for his late dinner, gave immediate orders for a retreat. The officers now experienced the greatest difficulty in forming their men. Many were beastly drunk, and a great number made irregular marches, so that the Greenwich men managed to take several prisoners. Though several shots were fired at the enemy before, their first man was killed in the road opposite the cedar-tree a little west of the house of William Knapp. Others were wounded, and the enemy was in a full and disorderly retreat. The Americans so hotly pressed upon their rear that the drivers cut their horses loose from an ammunition- and a plunder-wagon, and rode off after their companions at full speed. The Americans had just taken possession of them when Gen. Putnam, with between one and two hundred Continentals and militia, arrived from Stamford, too late to render any assistance to the inhabitants.

This was an eventful day for Greenwich. Houses, though not burned, were ruined, and in the midst of winter, all provision had been destroyed by the hostile army, and the Tories, from that time for about a year, had almost complete mastery of the town. It is absolutely impossible to depict the miseries of the people who, loving the American cause, were obliged to stay here until the next season.

It seems that Putnam, as well as the inhabitants, supposed, from the large number of the enemy, that they were to proceed farther on, to Stamford and Norwalk. Hence, Col. Mead early dispatched Mr. Titus Mead to New Haven to ask of reinforcements of Gen. Silliman. The messenger arrived at New Haven a little before six that evening, and Gen. Silliman immediately issued his orders. The following is a copy of the one sent to Woodbury, taken from Cothren's "History of Woodbury:—"

"NEW HAVEN, Feb. 26, 1779, 6 P.M.

"GENT.,—Mr. Titus Mead, a man to be depended on, is this moment arriv'd express from Col. Mead, with a message by word of mouth only from Col. Mead, for their circumstances were such that Col. Mead could not write. He says when he left Horseneck (which was early this morning) a Body of about six hundred men and a Body of Horse had pushed up the road into Horseneck, and were on this side of Knap's tavern; and it was reported that a Body of two or three thousand more were not far

behind. You are therefore directed to muster & march your Regiments forthwith to Norwalk to oppose the enemy, & where you will receive further Orders. Lose not a moment neither by Night nor day.

"G. SELLECK SILLIMAN,

"Brig.-Gen. of Foot and Col. Ct. of Horse.

"To COL. MOSLEY & MAJOR BULL, Woodbury.

Of course the early retreat of the enemy rendered the execution of this command of no avail.

The Tories now soon became possessed of the entire town. Their headquarters were a part of the time at the house of Mr. Abraham Mead, where Mr. Oliver Mead now resides. This, now being the neutral ground, was plundered by both friends and foes; and poor and sickening indeed was the lot of those who were obliged to stay here.

#### RIVINGTON'S PRESS.

Some time during the war a paper was published in the city of New York by one Rivington. This paper was professedly and to all outward appearance devoted to the British interests. It was afterwards, however, known to have aided the Americans much, and was under the control of Washington himself. The hostile appearance of the sheet, however, deceived the Americans as well as their enemies, and about half a dozen Greenwich men resolved that the press should be stopped; they stole into the city, destroyed the press, and bagged the type, which they brought off with them from the very midst of a watchful enemy. Messrs. Andrew and Peter Mead were the principal men of the expedition. It is said that they only of the company were able to carry the bags of type from the printing-office to the street and throw them across the backs of their horses. After the type was brought to Greenwich it was totally destroyed, except enough to print each of the company's names, which the veterans kept for a long time in memory of their exploit.

#### THE KING STREET SKIRMISH.

One great disadvantage which the people were subjected to during the whole war was the absolute want of bayonets. Few companies could be found wholly armed with these valuable weapons. But Lieut. Mosher was the commander of a small company of men who were amply provided with them. This company may have been larger, but consisted of only eighteen soldiers at the time here mentioned. Seven of them were from the farm of Gen. Pierre Van Cortland, of Cortlandtown, about half a dozen of them from Greenwich, and the remainder from the vicinity of the town of Harrison. On the 4th of December, 1781,\* Capt. Richard Sacket, of the same company, was taken prisoner, having unwisely separated himself from his company. The light-horse of the enemy, under Col. Holmes (a Tory) and Capt. Kipp, attacked the company. The latter retreated to the vicinity of a tavern recently kept by William Merritt, in King

\* Heath's Mem., p. 324.



Street, where they formed to withstand the charge of the troop of horse. Without shelter of any kind, and upon an open plain, these eighteen men successfully stood charge after charge from the troop. Lieut. Mosher ordered his men not to fire a shot, but sternly to await the onset. At the first charge Col. Holmes, finding himself repulsed, ordered Mosher to surrender or he would cut them all to pieces. The only reply vouchsafed by Mosher was, "*Cut and be damned!*" and with silence he withstood the first and second charges. But after the third charge he ordered his men to fire on the retreating troops, which they did with terrible execution. One man was killed and eight dangerously wounded, Capt. Kipp mortally. The horses of Col. Holmes and Capt. Kipp were also killed under them. Mosher's men, taking advantage of the discomfiture of their assailants, escaped to a neighboring piece of woods, not having a man even wounded. It is said to have been the most astonishing feat, on the part of both the officers and men, that was enacted during the whole war. Gen. Washington often spoke of this affair, and it was reported all over Europe to show the utility of the bayonet, and that a small body of infantry thus armed may successfully resist a strong body of cavalry. Several of the enemy were severely wounded before they were fired upon.

#### THE BRITISH IN NORTH STAMFORD.

At one time during the war the nearest American outpost to New York in this quarter was at Byram, and the enemy being bent upon a depredatory expedition to North Stamford and Long Ridge, came suddenly in the night and cut every one of the guard to pieces. This whole expedition seems to have been marked by bloody and horrible deeds, and it is said that Tarleton himself commanded the force. The whole populace around collected and followed the enemy, to attack and worry them on their retreat. An ambushade was formed at a defile in Round Hill, near the residence of Roswell Mills, Esq., where the road passes through steep rocks overgrown with thick laurel. At other places on their return the British and Tories were sorely pressed, but here a deadly fire poured in upon them, killing and wounding great numbers. On that day in the retreat one of their regiments lost their standard, to their great mortification and disgrace.

#### ANDREW MEAD, HUMPHREY DENTON, AND RICHARD MEAD.

These men—more, perhaps, than any others—deserve the highest praise for their brave and daring acts. It was not so much their province to counsel and advise as to act. "Old men for counsel and young men for action." Such men as Dr. Amos Mead, John Mackay, and Abraham Mead were of great service to the inhabitants as counselors. They were all past the meridian of life, and one of them,

Dr. Amos Mead, had gained much experience by active service in the French war. But if any daring deed was to be accomplished, where hardy, brave, and *reliable* men were necessary, the three former were always selected. After all control of the town was lost to the Americans by the destructive expedition of Governor Tryon, it was not safe for a patriot to remain publicly in the limits for an hour, yet these three hung about the place, ready to assist the defenseless population against the brutalities of the Tories. Each possessed of his arms, a faithful dog, and a fleet horse, they spent their time about the village, hidden in the by- and secret places. The winter of 1780 was one of the severest on record. The Sound was frozen across, and a great amount of snow accumulated. Yet these men scarcely knew a night, during the early part of that winter, in which they did not sleep with their horses and dogs among the snow. During that winter some dozen or twenty head of cattle, the most of which belonged to Mr. Jerad Mead, were taken off in haste by the Tories, and driven towards New York. After much earnest solicitation on the part of the owner, the trio consented to make the most daring attempt of crossing the enemy's lines to retake them. There had been recently a storm of rain, which had frozen as it fell and rendered the roads extremely slippery and made a hard sharp crust upon the snow. The pursuers, therefore, went upon the Sound with their horses and kept the ice as far as Mamaroneck, and then, taking the road, could track the cattle by the blood which had trickled from the wounds of the bayonets which had forced them along. At Mount Vernon they retook the cattle, and were returning when they found they were pursued by a body of the enemy under a lieutenant. Their horses were tired by their swift ride, and they soon knew that their only safety was in separation, and in that case, even, one must be inevitably taken. Accordingly they left the cattle and plunged separately in different directions. The enemy selected Richard Mead, pursued, and took him prisoner. This was about the middle of January, 1780. He was taken to New York and thrown into the famous Sugar-House, where he remained for a period of six weeks until exchanged.

These three men were held in high estimation by the people. Their known patriotism and courage, which could ever be relied on, caused the other citizens, long after the Revolutionary war, to remember their acts with the greatest gratitude.

We append the following concerning the brave and redoubtable old Continental chieftain Putnam, being an address delivered by Col. H. W. R. Hoyt at the Centennial commemoration of the ride of Gen. Putnam at Greenwich, Feb. 26, 1779. The address was delivered Feb. 22, 1879:

"In a quiet graveyard in the town of Brooklyn in this State, Israel Putnam has long rested from his labors. Through storm and sunshine for nearly ninety years the worn and wearied body of the old hero has

slept in its well-earned repose. Almost a century, filled with historic deeds and brilliant with the annals of great events, has gone by since he was gathered to his fathers, but his fame has not been lessened, and the halo that surrounds his name has become brighter with the lapse of time. To-day the State of his adoption, through her Legislature and voluntary organizations, and adjoining States, through their representatives, have risen up to do honor to his memory. His fiery courage, his generous qualities, his patriotic zeal, and his important services have made him a most prominent figure among the heroes of those days in which, amid the thunder of cannon and the tread of contending armies, the foundations of a great nation were established. His nature and education had well fitted him for leadership in that time of turmoil and achievement. His experience in the French and Indian wars, and the estimation in which he was held by the authorities, had given him a high position in the military forces of the State; and when, at Cambridge, in 1775, Washington assumed command of the Revolutionary army, bringing with him the commissions of the four major-generals issued by the Continental Congress, Putnam's alone was delivered, in consequence of a want of confidence in those upon whom the others were to have been conferred. The incidents of his whole life are tinged with romance. He was familiar with peril from his early youth, and, had he lived in the days of mythology, the popular fancy would have invested him with all the attributes and endowments which were bestowed upon the ancient divinities.

"The exploit of Gen. Putnam which we now commemorate occurred at a period of deep gloom and depression in the course of the struggle for independence. The spirit of the colonists was unconquerable, the fires of their patriotism were unquenched, but their government was a rope of sand. There seemed to be no power in the Continental Congress to enforce its recommendations and resolutions or to provide for the supplies and payment of the troops. The value of the Continental issues had become greatly depreciated. The masses of the people were enduring hardship and privation with patience and resolution. Occasional discontent manifested itself and mutterings were heard among the soldiery, but their faith was unflinching, their determination unflinching, and, although without pay and partially without food, they remained steadfast to the good cause.

"The headquarters of the army for that winter were at Middlebrook, on the Raritan River, in New Jersey. The battle-line extended from the Delaware northerly along the Highlands to West Point, and then, turning eastward, followed the Connecticut shore as far as Stonington. In the fall campaign Savannah had been captured by the enemy, and the province of Georgia was under the dominion of the British. Above the island of New York and a portion of Long Island floated the banner of St. George, and foreign sentinels paced their beats from the Hudson to the East River; the British general Pigot commanded in Rhode Island; but, with these exceptions, the Atlantic coast was in the possession of the patriots. Sir Henry Clinton held supreme command of the British forces, and from his headquarters in New York City caused frequent predatory excursions to be made up the fertile valley of the Bronx, along the range of hills that forms the backbone of Westchester County, and from point to point along the shores of Long Island and Connecticut.

"In 1778, Gen. Putnam had been relieved from duty in the Highlands, and was afterwards assigned to the command of the forces in Connecticut. He had the two brigades of the Connecticut line, one brigade of New Hampshire troops, Col. Hazen's regiment of infantry, and one of the four regiments of cavalry commanded by Col. Sheldon. His headquarters were at Reading, in this county, about six miles southerly from Danbury. From this point he supervised the military operations in this State and maintained connection with the Continental forces on the Hudson. Detachments were stationed at advantageous places, one of his most important outposts being located in this vicinity. The territory from Kingsbridge to Greenwich was known as the debatable ground, and for the people within its limits there was nothing but anxiety and danger. Living along the border of the disputed territory, the people of Greenwich were in a most deplorable condition. Many of her sons were in the military service. Of those who were at home a large proportion were open avowed loyalists, and a third class, who were living under the protection of British permits, secretly gave information and furnished supplies to the enemy. It was a winter of unusual severity. With but few exceptions, the people were weighed down by poverty. Cold and hunger were their daily companions, and the most rigid economy was scarcely sufficient to supply them with the scantiest means for supporting life. The depreciation of the Continental currency, the severe taxation that had been resorted to to enable the State to pay the proportion of the public debt and the expenses of the general government that had been

assigned to her, and the uncertain tenure of life and property, had destroyed all enterprise and rendered business undertakings impossible. Men moved about in fear and trepidation. Their hiding-places were in the fields and woods. No one knew the moment when a bullet from a concealed enemy might strike him down. Families were divided against each other; social ties were disrupted; old friends and neighbors regarded each other with hatred and distrust."

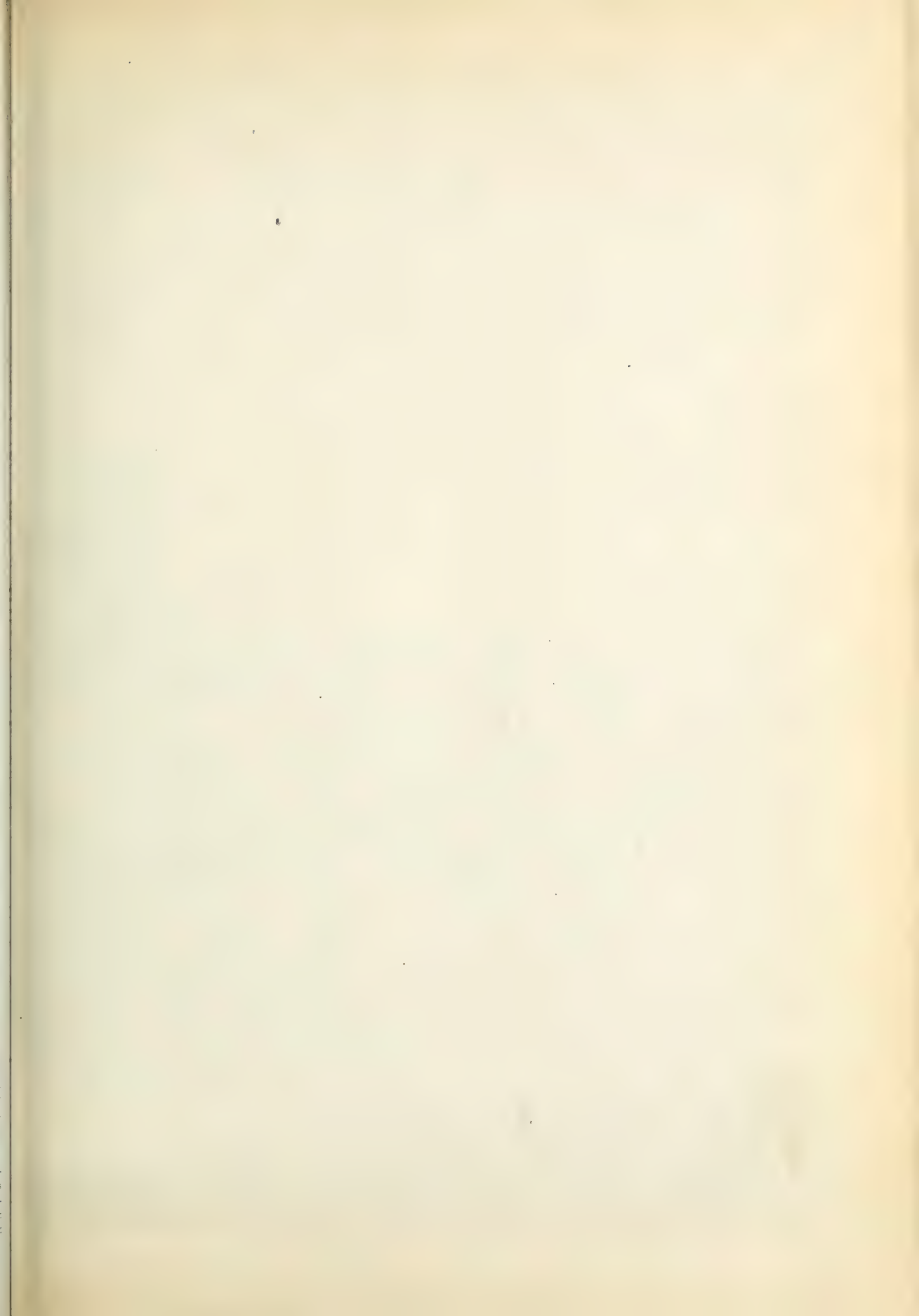
#### GREENWICH IN 1779.

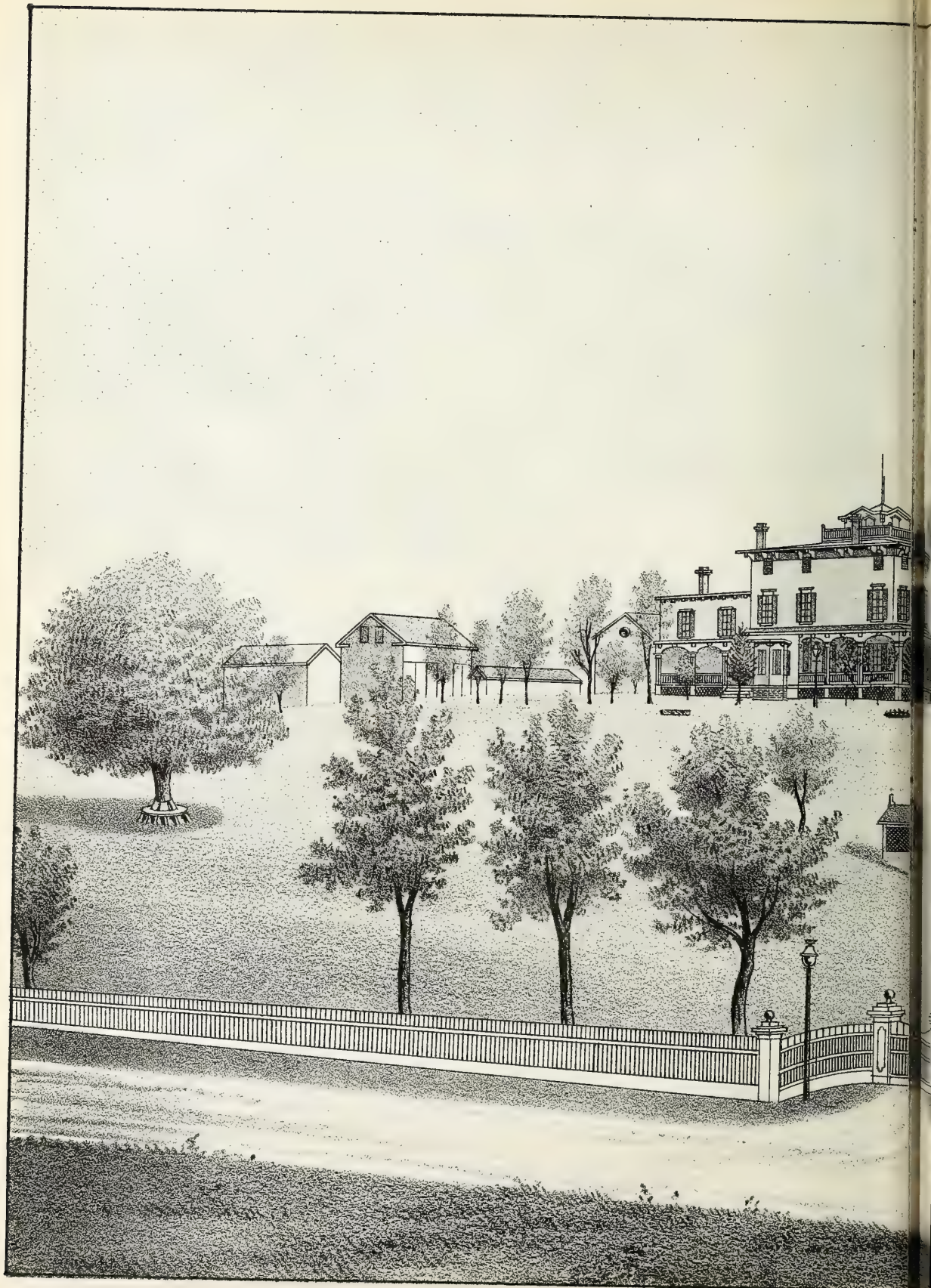
"The physical appearance of the town has been greatly changed. The stately mansions that now adorn the street along which Putnam rode in 1779 were then represented by the quaint dwellings of that early day, with gable-ends and long, low-slanting roofs. Just beyond the foot of the precipice now known as Putnam Hill, then stood the residence of Gen. Ebenezer Mead, who was a prominent member of the committee of safety and a soldier in the Connecticut service. On the summit of the hill, north of the old Episcopal church, was the residence of Jabez Fitch. The church itself was a plain frame building without walls, with the rafters showing overhead, and was so frail a structure that it was unable to withstand the force of the gale by which it was destroyed in 1821. The rear of the building stood a few feet from the brow of the hill. The main country road, as it was then called, led through the village to a point near the edge of the precipice, and then ran northerly for some three hundred feet. At the latter point it turned sharply to the south, and, hugging the side of the hill beneath the rocks that frowned above it, descended with a steep inclination to a point about eighty feet south of the present causeway. Then, bending again to the east, it trended off in the direction of Stamford. Northerly and westerly of the church, across the point where the passage-way has since been blasted through the rocks, the ground was level and unbroken. South of the church edifice was the graveyard, in which to-day are seen a few lonely and deserted relics of the past. From the rear of the church, across land now owned by Rev. B. M. Yarrington, a fence ran easterly down the hill along the southerly margin of the old road. Between the carriage-path and the fence rough and untrimmed stones had been placed from time to time, forming an irregular stairway up the hill. The face of the precipice was covered with a growth of bushes. Westerly from the summit of the hill, and opposite the present rectory of the Episcopal church, was the old tavern kept at that time by Israel Knapp. The original building is still in existence, and is owned by J. Frederick Holmes, the stone wing having been constructed since the period of which I now speak. Still farther towards the village stood an old house on the northwest corner of the present homestead of A. Foster Higgins, and on the lot now occupied by the Greenwich Academy was the residence of Moses Husted. At this house the American guards were frequently quartered. Just easterly of the church in which we are now assembled stood the house of Daniel Smith, which was burned by Tryon, and on the lot across the street, opposite the old Town Hall, had been erected another building, the property of Jared Mead. His residence stood near the present homestead of Frederick Mead. Angell Husted (2d) owned a house on the land now occupied by the Congregational cemetery. Between that building and this church edifice the house of worship of the Second Congregational Society—in dimensions thirty-five by fifty feet—had been standing since 1730. Capt. John Hobby kept a public-house on the property now owned by Prof. William G. Peck. Clemence Hobby lived on the site of the Greenwich Savings Bank. Another house was situated on the ground now occupied by the Lenox House, and from that point to Rocky Neck, on the Sound, there was not a building in existence. Opposite the Lenox House was a building, then kept as a tavern, which is still standing, and is occupied by John H. Sniffen. On the property of Jacob T. Weed stood another dwelling, and near the residence of Capt. J. G. Mead was a dwelling-house that has been destroyed within the past fifteen years. On the brow of the hill, on the ground now occupied by the homestead of Col. Thomas A. Mead, stood another house, then owned by Col. Richard Mead. In place of the magnificent row of trees that now line Putnam Avenue there stood three ballwood trees, two of which still remain. One of them is on the ground of Col. Thomas A. Mead, the other stands in front of the residence of the late Peter Acker, and the third stood near the dividing-line between the grounds of Luther P. Hubbard and Prof. William G. Peck."

#### PUTNAM'S RIDE.

"The 26th day of February, 1779, is memorable in the annals of Greenwich. Guided by the records and traditions that exist, by the statements of eye-witnesses that have been handed down from generation to generation, we are able to put forth our hands into the shadows of the past and rescue from oblivion the true story of the incidents of that day that







"GRAND"  
RESIDENCE OF HANFORD LOWMYER





"VIEW"  
WOOD, GREENWICH, FAIRFIELD CO. CONN.





stir the blood at the bare recital. As to a few minor details of Putnam's exploit there may be room for dispute, but the main fact is beyond question. The morning broke cold and dreary. A feeling of uneasiness and uncertain apprehension had gained a place in the community. Down towards the British lines there was a movement among the soldiery. Out of that region of silence and desolation that intervened came the sound of marching battalions and the clatter of squadrons of horsemen. Their purpose and destination were unknown, but to the people of Greenwich, accustomed to alarm, these signs were ominous of danger. The official records show that on the evening of Feb. 25, 1779, a marauding expedition started from King's Bridge, commanded by Maj.-Gen. Tryon, the Tory Governor of New York. His force consisted of about fifteen hundred men, composed of British and Hessian troops and two regiments of Tories. At New Rochelle they were met by a small body of Continental skirmishers, commanded by Capt. Titus Watson, who had been sent forward to reconnoitre. This company at once retreated, but near Milton, in the town of Rye, was overtaken and attacked. Their force became divided; a number of them were killed. A portion of the company concealed themselves in the swamps, and the remainder made their escape along the highway to the Byram River, which they reached in time to destroy the bridge before they were overtaken by their pursuers. Over the hills at full gallop rode Capt. Watson and his companions, to give warning to the few troops then in Greenwich. Col. Holdridge, of Hartford County, was in command of the outpost. Gen. Putnam had arrived but a few days previous, to obtain information as to the military situation, and was then in the village. At this point occurs the first discrepancy in the traditions of that day, but the prevailing current of authority seems to indicate that his quarters at that time were at the public-house kept by Israel Knapp, which was known in later years as the Tracy place. The enemy reached Greenwich at about nine o'clock on the morning of the 26th. The small body of Americans were posted across the road on the eminence south of the Congregational church. They had two small cannon, without horses or drag-ropes. A portion of them were deployed as skirmishers on either flank, leaving but about sixty men to hold this position. A contest here would have been madness. They had no cavalry; the enemy outnumbered them ten to one. The guns were fired upon the advancing column, and then the order was given for retreat.

"In the van of Tryon's forces rode Delancey's corps, composed of Tories from Westchester County, who had enrolled themselves beneath the royal banners and were the most bitter and malignant enemies of the patriots. At the approach of this body, charging at a gallop, the few Continentals withdrew from the field, and Putnam started on his horse for Stamford to obtain reinforcements. Along the frozen highway ring the steel-shod hoofs of the Continental charger; thundering on in swift pursuit ride the enemy's dragoons. The unexpected prize is almost within their grasp. Every nerve is strained to its utmost tension. The rowels are driven deep into the flanks of their steeds. Their steel flashes in the sunlight, their scabbards clank loudly in the frosty air. Each man, ambitious of the glory of being the captor of so distinguished an officer in the rebel service, leans forward in his saddle, as though to lessen the distance between himself and the flying horseman. Nearer and nearer to the old hero come the pursuers. Only a moment more, and the mad chase will be ended and the American general will be a prisoner in the hands of his enemies. But by this time the brow of the hill is reached, and the bold rider—to whom fear is unknown, who in his lifetime has beard the wild beasts of the forest in their den, who in the line of duty has faced grim death a hundred times with unquailing eye—spurs his horse right onward across the precipice, and amid a volley of bullets from his baffled pursuers takes his leap into history.

"Here again the local traditions do not entirely agree. There were eye-witnesses to Putnam's ride both among the citizens of Greenwich and the troops under his command. All the traditions concur as to the spot at which he reached the foot of the hill, but the place at which he began his descent and the precise course he took are involved in some obscurity. One story is that, leaving the highway, he turned slightly to his right, and, passing closely by the northeast corner of the church, rode near or directly down the steps. The other story places his point of divergence from the highway about one hundred feet north of the church, gives him a southeast course, and makes him strike the steps about one-third of the distance from the foot of the hill. Both accounts are based on statements made originally by those who witnessed the occurrence, but which have been forgotten or misunderstood in the course of frequent repetition. One thing, however, is certain: whatever may have been his starting-point, he performed a deed which the rough riders who followed him dared not emulate, which is worthy of historic mention and is a glorious exploit for commemoration.

"It is not my purpose to describe the events of that day of terror in Greenwich. The British forces scattered through the town and spent the time in spoilage and debauchery. Insult and cruelty, robbery and murder, characterized their doings. The wanton destruction of provisions and property of every kind proved their hatred and malignity. A detachment went to the Mianus River and burned the salt-works, a store, a schooner, and a sloop. At nightfall the order to return was given. Reinforcements had arrived, and the Americans followed the retreating enemy, blazing upon their flanks and rear, taking prisoners, recapturing the plunder they had stolen, and turning the invasion of the British into a substantial victory."

## CHAPTER XXXVII.

### GREENWICH (Continued).

#### ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

First Congregational Church—Second Congregational Church—Congregational Church, Stanwich—Congregational Church, North Greenwich—Steep Hollow Church—Christ Church—Emmanuel Church—St. Paul's Chapel—Calvary Church, Round Hill—Methodist Episcopal Church, Greenwich—Methodist Episcopal Church, Round Hill—Methodist Episcopal Church, King Street—Methodist Episcopal Church, Mianus—Evangelical Lutheran—Banksville Baptist—Baptist Church, King Street—St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church.

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

As early as 1643 Greenwich was taxed for preaching, and there was occasional service held in town. In 1660 the male inhabitants numbered about twenty, and all were obliged to contribute *pro rata* for the support of preaching, and attendance on divine service was enforced by law. Non-attendance was punished by a penalty of five shillings. The church was organized in 1670, and in 1675 a call was extended to Rev. Mr. Wizwell, who declined it.

#### PASTORS.

The first pastor was Rev. Jeremiah Peck, and his salary was paid at "fifty pounds with fire-wood, or sixty pounds without fire-wood." Rev. Jeremiah Peck, 1678–89; Rev. Abraham Pierson, 1691–94; Rev. Salmon Treat, 1695–97; Rev. Joseph Morgan, 1697–1700; Rev. Nathaniel Bowers, 1707, remained probably two years. Mr. Jones supplied the church for a short time after Mr. Bowers' dismissal, and was succeeded in 1715 by Rev. Mr. Sackett, and probably remained about two years. He was subsequently pastor at New Greenwich eleven years. Rev. Ephraim Bostwick, 1730–46; Rev. Ebenezer Davenport, 1763–69; Rev. Robert Morris, 1785–94. After 1794 the pulpit was supplied by the Rev. Platt Buffett and Rev. Abner Benedict.

At the beginning of the century Rev. Samuel Sturges was pastor, and remained seven years; Rev. John Noyes, 1810–24; Rev. Charles F. Butler, 1824–34; Rev. Thomas Payne, 1837–42; Rev. S. B. S. Bissell, 1842–53; Rev. William A. Hyde, 1854–64; Rev. W. F. Arms, 1864, nearly two years (supply); Rev. William P. Hammond, 1867–72; Rev. J. S. Bayne, 1872–76; Rev. Granville W. Nims, 1876–78. Frank S. Child, A.M., the present pastor, was installed Feb. 27, 1879.

## THE CHURCH EDIFICES.

The first church edifice was erected in about the year 1666, near Greenwich Cove. The second church building is supposed to have stood near the Mianus. The third church edifice stood on the elevation of land south of the present residence of Mr. Charles Husted, and was built by Congregationalists, aided by the Episcopalians. The present building was commenced in 1855, and completed a few years later.

The old society and church books are very meagre in their records, and those in possession of the church to-day date back less than a hundred years. The treasurer's books give us some definite information. From them we learn that the annual salary of committeemen varied from fifty cents to one dollar and a half; in 1830 it was one dollar. The treasurer was more generously paid, receiving for his services the sum of two dollars. In those days it cost thirty-seven cents to sweep the church.

Among the charges on the treasurer's book we find one which denotes the status of the temperance question at that date. At the society's annual meeting, 18—, the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents was expended on liquors with which to regale the company.

In the early history of the church the people assembled for worship at eight o'clock in the morning; they brought their heaters and their lunches with them. The pulpit was high above the heads of the people. Contributions were made by the magistrate and principal men of the congregation passing to the deacon's seat and depositing their gifts in the cash-box. Seats were assigned by an officer. Position and dignity in the community determined the matter of precedence.

The following extract appears in the *Farmer's Journal*, published at Danbury, under date Feb. 15, 1791:

## SCHEME FOR LOTTERY\*

for raising the remainder of the sum granted by the General Assembly for the benefit of the first society of the town of Greenwich.

## THIRD CLASS.

1200 tickets at one dollar each is 1200 dollars.

To be drawn in prizes as follows:

1 prize of 100 dollars.....	100 dollars.
2 prizes of 50 ".....	100 "
3 " 20 ".....	60 "
4 " 15 ".....	60 "
5 " 10 ".....	50 "
8 " 5 ".....	40 "
10 " 4 ".....	40 "
15 " 3 ".....	45 "
351 " 2 ".....	702 "
1 first blank, $1\frac{1}{2}$ dollars.....	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "
1 last " $1\frac{1}{2}$ ".....	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "

401

1200

Subject to a deduction of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

The drawing is postponed, to begin by the 5th day of April next, or sooner if the tickets are disposed of, and the fortunate adventurers punctually paid.

JABEZ FITCH,  
WILLIAM FITCH,  
ELIHU P. SMITH,

Managers.

STAMFORD, January 22, 1791.

\* Lotteries were at that time legal.

## TICKETS

in the above lottery may be had of the managers and at the printing-office, Danbury.

## THE SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

In an address delivered by Rev. Joel H. Linsley, D.D., Dec. 5, 1858, he says,—

"In March, 1682, the town, by their vote, directed that a number of home-lots should be laid out at Horseneck, but at the same time forbid the occupants from seeking any organization, civil or religious, separate from the town. Twelve years later, 1694, the town voted to build a new meeting-house, 32 by 26, which vote, however, does not seem to have been carried into effect.† Nearly at the same time there began to be dissensions between the inhabitants on the two sides of the river about the maintenance of worship on this side. Two years later, in 1696, Salmon Treat was called to settle in the town, with a provision for his preaching every third Sabbath at Horseneck,—the first recognition of this place as entitled to preaching,—but he did not accept the call. Early in 1699, by vote of the town, a home-lot was granted for a parsonage at Horseneck. The Rev. Joseph Morgan, the next minister, is believed to have come here in the autumn of 1696. He preached at first on both sides of the river, as it had been contemplated Mr. Treat should do; but it soon created dissatisfaction. The proprietors of the town say by vote that 'Mr. Morgan preaching part of the time at Horseneck is a damage to them, and takes away their religious privileges.‡ Mr. Morgan continued the minister of the town four years, till May, 1700. He then left the settlement east of the Mianus, and assigned as a reason the want of union among the people. He seems after that to have labored on this side of the river, as we find the inhabitants bestowing upon him in January, 1705, some special privileges. On the 5th of March following the town was by vote divided into two societies; and here we suppose that we find the true date of the founding of this church. After this, Mr. Morgan continued its pastor till he was dismissed, October, 1703, by vote of the town, whether with or without any other formalities does not appear.§

"It has been thought that the dismissal of Mr. Morgan was the last action of the town in ecclesiastical affairs. There were, however, votes of the town in 1709 and 1711 for providing a parsonage for the West Society, and also a vote in 1713 assigning a location for their church, which was near the site we now occupy. Three years later, December, 1716, we find the town holding a meeting in the new house, which shows that the building is erected and so far advanced towards completion as to be occupied. It also indicates that the centre of population was changing from the east to the west side of the river. We ascertain, then, with tolerable certainty the following facts: That on the 5th of March, 1705, the two congregations became distinct by mutual agreement. Of course we must presume that this church was at that time regularly organized, with Joseph Morgan for its acting pastor. Its first house of worship was built by the town eleven years afterwards, in 1716. Its erection was voted through a series of years, from 1694 to 1713; the building itself, however, meanwhile made no progress. It would be difficult to say at what time its foundations were actually laid; probably, however, it was soon after the vote of 1713, which fixed its site between the dwellings of Joseph Close and Ephraim Palmer. That house stood from 1716 to Jan. 7, 1799, a period of eighty-two years. During the latter part of this time it was in a very dilapidated state. At length the

† This is understood to be in the east settlement, now called Old Greenwich; and it may here be noted that in all early votes "the town" describes this settlement, then the seat of power.

‡ They add, "We think it convenient to give Mr. Morgan acquaintance that we would not have him preach at Horseneck, but continue in the town."

§ The event here mentioned took place one hundred and fifty years since,—a period so far remote as to render it not improper to introduce an amusing incident suited to illustrate those early times. We find on the records of the town a very significant vote. In January, 1705, the inhabitants in the west settlement had granted Mr. Morgan, to aid in his support, a tide-mill, now owned by Mr. S. Davis. Three years after this Ebenezer Mead, Joshua Knapp, and Caleb Knapp were sent to him as a committee "to see if he would cease tending his mill in person, and provide a miller, so that he might attend to the people;" and if he would not, the process of relief was to be of a summary character: "The committee were to consider the pulpit vacant, and at once proceed to provide another minister."



house we are now in was covered, and by the removal of the seats from the old house to the new was prepared so as to be occupied. It was dedicated Jan. 7, 1799, by the then pastor, Isaac Lewis, Sr. His discourse on that occasion was founded on Genesis xxviii. 17: "And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.\*" Everything shows that the old building had become unsightly and uncomfortable, and that it had been used to the last moment. Hence the hurry of the removal. The building was finished three years afterwards, the funds for that purpose being raised by a tax. The first renting of the pews† was December, 1802. The rental amounted to about \$100. The whole cost of the church is thought to have been not far from \$6000,—a heavier tax upon the property of the congregation than \$50,000 would be now.†

The following is a list of the pastors of this church: Richard Sackett, Stephen Monson, Daniel Granger, Abraham Todd, Jonathan Murdock, Isaac Lewis, Sr., Isaac Lewis, Jr., Joel Mann, J. H. Linsley, F. G. Clark, C. R. Treat.

The first church edifice was erected in about 1716, the second in 1730, and the third in 1798. The present church edifice was completed in 1858, at a cost of about fifty thousand dollars. The present deacons of the church are Charles Mead, Elkanah Mead, Moses Cristy, T. S. Pinneo, M.D., William A. Howe.

The following is a list of members from 1728 to 1800:

- 1728.—Jonathan Hobby, James Pratt, Jonathan Hobby's wife, Eunice Mead, Mary Mead, Abigail Reynolds, Abigail Rundle, David Mead, Peter Ferris, John Moe, wife of John Moe, Sarah Ferris, Kezia Ferris, Joshua Knapp, Jr., Ann Mead, Hannah Mead.
- 1730.—Martha Knapp, Jabez Mead, wife of Jabez Mead, Mary Brush, Mindwell Rundle, Deborah Cord, Solomon Close, wife of Solomon Close.
- 1732.—Reuben Runolds, Ruth Runolds, Elnathan Mead, John Ferris, Jr.
- 1733.†—Ruth Runolds.
- 1774.—Ebenezer Mead, Deacon; Elnathan Mead, Deacon; Theophilus Peck, Theophilus Peck, Jr., Benjamin Mead, Eliphalet Mead, Jonas Mead (chosen deacon April 25, 1776), Odle Close, Benjamin Peck, Caleb Mead, Caleb Lyon, John Holmes, Phineas Knapp, Jonathan Knapp, Joshua Reynolds, Eli Rundle (chosen deacon Sept. 22, 1774), Reuben Ferris, Sylvanus Ferris, Nathaniel Mead, Horton Reynolds, Samuel Rundle, Silas Mead (chosen deacon Oct., 1783), Zebadiah Mead, Isaac Howe, Hannah Todd, Naomi Mead, Eunice Mead, Sarah Mead, Elizabeth Peck, Prudence Mead, Rebecca Peck, Bethia Close, Lydia Reynolds, Mary Mead, Sarah Mead, Eunice Lyon, Hannah Mead, Kezia Howe, Abigail Mead, Martha Mead, Hannah Mead, Phebe Rundle, Hannah Hays, Amos Mead, Samuel Peck, Mary Knapp, Sarah Howe, Elizabeth Howe, Anna Mursey.
- 1775.—Benjamin Mead, Mary Mead, James Murdock, Minor Hilliard, Mercy Mead, Martha Rich.
- 1776.—Kezia Murdock, Rachel Brown.
- 1777.—Tama Hait, Anna Abrahams, Sarah Mead, Ruth Mead.
- 1778.—Hannah Rich.
- 1786.—Eli Rundle, Deacon; Silas Mead, Deacon; Eliphalet Mead, Caleb Mead, Caleb Lyon, Zebadiah Mead, Amos Mead, Benjamin Mead, Theophilus Peck, Odle Close, Caleb Lyon, Samuel Peck, Benjamin Peck, Horton Reynolds, Samuel Brown, Samuel Rundle, Mary Mead, Abigail Mead, Bethiah Reynolds, Eunice Lyon, Hannah Mead, Abigail Knapp, Rebekah Peck, Bethiah Close, Rachel Lyon, Martha Mead, Kezia Howe, Lydia Reynolds, Rachel Knapp, Elizabeth Howe, Mary Knapp, Hannah McAll, Hannah Mead, Sarah Mead, Abigail Mead, Sarah Mead, Martha

Rich, Jerusha Peck, Abigail Holmes, Abigail Hoston, Rebecca Holmes, Anah Hobby, Elizabeth Close, Anah Palmer, Hannah Knapp, Ruth Mead, Mary Mead.

- 1787.—David Mead, Anne Mead, Ebenezer Mead (chosen deacon June 7, 1798), Rachel Mead, Henry Mead, Mary Mead, Hannah Lyons, Abigail Sackett, Abraham Peck, Nathaniel Reese, Abraham Mead (chosen deacon Sept. 9, 1789), Kezia Mead, Ruth Mead.
- 1788.—Solomon Knapp, Deborah Hibbard, Gilbert Peck, Deborah Peck.
- 1789.—Gideon Peck, Eunice Peck, Ezekiel Halsted, Sally Halsted, John Hibbard, Lydia Mead, Sarah Fletcher, Ezekiel Halsted, Nathan Brown, Hannah Miller, Solomon Peck, Mary Lyon, Abigail Ferris, Ruth Knapp, Robert Merritt, James Knapp, Ann Dayton, Susan Rich, Mary Rich, Hannah Knapp, Sarah Miles.
- 1790.—Mary Lockwood, Rachel Merritt, Abigail Reynolds, Mary Ann Rich.
- 1793.—Jonah Mead, York Felmente, Hannah Mead, Hannah Parsons, Martha Mead, Polly Lyon.
- 1794.—Amos Lyon, George Lockwood.
- 1796.—Jerusha Graham, Jonathan Mead, Ann Hibbard, Deborah Mead, Rachel Close, Elizabeth Fletcher, Isaac Loofborow.
- 1797.—Joshua Mead, Mary Mead, Calvin Mead, Abigail Armour.
- 1798.—Daniel Smith, Samuel Peck.
- 1799.—Mary Mead, Hannah Lyon, Amos Green, Martha Mead.
- 1800.—Martha Mead.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, STANWICH ‡

The church was organized in June, 1735, with thirteen members. The first pastor was Rev. Benjamin Strong, who served until March 3, 1767.

The pastors from the organization of the church to the present time are as follows: Rev. Benjamin Strong, June 17, 1735, to March 3, 1767; Rev. William Seward, Feb. 24, 1774, to Feb. 4, 1794; Rev. Platt Buffett, May 25, 1796, to June 30, 1835; Rev. Daniel Butts, Oct. 2, 1839, to Dec. 6, 1842; Rev. Alonzo B. Rich, April 26, 1848, to Nov. 3, 1854; Rev. Henry G. Jessup, April 26, 1853, to Sept. 30, 1862; Rev. John S. Bayne, May 18, 1869, to Oct. 8, 1872; Rev. Homer Broadwell, 1875-78; Rev. F. C. Potter, Dec. 16, 1879, present incumbent.

The present officers of the church are as follows: Pastor, F. C. Potter; Deacons, George Derby, Alexander Lockwood, and Lewis M. Close; Clerk, George A. Lockwood. For information concerning this church we are indebted to Rev. F. C. Potter.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, NORTH GREENWICH

This church was organized Dec. 25, 1827, with eighteen members, as follows: Hannah (Close), wife of Lewis Mead; Rebecca (Holly), wife of Seymour Hobby; Sarah (Knapp), wife of Isaac Peck; Calvin Mead and Deborah, his wife; Hannah (Peck), wife of Darius Mead; Abigail (Rundle), wife of Levi Mead; Obadiah Mead and Alla, his wife; Luther Mead and Annis, his wife; Thizza (Mead), widow of James Palmer; William Loundsberry, Lewis Mead, Silas H. Mead, Huldah Mead, Heman Mead, Susan Loundsberry.

#### LIST OF MINISTERS.

The pastors have been: Chauncey Wilcox, June 25, 1828, to May 5, 1846; Frederic Munson, Sept. 22, 1847, to April 22, 1856; John Blood, Nov. 11, 1856, to Oct. 12, 1858; William H. Knouse, May 4, 1859,

\* The preacher's stand on that occasion was a joiner's bench, with the front of the old pulpit placed before him. The day was stormy, and the congregation is thought to have numbered only about one hundred.

† The pews joined upon the walls. The slips were free for many years.

‡ No records were made of admission to the church from Feb. 22, 1733, to June 3, 1774, when a list of members was made by Mr. Murdock.

‡ The records of this church were destroyed by fire in 1821.

|| Contributed by Rev. Richard B. Bull.

to May 3, 1863; William P. Alcott, Feb. 18, 1868, to Aug. 4, 1874; Alpheus Winter, June 27, 1876, to Aug. 4, 1877. Lemuel S. Potwin was acting pastor from Sept. 4, 1863, to March 1, 1865; Solomon H. Schofield, May 3, 1865, to May 1, 1867; Richard B. Bull, from Aug. 19, 1868, to 1878.

#### DEACONS.

Silas Harvey Mead was one of the active ones in the formation of the North Greenwich Church, and was chosen deacon the day the church was organized. He held his office and performed all the duties of it till his death, after a few days' illness, Dec. 14, 1878, aged eighty-two, having been in office fifty-one years lacking eleven days. He was a man of wisdom, perseverance, and success in promoting the interests of the church, and was a model for men of that office in prayerfulness, self-sacrifice, and diligence. The land—twelve acres—on which the church building and parsonage stand was his gift, and the position of the church early taken against slavery and intemperance was largely due to him.

Obadiah Mead, one of the first members of the church, was chosen deacon and ordained Sept. 28, 1828, and died in office. He was a man of marked ability and usefulness. At the semi-centennial of the church the pastor said of him, "Deacon Obadiah Mead, aged ninety-two years and nine months, who has been able to be in his place in this sanctuary, till within a few weeks, every Sabbath, but who to-day can almost see the boatman who is to ferry him over to the shores of bright deliverance."

Josiah Wilcox was ordained Sept. 2, 1864, and is now in active service. Silas D. Mead, son of Deacon S. H. Mead, was chosen soon after his father's death, Jan. 14, 1879. The present membership of the church is about one hundred and fifty.

The church was organized Dec. 25, 1827, and took the name of "The North Greenwich Congregational Church." It began in self-support, and has always paid its bills and kept itself free from debt.

The pastor is supported by tax on the assessment of the property of the society as it stands on the town-list, after having received such contributions from them who are not members of the society, but who are willing to pay for seats. The assessment is now nine mills on the dollar.

The testimony of the church has always been real and earnest on the questions of anti-slavery and temperance. It has used no fermented wine at communion since 1850.

In the war for the Union and Freedom twenty-nine men from the church and congregation put their names on the roll of honor, six of whom gave their lives.

The Sunday-school was organized in April, 1828. In 1829 it had fourteen teachers and forty-two scholars. Selah Savage was chosen superintendent in 1832, and has been annually chosen to that office since that

time, nearly forty-eight years. In fitness for his work and the doing of it he has few equals.

The Ladies' Beneficent Society of the church was organized in 1848. All that has been done to the church since that time has been its work. The Bible, bell, window-blinds, lamps, cushions, carpets, furniture, and stoves the ladies' society paid for. It has also done much of the work needed on the parsonage. Mrs. Silas Husted and Mrs. Silas D. Mead have been in the office of first and second directors of the society since 1852. Mrs. Amy (Husted) Close has been secretary and treasurer for many years.

The contributions of the church to benevolent objects average about five hundred and seventy-five dollars per annum.

SILAS D. MEAD is a lineal descendant of one John Mead, who came from England in company with his two sons, John and Joseph, in 1642, and after remaining a short time in Massachusetts settled at Hempstead, L. I., where they remained until October, 1660, when they settled in the town of Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., where many of the descendants now (Nov. 2, 1880) reside. (For a more extended sketch of his ancestors see biography of Col. Thomas A. Mead.)

Silas Mead, "the first," second son of the second Ebenezer, was born May 22, 1720, and died in the year 1817. His wife, Mrs. Mary Mead, was born in 1724 and died in 1787. Their children were as follows: Silas, Abner, Aaron, Mary, Mary (2d), and Calvin.

Silas Mead, the first, settled at North Greenwich, and was a farmer. He was a member of the Second Congregational Church at Greenwich.

Silas Mead, "the second," was born in 1748 and died in 1813. His wife was Sarah Mead, a daughter of Deliverance Mead, who was also the sixth son of the second Ebenezer Mead. Their children were as follows: Sarah, Silas H., and Francis, who died young. Mr. Mead lived on the "old home" farm and was a substantial citizen of North Greenwich, Conn. He was killed by being thrown from a wagon near his home; his wife died in 1812.

Silas H. Mead was born Dec. 12, 1796, at North Greenwich, Conn.; he was a large farmer and a leading man in the community. In politics he was an uncompromising Abolitionist, and by voice and vote did all he could to educate the people of his community to the idea of human liberty. He united with the Second Congregational Church at Greenwich in 1826, and immediately took a deep interest in religious matters.

The Congregational Church at North Greenwich was built in 1827, and its erection was largely due to the interest and efforts of Mr. Mead. He was chosen its first deacon, which honorable position he held until the day of his death, Dec. 14, 1878. He always took a deep interest in missionary matters, and was very liberal towards all religious enterprises. He





*Niles L. Mend*





was one of Greenwich's best and most respected citizens, and, dying, left the record of a *good name*.

He married Harriet Mead, daughter of Jehial Mead, and had the following children: Sarah M. (who married Selah Savage, a farmer of North Greenwich, and has two children, William L. and Roxa M.), and Silas D. (2d). Mrs. Mead died July 1, 1870.

SILAS D. MEAD (2d) was born at North Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., Jan. 31, 1819. He received a common-school and academic education. He married Emily L., daughter of Ezekiel Close and Althea Palmer, Sept. 22, 1840. She was born Dec. 21, 1820, in Greenwich, Conn. Their children are as follows: Myrtilla, Silas E., Emily Cornelia, Sarah C. (deceased), Horatio B., Harriet A., and Ezekiel C. Myrtilla married Livingston Disbrow, a farmer, of New Rochelle, N. Y. Silas E. married Cornelia M., daughter of Josiah Wilcox, and has four children,—Silas F. (who died at four), Mable W., Louise C., and Josiah W.

Mr. Mead owns a portion of his father's farm, which has been in the family for many generations; to this he has added until he now owns over three hundred and forty acres of land. He has made all the improvements on his farm.

In 1838 he united with the Congregational Church at North Greenwich, and has been one of its most liberal supporters and best workers. He has taken charge of the singing for more than forty years, and is to be found at his post of duty to-day. In March, 1879, he was chosen deacon, to take the place so long and faithfully filled by his honored father.

He has always been identified with the Sunday-school interests of his church, and has been a teacher for many years. He is a thorough temperance man, never having used tobacco or liquor of any kind. He is very liberal in all matters pertaining to educational or religious matters, and is, and has been for more than forty years, one of the strong pillars of the Congregational Church at North Greenwich.

In politics he was a Whig until 1856, when he joined the Republican party.

#### STEEP HOLLOW CHAPEL.

The Steep Hollow Chapel Sunday-school was started in a small old district school-house on the Mianus River, by Mr. Stickney and others from Stamford, about 1850, and furnished with a library. It was kept for about two years (in the summer), and then given up.

Soon after, Rev. Mr. Bissel and others from Old Greenwich and Mianus started it again, and continued it for three summers, using the same house and library, when it was again given up.

In the spring of 1856, Miss Beers, an earnest Christian lady, teaching in the district, with the aid of Miss Ritch, started it once more, commencing with a few scholars, in the same old school-house. They invited Rev. Mr. Hyde, Deacon Hawes, and others to

help them. Very soon the number of pupils so increased that the house was full, and some were obliged to remain outside on the wall. Many had been furnished with hats and shoes for the first time. Some were children of Catholic parents, who were furnished with testaments bearing a gilt cross, put on them by Miss Ritch. They took them home and read them, and when they moved away they carried the good influence with them, but the hats and shoes the teachers found hung upon the cart-stakes. A library containing two hundred volumes, with thirty Bibles, was furnished, and Mr. Dodge, Revs. Brush, Button, and Cristy have been superintendents.

Miss Ritch carried the library home every week for two years, when a chapel was built on a new and beautiful spot, at a cost of about sixteen hundred dollars, furnished with blinds and painted, and not one dollar owing on it, in 1858 and 1859; it has been kept in a very prosperous condition ever since, and has averaged about ninety scholars for the last twenty years. The superintendent and teachers all come from two to four miles, in heat and cold, summer and winter.

In the collections for Christian work, etc., the average is about one hundred dollars a year.

There is a Sabbath-school missionary association. Monthly letters have been received from missionaries in Wisconsin and Kansas, and a sum amounting to nearly seventy dollars has been contributed yearly to their support.\*

#### CHRIST CHURCH, GREENWICH.

The first Episcopal services were held in this town in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and the first church edifice was erected in 1749, and stood on the brow of Putnam's Hill. This was demolished by a gale in 1821. A new church building was erected in 1832, and May 4, 1834, was consecrated by Rt. Rev. Thomas Church Brownell, D.D., LL.D., bishop of the diocese. The present church edifice was erected in 1856.

The following have served the church as rectors: Revs. James Wetmore, Ebenezer Dibble, Amzi Rogers, Robert Davis, Joseph H. Nichols, and Benjamin M. Yarrington. The latter began his labors with the parish April 27, 1839, and is the present rector.

#### EMANUEL CHURCH, GLENVILLE.

This building was consecrated April 22, 1842, by Rt. Rev. Thomas Church Brownell, D.D., LL.D., bishop of the diocese. Present, Rev. Ambrose Todd, D.D., Rev. William C. Mead, D.D., Rev. John Purves, Rev. Mr. Howell, Rev. B. M. Yarrington; also, of diocese of New York, Rev. Thomas Coit, D.D., Rev. Mr. Harris, and Rev. Mr. Partridge.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH is located at Riverside.

\* For the above history we are indebted to M. Cristy, Esq.

## CALVARY CHURCH, ROUND HILL.

This church was incorporated June 25, 1859, with Isaac Peck and Barton White, Wardens; Nathaniel Ferris, Benjamin Knapp, James Husted, Daniel Sniffen, Jonathan Husted, C. W. Merritt, Zalmon Minor, and John Purdy, Jr., Vestrymen; James Husted, Clerk. This church was erected in the summer of 1860, and the first service held in it was by Rev. Isaac Peck, Aug. 26, 1860. It was consecrated by Bishop Williams on Oct. 29, 1860. The baptismal font was presented by the vestry of Christ Church, Greenwich.

The following have been rectors: Rev. Isaac Peck, Aug. 26, 1860, to Feb. 26, 1865; Rev. William Binet (in charge), Aug. 14, 1865, to Jan. 15, 1866; Rev. D. H. Short, D.D., July 15, 1866, to Feb. 18, 1867. Rev. B. M. Yarrington held occasional services, which were continued by lay-readings by Mark Banks, Esq., of Greenwich, until the coming of Rev. R. H. Barns, who was rector from April 24, 1868, to April 24, 1871. Rev. C. W. Bolton has been minister in charge from Nov. 1, 1872, to the present.

The church was built by the efforts and personal contributions of Dr. Barton T. White, resident physician of the place. The officers at present (1880) are as follows: Wardens, Nathaniel Ferris, Col. T. A. Haight; vestry, Benjamin Knapp, W. H. Briggs, Dr. J. C. White, H. Thompson, Edward Reddington.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GREENWICH.

The first sermon preached by a Methodist in this place was about the year 1810, by a Rev. Mr. Canfield, but no regular church organization was effected until 1843, as shown by the following agreement:

"Whereas, The members of the Methodist Episcopal Church resident in Horseneck, in the town of Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., desire to make provision for the maintenance of the public worship of God according to the usages and doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church in said Horseneck as may be considered necessary;

"Therefore, We the undersigned, for the accomplishment of the above-named object, do hereby by mutual agreement associate ourselves together as a religious society for the maintenance of the public worship of God according to the said usages and doctrines of the said Methodist Episcopal Church in said Horseneck, by the name and style of the Horseneck Methodist Episcopal Society, by which name and style the said society is to be called and known; which said society we do hereby constitute to be subject to all the incidents and liabilities to which religious societies and congregations are by law subject, and possess and enjoy all rights, powers, and privileges given by law to religious societies and congregations.

"And we hereby declare this meeting, at which the undersigned are present, to be the first meeting of said society, the same being holden by us all this 14th day of November, A.D. 1843, at the school-house in said Horseneck. And we do hereby appoint John A. Merritt clerk of said society, to continue in office until another be chosen and sworn in his room. And we also appoint Jonathan A. Close, Elisha Halstead, Gilbert Marshall, Solomon S. Gansey, and Benjamin Peck, Jr., to be the committee of the said society to order the affairs of said society according to law.

"And we do hereby fix on the school-house in Horseneck Society as the place of holding the meetings of said society until the society shall otherwise direct; and we direct that the clerk of this society shall cause the articles of association to be recorded in the records of this society.

"We also appoint Elisha Halstead treasurer of this society. We also

fix on the first Monday of November as the time when the annual meetings of this society shall be holden until the society shall otherwise direct.

"Witness our hands this 14th day of November, A.D. 1843.

"SOLOMON S. GANSEY.

"ELISHA HALSTEAD.

"JOHN A. MERRITT.

"GILBERT MARSHALL.

"JOHN M. WEED.

"JONATHAN A. CLOSE.

"BENJAMIN PECK, JR."

Among other early Methodists in the vicinity are mentioned the names of John Avery and wife, Benjamin Wilson and wife, Mrs. Matilda Mead, Mrs. Platt Newman, Miss Mahala Hitchcock, Mrs. Maria Marshall, Mrs. Elizabeth Palmer, Mrs. Isaac Weed, Mrs. Selah Mead, Miss Marilda Fletcher, Mrs. William Mead, Mrs. Huldah Tracey, Mrs. Nehemiah Mead, Mrs. Charity Tudor (colored), Mrs. Ellen Treadwell (colored), Gilbert Lent, Samuel Slagle, Samuel Minor, William Funston, William McF. Howard, John Marshall, William Barmore, Charles Gorse.

First society committee: Jonathan A. Close, Elisha Halstead, Gilbert Marshall, Solomon S. Gansey, Benjamin Peck, Jr.; first clerk, John A. Merritt.

The first house of worship was erected in 1844, in which the society worshiped until 1869, when the present edifice was dedicated, the corner-stone of which was laid May 12th of the previous year.

The following is a list of the pastors: Rufus C. Putman, Benjamin Redford; 1847, Rev. Jacob C. Washburn, assisted by Rev. B. M. Adams; 1848-49, Rev. Charles Gorse and William F. Smith; 1850, Rev. William McKendree Bangs and J. A. Selleck; 1851, the charge embraced Greenwich and Coscob, Rev. J. A. Selleck, preacher; 1852-53, Rev. George L. Fuller; 1854, Rev. Philip L. Hoyt; 1855, Rev. George Dunbar; 1856-57, Rev. S. Howland; 1858, Rev. E. Oldrin; 1859-60, Rev. George Hollis; 1861-62, Rev. George Stillman. In 1863 it was connected with Round Hill and Stanwich, and supplied by Rev. A. McAllister; in 1864 it was associated with Round Hill only, and Rev. A. McAllister returned to this charge; 1865, Rev. Moses Lyon; in 1866, Greenwich was separated from the other charges, and Rev. William R. Webster was the preacher; 1867-70, William F. Hatfield; 1870-73, Arza Hill; 1873-75, Charles C. Glover; 1875-76, J. W. Beach, D.D.; 1876-77, Richard Rust; 1877-80, George Taylor; 1880, C. P. Corner. The present trustees are George Selleck, John H. Ferris, John H. Ray, Hanford Lockwood, Thomas P. Hunt, and Joseph G. Merritt.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,\* ROUND HILL.

Methodism first made its appearance in this vicinity about the year 1800, through the instrumentality of Nathaniel Husted and Benjamin Lockwood, men of means and of large landed estates.

Mr. Husted says in his oration,—

\* Compiled from an address delivered by N. C. Husted, M.D., at the semi-centennial of the Round Hill Methodist Episcopal Church in 1878.



"Nathaniel Husted was not only a religious man, but a patriot, a man who had rendered service to his country, and had held a commission under the renowned Gen. Putnam, of Revolutionary notoriety.

"Benjamin Lockwood was much of the same sort of a Christian and patriot. These two men, together with their families, then planted Methodism here. The first place for holding meetings known to us was at the house of Nathaniel Husted, where Mary, the widow of James Husted, now lives,—a Methodist preacher by the name of Drummold conducted the services,—and after this preaching in a wood-lot northwest of the barn, where Ward Sarles now lives, under an oak-tree. The property was then owned and occupied by Nathaniel Husted. The quarterly meetings were held in a cider-mill then standing by the roadside, just above the house now occupied by Mr. Sarles, and owned by Mr. O. H. P. Archer, of New York City. Benjamin Lockwood's house was also another preaching-station. There a minister by the name of Crawford was known to have preached. That renowned and eccentric character Lorenzo Dow is known to have preached in this vicinity, as there are living witnesses who have listened to his peculiar and startling words. This little band of brothers, with those whom they gathered into the fold, met from house to house, until they finally contemplated building a house of worship. God saw that a church was needed here. Two years, or thereabouts, before the church was dedicated, one of its earliest and noblest workers, Nathaniel Husted, died, Jan. 20, 1826. I need not say he died a true and earnest Christian.

"But the work which had been started did not stop. His three sons, James, Nathaniel, and Samuel, who took his place and walked in his footsteps, continued on in the good work. James and Nathaniel have followed their father, and have long since gone to their eternal abode. All, as you know, were endowed with Christian hearts. Their homes were always open to the Methodist minister, the same as their father's. The house of Benjamin Lockwood is still standing as the second landmark of Methodism, and is now occupied by his grandson, who bears his grandfather's name. Benjamin Lockwood's membership, it is said, can be traced back eighty years. Some of the prophets of that day predicted that the Methodist would 'eat them out of house and home.' But their prophecies proved untrue, as they lived comfortable all their days, having sufficient to eat and drink.

"Major Lockwood, son of Benjamin Lockwood, has been a member of this society for sixty-six years. He still holds his connection with this church, and occasionally fills his place in this time-honored sanctuary. He was the first class-leader after the dedication of the church. He united with the church at a very early age, and marks the time by the preachers who were on the circuit at the time when the Rev. Phineas Rice preached, and the same year that Gen. Hull, of the American army, in the war of 1812, surrendered to the British in Canada without striking a blow. Mr. Lockwood recollects distinctly the remarks of Brother Rice when he heard of Hull's inglorious surrender. He said he would like to have been general instead of Hull; 'he thought the British would not have got off so easy.' And now Brother Lockwood still lives to see the connecting link between the old and newly-clad church.

"From this point Methodism first made its way into Round Hill. At or about this time an appointment was established at the old school-house which stood in front of this edifice at the junction of the roads, and where the sign-post now stands. This building has long since been demolished, and a new one erected opposite and a little to the south. Could the old school-house tell the story of the past, it would not only speak of the wonders accomplished in literature and science by the teachings of the veteran schoolmaster and his accompanying rod of correction,—here it was that your honored servant received his early training,—not only that, but it would tell of many a battle under the Captain of our salvation, and many a glorious victory.

"Returning to the church. The ground on which this structure originally stood was deeded to the society by two brothers who are still living and honorable members of this church. Their names are Benjamin and Jonathan Husted. The trustees were originally Benjamin Husted, Ard Reynolds, of Stanwich; Nathaniel Husted, James Husted, Nehemiah Brown, Major Lockwood, and Abel Reynolds, of Round Hill. The building committee were two brothers, Nathaniel and Samuel Husted. The builder was Silas Brundage. Only one trustee lives to tell us of the past; his name is Major Lockwood. Only one of the building committee lives,—Samuel Husted, who is now eighty-four years of age, and lives in Western New York.

"The church was dedicated to Almighty God by Rev. Noah Levings, D.D., of the New York Conference, on Thanksgiving day, just fifty years ago. It was Anno Domini 1828, the Rev. Daniel DeVinnie being preacher in charge, and the Rev. Daniel Ostrander presiding elder. The frame was raised in the month of August. It was the custom in those days,

when there was a raising, to invite the people from the surrounding country, and after the last raft, or the topmost stick of timber was put in place to give it a name. This devolved upon the youngest apprentice of the carpenter, who, with a bottle of liquor in hand, climbed to the highest point of the building that his courage would lead him, and then swinging the bottle three times around his head, gave the name to the building, throwing the bottle to dash it in pieces if possible. If the bottle did not break, then whoever first got the bottle had the privilege of drinking from it, and then give it another throw, and so on until it was broken. This custom, it appears, extended even to church-raising. At the raising of this frame Absalom Sands was the youngest apprentice. When all was completed he mounted the frame, and, climbing to its extreme point or pinnacle, he swung the bottle and gave the name in the following couplet:

'Here stands a strong and elegant frame,  
The Flower of Round Hill shall be its name.'

Away went the bottle; the cork flew out, and the liquid went spirling through the air. The bottle struck the ground, but did not break, whence a struggle ensued between Samuel Husted and another man; Samuel was the victor and broke the bottle. The church was dedicated by the late Rev. Noah Levings, D.D.

"Of the eighteen presiding elders who have presided over the district which has included Round Hill, only four are now living. Their names are as follows: Rev. Charles Fletcher, presiding elder at present; Rev. J. B. Merwin, D.D.; Rev. G. H. Kettell, D.D.; Rev. H. F. Pease, superannuated.

"Of the sixty-six preachers who have occupied this circuit since 1810, forty-two are deceased, twelve are superannuated, nine are in the effective work, and three are supernumerary.

"The corner-stone of the present edifice was laid on the 22d day of November, 1871. The old building was then removed, placed upon its foundation, and recovered, a lobby and steeple being added. The building committee was Rev. S. Howland, Erastus M. Birdsall, John Purdy (2d), N. H. Husted, A. P. Raymond, John Purdy (2d) was treasurer; Nehemiah H. Husted, secretary. The ground was purchased of William S. Brown. The church was dedicated on the 31st day of July, 1873, Rev. Ephraim Watt preacher in charge, and Rev. John B. Merwin presiding elder of the district.

"The following is a list of the presiding elders from 1810 to 1878: Joseph Crawford, Freborn Garretson, Samuel Merwin, Nathan Bangs, Peter P. Sanford, Laban Clark, Daniel Ostrander, Phineas Rice, Marvin Richardson, Nicholas White, Heman Bangs, James Floy, William H. Norris, Edwin E. Griswold, Hart F. Pease, John B. Merwin, George H. Kettell, Charles Fletcher.

"The following is a list of the preachers in charge from 1810 to 1878: Billy Hibbard, Ezekiel Canfield, Luman Andrews, Salmon Lyon, Thomas Drummond, Benjamin Griffin, Phineas Rice, Coles Carpenter, Theodocius Clark, Aaron Hunt, John Reynolds, John M. Smith, Samuel D. Ferguson, Elisha P. Jacobs, John M. Smith, John B. Matthias, Eli Dennison, Jarvis L. Nichols, Noble W. Thomas, Nathaniel Porter, N. W. Thomas, Cyrus Foss, Elijah Woolsey, Louis Clark, Alonza F. Sillick, George L. Fuller, Seymour Vandusen, William H. Bangs, Nathan Rice, Robert Travis, Josiah L. Dickerson, Jesse Hunt, James H. Romer, Charles F. Pelton, J. K. Still, Rufus C. Putney, Robert Codling, Benjamin Redford, Jacob Washburn, Charles Gosse, William F. Smith, William McKendric Bangs, John A. Selleck, Joseph Wildey, William Ross, William Porteus, Luman Andrus, Reuben Harris (sup.), Samuel U. Fisher, Daniel Devinnie, Oliver V. Annerman, Samuel Cochran, Daniel J. Wright, Henry Hatfield, John Lovejoy, Elijah Hibbard, Abraham S. Francis, Charles Stearns, Seneca Howland, J. B. Wilcox, George H. Goodsell, Alexander McAllister, Moses Lyon, S. Howland, John P. Haviland, Ephraim Watt, Frank M. Hallock, Thomas W. Bethel, William McNickoll, M. N. Olmstead, T. J. Watt.

"The following are the names of the members of the old church during its history from 1810 to 1858, where the present church record commences, as far as have been obtained: Nathaniel Husted, Ruth Husted, Benjamin Lockwood, Jennima Lockwood, Major Lockwood, Catharine Lockwood, Susan Lockwood, Nehemiah Brown, Betsey Brown, Conklin Husted, Polly Ann Husted, James Husted, Mary B. Husted, Nathaniel Husted, Mary E. Husted, Samuel Husted, Nancy Husted, Jonathan Close, Mary Close, Ard Reynolds, Ann E. Reynolds, Nancy German, James A. Pearsall, Esther A. Pearsall, Jonathan P. Horton, Sarah A. Leonard, Elizabeth Ackerman, Henry Brown, Sarah Brown, Abraham T. Mills, Mary L. Mills, Hester A. Ferris, Mary Miles, Ann Miles, Penina Close, Lavinia Hoyt, Sarah Dunn, Eliza Platt, Tompkin Close, Sally D. Close, Rachel M. Platt, Rachel Platt, Jonathan Lockwood, Sally Ann Lock-

wood, Hanford Lockwood, Susan Lockwood, Elizabeth Mor, Benjamin Husted, Seth Seofield, Abigail Selleck, James Brown, Jemima Brown, Julia A. Miner, John Purdy, Sarah Purdy, George W. Taylor, Daniel Sniffin, George Weeks, Susan Weeks, Nehemiah Ferris, Isaac Ireland, Elizabeth Ann Ireland, Sands Selleck, Samuel Todd, Samuel D. T. Lounsberry, Sarah A. Husted, Hannah Purdy, Calvin Purdy, Zalmon Miner, Alice Lockwood, Sarah A. Mead, Abigail Lockwood, John Kirk, Julia Kirk, Edward Thompson, Emeline Thompson, Abigail J. Hobby, Sally Close, Elizabeth Taylor, Sarah Wilson, Polly Lockwood, Eliza Purdy, Fanny Roscoe, Amy K. Husted, Abby Jane Selleck, Elizabeth B. Selleck, Ruth Selleck, Moses Sargent, Mary J. Sargent, Samuel Mead, John Bank, Elizabeth Mead, Sarah Banks, Mary J. Dow, Emily A. Briggs, Sarah Fisk, Dorcas B. Miles, Marquis Austin, Anna Lane, Nancy Lockwood, John Dayton, David Dayton, Washington Todd, Sarah Lockwood, Sarah C. Mills, Samuel M. Todd, William Sniffin, Jerome Ferris, Henry Lounsberry, Anna Miles, Abby Miles, Catharine Birdsall, Mary E. Birdsall, Jacob Birdsall, Sally A. Birdsall, Erastus M. Birdsall, Alice Robbins, Henry M. Pearsall, Charlotte Close, Mary Lockwood, Henry Close, Eliza A. Matthews, William Roscoe, Ann Roscoe, Sarah Dayton, James Nash, Alfred S. Wright, Alice Hoyt, Hannah Carpenter, William Sherwood, Horace Bartlett, Catharine C. Bartlett, Elizabeth Lounsberry, Margaret Mor, Jonathan Husted, Nathaniel W. Husted, Armenia Husted, Betsey Fowler, David Burns, Abigail Burns, Charles Wilson, Anna Brown, Ezekiel Reynolds, Susan A. Youngs, Maria Brown, Enoch B. Miles."

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, KING STREET.\*

The Methodist church in King Street dates its origin from before the Revolution. As New York City was the birthplace of Methodism in this country, it was quite natural that the region about that city should feel much of its influence. Some of the oldest records to be found mention King Street as a preaching-place. Later it formed part of a six weeks' circuit with such places as White Plains, Tuckahoe, and Portchester. Francis Asbury, the first bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, often preached in the old school-house which once stood about two hundred feet south from the present church edifice on the Haight farm.

The present building was erected in 1829, and dedicated by Nathan Bangs, D.D. Some of its early pastors were I. Candee, Peter Sanford, John N. Maffet, Stephen Martindale, Robert Seeney, Nathan Rice, and William Jewett. Its first board of trustees were Jesse Dawson, Daniel Haight, Nehemiah Brown, Samuel Pine, Nehemiah Sherwood.

Its later pastors were John Edmunds, Joseph Vinton, J. Rawlenson, John Haveland, M. D. Buell, Charles Barnhart, and J. B. Sheperd. Its present board of trustees are W. D. Slawson, J. W. Sherwood, J. B. Haight, John Green, Joseph Haight.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT MIANUS.†

The attractive and substantial edifice in which this society worships to-day stands upon a height known in the town of Greenwich as Diamond Hill. The location is slightly. Westward, within the horizon that limits the view of an observer standing upon the summit of this hill, rise the stately churches and beautiful residences of New Greenwich. Turn the eye to the southward, and there comes in view the long, brightly-gleaming water-line of the Sound.

Desirable as a situation with such a prospect may be for a church-site, one other fact made it still more desirable: Diamond Hill is rock—a kind of granite rock—suitable for building purposes. Thus out of a rock and on a rock the church was built.

The edifice is Gothic in its style of architecture. Its windows are of stained glass, some given as memorials of departed friends. Within, the furnishing is substantial and simple. The aim has been to present not fancy filigree-work to surprise, but plain attractiveness to win, the worshiper.

The Methodist Society at Mianus is quite young in its separate existence. The circuit to which it belonged was for many years called "The Greenwich, Round Hill, Roxbury, Stanwich, and Mianus Circuit." Not until June, 1871, was Mianus recognized as an independent charge. The society prior to 1878 met in the old neglected structure near the junction of the Stanwich and Stamford roads. The church was gathering her means to build, so the old building suffered neglect.

While still a member of a circuit the church aimed at a separate independent existence. Her first step was to erect a new church. The marble slab over the main entrance of the church has this inscription:

"Methodist Episcopal Church.  
Erected 1868."

In a report of the Rev. G. H. Anderson to the Quarterly Conference for the year 1869, a few sentences are found giving a description of the state of affairs in the society: "The new edifice is enclosed, the heavy work done, and the building gradually goes on to completion. The trustees gave themselves three years to complete the work; two have already expired. At the end of the third they will probably be in their new church, and with debt enough to make them comfortable." The following years proved the often-reiterated truth that a large church debt makes a small society very uncomfortable.

In 1874 the debt stood thus: mortgages, \$10,000; floating debt, \$448. In July, 1878, the floating debt amounted to fifteen hundred dollars. Thus, after a lapse of ten years, although the society had a fine church, it had such a debt upon the building that matters were desperate.

It was during this year—the second of the pastorate of the Rev. G. A. Graves—that an effort was made to lift this constantly-increasing indebtedness. The task seemed quite hopeless. How could eleven thousand five hundred dollars be raised? Too much credit cannot be given to this pastor and his most active colaborer, Mr. J. H. Okershausen, treasurer of the board of trustees, for their persistent, energetic efforts to liquidate the debt. The members of the society gave liberally, and its friends were generous when they saw a fair prospect of success. These two men fought this "fair prospect" into existence.

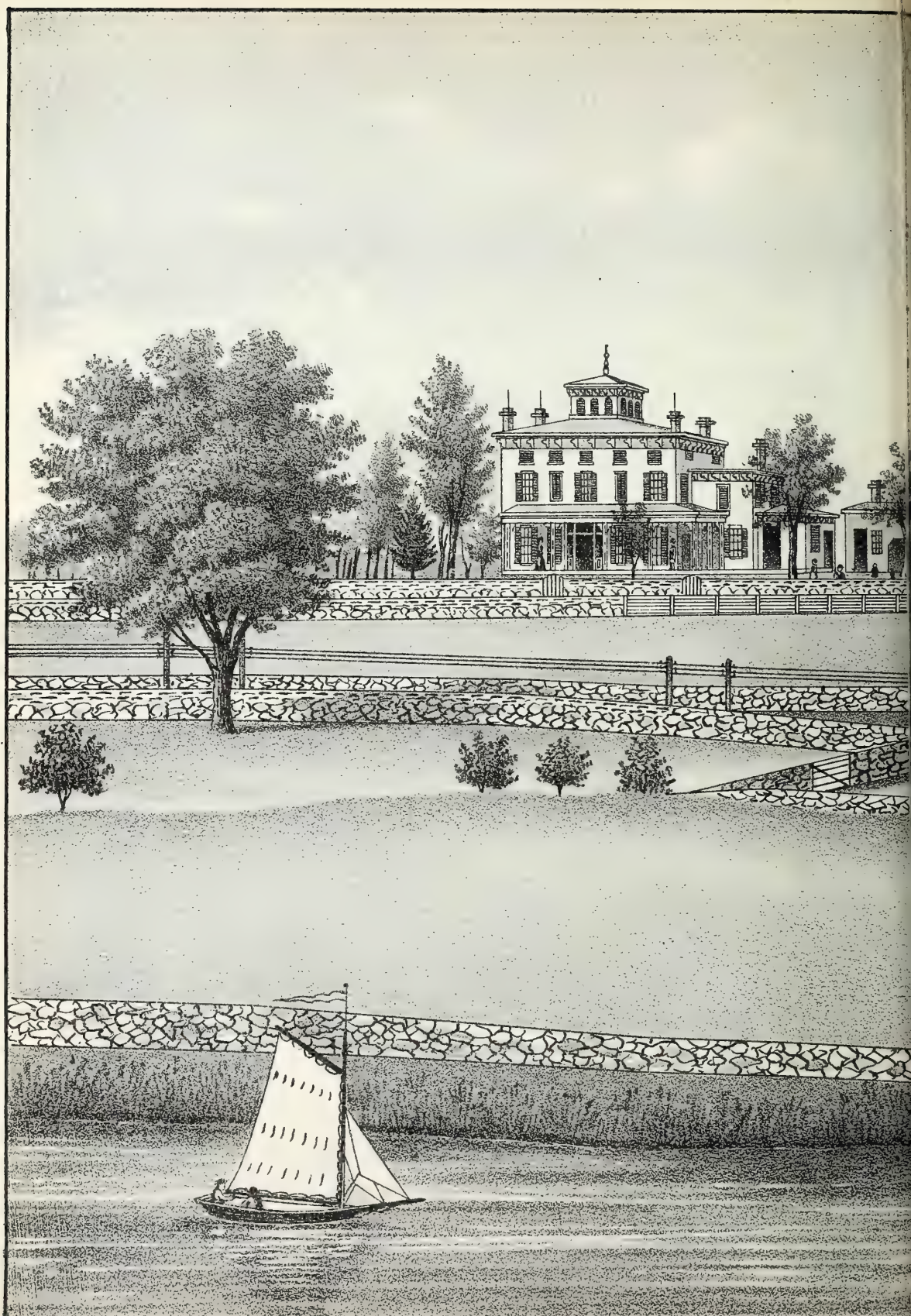
The church to-day has the property secured. Most

\* Contributed by Rev. J. B. Shepherd.

† By Rev. W. W. Martin.

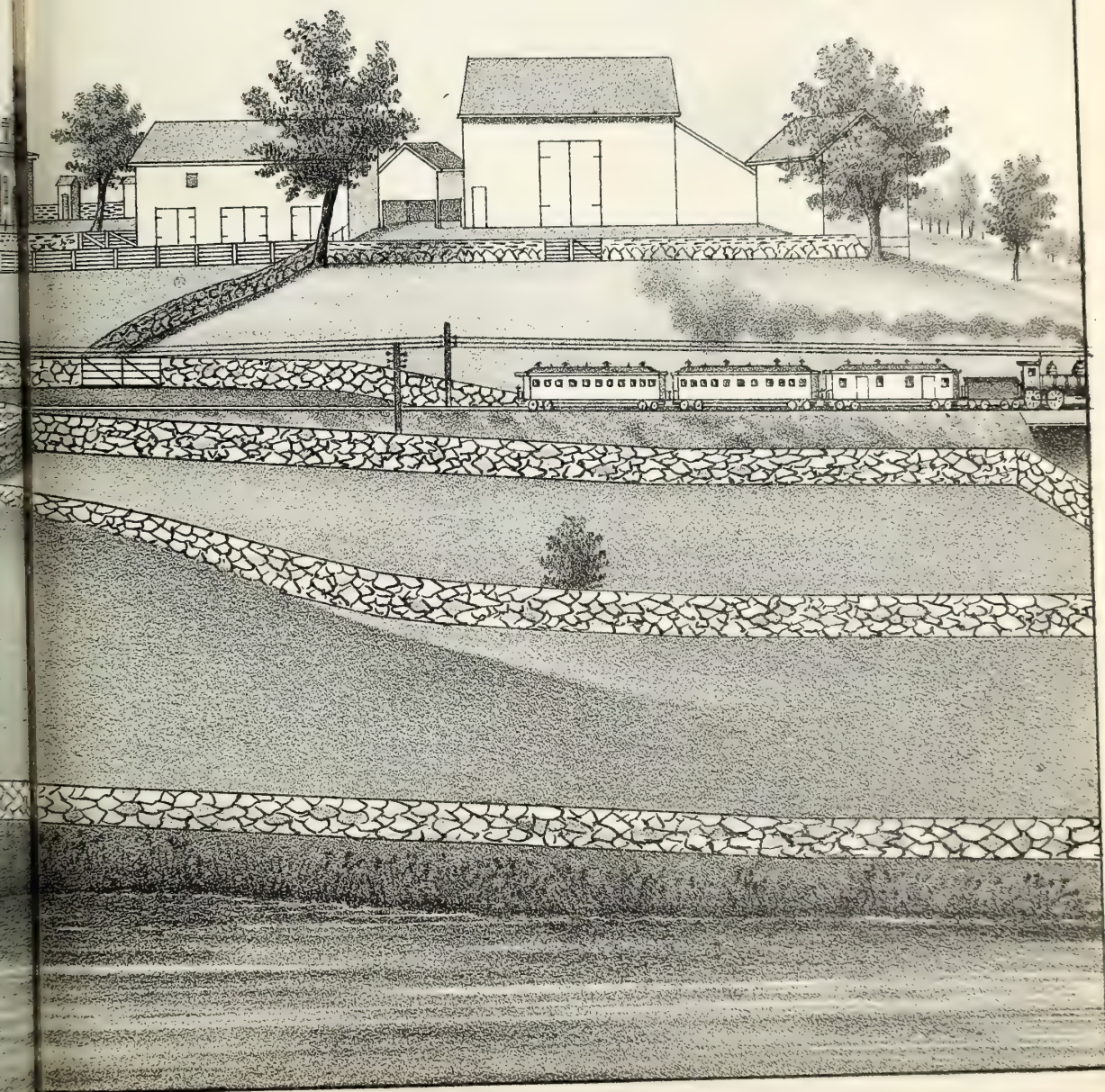






RESIDENCE OF HON. LYMAN M.









of the debt is paid in cash, the remainder is covered by reliable subscriptions. A sense of thankfulness pervades the society that the property, valued at thirty-five thousand dollars, is theirs. It looks forward now to prosperous times.

The history of the church establishes this, that honest endeavor, persistently made, can accomplish what at first seemed impossible.

There is also a Methodist Church at Coscob, but our application for information concerning it has met with no response.

#### EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN (GERMAN) ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, EAST PORTCHESTER.

This church was organized in 1863 by Messrs. Philip Rollhaus and August and William Abendroth, and Hein. Pfeiffer. The first officers were Hein. Pfeiffer, Conrad Schmehl, Heinrich Menger, John Roemer, and Heinrich (or Henry) Dehmer.

The ministers have been as follows: Herrman J. Fischer, John Steiner, Q. Hoeck, B. Cunz, W. Rechenberg, and J. U. Hoffman, present incumbent.

The present officers are Henry Pfeiffer and Conrad Schmehl (Aelteshe), Mr. John Roemer, Christopher Müller, Jacob Cunz, and John Frey.

The present members are Conrad Schmehl, Henry Menger, Henry Pfeiffer, John Roemer, Henry Dehmer, Wilh. Diehl, John Frey, Philipp Bender, Valentin Haupt, Friederich Steinmetz, Christoph Müller, Henry Schnautz, Jacob Cunz, John Möller, Christian Roemer, and John Frey, Jr.

The above persons, Mr. Rollhaus and Jbr. William Abendroth and August Abendroth, are not members of this church, being members of the Episcopal Church (English), but they aided largely in the erection of the church, which was built in 1863, at a cost of ten thousand dollars.

#### BANKSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH.

This church was organized in 1853, and the first deacons were John Banks and Daniel Young. Subsequent deacons have been Franklin Hobby, D. Babbage, John Hull, John Banks, and John J. Hull. The two latter are the present deacons.

The church building was erected in 1853, at a cost of about six thousand dollars.

The pastors have been as follows: Revs. H. F. Smith, D.D., W. B. Guiscard, A. J. Allen, J. S. Gifford, Warren Lincoln, and the present incumbent, Rev. Harvey Alley, who was selected July 1, 1874, and to whom we are indebted for the history of the church.

The present society's committee is as follows: Jeremiah Green, three years; John Hull, two years; Emmett Smith, one year; James Ferris, President; Isaac Collard, Vice-President; William Sniffen, Clerk; J. Albert Barrett, Treasurer. The present membership of the church is one hundred and twenty.

#### BAPTIST CHURCH, KING STREET.\*

The King Street Baptist Church celebrated its centennial in 1873. Up to that time there had been but three settled pastors. Elder Finch, pastor for about forty years, was followed by Rev. Mr. Raymond, who held the pastorate for nearly forty-five years, being succeeded by Rev. O. C. Kirkum. The old house still stands, and in perfect preservation, though never repaired by so much as a shingle. Regular services are now held under the pastorate of Rev. A. F. Perry.

#### ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

is located at Greenwich, and is a flourishing ecclesiastical body. It is under the pastoral care of Rev. Thomas Smith.

### CHAPTER XXXVIII.

#### GREENWICH (Continued).

#### CIVIL LIST—MISCELLANEOUS.

Incorporation of the Town—List of Representatives—Ear-Marks—The Borough—Organization—Present Officers—Probate Judges—General List—Schools—Greenwich Mutual Insurance Company—Masonic—The Greenwich Water Company—The Academy—Military.

#### CIVIL HISTORY, Etc.

THE town of Greenwich was incorporated in 1665 by Governor Stuyvesant.

#### REPRESENTATIVES.

The following is a list of representatives to the General Court from 1670 to 1880:

1670, Joseph Mead, William Ratcliff; 1671, Joseph Mead, Jonathan Lockwood; 1672, no record; 1673, John Holley, Sarg't John Lockwood, John Banks; 1674, Lieut. Jonathan Lockwood; 1675, no record; 1676, Lieut. Jonathan Lockwood; 1677-78, John Banks, William Pitkin; 1679, John Meade; 1680, John Mead, Sr.; 1681, Joseph Ferris; 1682, Joseph Ferris, John Hubbyes; 1683, Lieut. Jonathan Lockwood, Joseph Theale; 1684, no record; 1685, no record; 1686, John Mead; 1687, no record; 1688, no record; 1689, no record; 1690, no record; 1691, John Mead, John Meade, Jr.; 1692, no record; 1693, Lieut. John Bower, Samuel Peck; 1694, Ebenezer Mead; 1695, no record; 1696, no record; 1697, John Hobbie, Thomas Close; 1698, no record; 1699, Samuel Peck, Ebenezer Mead; 1700, no record; 1701, John Hubbie, Thomas Close; 1702, Jonathan Hustis, Ebenezer Mead; 1703, Ebenezer Mead, Thomas Marshall; 1704, Ebenezer Mead; 1705, no record; 1706-7, Joseph Knap; 1708, Thomas Marshall, Joseph Knap; 1709, Ebenezer Mead; 1710, Gersh. Lockwood; 1711, Ebenezer Mead; 1712, Ebenezer Mead, Thomas Marshall; 1713, Ebenezer Mead, Samuel Peck, Thomas Marshall; 1714, Ebenezer Mead, Samuel Peck, John Knap; 1715, Caleb Knapp, Thomas Marshall, Gershom Lockwood; 1716, Samuel Peck, Caleb Knap, Ebenezer Mead; 1717, Caleb Knap, Thomas Marshall, Joshua Reignolds; 1718, Caleb Knap, Samuel Miles, Joshua Reignolds; 1719, Samuel Peck, Gershom Lockwood, Joshua Reignolds; 1720, Samuel Peck, Capt. Caleb Knapp, Gershom Lockwood; 1721, James Reignolds, Gershom Lockwood; 1722, Lieut. James Reignolds; 1723, Capt. Caleb Knapp, Gershom Lockwood, James Reignolds; 1724, Gershom Lockwood, James Reignolds; 1725, John Walton, John Lyon; 1726, John Lyon, Gershom Lockwood, Capt. Caleb Knapp; 1727, John Lyon, Gershom Lockwood; 1728, Capt. John Lyon, Gershom Lockwood, Capt. James Reignolds; 1729-31, Capt. John Lyon, Capt. James Reignolds; 1732, James Reignolds, Capt. John Lyon, Nathaniel Husted; 1733, James Reignolds, Eben-

\* Contributed by Rev. A. F. Perry.

ezer Mead, Nathan Smith; 1734, Ebenezer Mead, Nathaniel Peck, James Reignolds; 1735, James Reignolds, Nathan Huestead, David Lockwood; 1736, James Reignolds, Nathaniel Peck; 1737, Ebenezer Mead, Capt. Nathaniel Peck, Capt. James Reignolds; 1738, Capt. James Reignolds, Capt. Ebenezer Mead, Capt. Nathaniel Peck, Jabez Mead; 1739, Jabez Mead, David Lockwood, Capt. Nathaniel Peck; 1740, Capt. Nathaniel Peck, Jabez Mead; 1741, Jabez Mead, Capt. Nathaniel Peck, Capt. John Mead, David Lockwood; 1742, Jabez Mead, Capt. Nathaniel Peck, Capt. John Mead; 1743, Capt. John Mead, Capt. John Ferris, Jabez Mead; 1744, Jabez Mead, Capt. John Mead, Capt. Ebenezer Mead; 1745, Capt. Ebenezer Mead, Capt. John Mead, Capt. Israel Knapp, David Lockwood; 1746, Capt. John Mead, Capt. Israel Knapp; 1747, Capt. John Mead, Capt. Israel Knapp, Ebenezer Mead; 1748, Justus Bush, Capt. Israel Knapp, Capt. John Mead; 1749, Capt. John Mead, Gershom Lockwood; 1750, Capt. John Mead, Gershom Lockwood; 1751, Capt. John Mead, Capt. Jabez Mead, Ebenezer Mead, Nathaniel Huestead; 1752, Benjamin Mead, Jonathan Hibbard, Capt. John Mead, Nathaniel Huestead; 1753, Capt. Jabez Mead, Capt. John Mead, John Clapp; 1754, Capt. John Mead, Benjamin Mead; 1755, Nathaniel Sackett, Benjamin Mead, John Camp; 1756-58, John Clap, Nathaniel Sackett; 1759, John Clap, Capt. Jabez Sherwood, Nathaniel Sackett; 1760, Capt. Jabez Sherwood, Nathaniel Sackett, John Clap; 1761, John Clap, Eliphalet Mead; 1762-63, Capt. Jabez Sherwood, John Clap; 1764, Gideon Reynolds, Capt. Jabez Sherwood, Capt. Thomas Hobby; 1765, Capt. Jabez Mead, Capt. Thomas Hobby, Capt. Jabez Sherwood, Capt. Messenger Palmer; 1766, Capt. Jabez Sherwood, Capt. Messenger Palmer; 1767, John Mead, Capt. Edward Brush; 1768, Capt. John Mead, Messenger Palmer, Edward Brush; 1769, Capt. John Mead, Capt. Edward Brush; 1770-73, Amos Mead, Capt. John Mead; 1774, Capt. John Mead, Amos Mead, Peter Mead; 1775, Maj. John Mead, Peter Mead, Col. John Mead; 1776, Col. John Mead, Dr. Amos Mead; 1777, Col. John Mead, John McKay; 1778, John McKay, Benjamin Mead, Jr., Amos Mead; 1779, John McKay, Bezaleel Brown, Col. John Mead, Amos Mead; 1780, John McKay, Amos Mead, Col. John Mead; 1781, Amos Mead; 1782-84, Capt. Jabez Fitch, Gen. John Mead; 1785, Gen. John Mead, John McKay, Amos Mead; 1786, Gen. John Mead, John McKay; 1787, Gen. John Mead, John McKay, Amos Mead; 1788, John McKay, Jabez Fitch, Amos Mead; 1789, John McKay, Col. Jabez Fitch; 1790, John McKay, Amos Mead; 1791-92, John McKay, Jabez Fitch, Amos Mead; 1793, John McKay, Benjamin Mead, Amos Mead, Jabez Fitch; 1794, Jabez Fitch, William Knapp, John McKay; 1795, Jabez Fitch, William Knapp, Elkanah Mead; 1796, Elkanah Mead, Ebenezer Mead, Wm. Knapp, Jabez Fitch; 1797, Ebenezer Mead, Jabez Fitch; 1798, Ebenezer Mead, Shadrach Mead, Elkanah Mead, Elisha Belcher; 1799, Elkanah Mead, Elisha Belcher, Wm. Knapp; 1800-1, Ebenezer Mead, Wm. Knapp; 1802, Jabez Fitch, Elkanah Mead; 1803, Jabez Fitch, Elisha Belcher, Elkanah Mead; 1804, Jabez Fitch, Elkanah Mead, Nehemiah Wilson; 1805, Nehemiah Wilson, Isaac Howe; 1806, Nehemiah Wilson, Benjamin Brush, Elkanah Mead, Joshua Ferris; 1807, William Knapp, Ebenezer Mead, Benjamin Brush, Joshua Ferris; 1808, Charles Smith, David Brush, Jabez Fitch; 1809, Nehemiah Wilson, David Brush, Isaac Howe; 1810, Isaac Howe, Nehemiah Wilson; 1811, Elkanah Mead, Isaac Howe, Jabez Mead, Elisha Belcher; 1812, Isaac Howe, Elkanah Mead, Silas Davis; 1813, Isaac Howe, Silas Davis, Eliakim Lockwood, David D. Husted; 1814, Thomas Green, Jabez Mead, Justus L. Bush; 1815, Clark Sanford, Elkanah Mead; 1816, Isaac Howe, Enos Lockwood; 1817, Charles Smith, Enos Lockwood; 1818, Isaac Howe, Clark Sanford, Charles Smith; 1819, Stephen Waring, Enos Lockwood; 1820-22, Stephen Waring, Jared Smith; 1823, Stephen Waring, Silas Davis; 1824, Silas Davis, Amos Mead; 1825-26, Stephen Waring, Conklin Husted; 1827, Silas Davis, Gideon Ferris; 1828, Stephen Waring, Conklin Husted; 1829, Ard Reynolds, Samuel Close; 1830, Silas Davis, Stephen Waring; 1831-32, Silas Davis, Barstow F. White; 1833, Silas Davis, Arba Smith; 1834, Joshua Ferris, Barstow F. White; 1835, Silas Davis, Frederic Lockwood; 1836, Conklin Husted, Frederic Lockwood; 1837, Frederic Lockwood, Seth Lyon; 1838, Joshua Ferris, Zenas Mead; 1839, Conklin Husted, Edwin T. Close; 1840, Zenas Mead, Gideon Close; 1841, Gideon Close, Titus Mead; 1842, Titus Mead, Peter Ferris; 1843, Gideon Close, Peter Ferris; 1844,\* Conklin Husted, Augustus Mead; 1846, Augustus Mead, Isaac Peck; 1847, Augustus Mead, Daniel M. Griffin; 1848, Augustus Mead, Josiah

Wilcox; 1849-50, Josiah Wilcox, Jonathan A. Close; 1851, Jonathan A. Close, Zachens Mead; 1852, Josiah Wilcox, Thomas A. Mead; 1853, Titus Mead, Ezra Keeler; 1854, Samuel Mills, Josiah Wilcox; 1855, A. Knapp, Lyman Mead; 1856, Ard Knapp, James H. Hoyt; 1857, Joseph E. Russell, G. J. Smith; 1858, Augustus Mead, Gideon Close; 1859, Gideon Close, Daniel M. Mead; 1860, Daniel M. Mead, Amos M. Brush; 1861, Allen Sutton, A. R. Newman; 1862, Allen Sutton, Augustus Mead; 1863-64, John G. Reynolds, Edward B. Hewes; 1865-66, Jotham Merritt, Jabez Mead; 1867, Edward B. Hewes, George T. Hobby; 1868, John E. Weed, Jonathan A. Close; 1869, Jonathan A. Close, John G. Wellstood; 1870-71, John Dayton, W. J. Mead; 1872, Thomas A. Mead, James M. Kenney; 1873, Cornelius Mead, Charles A. Newman; 1874, Cornelius Mead, John G. Reynolds; 1875, John G. Reynolds, George W. Brush; 1876, Benjamin Wright, Willis H. Wilcox; 1877, Cornelius Mead, John G. Reynolds; 1878, Benjamin Wright, Willis H. Wilcox; 1879, Benjamin Wright, Lyman Mead; 1880, Cornelius Mead, Lyman Mead.

#### EAR-MARKS.

Among the ear-marks recorded on the old town-book are the following:

"Wm. Price's ear-mark is a slip on ye fore-side of the off ear. Recorded Nov. 17, 1717.

"Jonathan Hobby's ear-mark is a crop on ye side of the near ear, and a nick on ye under side of each ear. June 6, 1715.

"Samuel Peck, Jr.'s ear-mark is a crop on off-ear, and a half-penny on ye fore-side of the same ear, and one slit on top of ye near ear. June 6, 1717.

"Benj. Knapp's ear-mark is a crop upon ye top of the near ear, and a slit upon the top of the off ear."

Ebenezer Mead, Jr.'s ear-mark, recorded July 16, 1714, "is a half-penny upon ye back side of ye near ear, and a nick above ye half-penny on ye same side of ye ear."

Nathan Mead's ear-mark, recorded June 23, 1715, is "a crop on ye near ear, and a nick on ye fore-side of ye off ear."

#### INCORPORATION OF BOROUGH.†

In pursuance of the charter, a meeting of freemen in the borough of Greenwich was held at the town-house in said borough on the 10th day of July, 1854, for the choice of officers, etc. Robert W. Mead was chosen clerk, and the oath of office was administered to him by Samuel Close, a justice of the peace in said borough. The following persons were elected: Warden, William L. Lyon; First Burgess, Samuel Close; Second Burgess, J. B. Curtis; Third Burgess, Lewis Howe; Fourth Burgess, Alvan Mead; Fifth Burgess, Philander Button; Sixth Burgess, J. D. Steel; Treasurer, Robert W. Mead; Second Bailiff, Jonas Mead.

The following is a list of officers from 1855 to 1880:

1855.—Warden, Solomon Mead; First Burgess, Samuel Close; Second Burgess, Thomas A. Mead; Third Burgess, Alvan Mead; Fourth Burgess, P. Button; Fifth Burgess, Darius Mead; Sixth Burgess, Lewis Howe; Clerk and Treasurer, R. W. Mead; Bailiff, John Dayton; Borough Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis.

1856.—Warden, Solomon Mead; First Burgess, Samuel Close; Second Burgess, J. W. Dominick; Third Burgess, Alvan Mead; Fourth Burgess, P. Button; Fifth Burgess, J. E. Brush; Sixth Burgess, J. B. Curtis; Clerk and Treasurer, R. W. Mead; Bailiff, John Dayton; Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis; Hayward, George A. Palmer; Pound-keeper, R. W. Mead.

1857.—Warden, Solomon Mead; First Burgess, Samuel Close; Second Burgess, J. W. Dominick; Third Burgess, Alvan Mead; Fourth Burgess, P. Button; Fifth Burgess, J. E. Brush; Sixth Burgess,

\* No list for year 1845 in Secretary of State's office.

† Contributed by Fred A. Hubbard.



- J. B. Curtis; Clerk and Treasurer, R. W. Mead; Bailiff, John Dayton; Pound-keeper, R. W. Mead; Hayward, Alvan Mead; Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis.
- 1858.—Warden, Solomon Mead; First Burgess, Samuel Close; Second Burgess, Daniel M. Mead; Third Burgess, Alvan Mead; Fourth Burgess, P. Button; Fifth Burgess, J. E. Brush; Sixth Burgess, J. B. Curtis; Clerk, Treasurer, and Pound-keeper, R. W. Mead; Bailiff, John Dayton; Hayward, Alvan Mead; Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis.
- 1859.—Warden, James W. Dominick; First Burgess, Samuel Close; Second Burgess, Alvan Mead; Third Burgess and Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis; Fourth Burgess, Daniel M. Mead; Fifth Burgess, G. L. Fuller; Sixth Burgess, J. H. Reed; Treasurer, J. E. Brush; Clerk and Pound-keeper, R. W. Mead; Bailiff, John Dayton; Hayward, S. S. Gansey; Assessors, Thomas A. Mead, Solomon Mead, Jonas Mead; Board of Relief, William F. Dominick, Brush Knapp, Dr. Darius Mead; Collector, Isaac L. Mead.
- 1860.—Warden, James W. Dominick; First Burgess, Samuel Close; Second Burgess and Hayward, Alvan Mead;\* Third Burgess and Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis; Fourth Burgess, Brush Knapp; Fifth Burgess, G. L. Fuller; Sixth Burgess, Thomas A. Mead; Treasurer, J. E. Brush; Bailiff and Collector, John Dayton; Pound-keeper, P. Button;† Assessors, Thomas A. Mead, Solomon Mead, Jonas Mead; Board of Relief, William F. Dominick, Brush Knapp, Dr. Darius Mead.
- 1861.—Warden, J. H. Reed; Burgesses, Alvan Mead, W. F. Dominick, J. B. Curtis, Brush Knapp, P. Button, D. M. Mead; Clerk, R. W. Mead; Treasurer, J. E. Brush; Assessors, T. A. Mead, Solomon Mead, Jonas Mead, Jr.; Board of Relief, W. F. Dominick, Brush Knapp, Dr. D. Mead; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Hayward, Gilbert T. Horton; Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis; Collector, Benjamin Wright.
- 1862.—Warden, L. P. Hubbard; Burgesses, Alvan Mead, J. B. Curtis, Brush Knapp, L. H. Aiken, Mark Banks, William F. Dominick; Clerk, R. W. Mead; Assessors, Brush Knapp, Jonas Mead, Jr., T. A. Mead; Board of Relief, Solomon Mead; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Hayward, Drake Marshall; Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis; Collector, J. E. Brush.
- 1863.—Warden, L. P. Hubbard; Burgesses, Alvan Mead, J. B. Curtis, Brush Knapp, L. H. Aiken, Francis Tomes, Solomon Mead; Clerk, R. W. Mead; Treasurer, J. E. Brush; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Hayward, Gilbert T. Horton; Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis; Collector, R. W. Mead.
- 1864.—Warden, L. P. Hubbard; Burgesses, Alvan Mead, J. B. Curtis, Brush Knapp, F. Tomes, P. Button, J. H. Brush; Clerk, Stephen G. White; Treasurer, J. E. Brush; Assessors, Solomon Mead, R. W. Mead, Jonas Mead (2d); Board of Relief, Alvan Mead, Brush Knapp, Dr. S. Mead; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Hayward, A. Douglass; Prosecutor, J. B. Curtis; Collector, J. D. Elliott.
- 1865.—Warden, L. P. Hubbard; Burgesses, Alvan Mead, Brush Knapp, P. Button, Dr. S. Mead, S. M. Brush, Dr. J. H. Brush; Clerk, R. W. Mead; Treasurer, R. W. Mead; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Hayward, Alvan Mead, Brush Knapp, P. Button, Dr. S. Mead, S. M. Brush, Dr. J. H. Brush.
- 1866.—Warden, Thomas A. Mead; Burgesses, H. M. Benedict, J. G. Mead, C. H. Seaman, John Dayton, W. R. Talbot; Clerk, L. P. Hubbard; Treasurer, L. P. Hubbard; Assessors, Solomon Mead, Jonas Mead (2d), Frank Shepard; Board of Relief, Alvan Mead, Brush Knapp, Dr. S. Mead; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Haywards, H. M. Benedict, J. G. Mead, C. H. Seaman, John Dayton, W. R. Talbot; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, J. D. Elliott.
- 1867.—Warden, Thomas A. Mead; Burgesses, H. M. Benedict, J. Dayton, W. R. Talbot, J. G. Mead, W. R. Dunton, P. Button; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt.
- 1868.—Warden, H. M. Benedict; Burgesses, P. Button, W. R. Talbot, J. Dayton, J. H. Gillespie, William Schofield, Isaac L. Mead; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Assessors, Solomon Mead, Frank Shepard, Stephen G. White; Board of Relief, Alvan Mead, Brush Knapp, Dr. S. Mead; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Collector, J. D. Elliott.
- 1869.—Warden, H. M. Benedict; Burgesses, W. R. Talbot, J. Dayton, W. R. Dunton, Robert Mead, Solomon Mead, Thomas A. Mead; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Assessors, Mark Banks, J. E. Brush, S. M. Brush; Board of Relief, Alvan Mead, Dr. S. Mead, Frank Shepard; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Collector, J. D. Elliott.
- 1870.—Warden, John Voorhis; Burgesses, Solomon Mead, John Dayton, Robert Mead, Frank Shepard, J. E. Russell, Brush Knapp; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Assessors, L. P. Hubbard, S. M. Brush, J. E. Brush; Board of Relief, H. M. Fitzgerald, George Sillick, S. G. White; Collector, M. Merritt.
- 1871.—Warden, John Voorhis; Burgesses, Brush Knapp, John Dayton, J. E. Russell, Robert Mead, Solomon Mead, Frank Shepard; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Assessors, W. R. Dunton, S. M. Brush, S. G. White; Board of Relief, George Sillick, Harry Peck, H. M. Fitzgerald; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, M. Merritt.
- 1872.—Warden, John Voorhis; Burgesses, Brush Knapp, J. Dayton, Solomon Mead, S. Mead, M.D., J. E. Russell, George Sillick; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Assessors, S. M. Brush, S. G. White, H. M. Fitzgerald; Board of Relief, Harry Peck, Brush Knapp, George Sillick; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, D. Sherwood.
- 1873.—Warden, John Voorhis; Burgesses, S. M. Brush, Solomon Mead, John Dayton, Frank Shepard, Harry Peck, George Sillick; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Assessors, J. E. Brush, Alvan Mead, J. G. Mead; Board of Relief, Brush Knapp, Dr. S. Mead, John H. Ray; Bailiff, J. Dayton; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, D. Sherwood.
- 1874.—Warden, John Voorhis; Burgesses, S. M. Brush, John Dayton, Frank Shepard, George Sillick, J. G. Mead, Jr., H. M. Fitzgerald; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Assessors, J. E. Brush, Solomon Mead, George S. Ray; Board of Relief, Alvan Mead, Harry Peck, J. E. Russell; Bailiff, S. B. Mead; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, M. Merritt.
- 1875.—Warden, John Dayton; Burgesses, J. G. Mead, Jr., George S. Ray, B. P. Brush, Zophar Mead, George Sillick, Matthew Merritt; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Assessors, S. M. Brush, J. E. Russell, H. M. Fitzgerald; Board of Relief, Solomon Mead, S. M. Mead, W. H. Mead; Bailiff, S. B. Mead; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, George W. Laforge.
- 1876.—Warden, John Dayton; Burgesses, Matthew Merritt, James H. Brush, Zophar Mead, H. M. Fitzgerald, S. Mead, M.D., Edwin A. Knapp; Clerk, Mark Banks; Treasurer, Mark Banks; Assessors, Brush Knapp, B. A. Russell, J. G. Mead; Board of Relief, J. Boles, J. E. Russell, Solomon Mead; Bailiff, S. B. Mead; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, C. S. Russell.
- 1877.—Warden, John Dayton; Burgesses, Matthew Merritt, Zophar Mead, H. M. Fitzgerald, S. Mead, M.D., W. H. Mead, E. C. Benedict; Clerk, Isaac L. Mead; Treasurer, Isaac L. Mead; Assessors, Brush Knapp, J. G. Mead, B. A. Russell; Board of Relief, John Boles, J. E. Russell, Solomon Mead; Bailiff, Charles H. Ritch; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, C. S. Russell.
- 1878.—Warden, E. C. Benedict; Burgesses, M. Merritt, Elias S. Peck, J. E. Russell, George S. Ray, J. G. Mead, George H. Mills; Clerk, Frederick A. Hubbard; Treasurer, Frederick A. Hubbard; Assessors, B. A. Russell, John Dayton, J. E. Russell; Board of Relief, Solomon Mead, Alvan Mead, E. A. Knapp; Bailiff, Nowal Green; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, C. S. Russell.
- 1879.—Warden, John Voorhis; Burgesses, J. G. Mead, E. S. Peck, G. H. Mills, S. G. White, H. B. Marshall, George S. Ray; Clerk, Frederick A. Hubbard; Treasurer, Frederick A. Hubbard; Assessors, S. M. Mead, John Dayton; Board of Relief, Jacob Ripple, C. S. Russell; Bailiff, Nowal Green; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, B. A. Russell.
- 1880.—Warden, John Voorhis; Burgesses, J. G. Mead, H. B. Marshall, M. Merritt, Geo. H. Mills, L. P. Jones, M.D., J. E. Russell, Jr.; Clerk, Frederick A. Hubbard; Treasurer, Frederick A. Hubbard; Assessors, Seaman Mead, Victor H. Russell, B. E. Mead; Board of Relief, Jacob Ripple, Nelson Knapp, E. A. Knapp; Bailiff, C. E. Merritt; Prosecutor, H. W. R. Hoyt; Collector, B. A. Russell.

\* Refused to be sworn as hayward, and excused at special meeting held April 16, 1860, when Gilbert T. Horton was chosen in his place.

† Refused to be sworn, and excused at special meeting held April 16, 1860, when R. W. Mead was chosen in his place.

## PROBATE JUDGES.

The Greenwich Probate District was set off from the Stamford District by the Legislature in May, 1853. Augustus Mead was elected judge on the 30th of June, 1853, and held the office until his death, April 22, 1864. The Stamford judge acted from that time until July 4, 1864.

James H. Brush held the office from July 4, 1864, to July 4, 1873.

Myron L. Mason held the office as follows: July 4, 1873, to July 4, 1874; July 4, 1875, to July 4, 1876; Jan. 3, 1877, to Jan. 9, 1879.

Daniel S. Mead, Jr., held from July 4, 1874, to July 4, 1875; July 4, 1876, to Jan. 3, 1877; Jan. 9, 1879. He is the present incumbent.

## GRAND LIST, 1879.

List of polls and taxable property in the town of Greenwich ratable by law on the 1st day of October, 1879.

Property.	Value.
1447 dwelling-houses.....	\$1,551,325.00
26,128 acres of land.....	1,432,063.00
Mills, stores, manufactories, etc.....	143,080.00
1027 horses, asses, and mules.....	48,078.00
3865 neat-cattle.....	67,772.00
Sheep, swine, and poultry, over exemption.....	820.00
Carriages, etc.....	22,215.00
Farming utensils, mechanics' tools, over exemption.....	6,925.00
Clocks, watches, time-pieces, jewelry.....	6,415.00
Piano-fortes, musical instruments, etc.....	12,015.00
Household furniture and libraries.....	19,985.00
Quarries, fisheries, and mines.....	17,800.00
Bridges, turnpike, plank-road, and ferry stock.....	3,000.00
Bank, insurance, and manufacturing stock.....	42,871.00
State, canal, and all other stocks (except United States and railroads in this State).....	3,600.00
Railroad, city, and other corporation bonds.....	25,500.00
Amount employed in merchandising and trade.....	40,375.00
Investment in mechanical and manufacturing operations.....	62,975.00
Investment in vessels, steamboats, and commerce.....	21,500.00
Money at interest in this and other States.....	45,955.00*
Money on hand exceeding \$50.....	25,031.00
All other taxable property.....	15,500.00
10 per cent. additional for not handing in list.....	21,459.20
Total value.....	\$3,636,250.20
Poll tax.....	\$373.00
Military tax.....	1,188.00

The principal manufacturers in the town are Russell, Burdsall & Ward, screws, bolts, etc.; the Hathorne Woolen Mills; Josiah Wilcox, turners' tools; and the Greenwich Iron-Works.

## THE GREENWICH ACADEMY.†

The Greenwich Academy divides with the Congregational church an elevation of land which is not only the most prominent in the village, but the most commanding on the coast between Maine and Florida. It overlooks a landscape of great variety and beauty. The two buildings, by their bold situation and contiguity, fitly symbolize the two forces of religion and education which have been most potent in the development of New England, and through which she has impressed her thought upon a large part of the continent.

The academy was incorporated by a resolution of

the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut in the year 1827, Dr. Darius Mead and Mr. Alvin Mead being its most energetic promoters. At the first meeting for organization the stockholders elected Dr. Darius Mead, Mr. Joseph Brush, and Mr. Alvin Mead trustees, and in the same year the present site was selected, a part of the present building erected, and the school put into practical operation, the Rev. Mason Grosvenor being the first principal.

The academy speedily became a flourishing one, drawing pupils from a large section of adjacent country and attaining excellent rank in point of scholarship. From 1827 to 1863 the school changed principals seven times, passing under the charge successively of the Rev. Mason Grosvenor, the Rev. William Bushnell, the Rev. William B. Sherwood, the Rev. Elam Clarke, the Rev. Mr. Pearson, Mr. Alexander Reynolds, Mr. Jeremiah Spencer, Mr. Philander Button, Mr. Gilbert Sticking, and Mr. William D. Penfield.

It may be said, without making any invidious distinction, that of these teachers Mr. Philander Button was the most successful and left the most lasting influence upon the community. A graduate of Yale College, he united with fine scholarly attainments a rare business faculty and a strength and vigor of character which early won and always held the respect of the school and the neighborhood.

From 1863 to 1880, with the exception of a period of about three years, Mr. Frank Shepard was principal of the academy. He graduated from Williams College in the class of 1856, and under his management, for a number of years, the school was greatly prospered, the number of pupils exceeding that of any previous period of its history, and the efficiency displayed in all departments being attested by long-continued patronage.

In 1870, under Mr. Shepard's supervision and as the result of his energetic efforts, the academy building was enlarged so as to accommodate more than double the number provided for in the original structure, and is now well adapted for the purposes of a high school. It has the great and permanent advantage of a beautiful situation, with free access on all sides to sunshine and fresh air.

The course of instruction comprises those branches which are commonly recognized as preparatory for either business life or a college education, and it is the purpose of trustees and teachers to secure and maintain a high standard of scholarship. The scholastic year commences the second Monday in September and continues for forty weeks. For more than half a century the academy has been the educational centre of Greenwich, training two generations for the duties and work of life, and preparing not a few for the responsibilities of a liberal education. At home and abroad, wherever its graduates have gone, its influence has been felt in the interests of intelligence and character.

\* Net amount after deducting \$22,512 for indebtedness.

† Contributed by Mr. Frank Shepard.



## SCHOOLS.

For present condition of schools, see General History.

## INSURANCE.

The Greenwich Mutual Insurance Company was chartered at the May session of the Legislature in 1855, and commenced business July 28, 1855. The object of the company is self-protection, and its business is confined to the town of Greenwich. The present president is Col. Thomas A. Mead.

## ACACIA LODGE, NO. 85, F. A. M.\*

The lodge was organized June 27, 1857. The charter was granted May 12, 1858, with the following members: Samuel Close, William L. Lyon, Daniel Lyon, Frederick Lockwood, Titus Mead, Daniel M. Mead, Lewis A. Reed, Charles Wilson, Nehemiah Peck, Benjamin Husted, Bartow F. White, Abraham H. Close, Luke A. Lockwood, Isaac J. Lockwood, Edward B. Hewes, Joseph Horne, Lewis Howe, Francis Douchy, Ezra Keeler, Denom Palmer.

The Masters from 1857 to 1880 have been Luke A. Lockwood, 1857-58, 1861-62, 1863, 1866, 1868-69, 1878-79; Joseph Horne, 1859-60; Edward B. Hewes, 1864; John N. Lewis, 1865; George M. Lockwood, 1867; Benjamin P. Smith, 1870; Joseph R. Merritt, 1871; Silas S. Downes, 1872-73, 1877; Robert T. Merritt, 1874-75; Edward Greenwood, 1876.

The present (1880) officers are as follows: Oscar Peck, W. M.; Elias S. Peck, S. W.; George G. McNall, J. W.; Robert Wellstood, Sec.; Isaac L. Mead, Treas.; Fred A. Hubbard, S. D.; Samuel Guion, J. D.; Luke A. Lockwood, Chap.; Benjamin L. Lockwood, Solomon Reynolds, Stewards; John Riehl, Tiler. The number of members on the roll is one hundred and eighty-eight.

## THE GREENWICH WATER COMPANY.

This company was incorporated by the Legislature of 1880, and has a capital of sixty thousand dollars, with permission to increase to one hundred thousand dollars. The reservoir comprises sixty-five acres, with a capacity of three hundred million gallons. The charter covers Greenwich and vicinity, and the company have now under consideration the subject of supplying Portchester, N. Y., a large and growing village adjoining this town, in New York State. As far as Greenwich is concerned, the company will give a full supply of water.

The lake from which the water is taken is at an elevation of two hundred and eighty-five feet above tide-water and finely located, being a sort of natural basin inclosed by hills. Across the southerly end the company have built a dam four hundred and eighty-five feet long, composed of an earth embankment built on both sides of a strong stone wall. The extreme width of the dam at its base is one hundred and six feet, and at the top twenty feet.

The water will pass through a large filterer before entering pipes. The filtering-chamber is divided into three sections: in the first section the water enters from the lake and filters through charcoal into a second chamber filled with sponges, and from this second chamber to a third, from which the mains start.

There will be one hundred and thirty-four feet to the highest point in village, and at the lowest about two hundred and eighty-five feet, the water-level. There will be a pressure of from sixty to one hundred and twenty pounds to the square inch in the village, according to situation.

The present officers are: President, A. Foster Higgins; Vice-President and Treasurer, E. Cornelius Benedict; Secretary, George G. McNall; Directors, A. Foster Higgins, Jeremiah Milbank, William Rockefeller, Luke A. Lockwood, and E. C. Benedict.

## MILITARY RECORD.

The following record of those who enlisted in the war of the Rebellion from this town is taken from the "Catalogue of Connecticut Volunteer Organizations," which was prepared from the records in the office of the adjutant-general at Hartford.

## FIRST CAVALRY.

*Company F.*

James Cunningham, enl. Jan. 29, 1864.  
P. Lynch, enl. Jan. 29, 1863.  
James Sullivan, enl. Jan. 29, 1864.  
Peter Burke, enl. Dec. 12, 1863.  
James Costello, enl. Sept. 6, 1864.  
Patrick Coyle, enl. Dec. 23, 1864.  
J. Edwards, enl. Dec. 14, 1864.  
T. Greenfield, enl. Dec. 5, 1864.  
H. Hughes, enl. Dec. 5, 1864.  
D. Henderson, enl. Dec. 23, 1864.  
Charles Johnson, enl. Dec. 3, 1864.  
Francis Kelley, enl. Sept. 6, 1864.  
James Mott, enl. Dec. 30, 1864.  
J. Mahoney, Sept. 6, 1864.  
R. McGieger, enl. Dec. 3, 1864.  
James Mitchell, enl. Dec. 19, 1864.  
Frank Nagle, enl. Dec. 12, 1864.  
H. V. Null, enl. Dec. 31, 1864.  
James O'Brien, enl. Jan. 29, 1864.  
P. Roake, enl. Dec. 10, 1864.  
D. Rudicel, enl. Dec. 21, 1864.

## SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

James Brown, enl. Feb. 22, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
John Cain, enl. Feb. 22, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Charles Foley, enl. Feb. 18, 1864.  
Dennis Ryan, enl. Feb. 22, 1864; died April 29, 1864.

## FIRST ARTILLERY.

*Company B.*

S. A. McKenzie, enl. Sept. 8, 1864.

## SECOND ARTILLERY.

*Company L.*

Thomas Farrell, enl. Feb. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
William Ford, enl. Nov. 12, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
George Green, enl. Feb. 4, 1864.  
James Hughes, enl. Feb. 4, 1864.  
P. Kelly, enl. Feb. 1, 1864.  
William Provost, enl. Feb. 4, 1864.

\* Contributed by George G. McNall.

*Company M.*

C. G. Hurt, enl. Dec. 13, 1864.  
 Charles Henry, enl. Dec. 12, 1864; must. out August, 1865.  
 J. Jones, enl. Feb. 12, 1864.  
 A. Joseph, enl. Dec. 10, 1864; missing.  
 Henry Maskell, enl. Feb. 12, 1864; must. out August, 1865.  
 John G. Farrell, enl. Feb. 12, 1864.  
 A. Jean, enl. Sept. 6, 1864.  
 D. Cuney, enl. Feb. 1, 1864.

## FIFTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Frank Millard, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. July 21, 1864.  
 Samuel Millard, enl. July 22, 1861.  
 Charles Purdy, enl. Jan. 11, 1865.

*Company C.*

George Burke, enl. Dec. 8, 1864.

## SIXTH REGIMENT.

*Company D.*

W. H. Bailey, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 W. H. Hyde, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant, Nov. 14, 1862.  
 Charles Bing, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Feb. 9, 1863.  
 E. Buckley, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Thomas Buckley, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Aug. 10, 1864.  
 J. F. Hussemann, enl. Sept. 5, 1861.  
 A. O. Hyde, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 James Jones, enl. Sept. 5, 1861.  
 Charles H. June, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 E. Lockwood, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 James McGee, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.  
 Irving L. Sniffen, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 O. E. Snyder, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out June 8, 1865.  
 W. H. Sherwood, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disabled April 22, 1863.  
 Charles H. Goodheart, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

## SEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

F. McNamara, enl. Oct. 31, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.

## EIGHTH REGIMENT.

*Company D.*

Richard Dalta, enl. Feb. 16, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 C. Combs, enl. Feb. 16, 1864.  
 E. Fanning, enl. Feb. 16, 1864.  
 Thomas Munday, enl. Feb. 16, 1864.

*Company H.*

W. W. Wilkins, enl. Sept. 23, 1861.

## NINTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

William Boile, enl. Jan. 19, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

*Company C.*

J. H. Vorhees, enl. Jan. 18, 1864.

*Company D.*

J. Hamilton, enl. Dec. 22, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

## TENTH REGIMENT.

*Company H.*

George Gill, enl. Feb. 22, 1864; killed June 18, 1864.  
 John Moore, enl. Dec. 15, 1863; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

*Company I.*

David M. Mead, com. Oct. 2, 1861; pro. to major; died Sept. 19, 1862.  
 Isaac O. Close, com. Oct. 2, 1861; first lieutenant; resigned Sept. 19, 1862.  
 Thomas R. Mead, second lieutenant; com. Oct. 2, 1861; pro. to captain; died Dec. 25, 1862.  
 Daniel P. Morell, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.  
 W. H. Marshall, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Oct. 7, 1864.  
 J. A. Lombard, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; killed March 14, 1862.  
 Benjamin Wright, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Oct. 18, 1864.

W. L. Savage, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out Aug. 16, 1864.

W. H. Knapp, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

D. S. Marshall, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

C. M. Holmes, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; killed Oct. 13, 1864.

William Long, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Aug. 11, 1863.

William U. Salter, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; died Dec. 22, 1863.

P. B. Ferris, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

George H. Dayton, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. May 26, 1864.

William Sniffen, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died June 16, 1862.

Thomas Lloyd, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

H. E. Baker, enl. Oct. 7, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

William Bird, enl. Oct. 14, 1861; disch. Oct. 8, 1864.

J. E. Byxby, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

Edmund Booth, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

Erastus Burns, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

J. H. Burns, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; captured December, 1863; disch. January 1865.

William S. Chamberlain, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died May 15, 1865.

Ludlow L. Chase, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

George B. Dibble, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

John Duffee, enl. Oct. 22, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

Alexander Ferris, enl. Oct. 5, 1861; died May, 1864.

D. I. Finch, enl. Oct. 5, 1861; disch. April 3, 1863.

Jared Finch, enl. Oct. 5, 1861; disch. April 3, 1863.

G. S. Funston, enl. Oct. 5, 1861; disch. July 23, 1862.

J. S. Gerald, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; died Nov. 14, 1863.

N. Green, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

James Hart, enl. Oct. 16, 1861; disch. Oct. 22, 1861.

Alexander Henderson, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Nov. 2, 1862.

William Hermance, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

Peter Hoyt, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. March 27, 1863.

H. Hubbard, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; disch. March 18, 1863.

John Hubbard, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Dec. 18, 1862.

J. W. Hubbard, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

Charles Hughes, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

T. P. Hunt, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

A. A. Husted, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Dec. 1, 1862.

N. L. Husted, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; wounded Aug. 16, 1864; disch. Oct. 1, 1864.

S. Jarman, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Oct. 29, 1863.

William Jarman, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Oct. 2, 1864.

Franklin Johnson, enl. Oct. 16, 1861; disch. Aug. 25, 1865.

W. H. Lockwood, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Sept. 26, 1863.

S. D. Loudon, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

William Lowery, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 2, 1864.

M. Lyons, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 21, 1864.

S. A. Luyon, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 1, 1864.

P. Manion, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

J. B. Matthews, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

C. W. McCan, enl. Oct. 2, 1861.

John McCan, enl. Oct. 14, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

James McDonald, enl. Oct. 16, 1861; died March 16, 1862.

E. S. Miles, enl. Oct. 14, 1861; disch. Feb. 14, 1863.

R. A. Miller, enl. Oct. 16, 1861; died Sept. 14, 1864.

A. F. Mills, enl. Oct. 16, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

Henry H. Mead, enl. Oct. 14, 1861; died April 21, 1862.

L. Moshier, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Nov. 15, 1862.

Terrence O'Bryan, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

O. Olmsted, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Feb. 10, 1862.

Charles Petersen, enl. Oct. 14, 1861; disch. for disability, April 10, 1862.

John Renthsler, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died May 15, 1862.

W. H. Ritch, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

G. P. Robbins, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; wounded Aug. 16, 1864; disch. Oct. 1864.

W. A. Robbins, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; wounded; pro. adjutant; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

William Rutherford, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; wounded Aug. 14, 1864; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

John Schafer, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; wounded Dec. 14, 1862; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

Lewis Schafer, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

W. M. Scott, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; wounded May 16, 1864; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

S. Selleck, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 30, 1861.

P. Sheeran, enl. Oct. 16, 1861; wounded Dec. 14, 1862; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.

George D. Studwell, enl. Oct. 16, 1861; wounded Aug. 31, 1864; disch. Oct. 15, 1864.

J. H. Scott, enl. Oct. 31, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.



Zach. Tillson, enl. Oct. 14, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.  
 George E. Tinker, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 1, 1864.  
 Edward Toland, enl. Oct. 14, 1863.  
 J. L. Tormey, enl. Oct. 14, 1861; died Dec. 17, 1862.  
 J. L. Wallace, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Dec. 16, 1862.  
 L. Waterbury, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 1, 1862.  
 John Webber, enl. Oct. 14, 1861; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.  
 H. J. Weeks, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; died Oct. 4, 1861.  
 W. H. Wilcox, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; wounded Aug. 4, 1864; disch. Oct. 7, 1864.  
 J. H. Winus, enl. Oct. 22, 1861; disch. Dec. 20, 1861.  
 J. H. Brown, enl. Aug. 24, 1862; disch. for disability, May 7, 1865.  
 P. Barrett, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.  
 C. H. Hoyt, enl. Dec. 17, 1863; died Nov. 5, 1864.  
 J. Lockwood, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; died Oct. 28, 1864.  
 Samuel Lloyd, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out June 15, 1865.  
 Joshua Lloyd, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; must. out June 15, 1865.  
 Zach. Mead, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; must. out June 15, 1865.  
 Silas E. Mead, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out June 15, 1865.  
 William Morrison, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out June 15, 1865.  
 S. E. Mills, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. for disability, February, 1864.  
 James E. Mead, enl. Aug. 1, 1862; died March 12, 1865.  
 Edward Moe, enl. Aug. 23, 1862; must. out June 15, 1865.  
 E. S. Peck, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out June 15, 1865.  
 Elias Ringrose, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; must. out June 15, 1865.  
 H. Robbins, enl. July 28, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

## FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company G.*

R. Callahan, enl. Dec. 12, 1864; missing March 8, 1865.  
 John Galvin, enl. Dec. 19, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 John Sweeney, enl. Dec. 12, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

*Company K.*

Jonn Hickey, enl. Dec. 12, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Thomas Daley, enl. Dec. 12, 1864; missing.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

C. Stottler, enl. July 21, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. H. Cox, enl. July 23, 1862; died May 15, 1865.  
 Charles F. Rich, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. W. Roscoe, enl. Sept. 9, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company I.*

D. Oliphant Benson, captain; com. Aug. 8, 1862; died Nov. 10, 1862.  
 Thomas A. Haight, first lieutenant; com. Aug. 8, 1862; res. March 28, 1863.  
 D. W. Mead, second lieutenant; com. Aug. 6, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; res. Dec. 26, 1863.  
 G. C. Peck, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out July 14, 1865.  
 J. H. Held, Jr., enl. Aug. 14, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out July 14, 1865.  
 D. Eagan, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; trans. Feb. 25, 1865.  
 S. S. Chard, enl. Aug. 8, 1862.  
 J. W. Rae, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; died Dec. 9, 1863.  
 Charles A. Dayton, enl. Aug. 11, 1862.  
 H. V. Peck, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 O. S. Ingersoll, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out June 8, 1865.  
 W. A. Baker, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Charles P. Platt, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Nov. 1, 1864.  
 A. M. Worden, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; trans. Dec. 1, 1863.  
 Thomas Brundage, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. June 15, 1865.  
 F. B. Elliott, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John Purdy, Jr., enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Charles E. Purdy, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Harry Alexander, enl. Aug. 11, 1862.  
 Brush Banks, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Jan. 5, 1863.  
 John B. Barmore, enl. Aug. 12, 1862.  
 P. Barrett, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. March 25, 1863.  
 D. Booth, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. R. Booth, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. Dec. 10, 1862.  
 James Birdsall, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 A. Barnes, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John Burnett, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Michael Clark, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Thomas Collins, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out June 28, 1865.  
 John Cumiskey, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; killed January, 1863.  
 A. Cronuna, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; died Oct. 25, 1862.  
 H. Cummings, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. Dec. 10, 1862.  
 Charles Drumm, enl. Aug. 22, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 C. Dayton, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 G. W. Dayton, enl. Aug. 7, 1862.  
 William Dove, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. Jan. 1, 1863.  
 John Doherty, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. May 27, 1865.  
 W. D. Deblois, enl. Aug. 13, 1862.  
 Thomas Edwards, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out June 28, 1865.  
 John Farrell, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John Fay, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 3, 1865.  
 John Ferris, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. March 9, 1863.  
 W. I. Finch, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Thomas Fitzgerald, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 J. R. Flood, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Samuel Fisher, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 William Frary, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. Jan. 1, 1863.  
 T. Grady, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. Nov. 11, 1862.  
 Wm. S. Gregory, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; killed July 1, 1863.  
 J. Hearn, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; died April 21, 1863.  
 E. Husted, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; died March 4, 1864.  
 William June, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. Jarman, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; killed Aug. 20, 1863.  
 Elbert Kinch, enl. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 H. Lawrence, enl. Aug. 11, 1862.  
 David Light, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 James Light, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; died April 2, 1863.  
 Fitch Lockwood, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 J. Lowden, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 James E. McGune, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 E. J. Marshall, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. Jan. 29, 1863.  
 John Marshall, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 I. L. Mead, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 5, 1865.  
 James McElroy, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 J. T. Moore, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 George Morrell, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 P. O'Doherty, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. Dec. 11, 1863.  
 L. Palmer, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 S. Palmer, enl. Aug. 8, 1862.  
 Benjamin Peck, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 N. E. Peck, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out June 28, 1865.  
 W. J. Platt, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. H. Provost, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 William Purdy, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. May 22, 1865.  
 V. B. Purdy, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 J. Riordan, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Edward Reddington, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out June 29, 1865.  
 S. W. Reynolds, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; died May 28, 1863.  
 John Sackett, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. March 9, 1863.  
 Whiteman Sackett, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 S. B. Sergeant, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. Sept. 28, 1863.  
 J. W. Scofield, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 George Van Ness, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. Jan. 5, 1863.  
 S. Van Wert, enl. Aug. 7, 1862.  
 D. W. Warren, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Edward Weed, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 E. F. Worden, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 H. C. Worden, enl. Aug. 7, 1862.  
 James Wright, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. L. Wood, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 M. A. Lowden, enl. July 16, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John Daley, enl. Sept. 6, 1864.  
 John Scofield, enl. Dec. 3, 1864.

## EIGHTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company G.*

James Browning, enl. Feb. 1, 1865.

## TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT.

*Company H.*

George W. Middleton, captain; com. Aug. 27, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 James Kiley, first lieutenant; com. Aug. 27, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Edward H. Taylor, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 A. Lockwood, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Aaron Gonnong, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 J. Hullivan, enl. Sept. 12, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 George W. Olmsted, enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 J. Kyle, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 W. L. Sargeant, enl. Sept. 6, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 William H. Ferris, enl. Sept. 3, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 James Duffy, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Charles Heohl, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 E. M. Ferris, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 L. Stillwell, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 C. H. Peck, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 M. Malin, enl. Sept. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 A. B. Purdy, enl. Sept. 5, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 James Loudon, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. April 21, 1863.  
 John Bowles, enl. Sept. 4, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 William Boyle, enl. Sept. 12, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 David Butterworth, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 M. Cane, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 John Cannon, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Richard Daley, enl. Sept. 20, 1862.  
 W. P. Dayton, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; died Aug. 6, 1863.  
 M. Denton, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 P. Dilworth, enl. Sept. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Edward Fields, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 G. W. Finch, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 John Fisher, enl. Sept. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Charles Finney, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Martin Fitzpatrick, enl. Sept. 12, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 N. Fox, enl. Sept. 6, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Harvey Halter, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Hull Hodge, enl. Sept. 3, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 S. S. Horton, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Charles Hubbard, enl. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Joseph Kelley, enl. Sept. 20, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 E. Kiley, enl. Sept. 30, 1862; killed June 14, 1863.  
 G. E. Lane, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Thomas Lahay, enl. Sept. 12, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 H. B. Lockwood, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; died Aug. 12, 1863.  
 George Floyd, enl. Sept. 30, 1862.  
 E. Mahoney, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 John Marshall, enl. Sept. 19, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 F. McTavy, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 P. McGuire, enl. Sept. 29, 1862.  
 Thomas Miley, enl. Sept. 3, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 B. Miller, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 George Moore, enl. Sept. 12, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 J. W. Moore, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; drowned March 22, 1863.  
 J. F. Weiman, enl. Sept. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 P. O'Brien, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 G. M. Palmer, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 W. F. Palmer, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Isaac Palmer, enl. Sept. 3, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 S. R. Parks, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 R. Partlow, enl. Sept. 12, 1862; died July 9, 1863.  
 A. B. Rider, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 S. Slagle, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. March 21, 1863.  
 Charles Smith, enl. Sept. 5, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 R. B. Stone, enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Richard Tenpenny, enl. Sept. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 A. Van Houghton, enl. Sept. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 C. E. Washburn, enl. Sept. 29, 1862; died Nov. 9, 1862.  
 Thomas Washburn, Jr., enl. Sept. 30, 1862.  
 J. G. Wellstood, Jr., enl. Sept. 27, 1862; died June 24, 1863.  
 S. Wesley, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 A. Williamson, enl. Sept. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

#### TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company A.*

John Banks, enl. Dec. 1, 1863; died Jan. 21, 1865.  
 William O. Mills, enl. Dec. 5, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

##### *Company B.*

J. H. Green, enl. Dec. 7, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 G. B. Thomas, enl. Dec. 7, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 W. H. Hicks, enl. Dec. 8, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Benjamin Fuller, enl. Sept. 6, 1864; must. out June 17, 1865.

##### *Company E.*

Robert Peterson, enl. Dec. 23, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Charles Moore, enl. Dec. 19, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 William Mead, enl. Dec. 19, 1863; died May 21, 1864.  
 H. Jennison, enl. Dec. 19, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 H. Watson, enl. Dec. 19, 1863; died June 24, 1864.

##### *Company F.*

Abram Coffin, enl. Dec. 21, 1863; died May 23, 1864.  
 Isaac Castin, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Isaac Merriitt, enl. Dec. 15, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 James Robinson, enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

##### *Company H.*

Alexander Brown, enl. Dec. 5, 1863; disch. Sept. 5, 1865.

#### THIRTIETH REGIMENT.

##### *Company B.*

T. H. Singleton, enl. Dec. 15, 1863; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.

##### *Company C.*

E. Quillen, enl. Feb. 22, 1864; died Dec. 11, 1864.  
 Charles Baker, enl. Feb. 22, 1864; died Oct. 6, 1864.  
 E. Barker, enl. Jan. 27, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 E. Bias, enl. Feb. 12, 1864; missing.  
 E. Garrison, enl. Jan. 30, 1864; died June 18, 1864.  
 William Hannibal, enl. Jan. 28, 1864; died March 15, 1864.  
 Frank Johnson, enl. Feb. 15, 1864; died March 2, 1864.  
 William Lee, enl. Feb. 16, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 B. Palmer, enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 M. Thompson, enl. Jan. 27, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 Amos Williams, enl. Jan. 27, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### COL. THOMAS A. MEAD.

John Mead was one of two brothers who emigrated from England about the year 1642. The family was then an ancient and honorable one, though it is not within the author's means to trace their genealogy previous to their emigration to this country.

One of their ancestors had been the friend and the physician of the talented though not very amiable Queen Elizabeth. One of two brothers emigrated to Virginia, where the family still exists. The other, John Mead, with his two sons, came to New England about the year 1642. The name is spelled Meade as well as Mead. Many claim that they emigrated from Greenwich, Kent Co., England, but we have not fallen in with any direct proof of the fact, and this town was known by its present name long before the settlement of the Mead family. John Mead and his two sons, John and Joseph, having tarried awhile in Massachusetts, first settled at Hempstead, L. I., where they remained until October, 1660, when the two sons came to Greenwich and bought land of Richard Crab and others, which was deeded to John Mead, he being the elder. Either John, the father, never came to Greenwich, or if so, he took no active part in life, now having become quite an old man. His son Joseph left no children in this town. He may have died young, or left no issue, or may have emigrated to a different part of the country.

John Mead, the second,—died 1696,—married Miss



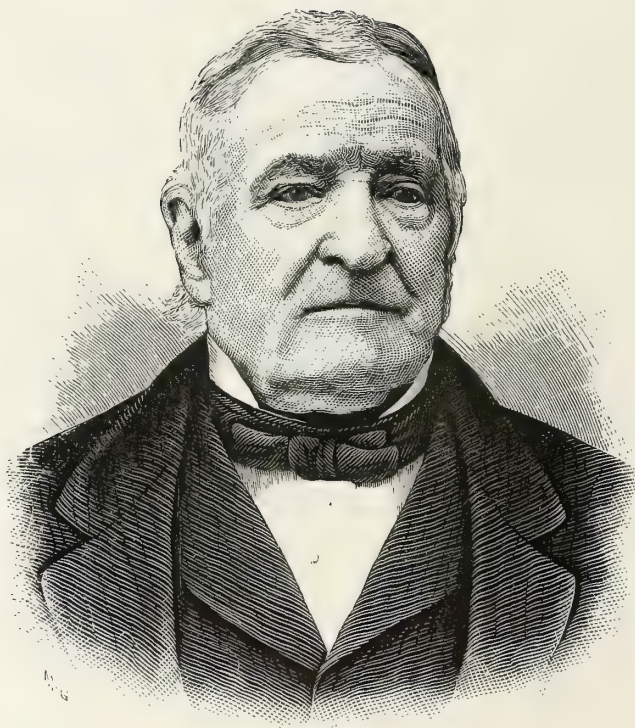


*Thos. A. Maud*









*Aaron Mead*



Potter, of Stamford, and left, as appears by his will, eight sons and, tradition says, three daughters, viz.: John, Joseph, Jonathan, Ebenezer, Nathaniel, David, Samuel, Abigail, Mary, and Susan or Susannah. Ebenezer, the fourth son of second John, was born in 1663, and married Sarah Knapp, of Stamford, and left Ebenezer, Caleb, Sarah, who married Jonathan Hobby, Hannah, who married John Hobby, Jabez, David, Abigail, who married Isaac Holmes, Susannah, who married Moses Husted, Jemima, who married Moses Knapp. The second Ebenezer was born Oct. 25, 1692, and died May 3, 1775. He married Hannah Brown, of Rye, N. Y., on the 12th of December, 1717. His children were Ebenezer, Silas, Abraham, Jonas, Solomon, Deliverance, Amos, Edmund, Hannah, Jabez, Jared, and Abraham, second.

Amos Mead, seventh son of the second Ebenezer, was a physician by profession, and was a surgeon of the Third Connecticut Regiment in the French and Indian war, and his grandson, Col. Thomas A. Mead, has now (1880) in his possession a powder-horn, a rich souvenir of those terrible days. He was a prominent man during the Revolutionary war, and represented his town a great many times in the Colonial Legislature, and after the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, was a member of the State Legislature. He was a member of that noble body of men who adopted the Constitution of the United States. He married Ruth Bush. Their children were Richard, born September, 1753, and Thomas, who died soon after he had completed his college course in 1773. Dr. Amos Mead was a member of the Congregational Church of Greenwich. He died February, 1807.

Richard Mead was a farmer by occupation, and during the Revolutionary war rendered valuable aid to the American army. We quote the following from the history of Greenwich: "Andrew Mead, Humphrey Denton, and Richard Mead. These men—more, perhaps, than any others—deserve the highest praise for their brave and daring acts. It was not so much their province to counsel and advise as to act. '*Old men for counsel and young men for action.*' Such men as Dr. Amos Mead, John Mackay, and Abraham Mead were of great service to the inhabitants as counselors. They were past the meridian of life, and one of them, Dr. Amos Mead, had gained much experience by active service in the French war. But was any daring deed to be accomplished, where hardy, brave, and *reliable* men were necessary, the three former were always selected. After all control of the town was lost to the Americans by the destructive expedition of Governor Tryon, it was not safe for a patriot to remain publicly in the limits for an hour. Yet these three hung about the place ready to assist the defenseless population against the brutalities of the Tories. Each possessed of his arms, a faithful dog, and a fleet horse, they spent their time about the village, hidden in the by- and secret-places. The win-

ter of 1780 was one of the severest on record. The Sound was frozen across, and a great amount of snow accumulated. Yet these men scarcely knew a night, during the early part of that winter, in which they did not sleep with their horses and dogs in the snow. During that winter some dozen or twenty head of cattle, the most of which belonged to Mr. Jared Mead, were taken off in haste by the Tories and driven towards New York. After much earnest solicitation on the part of the owner, the trio consented to make the most daring attempt of crossing the enemy's lines to retake them. There had been recently a storm of rain, which had frozen as it fell and rendered the roads extremely slippery, and made a hard, sharp crust upon the snow. The pursuers therefore went upon the Sound with their horses, and kept the ice as far as Mamaroneck, and then, taking the road, could track the cattle by the blood which had trickled from the wounds of the bayonets which had forced them along. At Mount Vernon they retook the cattle, and were returning when they found they were pursued by a body of the enemy under a lieutenant. Their horses were tired by their swift ride, and they soon knew that their only safety was in separation, and in that case even one must be inevitably taken. Accordingly, they left the cattle and plunged separately in different directions. The enemy selected Richard Mead, pursued and took him prisoner. This was about the middle of January, 1780. He was taken to New York and thrown into the famous Sugar-House, where he remained for a period of six weeks until exchanged. These three men were held in high estimation by the people. Their known patriotism and courage, which could ever be relied on, caused the other citizens, long after the Revolutionary war, to remember their acts with the greatest gratitude." Other facts might be recited and incidents given. Richard Mead was twice married: first to Sarah Mead, and had one daughter, Sophia, who married Peter De Mill; second to Rachel Mead, widow of Whitman Mead, and had three children, viz., Thomas A., Elizabeth R., and Sarah A. Elizabeth R. married George Webb, of New York, and is now dead. Sarah A. married Joseph Brush, of Greenwich, and died leaving a family of ten children. Richard Mead was a man respected by all those who knew him. He died April 19, 1824. His only son, Col. Thomas A. Mead, was born in the same house where he now (1880) resides in Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., May 29, 1799. He has always been a farmer, and now owns the same farm his father owned, which has been in the family since 1785, and lives in the house built by his father in 1797. He married Hannan Seaman, daughter of David Seaman, of New York, Feb. 23, 1833. They have had eight children, seven of whom are still living, viz.: Louisa S., Mrs. Thomas Ritch; Thomas R., who was a captain of Company G, Tenth Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, was in several engagements, sickened and died

at Washington, N. C., Oct. 22, 1862; Seaman; Abigail R., Mrs. Benjamin Wright; Elizabeth H., Mrs. Henry Webb; Delia, Mrs. William E. Mead; Zophar; and Lucinda P.

In politics, Col. Mead has always been a Whig and Republican, and as such has been one of the leading men of Greenwich. He was an assessor ten years, selectman a number of years, member of the State Legislature two terms, 1852 and 1872, and during his last term served on the committee of railroads, and county commissioner two terms. He has often been appointed an appraiser for different railroads, a jurymen a great many times on important cases, and has settled a great many estates to the satisfaction of those interested. He and wife are members of the Congregational Church at Greenwich.

For many years he was a colonel of a regiment of State militia. In all the various positions that he has been called upon to fill he has performed his duty faithfully,—alike a credit to himself and a satisfaction to his constituents.

He reviews the past with some degree of satisfaction, and looks forward to the future with no apprehension.

#### ALVAN MEAD.

The subject of this sketch is a lineal descendant of the sixth generation from one John Mead, who, with his two sons, John and Joseph, emigrated from England and settled in Massachusetts, in 1642, thence to Hempstead, L. I., where they remained until October, 1660, when all of them settled in the town of Greenwich, Conn. (See biography of Col. Thomas A. Mead for further notice of the ancestors.) Some of the family think that the above Joseph had children, and that he settled in the north-central part of Fairfield County, as the Meads there claim to be descended from Joseph.

The grandfather of Alvan Mead, Ebenezer Mead (2d), was born Oct. 25, 1692, and died May 3, 1775. He was a representative man of his town, and a great many times represented his town in the Colonial Legislature. He was a farmer by occupation. He married Hannah Brown, of Rye, N. Y., Dec. 12, 1717, and had twelve children,—viz.: Ebenezer, Silas, Abraham (1st), Jonas, Solomon, Deliverance, Amos, Edmund, Hannah, Jabez, Jared, and Abraham (2d).

Jared Mead was the tenth son in a family of twelve children, and was born in the town of Greenwich, Conn., in the same house where he always lived through a long and honorable life, and died June 8, 1832. He was a farmer by occupation, and owned his father's farm.

He married Lydia, daughter of Daniel Smith, and had seven children, namely: Zette, Lydia, Alma, Daniel, Hannah, Jared, and Alvan, all of whom are now (1880) dead except Alvan. He held various town offices. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mead were members

of the Congregational Church at Greenwich, Conn. Mrs. Mead died May 27, 1827.

Alvan Mead was born in Greenwich, Conn., Nov. 30, 1794. His advantages for an education were limited to the common schools of his day, working on the farm summers and attending school winters until he was seventeen years of age, when he took charge of his father's farm, as he was the only son left at home.

He was a farmer on the same place where his father and grandfather lived until 1851, since which he has resided in the borough of Greenwich, Conn. He married Eliza, daughter of Nathaniel Peck, Dec. 18, 1821.

Their children were Ralph P., who went to California in 1849, married, and had two sons,—namely, Charles C. and Ralph R.,—who together with their mother reside in Portland, Oregon.

Ralph P. died Oct. 7, 1862; Warren B. resides at Wichita, Kansas, married, and has three children,—namely, Alvan E., Edgar S., and Mary P.; Melancthon W. died May 30, 1878, leaving a widow and two children, Frank A. and Frederick B., who reside in Brooklyn, N. Y.; Cornelia G., who married Stephen G. White, and now resides with her father; their children are Warren P., Lucy M., Elam C. (deceased).

In politics, Mr. Mead has always been a staunch Whig and Republican. He has been a magistrate of Greenwich for many years, besides holding several other town offices. His wife was a member of the Congregational Church. She died Sept. 22, 1864.

Mr. Mead is one of the oldest if not the oldest man in the town. He has the entire confidence of his fellow-townsmen, and has lived a long and useful life. He is a regular attendant of the Congregational Church; though not a member, he contributes to its support.

#### LYMAN MEAD.

Lyman Mead is the son of Zenas Mead and Mary Lashley, and was born in Greenwich, Conn., March 26, 1824. His father was a son of Deliverance Mead, who was the sixth son of the second Ebenezer Mead (see biography of Col. Thomas A. Mead), and was born in 1782 (another record says 1779), and died June, 1858. He married Mary Lashley, and had the following children,—viz., Abigail, who married Jonas Mead; Lucretia, died young; Deborah (deceased), Henry (deceased), Julia, married Isaac Peck; Eliza (deceased), married Lockwood P. Clark, and Lyman.

Zenas Mead was a farmer; in politics a Whig, and as such was a representative man. He was town treasurer for many years, and member of the Assembly two terms. He and wife were members of the Second Congregational Church at Greenwich, Conn. She died in November, 1860.

Lyman Mead was reared on the farm, receiving the advantages of a common-school education. He is





*Symon Mead*









*Conklin Austed*





*Solomon Heac*





one of the substantial farmers and business men of the town, and whatever he has undertaken he has been successful in. He has been twice married, first to Sarah F., daughter of Peter Acker, March 1, 1830, by whom he had three children,—viz., Sarah M., Julia A. (deceased), and Emma F. Mrs. Mead was a member of the Second Congregational Church. She died July 26, 1857, having been born March 1, 1830. Mr. Mead married for his second wife Harriet R., daughter of Jabez Mead, Dec. 21, 1858. She was born Dec. 19, 1837. Their children are Ida F., Hattie J., Isadora M. (deceased), Frederick G. C., Nellie R., Martha H. (deceased), Annabelle L., Laura D., Rolland E., and Lucretia G., all of whom were born on the farm where Mr. Mead now resides.

Mr. Mead has been a staunch Whig and Republican. He has represented his town three times (1855, 1879, and 1880) in the State Legislature. He has been a delegate to county and State conventions. He is a director in the Greenwich Savings Bank, besides having been a director in other important business enterprises. He is and has been the treasurer of his school district for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Mead are members of the Congregational Church at Greenwich, Conn., and he is one of its best supporters.

#### SOLOMON MEAD.

Solomon Mead is a lineal descendant on both paternal and maternal side from John Mead, an Englishman, who came to America and settled in Massachusetts in 1642, and at Hempstead, L. I., soon after, where he remained until October, 1660, when he came, in all probability, to Greenwich, Conn., in company with his two sons, John and Joseph. (For a full history of Solomon Mead's ancestors, see biography of Col. Thos. A. Mead.)

Solomon Mead is an only son of Joshua Mead by his second wife, Hannah Mead, who was a daughter of Deliverance Mead, and was born in the town of Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., Jan. 15, 1808. His paternal grandfather was Nathaniel Mead, who married Prudence Wood and had several children, one of whom was named Joshua.

Very little or nothing is known of the ancestors of Nathaniel Mead, more than that they were good, industrious citizens and generally members of the Congregational Church, as was Nathaniel, who died at an advanced age.

Joshua Mead was born in Greenwich, Conn., May 16, 1751, married Hannah Mead Nov. 15, 1804, and died May 30, 1812. His wife died March 14, 1844. They had one child,—Solomon.

Joshua Mead was a good farmer, a true patriot and citizen, and a member of the Congregational Church. He rendered valuable aid to the American army during the Revolutionary war, though he was not a soldier. He was a strong Federalist and Whig.

Solomon Mead was reared on his father's farm, receiving the advantages of an education such as the common schools of his day afforded, supplemented with a few terms at the Greenwich Academy. When he was sixteen years of age—in 1824—he settled on the place now owned by Mr. Titus Mead, in the borough of Greenwich, where he remained until about 1845, when he settled on the place where he now (1880) resides, but which he had purchased several years before. He began building his present house in 1858, and in December, 1860, moved into it. He purchased his present place of the Seymour family, which he has made one of the most attractive in the borough, as it stands on an eminence near the Second Congregational church, which is said to be the most elevated place on the Sound between New York and Boston. From the observatory on his house one has a grand view of all the surrounding country, even across the Sound on to Long Island. A view of his residence may be seen in another part of this work. Mr. Mead has devoted his attention entirely to agriculture, and has been very successful.

On the 22d of April, 1856, he married Mary E., daughter of David and Elizabeth Dayton. Their children are as follows,—viz.: Hannah More, Abram N., Mary E., Emily J., Solomon Christy, Sarah L., Everett D., and Chas. H. (deceased).

Mr. and Mrs. Mead are members of the Second Congregational Church of Greenwich, Conn., and he is one of its main supporters.

He was a Whig until 1856, since which time he has been a staunch Republican. He has held various town offices, and is a trustee of the Greenwich Savings Bank. He has often been a delegate to county and State conventions, and takes an interest in all matters relating to the best interest of his town.

#### COL. CONKLIN HUSTED

is a son of Benjamin Husted and Sarah Dayton, and grandson of Benjamin Husted and Sarah Newman, and was born in Greenwich, Conn., Dec. 7, 1790. His father was a native of Greenwich, Conn.; was a farmer by occupation; married Sarah Dayton, by whom he had the following children,—viz., David D., Hannah, Benjamin, Martha, William, Conklin, Mary, Roswell, and Rachel. He was a Revolutionary soldier; was a Quaker in religion. He died August, 1834, at a great age. His wife was a member of the Congregational Church, and died September, 1838, at an advanced age. (For history of Benjamin Husted "the first," see biography of James Husted.)

Conklin Husted worked on his father's farm summers and attended the district schools winters until he was nineteen years of age, when he commenced teaching school at fifteen dollars a month, and followed it more or less winters until he was married, April 28, 1834, to Mary Ann, daughter of Abram and Mary Close. She was born Aug. 7, 1799, and died

November, 1876. Their children are Julia E., who married William H. Briggs, a farmer in Greenwich, Conn., and Eveline C., who married Allen Brundage, a farmer of North Castle, N. Y. They have one son,—Chauncey Conklin.

Mr. Husted was a very large and successful farmer, and took charge of his farm till 1869, when he retired, to be succeeded by his son-in-law, William H. Briggs, with whom he is now (1880) living. In politics he was a Jeffersonian Democrat until 1856, when he became a strong supporter of the Republican party. He has held all the important offices of his town to the general satisfaction of his constituents, among which we mention those of assessor and selectman for many years, magistrate for more than twenty-five years; was a member of the board of relief for a long time, and during his long life he has settled a great many estates. He has been a member of the State Legislature eight terms, and while there served on important committees. He has represented his constituents many times in county and State conventions. He always took an active and leading part in military matters. He was a captain of the fourth company of the Third Regiment Connecticut Flying Artillery for many years, was promoted to the colonelcy of the same regiment, and had the distinguished honor of commanding that regiment which escorted Gen. Lafayette from the State line of New York through to Stamford the last time the general ever visited America. He was always a great admirer of a fine horse, and took great pride in military affairs. He is now almost ninety years of age, but his mind is good, and he recounts the struggles of a long and useful life with a great deal of interest. He has been a strong pillar in society, both politically and religiously. He united with the Methodist Episcopal Church more than sixty years ago, and has been one of its most liberal supporters. He has held every office in the church which falls to the lot of a layman. His wife was an adherent of the Episcopal Church. Col. Husted reviews the past with no apprehension of the future, and is only waiting to hear his Master say, "*It's enough; come up higher.*"

#### CAPT. BENJAMIN HUSTED

was a son of Benjamin Husted and Sarah Dayton, and was born in Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., April 1, 1784. Early in life he devoted his time to general merchandising, and for many years was a captain of a vessel making trips between New York and Boston and the intervening ports; later in life he devoted himself to agriculture.

He was one of the prominent men in town, several times representing his constituents in the State Legislature, besides holding all the more important town offices. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and gave liberally to its support.

He married Olivia, daughter of Samuel Mills.

Their children were Samuel, Lydia (married Robert Scott), Sarah (married Zacharius Close), Benjamin, and Mary E. (married Samuel Dayton). Of these only Samuel and Sarah are now (1880) living.

Capt. Husted died in February, 1871, and his wife died in 1874.

#### JAMES HUSTED.

The grandfather of the subject of this sketch was Benjamin Husted (1), who married Sarah Newman, and had the following children,—viz.: Benjamin, Nathaniel, Sarah, who married Titus Reynolds; Deborah, who married Nathaniel Reynolds; Martha, who married James Brush; Rachel, who married John Delavan; Mary, who married Jona Mead; and Zuba, who married Stephen Palmer, all of whom were born in the town of Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn.

Benjamin Husted was a farmer by occupation, lived an honorable life, and died at an advanced age. His son Nathaniel married Ruth Sniffin, and had the following children,—viz.: James, Nathaniel, Samuel, Benjamin, Jonathan, Rachel, and Mary, all born in Greenwich, Conn. He was also a farmer.

James Husted, son of Nathaniel, was born in June, 1786, and died Sept. 23, 1852. He always resided on the old farm, now owned and occupied by his aged widow. He was one of the successful farmers of the town, and blessed the community in which he lived by his generous deeds.

Very early in life he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Round Hill, where he resided, and became one of its most active and leading supporters. He was known by his hospitality, and many are the ministers who found his house a welcome place. He was a steward, class-leader, and superintendent of the Sunday-school for a great many years.

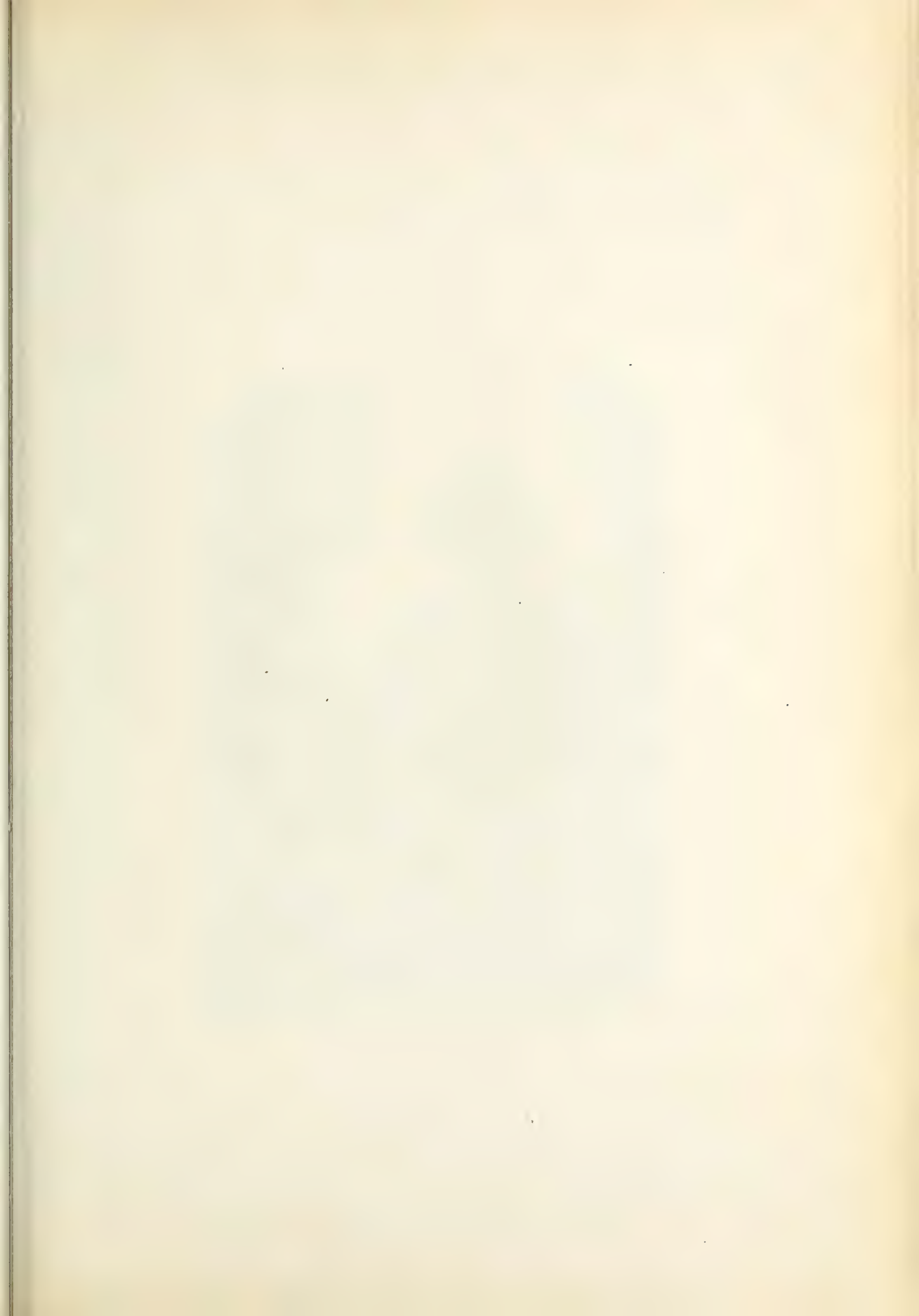
On the 12th of January, 1825, he married Mary B., daughter of Benjamin Husted and Sarah Dayton, and granddaughter of Benjamin and Sarah (Newman) Husted. She was born in the town of Greenwich, Conn., May 22, 1793, and now (October, 1880), like her brother, Col. Conklin Husted, retains her faculties remarkably well. She has been a life-long member of the Congregational Church, but attended the Methodist Episcopal Church.

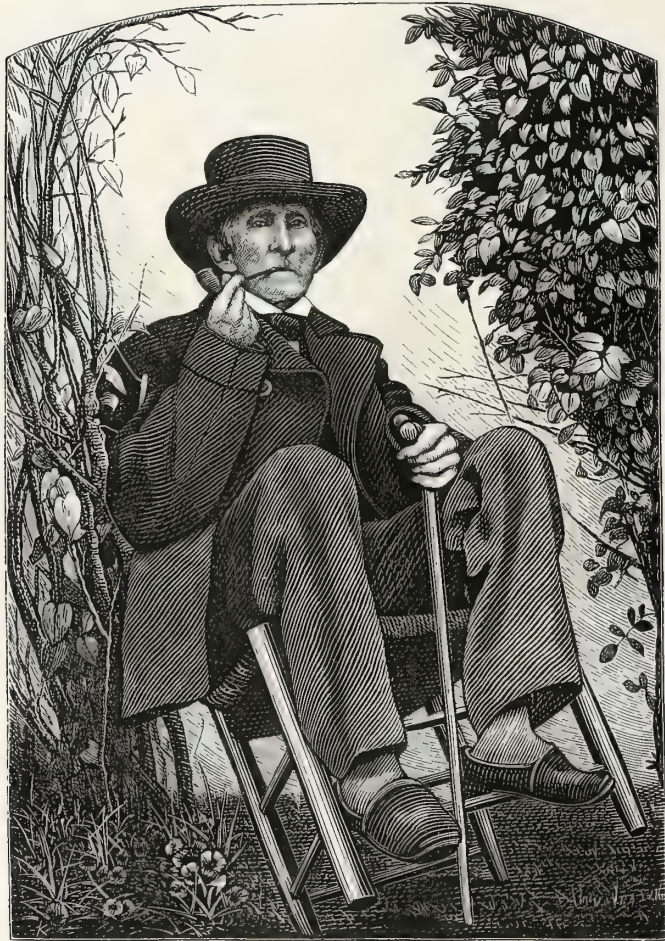
#### JAMES HUSTED, JR.

James Husted, fourth son of Samuel and Nancy Husted, was born in the town of Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., on the 28th of September, 1828. His father was the third son of Nathaniel and Ruth (Sniffin) Husted. He is a farmer by occupation, and now resides in Ontario Co., N. Y. His children are as follows,—viz.: Amos, Nathaniel, Eunice, Elizabeth, John, James, Samuel, and Mary, all of whom are living.

James Husted left his father's home at eleven years of age (1839) to live with his uncle, James Husted,







BENJAMIN HUSTED.

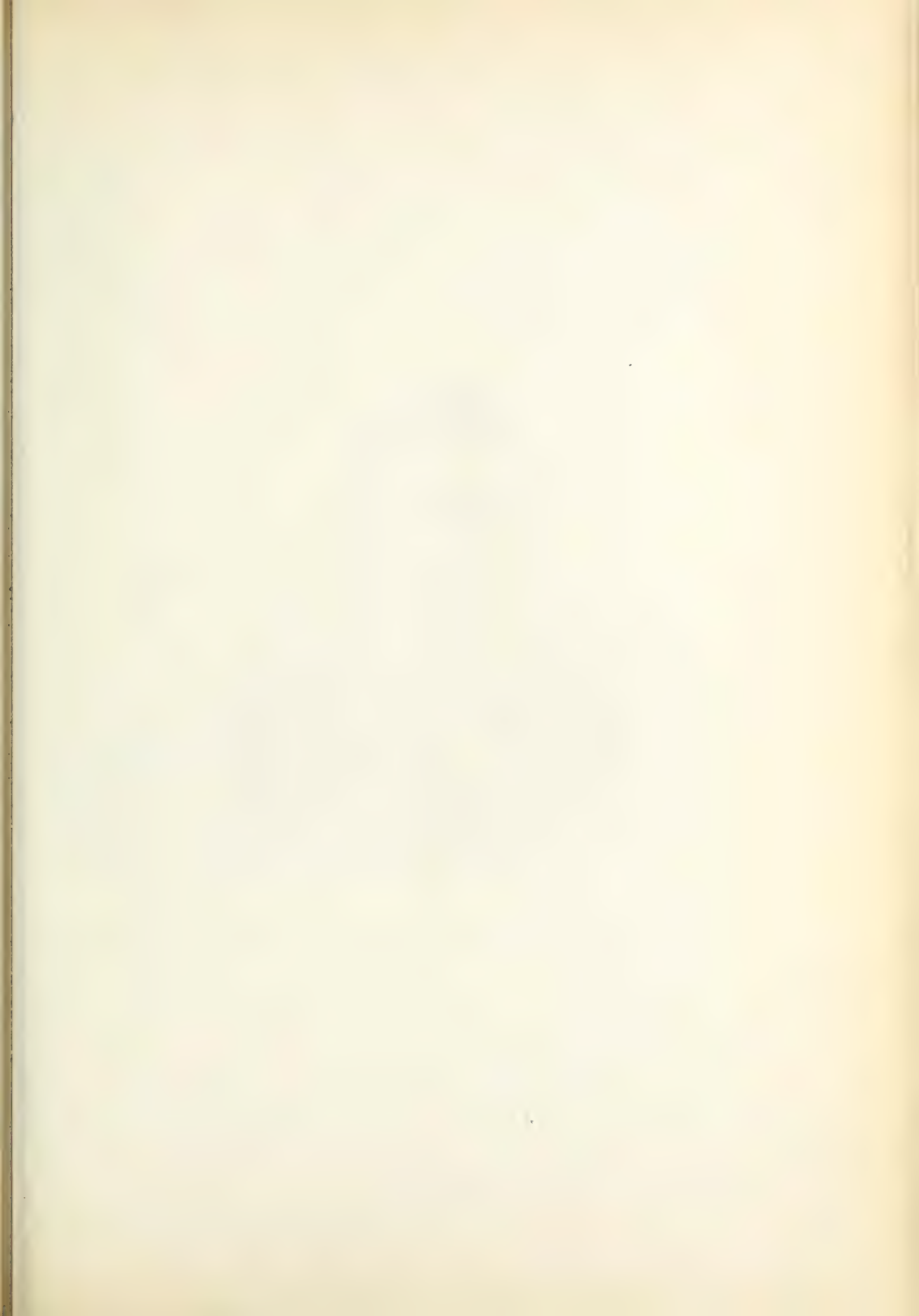


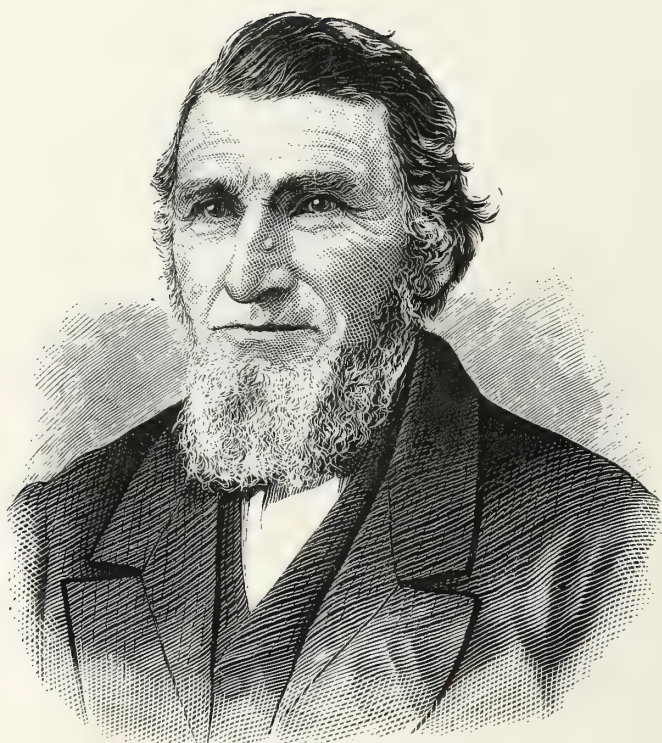


JAMES HUSTED, JR.









*Benjamin W. Huston*



after whom he was named. His advantages for an education were limited to the common schools of his day. He has continued to reside on the farm with uncle and aunt, except a few years while he was at Tarrytown, N. Y., and Rushville, N. Y., engaged in merchandising. On the 12th of September, 1860, he married Stella P., daughter of Joseph and Sarah A. (Mead) Brush. She was born May 22, 1838, in Greenwich, Conn. Their children are James F. (deceased), Joseph B., Sarah E., Emily M., Eunice L., James H., and Hellen. In politics Mr. Husted is a Democrat, but takes no active part in political matters.

#### WILLIAM A. HUSTED.

William A. Husted is an only son of Elnathan and Nancy (Close) Husted, and was born in Greenwich, Conn., Dec. 31, 1801. His grandfather was named Peter Husted, who married Eunice Lyon, of Green-

wich, Conn. A view of his present house, which he built in 1871, may be seen in another part of this work. In politics a Republican.

On the 12th of December, 1822, he married Susannah Caroline Hobby, daughter of Squire Hobby. She was born Nov. 23, 1803, in the town of Greenwich, Conn. Their children are:

(1) Elnathan, who was a soldier in the Rebellion, and died March 4, 1864, leaving a wife and two daughters,—Caroline and Augusta.

(2) William F., married, and has four children, and resides at Davenport, Iowa, with Lyman B., who has one son, and is a farmer.

(3) George, died young.

(4) Susannah.

(5) Lyman B.

(6) Squire Jerome, who has one son, and is living at Oyster Bay, L. I.

(7) Mortimer, died Nov. 21, 1876, leaving a wife and one son.

(8) Nancy E., married John Andrews, a lawyer in Brooklyn, and has one son and two daughters.

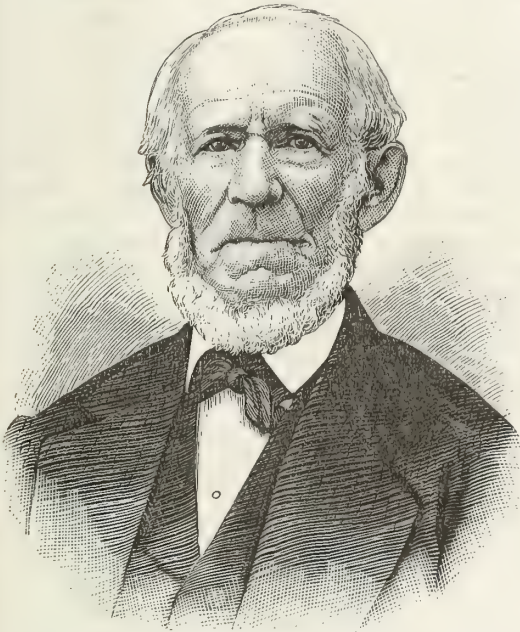
#### CAPT. BENJAMIN W. HUSTED

is the only living son of William Husted and Mary Lyon, and was born in the town of Greenwich, Conn., Jan. 15, 1808. His great-grandfather was David Husted (see history of James Husted, Sr.), who had a son Abraham, who married Hannah Knapp, and had two children, one of whom was William Husted. Abraham was a lieutenant in the Revolutionary war, and was a farmer by occupation. William Husted was born in 1783, in the town of Greenwich, Conn., and died in 1838. He married Mary Lyon, and had the following children,—viz., Benjamin W., Israel, Hannah, who married Husted Hobby; Phebe Ann, married Caleb W. Merritt; David, and William H., all of whom are now (1880) dead except Benjamin W. and Phebe Ann.

Mr. Husted was a farmer, and lived one mile south of where his son Benjamin W. now resides, on a farm which was in the family several generations.

Benjamin W. has always been a practical farmer, receiving the advantages of a common-school education till he was fifteen years of age. On the 24th of Dec., 1827, he married Rachel P., daughter of Enon and Elizabeth (Webb) Lyon. She was born Nov. 16, 1806. Their children are as follows,—viz., Julia (deceased), Israel G., who does business in New York City; Theophilus P. (deceased) and Eliphalet P., who is a farmer (twins); William E., also a farmer.

Nathaniel L. was a soldier in Company I, Tenth Connecticut Volunteer Regiment; served three years, was in all the engagements of his regiment, and was wounded in both ankles and in his left knee at the same time, and received an honorable discharge Oct. 2, 1864, since which time he has resided at home on the farm.



*William A. Husted*

wich, Conn. They had six sons and two daughters,—viz., Elnathan, Amos, Cynthia, Peter, Moses, Aaron, Eunice, and Caleb. (See history of James Husted, Sr.)

Elnathan Husted was a successful farmer and drover, married Nancy Close, and had one son, William A. He was a member of the Second Congregational Church at Greenwich, Conn., and was a man respected. He died in 1825, aged fifty years. His wife died at seventy-three years of age.

William A. was reared on his father's farm, and farming has been his business nearly all his life. He owns the old homestead of two hundred acres where

Mary E. married Alexander G. Knapp, who is a farmer near Council Bluffs, Iowa. Mr. Husted settled on his present farm in 1828. He is a Republican in politics, though he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Jackson at his second election. Mr. and Mrs. Husted are members of the Congregational Church at Greenwich, Conn.

He has held several town offices, and was a captain of a company of State militia for a great many years, and is known as Capt. Benjamin Husted. He is one of Greenwich's best citizens, a man universally respected.

#### HANFORD LOCKWOOD.

The name of Lockwood is traced back as far as 1470, when Annie, only daughter of Richard Lockwood, married Thomas Henshaw, who thereby became possessed of a large estate in Staffordshire, England. Those of the name in Greenwich, Stamford, Brundridge, and probably those of the name at Norwalk and other parts of the county, are descended from Edmund Lockwood, freeman, May 18, 1631. Was of Cambridge, Mass., in 1632, and probably removed to Connecticut with Messrs. Hooker and Stone. Lieut. Jonathan Lockwood and Lieut. Gershom Lockwood were in their day prominent and influential men in Greenwich, Conn.

Hanford Lockwood is a son of Ira and Clemendine (Mills) Lockwood and grandson of Thaddeus Lockwood, and was born in the town of Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., two and a half miles north of where he now resides, June 7, 1808.

His father was born at the same place Oct. 19, 1769, and died April 18, 1846, having lived nearly seventy-seven years on the same farm. He was one of the most successful farmers in the town, though not a large one. He commenced life poor, but by energy and economy became well off. It is related of him that at one time during the Revolutionary war he was standing guard, though not a soldier, and one dark night he heard the footsteps of something coming, and three times said, "Who comes there?" No answer came, and he fired, when he discovered he had shot a colt, thinking it was a Tory. He had four sons and one daughter,—viz., Alva, Lydia, Ira, Ralph, and Hanford, all of whom were born in the town of Greenwich, and all are now (1880) dead except Hanford. Lydia married Isaac Ostrander, of New York City, and had a large family of children.

Ira Lockwood, Sr., was a Whig in politics, and was a constable and collector of Greenwich a number of years. During the earlier part of his life he and his wife were members of the Baptist Church, but later were members of the Episcopal Church.

Thaddeus Lockwood, grandfather of Hanford Lockwood, was a farmer by occupation, married, and had a large family. He died about 1812 to 1814, aged ninety-three years.

Hanford Lockwood worked on his father's farm

summers and attended the district school winters until he was fifteen years of age, when he went to New York City, and became a clerk in the employ of William J. Romer, a grocer, for five dollars a month. At the end of the first year he had saved more than thirty dollars, which he gave to his father, besides having properly clothed himself. This was the beginning of a successful business life. On account of sickness he returned home and remained two years, working on his father's farm; subsequently returned to New York, and entered the grocery-store of his brother-in-law, Isaac Ostrander, as clerk at eight dollars a month for one year, then received twelve dollars for his second year, and fifteen dollars for his third year's work.

The summer that he was twenty years of age he spent at home, and during the fall and winter following taught school at twelve dollars a month, and the following spring engaged for one year to teach in what was known as the Nash District at fifteen dollars a month, and "boarded around." He relates that he had a good time and made many warm friends. During this time he made the acquaintance of Susan, daughter of James Nash, the man who had engaged him to teach the school, and on the 6th of October, 1830, they were married. In the month of April, 1831, he commenced business as a grocer in the city of New York, and continued in that business for twenty-four years, when he retired from active employment and returned to his native town, and resided on the old homestead where he first saw the light of day until February, 1878, when he settled where he now (1880) resides. During his residence in the city he made good investments in real estate, which have greatly increased in value on his hands. He was a first-class business man, and attributes his success in life more to the fact that at an early age he became interested in the cause of religion, under the influence of one Mary Ostrander, and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church under the ministry of the Rev. William Jewett. He is one of the most worthy and influential members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Greenwich. He has held in the past and holds to-day the various offices of his church, such as steward, trustee, recording secretary, licensed exhorter, Sunday-school superintendent for many years, and a worker in the Sunday-school as teacher or superintendent the most of the time since he united with the church. He has always been very liberal to his church as well as to other denominations, and the poor have in him a true friend, and they go not empty away. He is the possessor of more than five hundred acres of land, two hundred and fifteen of which are in his present beautiful farm, called Grandview. (See view of his place on another page.) He has been twice married. His first wife died Oct. 27, 1869, and was buried at Stanwich, Conn., where a fine marble monument marks her resting-place. He married for his second wife Fanny Louns-





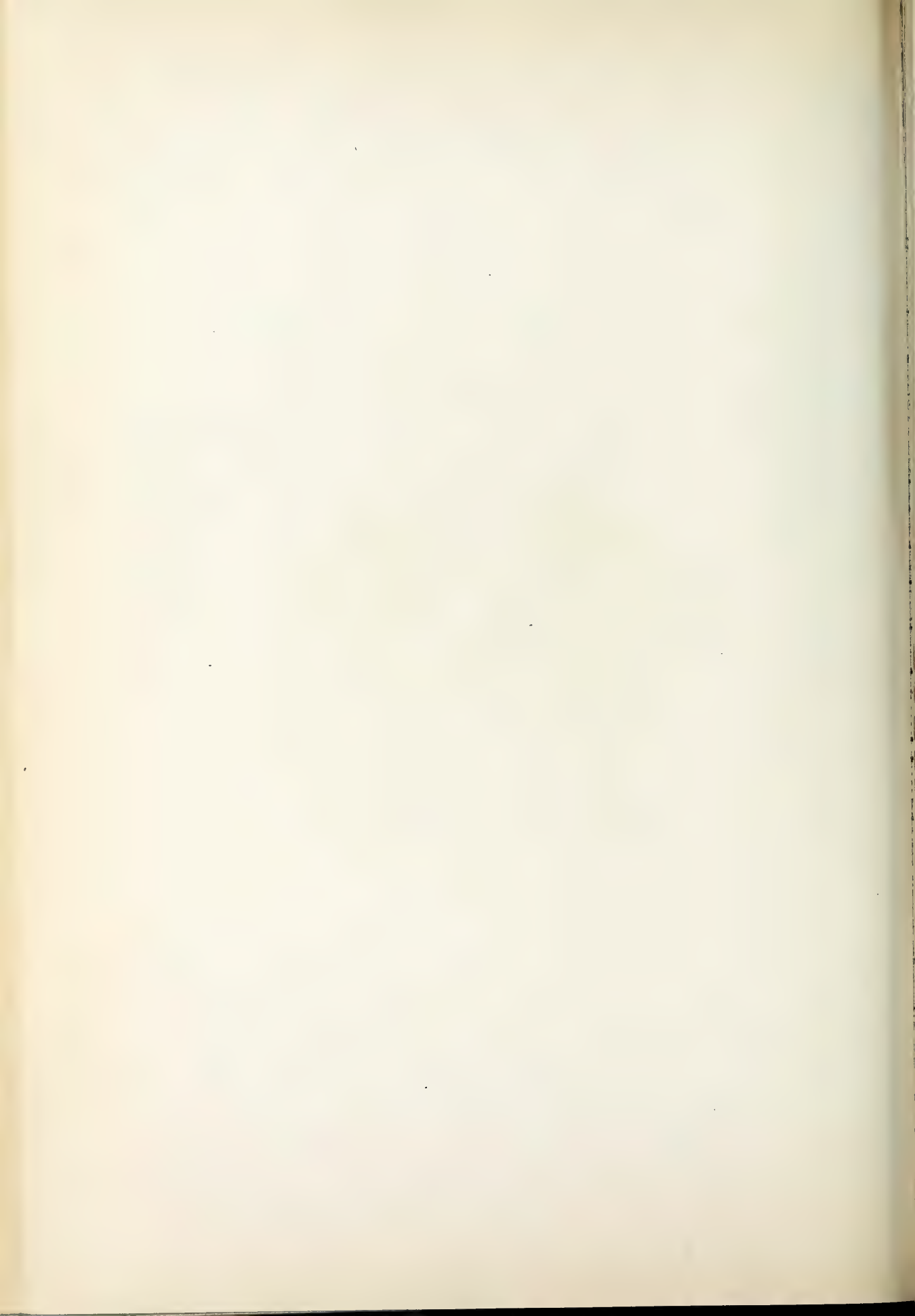


*Mr*  
Hanford Lockwood



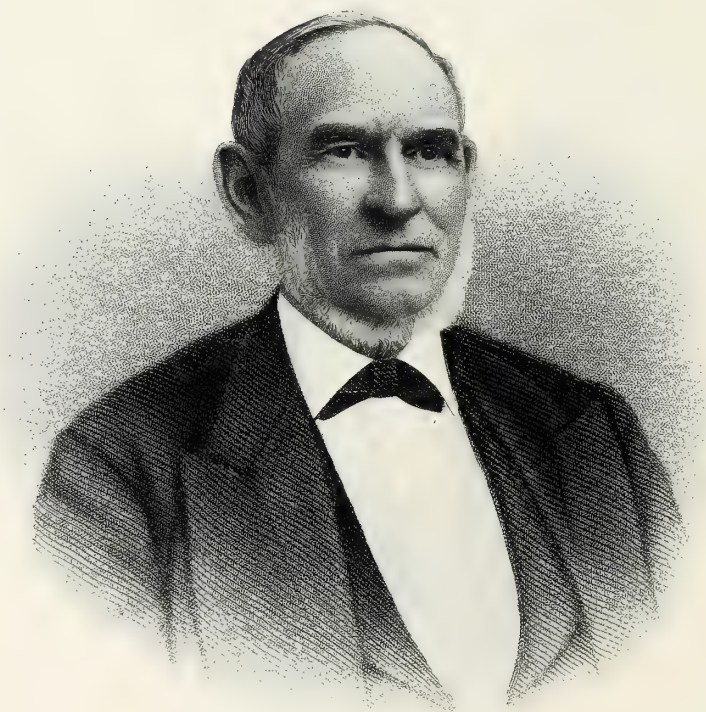


*O. C. Knapp*









*Josiah Wilcox*



bury, widow of Samuel D. F. Lounsbury, and daughter of William Roscoe, of Greenwich, Jan. 31, 1872. They have one son, William Fletcher Hanford Lockwood, born May 22, 1875. Mr. Lockwood is a thorough temperance man, never having used tobacco or liquors of any kind as a beverage.

Samuel D. F. Lounsbury united with the Methodist Episcopal Church at the early age of twelve years, and sustained through life a noble Christian character. He was a shoemaker by trade, and died in early manhood, leaving a good name.

Mrs. Hannah Lockwood united with the Methodist Episcopal Church at twelve years of age. During her widowhood she was a teacher at Portchester, for fourteen years in succession in one place.

#### ODLE C. KNAPP,

son of Nathaniel Knapp and Elizabeth C. Close, was born at Round Hill, town of Greenwich, Conn., May 26, 1815. His father was a son of Joshua and Charity (Mead) Knapp, and was born in Westchester Co., N. Y., Feb. 27, 1790; settled in the town of Greenwich, at Round Hill, when a young man, about 1812, where he was engaged in trade as a merchant. On the 17th of May, 1812, he married Elizabeth C. Close, who was born April 20, 1793. Their children were as follows: Elizabeth, Odle Close, Joshua, Nathaniel A., Hannah C., Eunice, and Sarah A.,—all of whom were born at or near Round Hill, Conn., and all of them are dead except Odle C. and Hannah C. Nathaniel Knapp was a Whig in politics, and was a postmaster at Round Hill for many years. He died Jan. 4, 1836, and his wife died Nov. 25, 1840. Mr. and Mrs. Knapp were esteemed citizens, and left the record of honest and industrious lives. The grandfather of Odle C. Knapp was Joshua Knapp, one of a large family of brothers and sisters. We mention some of them,—viz.: Isaac, Samuel, Reuben, Joshua, Benjamin, Jared, Enoch, Shubel, and probably sisters. Nothing is known of the family farther back.

Joshua Knapp married Charity Mead, and had the following children,—viz.: Nathaniel, Joshua, Samuel, Jasper, Rachel (who married and had two children), Eunice, Charity B., and Sarah. Joshua Knapp was a Revolutionary soldier, was a farmer by occupation, and died at an advanced age. Odle C. Knapp received a common-school education, and was reared as a merchant in his father's store, which has been his business through a long business life, except about one and a half years. On the 27th of January, 1836, he commenced business for himself at Round Hill, Conn., and has continued until the present (October, 1880). He is a good business man, and has always been able to meet all his obligations in time. He is strictly honest in all his dealings, and has made his business pay. He is now well off, has a family of good children, and is surrounded with the comforts of a happy, genial home. He has been twice married;

first, Caroline B., daughter of Guy B. Hobby, Jan. 19, 1841. Their children were Cornelia and Joshua (deceased). Mrs. Knapp died Feb. 27, 1848, and Mr. Knapp married, March 8, 1849, Eunice A., daughter of Abram Brown. She was born in 1822 and died March 5, 1879. Their children were as follows,—viz.: Sarah (deceased), Carolina H. (deceased) Anna M., Charles O., Kate A., John F., and Nathaniel A. In politics Mr. Knapp was a Whig until 1856, when he joined the grand old Republican party, and is very proud to-day (1880) of its glorious achievements. He has been a postmaster the greater part of his life, is a director in the Stamford National Bank, was for many years the first vice-president of the Greenwich Savings Bank, and has been a trustee since its organization, and a treasurer and director of the Greenwich Fire Insurance Company since its organization. Both of his wives were members of the Congregational Church at Round Hill, and he has been a regular attendant and supporter of the same.

Mr. Knapp is one of the representative men of the town of Greenwich, and is interested in everything that tends to build up the community in which he resides.

#### JOSIAH WILCOX.

Josiah Wilcox is a son of Joseph R. and Lina (Bacon) Wilcox, and was born in Middletown, Middlesex Co., Conn., May 9, 1804. His great paternal ancestor (John Wilcox) came from England about 1648, and settled at Hartford, Conn. He had a family of children, one of whom was named John (2), who was born at Hartford, Conn., married, and had a son, Israel, who was born at Hartford also. Israel married and had a son, Samuel, who settled at Cromwell, Middlesex Co., Conn., and followed the occupation of a farmer.

He married and had children, one of whom was named Daniel, who was a farmer, married, and had thirteen children, four of whom were sons,—viz., S—, Josiah, Samuel, and Jacob.

Josiah Wilcox, Jr., was born at Berlin, Conn., was a farmer, also owned and ran a carding-machine, married a Miss Savage, and had eight children,—viz., Olive, Joseph R., Belinda, Huldah, Hepsabath, Lyman, Horace, and Lemuel, all of whom were born at Berlin, Hartford Co., Conn. Mr. Wilcox died in 1847, aged seventy-eight years.

Joseph R. Wilcox was born Jan. 16, 1774, and died Jan. 25, 1852. His wife, Lina Bacon, was born June 4, 1774, and died Sept. 11, 1847. They had six children,—viz., Chauncey, Elsa, Caroline, Pamela, Josiah, and Russell, all of whom are dead except Josiah and Pamela.

Mr. Wilcox built the first carding-machine at Berlin, and ran it several years. He was also a good farmer and a man in good circumstances for those days. He was a Whig in politics, and a member and liberal supporter of the Congregational Church.

Josiah Wilcox, the subject of this sketch, remained at home, receiving the advantages of a common school education, until he was sixteen years of age, when he left to learn the manufacture of tinnern's tools. After serving an apprenticeship of some five years, he began to work as a journeyman at one dollar a day, and the first year he put in three thousand one hundred and fifty hours of hard labor, or equal to three hundred and fifteen days of ten hours each. In the month of September, 1828, he settled where he now (Nov. 2, 1880) resides, five miles northeast of Portchester, N. Y., in the town of Greenwich, Conn. Here he built the first factory for the manufacture of tinman's tools in 1828. His factory was thirty by thirty-five feet, and this he enlarged from time to time until now his buildings are many. Mr. Wilcox manufactures shaft-couplings with no weld either in the eye or clip, thus making them lighter and stronger, but his specialty is at present the manufacture of carriage hardware, which is equal to supply the demands of more than one hundred thousand carriages annually. He is also interested in two other large factories at Southington, Conn., namely, Pecks, Stow & Wilcox-Company, with a joint-stock capital of one million dollars, and the Etna Iron-Rolling Mills.

He married Celestia Wilcox, Aug. 24, 1828. She was born in Berlin, Conn., Sept. 11, 1806. Their children were George E. (deceased), George E. (2), Willis H. (deceased), Caroline O., Willis H. (2), Cornelia M., and Josiah N., all of whom were born on the old home where Mr. Wilcox now resides.

Mr. Wilcox was a Whig until 1856, since which time he has been a staunch Republican, and Nov. 2, 1880, he voted for Gen. James A. Garfield, of Ohio, for President. As a Whig and Republican he has five times represented his town in the State Legislature,—first in 1849, '51, '52, '53, and '54. He has often been a delegate to county and State conventions.

At seventeen years of age he united with the Congregational Church at Berlin, Conn., and since his residence in Greenwich he has been one of the strong pillars and main supporters of the Congregational Church at North Greenwich. His wife was a member of the same church, and he is a deacon of the same. Through a long and useful life he has taken a deep interest in the cause of temperance, and thoroughly believes that total abstinence is the only safe way. For the last twenty years he has been a director in the Portchester Bank. He commenced life a poor boy, but by his own energy, supplemented by that of his faithful wife, he has reared a family of children, who are universally respected, and they, as well as many of their children, are among Greenwich's best citizens.

George E. Wilcox married Sarah Lyon, and has two children,—viz., Gilbert L. and Bertha; Caroline O. married Henry S. Banks, of Portchester, and has two children, Clara and George; Willis H. married Susan C., daughter of Edward Mead, of Cos Cob, and

has one son, Robert Mead; Cornelia M. married Silas E. Mead, of North Greenwich, and has three children,—Mable, Louisa, and Josiah W.; Josiah N. married Henrietta Lyon, of Portchester, and has two children, Lillian and Arthur R. He is a cashier in the Portchester National Bank, at Portchester, N. Y., and the other boys are identified in the manufacture of carriage hardware with their father, one of whom, Willis H., was a soldier in the great civil war, having enlisted in Company I, Tenth Connecticut Volunteer Regiment, in September, 1861, and went forth to battle and was in more than fifty engagements under Gen. Burnside. He was slightly wounded at Strawberry Plain. He was mustered out October, 1864.

#### WILLIAM BRUSH.

William Brush is a lineal descendant of Capt. Benjamin Brush, who was a Revolutionary soldier, and who was taken prisoner during the Revolutionary war and put in the famous Sugar-House, in New York City, where he remained some time. He was a hatter by trade, but towards the latter part of his life, devoted himself to agriculture. He married Rebecca Finch, and had nine children,—viz., Rachel, Abigail, Ard, Ann, Rebecca, Benjamin, Jonathan, Mary Ann, and Lucy Ann, the last two of whom are living.

Benjamin Brush died about 1822, and his wife about 1824.

Benjamin Brush (2) was born April 28, 1774; married Rachel Brush June 22, 1799. She was born Sept. 26, 1779. Their children were Shubel, William, Charles, and John (deceased).

Shubel married and had three children,—viz., Mary A., Rachel A. (deceased), and Harriet (deceased). His daughter, Mary A., married George A. Lockwood, and had five children,—viz., Frederick, William, Charles, Caroline, and twins, names not known.

Benjamin Brush was a tanner and farmer by occupation, a Whig in politics, and a member of the Congregational Church at Stanwich. He died in September, 1852, and his wife in March, 1853.

William Brush, son of Benjamin and Rachel Brush, was born at Stanwich, Conn., Sept. 26, 1802. He worked at the boot and shoe trade and tanner and currier till 1832, when he settled on a farm, working it summers and at his trade winters until 1838, when he settled where he now resides. In politics he is a Republican.

Mr. Brush is a liberal man, seeking to bestow his money where it will do good. He is a good citizen, and is universally respected.

#### JOHN G. REYNOLDS.

John G. Reynolds is a lineal descendant of the fifth generation from one of four brothers who came from England and settled in Greenwich, Conn., per-



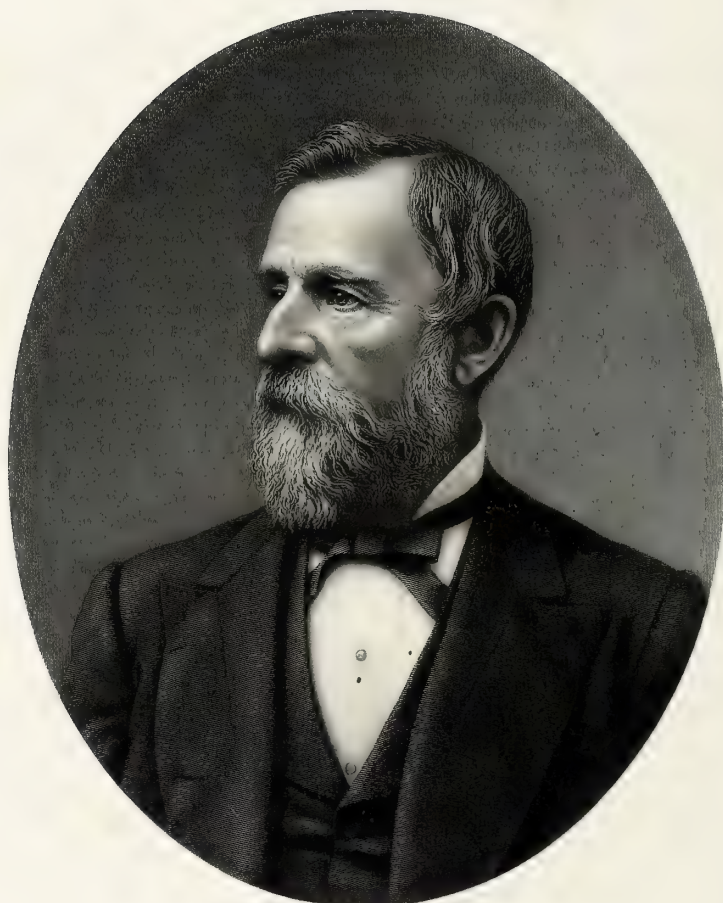


*William Brush*









*John G. Reynolds*





*Wm J. Reynolds*





haps more than two hundred years ago, or the latter part of the seventeenth century.

We are not able to give the names of the four brothers, but they married, and one of them had the following children, viz., Nathaniel, Nezer, Enos, Timothy, Rebecca, Deborah, and Abigail, the eldest of whom, Nathaniel, was the great-grandfather of John G. Reynolds. This Nathaniel married Sarah Lockwood, and had the following children, viz.: Nathaniel, born Sept. 7, 1745, died June 6, 1822; Ezekiel, born Oct. 13, 1747, died Nov. 24, 1833; Abigail, born Dec. 11, 1749, died March 27, 1839; Benjamin, killed in battle in Revolutionary war; Phœbe, born April 16, 1757, died June 19, 1829; James, born April 16, 1764, died March 2, 1833; Sarah, born Feb. 8, 1762, died Aug. 31, 1849; Philemon, born Feb. 21, 1764, died July 28, 1835; Nezer died young; Deborah, born May 13, 1776, and lived to be nearly one hundred years of age; and Lockwood, born April 20, 1768, died June 7, 1827.

The first Nathaniel Reynolds was a farmer, and owned a large tract of land near Stanwich, Greenwich, Conn. This was subdivided among his children, many of whom were farmers also.

Nathaniel Reynolds (the third) married Deborah Husted, daughter of Benjamin Husted and Sarah Newman (see biography of James Husted), for his second wife, and had several children, viz., Ard, Harriet, Benjamin, and Husted. He died in 1824, and she many years later. Ard Reynolds was born about a mile south of Stanwich, Conn., March 20, 1781. On the 13th of December, 1810, he married Anna Eliza Doell, a native of Germany, who came to America and settled in Albany, N. Y., at nine years of age. Their children were: Elizabeth P., who married Rev. Warner Hoyt, of Danbury, Conn.; Sally D., who married Tompkins Close, of Greenwich, Conn.; Benjamin H., who was killed at eight years of age; Ann Eliza (deceased); John G.; Harriet E., married Charles S. Guion, of Bedford, N. Y.; Julia H., who married Rev. Senica Howland, of New York; and Maria S. (deceased).

In politics Mr. Reynolds was a Whig, and as such was one of the leading men of his town. He held the various town offices, such as magistrate and selectman, and was known as 'Squire Reynolds. He represented his town in the State Legislature, and took an active part while there. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Stanwich, and he was one of the leading men of the same. His home was always open to ministers, and many there were who found it a welcome place. He died April 26, 1857, and his wife Feb. 25, 1858, and both lie buried in the private cemetery on the "home farm."

John Godfried Reynolds was born on the place where he now resides, a mile south of Stanwich, in the town of Greenwich, Conn., March 25, 1821. He received a common-school education, with a few terms

at the Stamford Academy, at Stamford, Conn. On the 26th of August, 1851, he married Mrs. Julia R., widow of Augustus L. Reynolds, and daughter of Jared Smith. He was a Whig in politics until 1856, since which time he has been a Democrat. He has held nearly all of the town offices to the general satisfaction of his constituents, among which we may mention those of magistrate for a number of years, treasurer for eleven years, and register of voters since the adoption of the present system. He represented his town in the Assembly during those trying years of 1863 and '64, and again in '74, '75, and '77, and while there occupied important places on different committees, and was chairman on education one term. He is a trustee and director of the Greenwich Savings Bank. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds are members of the Episcopal Church at Greenwich, Conn., and he has been a vestryman for many years, and at the present time is junior warden.

#### WILLIAM T. REYNOLDS.

William T. Reynolds is a son of Ezekiel and Phebe Reynolds, and was born in the town of Greenwich, Conn., July 18, 1814. His paternal grandfather, James Reynolds, was born in Greenwich, Conn., and married Abigail Knapp, Oct. 18, 1786. She was born in Greenwich, Oct. 4, 1755. Their children were as follows: Stephen, Ezekiel, James, Josiah, Silas, Nezer or Ebenezer, Enoch, Abigail, Reuben, Rachel, Hanford, Lockwood, Joseph, Sarah, and Amanda. This large family was born in Greenwich, and many of them have passed away. James Reynolds, Sr., was a farmer by occupation, reared his large family to industry and economy, and they became some of Fairfield County's best citizens. Mr. Reynolds died at an advanced age. (See history of John G. Reynolds.)

Ezekiel (second son of James) was born Aug. 7, 1788; married Phebe Reynolds, Dec. 24, 1809. They have had five children, all of whom were born in Greenwich, Conn. Names of their children are as follows, viz.: Adaline, who married Erastus Rundle, and has two sons and a daughter; James, died young; William T., Stephen, and Elkanan M.

Mr. Reynolds was a farmer, is a staunch Republican, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and so was his wife. He has always been very liberal to the poor and to the church. He is now (1880) ninety-two years and some months old, and he has lived to see nearly three generations pass away. He is living with a bright hope of a happy future, when soon the Master will say, "It's enough, come up higher."

William T. Reynolds remained at home until he was married, receiving such advantages for an education as the district schools afforded. On the 23d of February, 1836, he married Mary A., daughter of Stephen and Rachel (Brown) Halsey. She was born

in the city of New York, May 29, 1818. Her father was a ship-carpenter and merchant, and was born on Long Island. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have the following children, viz.: Louisa H., Mary B., Julia R., Sarah W., William E. (deceased), Ezekiel, Jr., Isabella E., Frederick W. (deceased), Halsey W., and Louis E.

In the spring of 1836, Mr. Reynolds settled on the place where he now resides, and which was formerly owned by Mrs. Josiah Brown, grandmother of Mrs. Reynolds. He has a fine farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres, which is in a good state of cultivation. In 1856 he built his present house, in which the family still reside.

Mr. Reynolds is a strong believer in the principles of the Republican party. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church of Stanwich, and he is one of its main supporters. He has never sought political honors, preferring the quiet of home.

#### JOHN R. GRIGG

is a son of Henry Grigg and Elizabeth Bush, and grandson of Henry Grigg, and was born in the town of Greenwich, Conn., Nov. 25, 1805. His ancestors were among the early settlers of Fairfield County. His father was born about 1760, was one of a large family of children, and married Elizabeth Bush, by whom he had the following children,—viz.: David (deceased), William (deceased), Sarah (deceased), Mary (deceased), Henry D., born Jan. 8, 1800, and was for more than fifty years on the water as captain; Ann Eliza, John R., James, and Rebecca, who married Nelson Seymour, and is now dead.

He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was a farmer by occupation. He died in 1844, aged eighty-four years, and his wife in 1846. John R. Grigg worked on his father's farm summers, receiving such advantages for an education as the district schools of his day afforded. During many years of the earlier part of his life he was engaged in quarrying stone for New York and Fort Schuyler at Frog's Point. Since the death of his mother he has devoted himself to farming, which is his present employment.

He married Ophelia A., daughter of John and Elizabeth Banks, April 26, 1836. She was born in Greenwich, Sept. 2, 1809. Their children are Mary A. (deceased), Matilda (who married Alexander Mead), George W., Ann E. (deceased), Grace O., and Fannie B.

In politics, Mr. Grigg is a Democrat. He and wife are members of the Episcopal Church at Greenwich, of which he is a vestryman and one of its liberal supporters.

Mr. Grigg is a plain, unassuming man, one who attends strictly to his business and never was an aspirant for any political office, though he has held some minor ones. He is generous, kind, and industrious, and a man universally respected.

#### CAPT. GEORGE A. PALMER

is a grandson of Denham Palmer, who came from England in company with his wife and settled in the town of Greenwich, Conn., and reared a large family.

Denham Palmer, the first, was a farmer by occupation, living to be well advanced in years. His children were as follows, viz.: Denham (2d), Henry, and James, and perhaps others.

Denham (2d) was born Aug. 12, 1766, married Mary Lockwood, who was born Sept. 12, 1767.

Their children were as follows:

(1) Maria, born Jan. 1, 1797, married Robert Clark and had eleven children; she died Nov. 2, 1879.

(2) Lockwood, born April 7, 1798; deceased.

(3) Solomon, born Nov. 7, 1799; deceased.

(4) Deborah A., born Dec. 9, 1801; deceased.

(5) Frances, born Sept. 10, 1803, married Chandler Comings, of Boston; died and left four children.

(6) Lewis, born April 7, 1805; deceased.

(7) George Augustus, born Sept. 5, 1807.

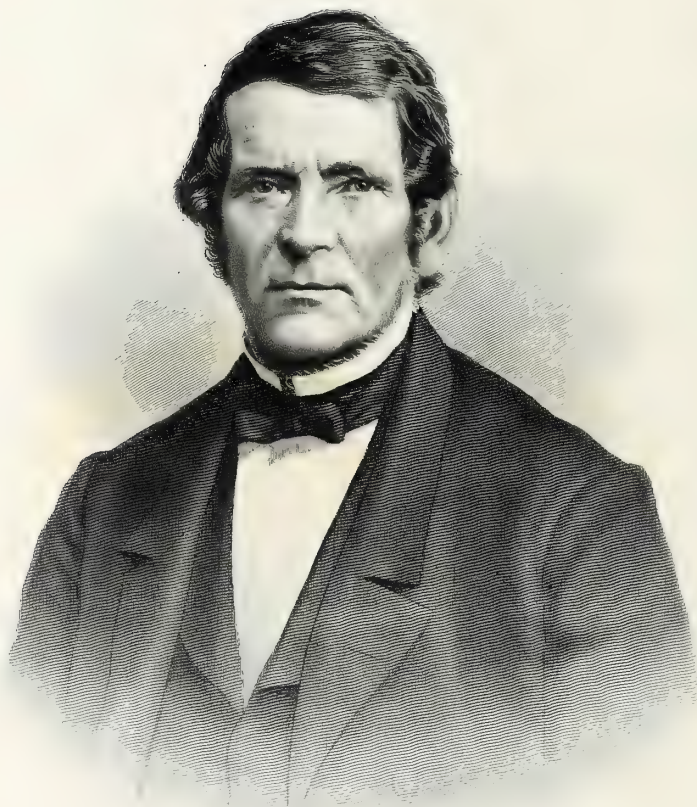
All of whom were born in Greenwich, Conn., and all of them are now (1880) dead except George Augustus.

Denham (2d) was a mechanic and farmer. His wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and died Feb. 18, 1847. He died at an advanced age.

Capt. George A. Palmer, familiarly known as *Cold-water George*, was reared on his father's farm, receiving only such advantages for an education as the district schools of his early day afforded. When he was about twenty-one years of age he purchased a market-boat and ran it between his native town and New York City. This, however, was soon laid aside for a new one, which he built himself, named "Locomotive." He was the captain of this for more than twenty years, carrying provisions to and fro. The captain was so thoroughly temperate, even in those early days when drinking was considered more respectable than it is now, that he would not carry liquors of any kind, beer, or even cider, and on account of his strict temperance principles, received the would-be stigma, "Cold-water George"; but to-day it proves to be a title of honor, rather than reproach. The captain has been successful in whatever he has undertaken, and succeeded better and made more money in his trading than any man who carried rum. Since 1850 he has been engaged in farming. In politics a Whig and a Republican, and as such has held some minor town offices. He has been a worthy member of the Congregational Church for a great many years,—more than fifty,—and one of its strong supporters. He has been twice married,—first, to Harriet Knapp, daughter of Abraham Knapp, Sept. 9, 1834. She was born Sept. 23, 1809, and died June 1, 1852, having been a member of the church many years. Their children were (1) Darius M., born Dec. 25, 1836, and is now engaged in business at Port Chester, N. Y.; (2) Elizabeth E., born Sept. 21, 1838,





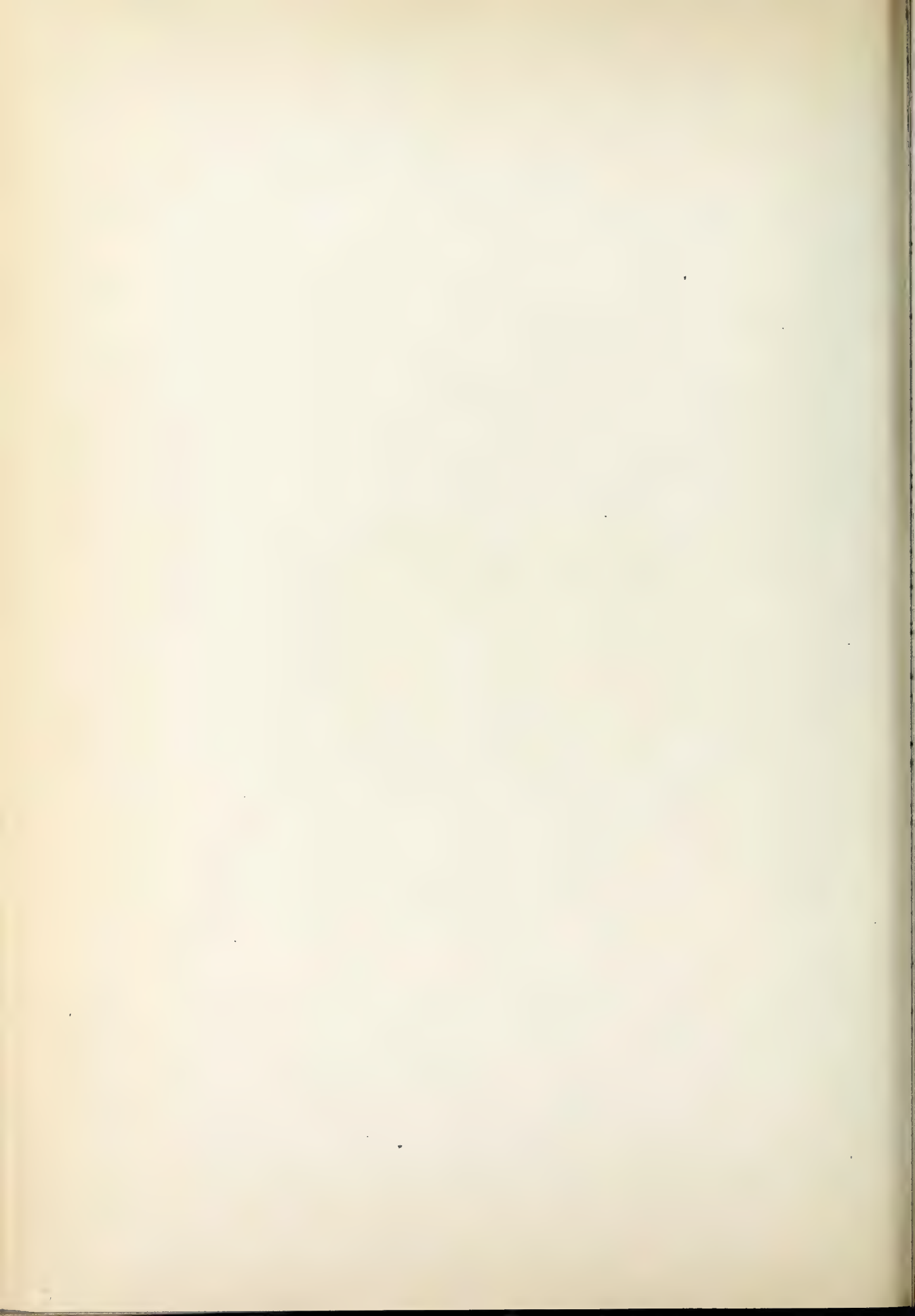


*John R. Gregg*





*George H Palmer*





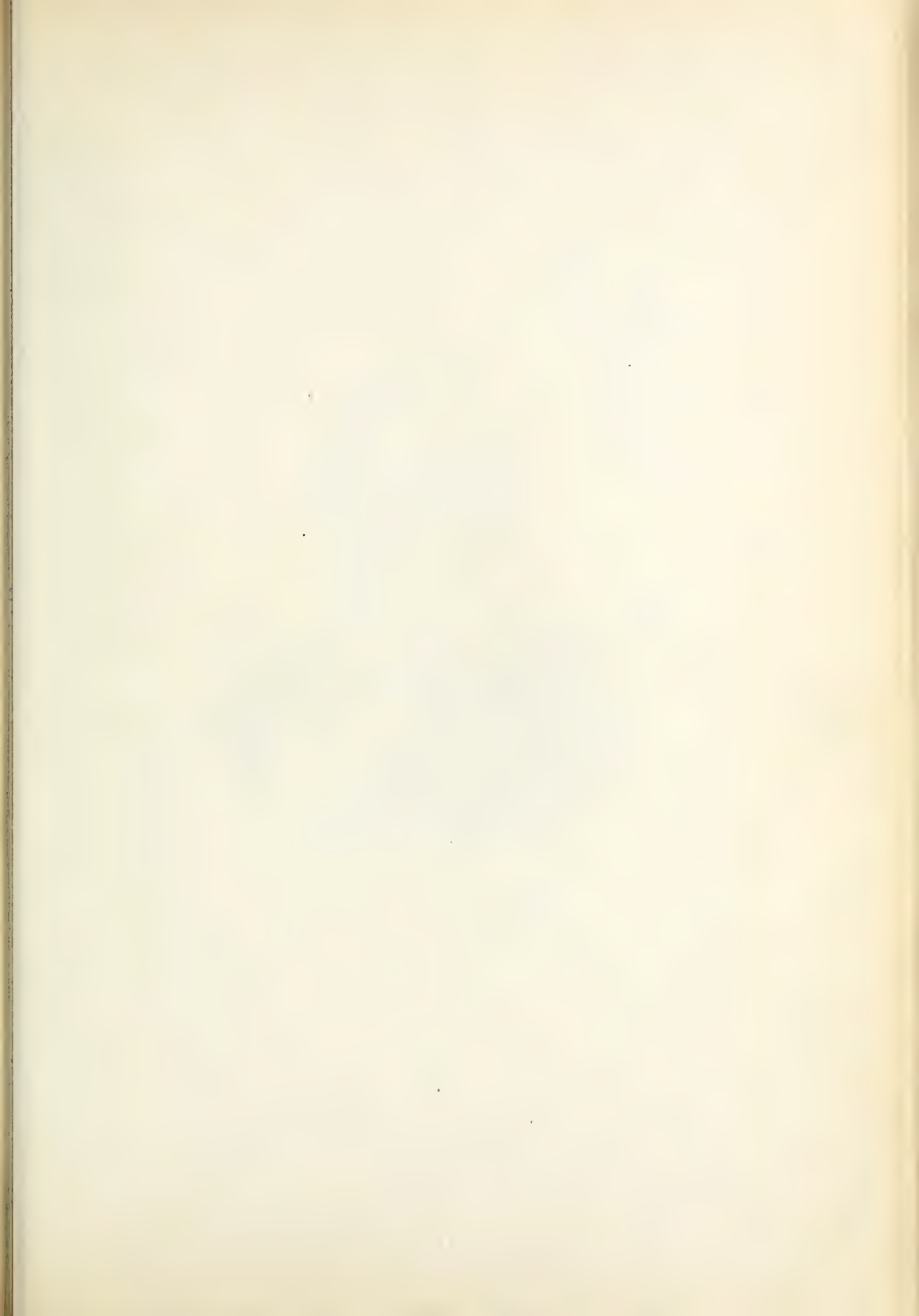




Photo. by Hendricks, Stamford.

*Israel Peck*





John Dayton





and died Jan. 4, 1850. For his second wife he married Phœbe E., a sister of his first wife, March 19, 1853. She was born April 6, 1805, and is a member of the church.

#### JOHN DAYTON.

John Dayton is the eldest son of David Dayton, and grandson of David Dayton, and was born in the town of Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., Feb. 5, 1828. Nothing is known of his ancestors farther back than his grandfather, David, who was born at East Hampton, L. I., in 1761; married Jan. 21, 1789, to Elizabeth Osborne, who was born at East Hampton, L. I., in 1776.

David Dayton, Sr., was a tanner and currier, and boot and shoemaker by trade. He settled in the town of Greenwich, Conn., towards the close of the eighteenth century, where his children were born. His wife died April 10, 1837, and he died Jan. 23, 1838. Their children were as follows, viz.: Betsey, born Nov. 9, 1790; Jacob, born March 10, 1793; Sarah, born July 26, 1795; David, Jr., born March 6, 1798; Amy, born Feb. 3, 1800; and Mehitable, born June 21, 1802.

David Dayton, the second, was born in Greenwich, Conn., where he followed the occupation of a farmer. He was a Democrat of the Jeffersonian and Jackson school, but never took any active part in politics, always preferring the quiet of home to any official honors. He married Elizabeth Brush, March 6, 1827.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Dayton were worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Dayton died Sept. 20, 1863, in Greenwich, the town of her nativity. Mr. Dayton died Jan. 26, 1872. He was a good citizen and neighbor, a kind husband and an affectionate father. He left the record of an honest, industrious life, and a good name as the precious legacy to his descendants. Their children are as follows, viz.: John, born Feb. 5, 1828; Sarah, born Feb. 15, 1830; Charles, born Dec. 4, 1832; Henry, born Sept. 10, 1834; Mary E., born Dec. 28, 1836; David O., born Feb. 23, 1840; and George, born Aug. 22, 1842; all of whom were born in the town of Greenwich, Conn.

John Dayton remained at home working on his father's farm summers and attending the district school winters until he was eighteen years of age, when he began to learn the shoemaker's trade, which he followed, more or less, till he was twenty-six years of age. On the 29th of September, 1851, he married Matilda, daughter of Shadrach Selleck, a native of Stamford, Conn. They have one daughter, Mary Frances. In the spring of 1852 Mr. Dayton settled in the village of Greenwich, and opened a boot-and-shoe store, where he is now (October, 1880) engaged in business. In politics he follows the footsteps of his fathers, and is a Democrat, and as such is one of the leading men of his town. He has been a constable for twenty-six years; deputy sheriff six years;

warden of the borough several years; assessor many years; postmaster under President Andrew Johnson's administration; and member of the State Legislature during the years 1870 and '71. The first year he was in the Legislature he served on the committee of State prisons, and the second year on the humane committee. He has often been a delegate to town, county, and State conventions. Mr. Dayton is a man universally respected; even his bitterest political opponents are among his warm personal friends. He is an honest, upright citizen, and to him, more than to any other man in his town is due the credit of the great interest manifested by the people of Greenwich in the history of Fairfield Co., Conn.

His brother, George Dayton, was a soldier in Company I, Tenth Connecticut Volunteer Regiment, in the great civil war; was in several engagements, and was wounded by being shot through his right lung at Newberne, the ball passing out below his left shoulder-blade, lodging in his coat. At the present time he is connected with the Broadway Fire Insurance Company, New York.

#### ISRAEL PECK.

Among the early settlers who came from England and settled in the town of Greenwich, Conn., was one Jeremiah Peck, a Presbyterian clergyman, who first settled at Elizabethtown, N. J., and then in Greenwich. He had two sons, Samuel and Theophilus. Theophilus was a cabinet-maker and joiner by trade, married a Miss Mead and had twelve children, one of whom was Israel Peck, who was born in Greenwich, Conn., April 9, 1750. He married Lovina Purdy; she was born Feb. 9, 1755. Their children were as follows,—viz., Israel, Nehemiah, Elizabeth, Rachel, Levina, Israel (2), and Elizabeth (2).

Israel Peck was a large farmer, a man greatly respected in the community. He and wife were regular attendants of the Congregational Church at Greenwich. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war a very short time, but furnished a substitute, which released him. He died Jan. 18, 1819, and his wife died Jan. 12, 1836. Israel Peck, son of Israel Peck, was born on the 7th of December, 1794, married Darinda Peck, who was born Feb. 20, 1796. Their children were Mary, born July 12, 1820, and Jabez, born April 12, 1822, and died April 9, 1847. Mary Peck married Gilbert Shute, and died March 24, 1867. Mrs. Darinda Peck died Oct. 20, 1871, and Aug. 19, 1873, Mr. Peck married, for his second wife, Mrs. Almira M. Platt, widow of Rev. Ebenezer Platt, and daughter of Ebenezer Mead. Mr. Peck was reared a farmer, which has always been his business until infirmity caused him to sell his farm. He owned the old homestead known as "Peck's Landing," which he sold about 1866 or 1868, and after residing at Port Chester a few years settled in the borough of Greenwich in 1873, where he has continued to reside until the present time.

He was a captain of a light militia company some four years. In politics he is a strong Republican. For more than fifty-one years he has been a worthy member of the Second Congregational Church at Greenwich, and one of its main pillars. His wife is also a member.

Mr. Peck is a very strong temperance man, and believes that total abstinence is the only true safeguard.

#### DAVID BANKS.

Among the noble band of worthy men whose names grace the pages of this History none have been more bold in declaring their honest convictions on all questions of moral or religious reform than the subject of this sketch. He is of English origin, and was born in the town of Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., Aug. 11, 1794. His grandfather, David Banks, was a Revolutionary soldier, was a shoemaker by trade, and a man honored and respected. He died at a ripe old age.

David Banks worked on the farm summers and attended the South Stanwich district school winters until he was thirteen years of age, when he commenced to learn the shoemaker's trade with his uncle, Daniel Banks. The time thus spent at the district school, supplemented with eleven weeks some time afterwards in studying English grammar, laid the foundation for his education. Mr. Banks has been a great reader and quite a logical thinker, and to-day has one of the best-informed minds in the town. At the early age of eight years he received religious impressions by the earnest prayers of a faithful school-teacher, which took deep root, the result of which has been an earnest Christian life, devoted to God and the cause of humanity. On the 1st of January, 1815, he united with the Congregational Church at Stanwich, Conn., and at the present time is a member of the Church of the Puritans in New York City.

He succeeded his uncle Daniel as the proprietor of the shop at twenty-one years of age, having in the mean time become somewhat noted as a first-class shoemaker, making a specialty of good fits on fine boots and shoes. His business increased, and he was compelled to hire two men to assist him. He commenced business in the same house where he first saw the light of day, and remained there until 1828 or 1830, when he settled where he now resides.

He built his present house on temperance principles in 1826 or 1828, it being the first house in the town put up without the use of rum at the raising. As a characteristic of his well-known temperance principles, even in those early days, we mention that when his head carpenter came to him and said that the men *would not work* without rum, he replied that the timber could lie and *rot before one drop of rum should be brought on his premises*. He stuck to his vow, and the result was his house was put up all

right, and no one was injured. He continued at his trade until 1860, since which time he has been a farmer.

On the 10th of May, 1821, he married Matilda, daughter of Rev. David Peck, of Greenwich, Conn. She was born May 7, 1797, and died June 17, 1879. She was a devoted wife and an affectionate mother. Their children were as follows: Zaccheus, Cornelius (deceased), Ann (deceased), David (deceased), Alpheus (deceased), Augustus, Elethea, Sarah H., and Mary E.

Mr. Banks has always been an *outspoken, bold, anti-slavery man*, and his own house has often been opened for prayer and public meetings to discuss the slavery question, even when the church was barred against such meetings; but time has wrought a wonderful change, and *such a change*. In politics he was a Free-Soiler and Whig till 1856, when he became a staunch Republican, and in November, 1880, voted for Gen. Garfield, of Ohio, for President of the United States.

In 1840 he voted the Liberty ticket, having James G. Birney for President and a Mr. — Earle for Vice-President. There were only about seven thousand votes cast for this ticket in the United States in 1840, but this small party, under different names, at different times, has grown until its principles are well known and felt throughout the length and breadth of our vast domain, and in 1880 elected the ripest *scholar and statesman* that ever graced the Presidential chair.

Mr. Banks has been very liberal indeed, having given more than two thousand dollars to aid the missionary cause, besides doing his part for home interest.

#### NATHAN FINCH.

Nathan Finch, son of Reuben Finch and Abigail Reynolds, was born in the town of Greenwich, at or near Stanwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., April 7, 1802. His great-grandfather, on his father's side, was named Nathan Finch, who, together with his brother Jonathan, came from England and settled in the town of Greenwich, Conn. Jonathan Finch soon after left the town and county, and nothing has ever been known of him or his descendants, and it is generally supposed that he died leaving no family. Nathan (1st) married and had a family of children, one of whom was named Jonathan, who married and had several children, one of whom was named Reuben, who was born in the town of Greenwich, Conn., July 19, 1773, married Abigail Reynolds, Oct. 5, 1794. She was born in Greenwich, Conn., Nov. 13, 1774. Their children were as follows: Reuben R. (deceased), Deborah A., Amos (deceased), Nathan, Lockwood (deceased), Mary R., Jonathan (deceased), Hannah M., Julia E., and George G. (deceased). Reuben Finch was a merchant for a great many years, and was moderately successful. He also was engaged in farming for many years, and reared his children to







Arthur Finch





*David Mantus*





industry and economy. He died on the 28th of April, 1839.

Nathan Finch (2d) worked on his father's farm summers and attended the district school winters until he was twenty years of age, when he entered his father's store as a partner with his father and remained a few years, when he became a copartner with his brother, Reuben R., in general merchandising in the city of New York, where he remained about a year, when he returned to his native town and entered the employ of Joseph Brush, of Cos Cob, Conn., where he remained a short time. During the next five years he was a merchant at Sing Sing, N. Y., and the succeeding five years were spent at Peekskill, N. Y., as a merchant with his brother Reuben R., when he again returned home and became a partner with his brother Jonathan in general merchandising, which continued some three years, when he became interested in the stock trade, bought and sold, together, and with butchering, in which business he remained some fifteen years, since which time he has not been actively engaged in any business.

He is regarded as an *honest, upright citizen*, is a Republican in politics, but never aspired to any official positions, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Stanwich, Conn.

## CHAPTER XXXIX.

### HUNTINGTON.

Geographical—Topographical—The Pioneers—Extracts from Town Records—Slavery—The Indian Well—List of Selectmen—List of Representatives—Villages, etc.—Ecclesiastical History.

THE town of Huntington lies on the eastern border of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by the town of Monroe and the Housatonic River; on the east by the Housatonic River, which separates it from New Haven County; on the south by the towns of Stratford and Trumbull; and on the west by Trumbull and Monroe. The surface of the town is uneven, being diversified with numerous hills and valleys. The soil is generally fertile.

### THE PIONEERS.

Prominent among the pioneers of Huntington was Daniel Shelton, of honored memory, the common ancestor of all who bear the name of Shelton in this portion of the United States. The following sketch of this pioneer is taken from a discourse delivered by the Rev. William Shelton, D.D., June 14, 1877:

"That he came from England, and from the town of Rippon (or, as we call it, Ripton), in about 1687; was married in Stratford in 1692; was a vestryman of that venerable parish, which is among the oldest in the country; that he was a merchant and farmer; that he had seven children, and that he was a large landowner, as appears by the town records and by the traditional knowledge of his descendants; that he was a devoted and intelligent churchman and suffered for his attachment to the holy principles of the Book of Common Prayer,—are among the chiefest

of our reminiscences of him. But to these there are sequents which are dear to all of us, as I shall endeavor to show.

"It is well known that he was devoted to and was governed by those great and grand principles of the Church of England inherited by her from primitive antiquity; that he did what in him lay to propagate and to defend them in this then new and hostile country; that he was thrown into prison some eight miles from his home, and carried there in an ignominious manner, for refusing to pay his money to support the preaching of doctrines and a system of theology in which he had no belief or confidence,—are among the traditions of his life.\* This must have been an astonishment to a man who had crossed the ocean to settle himself in a country regarding which it had been publicly proclaimed that all men were born free and could worship God in their own manner, provided they did not infringe upon the rights of others. He had come from his native land, which had been distracted by conflicting parties on all religious subjects, the Independents on the one hand, and the corrupt Church of Rome on the other, both equally hostile and equally assailing and persecuting the Church of England. He had looked, doubtless, for peace, and had sought quiet in a new country, where, as he thought, party animosity did not exist. It must have surprised him, I say, to find himself imprisoned and evil treated because he would not pay for the support of a system of religion in which he did not believe. He was really in the condition in which this country claimed to be, many years after, when the war-cry was raised against the mother-country because she exacted a tax without representation.

"He was a member of the Church of England, and yet a religious society rudely took him from his farm and thrust him into prison, where he was confined at least one night. It is not stated that he refused to contribute to the support of divine religion, for he was at one time a vestryman of his parish church, which he would not have been had he proved himself so far forgetful of his duty as not to promote the temporal as well as spiritual interests of religion; and it is recorded that on All Saints' day, in 1722, sixteen Episcopalians, inhabitants of Ripton, addressed a paper to the secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, asking for a pastor of their own, or for stated supplies every third Sunday from the ministers settled in Stratford and New Haven. 'We are emboldened,' they state, 'to hope this, both because we design to set apart a glebe for our spiritual guide when he comes, and also because we suffer great persecution for the Church's sake from those who have the civil power here, and who have made that a handle to grasp the ecclesiastical.' The second signature to this document was that of Daniel Shelton, and the fifteenth was undoubtedly that of his son, Joseph, then twenty-four years of age and ripening into the fortitude and manliness of defending the principles in which he had been educated by his father. It is recorded, also, that the elder died before a church had been built in Ripton, under the ministrations of Dr. Johnson; but he left a name, it is said, and an influence behind him which lived and was fruitful in good works.

"His name stands among the earliest churchmen of Stratford, which then included Huntington, and next to the head of the list of those who petitioned the Bishop of London, in 1707, to aid them in the midst of the most rigid Presbyterians and Independents. Violent opposition and threatened imprisonment followed the ministrations of a church missionary who had visited the town of Stratford and officiated and administered the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These peti-

\*"They (the Independents) still persisted with vigor to continue their persecution, and seized the body of Daniel Shelton at his habitation or farm, being about eight miles distant from the town, hurrying him away towards the town, in order to carry him to the county gaol. Passing by a house, he requested of them that he might go in and warm him and take some refreshments, which was granted; but they, being in a hurry, bid him come along, but, he desiring a little longer time, they barbarously laid violent hands on his person and flung his body across a horse's back and called for ropes to tie him on the horse; to the truth of which several persons can give their testimony and are ready when thereunto called; and, having brought him to the town, they immediately seized the bodies of William Rowlinson and Archibald Dunlap and carried them all three to the county gaol, it being the 16th day of January, 1709, and there confined them until such time as they disbursed such sums of money as the gaoler demanded of them, which money was last in the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor, Nathaniel Gould, Esq., he promising them that the next General Court should hear and determine the matter and that the money left in his hands should be disposed of as the court should order; and they were at present released, being the 17th day of the same inst."—*Documentary History of Connecticut, edited by the Rev. Dr. Hawks and the Rev. Mr. Perry.*

tioners especially desired of the bishop that he would send over, with a missionary allowance from the society, 'an exemplary man in conversation, fluent in preaching, and able in disputation, that he might silence the cavils of their enemies.'"

The following were here in 1789: Stiles Nichols, Abigail Beardsley, Stephen Babbitt, Abial Babbitt, John French, Eli Smith, Daniel Bassett, Thaddeus Beardsley, Lemuel Beardsley, Curtis Tomlinson, Joseph Tomlinson, Benajah Mallory, Ebenezer Hide, Elnathan H. Bostwick, Nathan Clark, Elisha Mills, Capt. Deodate Silliman, Maj. Agur Judson, Capt. David Judson, Joseph L. Wooster, Abel Lewis, Ephraim Lewis, Henry Curtis, Joseph Fairchild, David Thompson, Lewis Judson, Isaac Judson, Timothy Wilcoxson, Wells Judson, Capt. John Judson, Lemuel Judson, Nehemiah De Forest, William Beardsley, Eli Blackman, Thomas Lattin, Daniel Leavenworth, Ephraim Blackman, James Dunning, E. Johnson, William Edwards, Joel Blackman, John Wooster, Nathan Fairchild, Capt. Ephraim Curtis, Levi Curtis, Daniel Shelton, Gideon and David Tomlinson, Capt. Beach Tomlinson, Capt. Zachariah Lewis, Abel Hawley, Hezekiah Beach, Samuel Shelton, Isaiah Northrops, Samuel Beard, S. L. Judson, William Blackman, Ebenezer Beard, Everril Lewis, Nathan Clark, Josiah Whetmore, Caleb, Benjamin, Thomas Whitmore, and Nathaniel Beardslee, Josiah and Nichols Wakelee, Lieut. Elijah Curtis, James McCune, Nathaniel Lewis, Moses Platt, John Gilbert.

The following were here prior to 1793: Daniel Shelton, Jr., Samuel Shelton, Andrew Shelton, Agur Shelton, Beach Tomlinson, Abraham Brinsmade, John Humphries, Thomas Darling.

#### EXTRACTS FROM TOWN RECORDS.

"Feb. 11, 1789. Mr. Ebenezer Beach ear-mark, crop on the near ear and half-penny,—the upper side of the same. Transferred to William Beach."

"Huntington, Jan. 6, 1795, personally appeared Ebenezer Beach, Esq., and declared that Amos, a negro boy, was born in his house on the 20th day of August, Anno Dom. 1786."

"Feb. 11, 1789. Mr. Stiles Nichols' ear-mark, two half-pennys under the near ear, and a hole in the same."

"February, 1789. Mr. Abijah Beardsley ear-mark, swallow Fork on the end of each ear, and a half-penny fore-side the near ear."

"1789. Lieut. Curtis Tomlinson ear-mark, a slit in the end of the off ear, and a nick under the same, and a half-Tarman under side of the near ear."

"James Dunning ear-mark, swallow fork on the near ear" (a small piece of colored paper illustrating the said 'swallow fork' is pinned to the page of the old town book).

"1791. Samuel L. Hurd's ear-mark, crop on the near ear, and a ha'penny foreside the off ear."

#### SLAVERY.

Under date of 1791, Mr. Daniel Shelton "Declares that Peter, a negro boy, was born on the 15th day of September, A.D. 1786, and that a negro boy named Toke was born the 20th day of March, A.D. 1791." The following advertisement is from an old paper:

"Ran away from the subscriber sometime last month, a negro slave, named Sampson. All persons are forbid harboring or trusting him, and all masters of vessels are forbid carrying him away on penalty of the law.

"HUNTINGTON, Oct. 21, 1798."

JAMES DUNNING.

#### THE INDIAN WELL.

The old Indian well is one of the attractions of this town, and is indeed, to those who love the strange and curious in nature, a place well worth visiting. It is a secluded spot in the mountain-gorge where the rays of the sun seldom penetrate. "Silence reigns here supreme, broken only by the soft murmur of the stream falling a distance of twenty-five feet. Tradition says the Indians fathomed the well to the depth of one hundred feet and found no bottom, and that they held some superstitious awe and veneration for the place. It is an enchanting spot, and thousands of pleasure-seekers visit it in the summer to enjoy its romantic scenery and seek recreation from the busy routine of daily avocations."

#### CIVIL LIST.

Huntington was incorporated as a town in 1789, and included that portion of the old town of Stratford known as the parishes of Ripton and New Stratford. The area of the town was decreased in 1823 by the setting off of the parish of New Stratford, which was incorporated as the town of Monroe.

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1789 TO 1880.

1789, Daniel Bennett, Capt. Samuel Blackman, Elijah Curtis, Joseph L. Wooster; 1790, Elisha Mills, Ezra Curtiss, Elijah Curtiss, Beach Tomlinson; 1791, Beach Tomlinson, Nehemiah De Forest, Elihu Curtiss, Agur Judson; 1792, Joseph L. Wooster, Elihu Curtiss, Eliphalet Curtiss, Elisha Mills; 1793, David Judson, Ebenezer Beach, Elihu Curtiss; 1794, Elisha Mills, David Nichols, Elias Hawley; 1795, Elisha Mills, David Nichols, Ebenezer Beach, Agur Judson; 1796, Joseph Birdsey, Henry Curtiss, Stephen Babbitt, Thaddeus Beardsley; 1797, George Healy, Le Grand M. Lewis, Henry Curtiss; 1798, Othniel De Forest, Le Grand M. Lewis, Ebenezer Beach, Gideon Leavenworth; 1799, Agur Judson, Henry Curtiss, Ebenezer Beach; 1800, Ebenezer Beach, Agur Judson, Henry Curtiss, David Hawley; 1801, Othniel De Forest, Henry Curtiss, Le Grand M. Lewis, William Shelton; 1802, Agur Judson, Elijah Curtis, Elisha Beardsley, Daniel B. Newton; 1803, Agur Judson, Elijah Curtis, L. M. Lewis, Othniel De Forest; 1804, Elijah Curtis, Agur Judson, Samuel Beardsley, William Shelton; 1805, Agur Judson, John Wilcoxson, Elijah Curtis, Agur Shelton; 1806, Samuel P. Mills, Nathan Wheeler, Le Grand M. Lewis, David Hawley; 1807, Samuel Hawley, Samuel Wheeler, Timothy S. Wells, David Hawley; 1808, David Hawley, Abill Hawley, Abel French, John Curtiss; 1809, Samuel Judson, Stephen Babbitt, Ebenezer Beardsley, Joseph Shelton; 1810, Othniel De Forest, Deodate Silliman, Philo Sherman, Silas Wheeler; 1811, David Hawley, Ebenezer Beardsley, Andrew Leavenworth, Lemuel Judson; 1812, Elisha T. Mills, Stephen Babbitt, Gideon Beardslee, John Curtiss; 1813, Lemuel Judson, Nehemiah Gray, Ephraim Sherwood, Joseph Shelton; 1814, John Curtiss, Elisha Mills, Jr., Elisha Mills (2d), Joseph Wooster; 1815, Lemuel Judson, David B. Hubbell, Abel French, Joseph Shelton; 1816, David B. Newton, Israel A. Beardslee, David Sherwood, William Shelton; 1817, Clark Elliot, William Clark, Eli L. Hawley, Hezekiah Marks; 1818, Abner Hyde, Samuel Wheeler, Samuel Beardsley, Nathan G. Birdsey; 1819, Nathan G. Birdsey, John Peck; 1820, Samuel Wheeler, David B. Newton; 1821, Nathan G. Birdsey, Andrew Leavenworth; 1822, Samuel Beardsley, David B. Newton; 1823, Abner Hyde, Levi Edwards; 1824, Lemuel Beardsley; 1825, Christopher N. Shelton; 1826, Donald Judson; 1827, Nathan G. Birdsey; 1828, Hezekiah Marks; 1829, Thaddeus Beardslee, Jr.; 1830, Hezekiah Marks; 1831, Thaddeus Beardslee; 1832, Edwin Shelton; 1833, Sylvester Post; 1834, Lewis Downs; 1835, Thaddeus Beardsley, Jr.; 1836, Lucius Gilbert; 1837, William M. Hubbell; 1838, Thaddeus Beardsley, Jr.; 1839, Elisha Shelton; 1840, William L. Bennett; 1841, Elisha Beardsley; 1842, Ebenezer Wakelee; 1843, Peter Beardslee; 1844, William A. Judson; 1845, Lemuel Beardslee; 1846, Thomas Burlock; 1847, Stephen Beardslee; 1848, William A. Judson;



1849, Elly Lewis; 1850, William A. Judson; 1851, Ebenezer Wakeley; 1852, William L. Bennett; 1853, Orville Booth; 1854, William A. Judson; 1855, Wells Hubbard; 1856, John C. Buckingham; 1857, David Lewis; 1858, John M. Beardsley; 1859, Eli N. Baldwin; 1860, Samuel P. Buckingham; 1861, Joseph E. Field; 1862, Z. L. Shelton; 1863, Christopher U. Shelton; 1864, Ebenezer Wakeley; 1865, Joel Beard; 1866-68, William L. Bennett; 1869, Charles Judson; 1870, James Byington; 1871, Smith Wheeler; 1872, Erastus Bennett; 1873-74, Sanford B. Cocks; 1875, Gideon M. Wakelee; 1876, Horace Wheeler; 1877, Charles Beard; 1878, Horace Wheeler; 1879, Frederick G. Perry; 1880, Selah G. Blakeman.

## SELECTMEN.

The record of the proceedings of the annual town-meeting cannot be found prior to 1845. The following is a list of the selectmen from that year to the present time:

1845, Elly Lewis, Wm. L. Bennett; 1846, Daniel Bennett; 1846-48, David Beecher; 1847-49, Henry B. Lake; 1849-50, Orville Booth; 1850-52, 1854, 1861, Charles C. Tomlinson; 1851-53, David Lewis; 1853-55, Wm. A. Judson; 1855-56, 1864, John M. Beardslee; 1856-60, 1862-64, 1867, Wm. L. Bennett; 1857-60, Elly Lewis; 1861, Eli N. Baldwin; 1862-63, Wells Hubbard; 1863-66, Lewis B. Gray, James H. Beard; 1867, Orville Booth; 1868, Stephen Beardslee; 1869-71, 1873, 1878-79, F. G. Perry; 1869, S. P. Buckingham; 1869-71, Ambrose Shelton; 1870, Edgar S. Wooster; 1871-72, James Mills, David N. Lane; 1872, Lewis J. Shelton; 1873, 1878-79, Charles Bean; 1873, S. G. Blakeman; 1874-75, James W. Wheeler; 1874, S. M. Wakelee, John Franley; 1875, 1879, Erastus Bennett; 1875, Isaac Birdseye; 1876-77, James H. Beard, Wells Hubbard, Horace S. Lyon; 1878, John C. Buckingham.

## VILLAGE OF SHELTON.

The village of Shelton is located in the eastern part of the town on the Housatonic, opposite Birmingham, and was named in honor of Edward H. Shelton, Esq. It is delightfully located, overlooking the Housatonic, and commands a fine view of the neighboring town of Derby. It is the seat of various manufacturing establishments, and is one of the flourishing villages of Fairfield County. The medical profession is represented by Gould A. Shelton, M.D., who is the only physician in the village.

Huntington is a hamlet, containing two churches, located in the centre of the town.

## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

Huntington, originally in Stratford, was incorporated in 1789, and embraced two parishes, Ripton and New Stratford (now Monroe). When Monroe became a town Ripton took the name of Huntington. The church was organized with ninety-two members from the Stratford church, Feb. 12, 1724, and the pastor, Rev. Jedediah Mills, was ordained the same day. In connection with the call and settlement of Mr. Mills the following vote was passed, "without contradiction of any person," viz.: "to give Mr. Mills eighty pounds towards building his house,—forty pounds of it in money and forty pounds of it in work,—and in the beginning fifty pounds salary a year, and afterwards rising as God shall enable us and as Mr. Mills shall stand in need, and as this society shall think fit, and also one hundred acres of land already given by the town of Stratford."

The first meeting-house was probably erected about

1720, and stood on Fanton Hill, about eighty rods northeast of the present one. The second edifice stood about twenty rods northeast of the present one, which is the third, and was erected in 1832.

The following are the names and terms of service of each minister: Rev. Jedediah Mills, 1724-76; Rev. Daniel Ely, D.D., 1773\*-1816; Rev. Thomas F. Davis, 1817-18; Rev. Thomas Punderson, 1818-44; Rev. Charles N. Seymour, 1844-47; Rev. Eliakim Phelps, D.D., 1847-49; Rev. William B. Curtis, 1850-58; Rev. John Blood, 1858-62; Rev. William D. Morton, 1864-69; Rev. Loring B. Marsh, 1869-72; Rev. Allen Clark, 1873-74; Rev. Lucius H. Higgins, 1875.

The following are the present officers of the church and society: Pastor, Rev. L. H. Higgins; Deacons, George L. Nichols, Oliver G. Beard, Lewis J. Shelton; Superintendent of Sunday-school, Edward S. Hawley; Assistant Superintendent of Sunday-school, Frank W. Wooster; Church Clerk, N. W. Blackman; Society's Committee, Deacon L. J. Shelton, S. B. Nichols, D. A. Nichols; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. E. S. Hawley. The number of present members is one hundred and forty-five.

Among the incidents in the history of the church are the following:

The so-called "Half-Way Covenant" was used by the church till done away with in 1817.

In 1743, David Brainerd was expelled from Yale College, in part "because he had disobeyed orders in attending prohibited meetings of those who were attached to the preaching of Whitefield and Tennent." Rev. Mr. Mills regarding his treatment as unjust received him into his family, and under his instruction he studied theology, and, thus fitted, went forth as a missionary to the Stockbridge Indians.

During Dr. Ely's ministry there were additions to the church by profession every year except six. He was a member of the corporation of Yale College, and about one hundred young men were fitted for college under him.

During Rev. Mr. Punderson's ministry of twenty-six years two hundred and fourteen were admitted to the church.

Dr. Phelps had somewhat of notoriety in connection with the "Stratford knockings." He was the father of Rev. Austin Phelps, D.D., of Andover Theological Seminary, Massachusetts.

During the winter and spring of 1877 there occurred one of the most marked works of grace that had been witnessed for a generation, as one result of which nearly forty united with the church.

*The Scattergood Mission* is under the care of Rev. Friend Hoyt, who founded it, and to whose untiring energy the success of the movement is due. An effort is being made to organize it into a Missionary Church Society.

\* Dr. Ely was a colleague with the Rev. Mr. Mills for three years preceding the death of the latter.

## BAPTIST CHURCH.\*

The first church was organized Nov. 3, 1838, with the following members: Ferris Drew, James Beard, Wright Drew, Jesse Gilbert, John G. Beardsley, Smith Beardsley, Rebecca Beardsley, Israel Hamilton, Fanny Drew, Ann Hamilton, Charity Drew, Phebe Olmstead, Emily Hubbell, James Drew, Reuben Drew, Phebe Drew, Maria Drew, Ann Beardsly, Mary Beardsly, Lucias Hubbell, William M. Hubbell, C. Johnson, Samuel Drew, Sarah G. Johnson. Pastors: William A. Dennison, Alva Gregory, Judson G. Lyman, William B. Knapp, John Waterbery, F. N. Barlow, A. N. Benedict, Charles Nichols, Amos Benedict, C. W. Potter, J. G. Gahun, George F. Pay, Sumner Tatham, Addison Brainard, and F. Perry. The church building was erected in 1839.

Present officers: Committee, George W. Drew, John Tomlinson; Church Clerk, Levi Beamas. The present membership is between thirty and forty.

## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.\*

The parish of Ripton, in Huntington, and the parish of New Stratford, in Monroe, were once a part of the parish of Christ's Church, at Stratford. St. Paul's church at Huntington, was built about the year 1740. The parish of Ripton was set off from the parish of Christ's Church, at Stratford, in April, 1749. Rev. Christopher Newton was its first minister, and was one of a small number who went to England for holy orders of the Episcopal Church, and was ordained by Zachary Pearce, Bishop of Bangor, at the chapel of Spring Garden, Westminster, by order of Thomas, Lord Bishop of London. He was admitted to the holy order of deacon on the 25th day of July, 1755, being St. James' Day. On Sunday, the 27th day of July, he was admitted to the holy order of priests according to the manner and form of the Church of England.† He was appointed missionary at Huntington in 1755. During his ministry at Ripton Parish he officiated some part of the time at Tashua, in Trumbull.

The first records of Ripton parish are dated "Easter Monday, April 12, 1784." The following may show the manner in which the minister's salary was sometimes raised in those days:

*"Voted, That Rev. Mr. Newton's rate on list of 1784 shall be twopence halfpenny on the pound, including his wood; with this reserve considered in the vote. Those who have a mind to furnish any wood may pay the halfpenny on the pound in wood."*

The Rev. Mr. Newton's death occurred on Feb. 6, 1787. He was an able and sound divine.

Rev. Abram Lynson Clark succeeded Rev. Mr. Newton in 1787, and resigned in 1792, when he removed to Providence, R. I. The Rev. Charles Seabury succeeded him for one year.

It is certified on the parish records that a vote was

passed to employ the Rev. William Green for one year, and for his services during this time he was to be allowed one hundred pounds lawful money. A certified copy of this vote was forwarded to Bishop Provost, of New York.

The records also show that at a meeting held June 24, 1789, it was voted to allow the Rev. Calvin White one hundred pounds lawful money, and the use of the glebe houses and land, and thirty-three loads of wood.

In the year 1800 the Rev. Ambrose Todd was settled, and remained until his death, which occurred July 25, 1809, in the forty-sixth year of his age and the twenty-second year of his ministry. He was much beloved by his people, and at his death was deeply lamented. The records show that when he was called to the parish, a vote was passed to call the Rev. Ambrose Todd, at a salary of one hundred pounds, lawful money, and forty loads of wood.

In 1805 the Rev. Mr. Todd was requested to perform divine service at St. Paul's church at Ripton, and at St. Peter's church at New Stratford (now Monroe), one-third of the time, and the wardens of St. Paul's church, at Ripton parish, were empowered, when called upon, to make such arrangements for the direction of the new church at New Stratford as might seem necessary. The people in New Stratford had heretofore assisted in paying for services in Ripton parish.

In the year 1800, St. Paul's Church Society voted to sell the glebe house and lot to Rev. Mr. Todd. In August, 1809, the society voted to continue the salary of the Rev. Ambrose Todd to his family until the fifth of the next December, together with the use of the glebe orchard. At the same time and place it was voted that the society entertain the highest regard for his memory, and agree to defray his funeral expenses and erect a tombstone to his memory.

June 17, 1811, the two societies voted to call the Rev. Menzies Rayner to preach alternately at St. Paul's church, at Ripton, and at St. Peter's church, at New Stratford, at a salary of five hundred and fifty dollars per annum and the use of the glebe lot, providing the salary could be raised without taxation.

The people in the parish of Ripton being desirous that the relationship of minister and people between them and Rev. Mr. Rayner should be brought to a close, a committee was appointed in December, 1826, to visit Rev. Mr. Rayner to ascertain the lowest terms upon which he would leave the society. The committee reported that Rev. Mr. Rayner would join with St. Paul's Church Society in requesting the bishop to dissolve the connection with that society in consideration of two hundred dollars, and that his services should cease on the last Sunday of December. The dissolution was made by Thomas C. Brownell, Bishop of Connecticut.

On Jan. 8, 1811, a subscription was started and the sum of thirty-five hundred dollars was raised for a

\* Contributed by Mrs. J. P. Shelton.

† These orders are preserved and are at the home of Mrs. David Shelton, in Huntington, whose husband was grandson of Rev. Mr. Newton.



fund, the interest of which should be appropriated forever for the support of preaching in Ripton parish by an Episcopal clergyman.

In June, 1811, St. Paul's church was destroyed by fire. It originated in consequence of a young man, a citizen of the town, shooting a dove which was sitting on some part of the church.

From the close of Mr. Rayner's rectorship to the year 1864 several different clergymen occupied the pulpit for short intervals.

In 1836 the society, being in embarrassed circumstances, made application to the bishop for pecuniary aid, that it might be enabled to have preaching continued. Since that time it has been a missionary society. In 1841 a parsonage was built on the glebe property.

In April, 1864, the Rev. Joseph Covell was called, and remained for nearly thirteen years, when he resigned on account of ill-health and infirmities of age. He was an efficient Christian minister, a sound divine, and looked well to the interest of his small flock. By good advice and Christian ministration he was instrumental in adding numbers to the church, leaving the small society in a united and prosperous condition. During his rectorship the church was improved in appearance by repainting, reseating, frescoing, and being made more modern in style. The expense incurred was nearly twelve hundred dollars, which was all subscribed and paid as soon as the work was completed.

Rev. Mortimer Hyde next filled the rectorship for two years. Since his resignation there has been no regular clergyman, but the pulpit has been supplied by lay-reading and the ministerial services of the Rev. Mr. Duffield, of Monroe.

The society was once large and flourishing, but by deaths and removals, and the members in the eastern part of the town uniting with St. James' Church at Birmingham, it has been rendered unable to keep up ministerial services without great sacrifices on the part of the membership.

## CHAPTER XL.

### HUNTINGTON (Continued).

#### MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

The Ousatonic Water Company—The Derby Silver Company—Birmingham Corset Company—The Shelton Company—Bolts, Tacks, Etc.—Wilkinson Brothers & Co.'s Paper-Mills.

#### THE OUSATONIC WATER COMPANY.

CONNECTICUT is emphatically a manufacturing State, and, as in many other portions of New England, the sagacity, enterprise, and perseverance of her citizens are everywhere observable in the manner in which they utilize every afforded facility for internal improvements and the development of the great in-

dustries which are peculiar to these localities. As a result of such enterprise, villages and towns of rare beauty and interest have rapidly sprung up along the margin of her rivers, where the opening of the present century witnessed no indications of busy, bustling humanity. But these places, wild and unforbidding as was their natural appearance, have, by the embellishments of art, been rendered far more delightful and desirable than those which were often originally more attractive.

Much of the surface of this State is broken and hilly, yet it can boast of no mountain scenery properly so called. The face of the country is delightfully varied by low ranges of hills; and the passage of the Connecticut and Housatonic and other smaller yet beautiful rivers through its entire length. There are several elevations in the State dignified by the name of mountain, and, although their highest peaks are much inferior in height to the mountains in other parts of New England, they present many attractions and add much to the scenic views of the State. The lakes nestling among these miniature mountains in some parts of the State are extremely beautiful. But the most picturesque scenery is to be found in the valleys of her rivers, where it is ever changing and loses none of its beauties from the sources of the rivers to where they mingle with the waters of Long Island Sound.

A late writer, in speaking of the attractive places and manufacturing interests on the Ousatonic—better known as Housatonic—River, says, in reference to the great achievement of the Ousatonic Water Company:

"At the present day, when manufacturing enterprise seeks every available opportunity for its development, it seems strange that less than forty years ago the project of utilizing one of the finest water-powers in New England should have encountered vigorous opposition; yet such was the fact, and but for the indomitable energy and perseverance of some half a dozen individuals the great improvement might have slumbered for another generation.

"A brief history of the enterprise which under the auspices of the Ousatonic Water Company, at Derby, Conn., was brought to successful completion in 1870 cannot fail to prove of interest to our readers, and especially to those who desire to find an advantageous location for manufacturing operations within easy distance of New York City.

"The Ousatonic—or Housatonic, according to modern orthography—is one of the largest rivers in New England, having a much greater volume of water than the Blackstone, Quinnebaug, Chicopee, Shetucket, or Willimantic, all bordered by flourishing manufacturing towns, and but little less than the Merrimac, which drives the countless spindles of Lowell. The Housatonic takes its rise among the hills of Berkshire Co., Mass., more than one hundred miles above the head of tide-water at Birmingham, Conn., and empties into Long Island Sound near Bridgeport.

"It drains about two thousand square miles of territory and receives numerous tributaries, some of which are rivers of considerable magnitude, such as Still River, Pomperaug, Shepaug, etc. These affluents usually commence their course at the outlet of large lakes which serve as natural reservoirs, equalizing the flow of water and insuring an unfailing supply at all seasons of the year. The minimum average flow of water during the lowest stages is estimated at not less than five hundred cubic feet per second, which is equivalent to twenty-five hundred horsepower for twelve hours per day.

"Aside from the abundance of water which the Housatonic affords, the fact that it was the last available large water-power in close proximity to navigable tide-water along the whole New England coast would seem to have been sufficient inducement for its speedy utilization, but it is only within a few years that its incomparable advantages appear to have been fully recognized.

"The project of damming the Housatonic River was first broached in 1838, and in the following year the State Legislature granted a charter, or rather revived an old one which had been issued in 1822 for the purpose of constructing a canal, and which had expired by its own limitation. The provisions of the charter were liberal, with the exception of one restriction: the company were not allowed to build a high dam for fear of injury to the shad-fisheries, which were then considered very valuable. The construction of fish-weirs was not so well understood at that time as at the present day, and people were sceptical as to the practicability of inducing shad to perform the acrobatic feat of scaling a dam, even with the aid of mechanical contrivances.

"To erect a low, tumbling dam at the only available spot would have involved the necessity of a canal to bring the water where it could be made serviceable, and the estimated cost was so great that the project was abandoned, and for more than twenty years was allowed to rest undisturbed.

"The matter was again revived in 1863, and in 1864 application was made to the Legislature to dam the river at any point that might be selected, and the privilege was granted after satisfying the committee of the Legislature that the rights of navigation and other rights would be maintained by the building of locks, etc.

"The next difficulty was to secure the assistance of capitalists, and it was not until the autumn of 1866 that the requisite amount of capital—\$400,000—was secured and the company fully organized for active operations. Mr. Henry T. Potter was appointed engineer and superintendent, and the great work was fairly inaugurated by the laying of the first stone on the 17th of July, 1867. With several interruptions from freshets the work progressed, and was nearly completed when the great freshet of Oct. 4, 1869, swept away nearly one-quarter of the dam. In the following spring operations were again resumed, and without further serious hindrance carried to final completion, the last cap-stone of the noble structure being laid on the 5th of October, 1870.

"The difficulties encountered were of no ordinary magnitude, but fortunately the directors of the undertaking were men of indomitable determination, and each added obstacle seemed but a further incentive to vigorous prosecution of the work. Among those most prominently concerned, who contributed largely, not only of money, but valuable time and attention, should be mentioned the names of Mr. Edward N. Shelton, Dr. John I. Howe, David W. Plumb, Edwin Wooster, Robert N. Bassett, A. H. Alling, Royal M. Bassett, William E. Downs, Thomas Elmes, and others.

"On the 10th of October, 1870, the completion of the work was signalized by a celebration in the village of Birmingham, participated in by the Governor of the State, the mayor of New Haven, and many other distinguished guests. A procession exceeding a mile in length was formed, and under military escort proceeded to the vicinity of the dam, where eloquent speeches, the recitation of an appropriate poem, and the inspiring strains of martial music combined to render the commemoration worthy of the occasion, and marked the day as one to be borne in remembrance while the sparkling waters of the Housatonic continue to furnish the motive power for the active industries that contribute to the welfare of the entire nation."

This privilege is located at the head of navigation on the Housatonic River, only seventy miles by rail from the city of New York.

A dam of solid masonry twenty-two feet in height, constructed in the most approved and substantial manner across the Housatonic River at this point, creates the largest and most reliable water-power in the State. The river extends over one hundred miles above the dam, and drains about two thousand square miles of territory; on its tributaries are numerous lakes with a combined area of not less than ten thousand acres, which serve as natural store-houses for water, equalizing the flow and affording a large amount at all seasons of the year. This, together with the immense reservoir above the dam, five miles in length, insures a permanent supply of not less than five hundred cubic feet per second, equal to two thousand five hundred horse-power twelve hours per day. There are

at present ten mills in full operation, giving employment to a large number of hands.

The water may be used on both sides of the river, and as each factory-lot has a frontage on the river, water-transportation may be had for heavy freights, such as coal, iron, lumber, etc. But little expense for grading or foundation would be requisite, and everything necessary for building purposes is conveniently procurable. There are good roads on each side of the river. The company own about two hundred and sixty acres of land below the dam, affording numerous eligible sites for manufacturing purposes. Since the completion of the dam there have been erected, and are now in full operation, ten manufacturing establishments, including one paper-mill, one zinc-mill, two bolt-factories, one shovel-factory, one silver-plating works, and one woolen-mill; also one pin-factory, one manufactory of carriage-hardware, and two saw-mills; the whole, however, is using but a small portion of the actual power. About two hundred acres are suitable for building-lots, and a large number of dwelling-houses are already erected. The entire property is worth not less than one million dollars.

As a location for manufacturing purposes this is certainly unsurpassed in New England, whether we consider its natural advantages or the fact that it is but seventy miles distant from New York, with which city there is an established communication by steam and sailing-vessels, railroad and telegraph. There are five trains daily in each direction, both *via* New Haven and Bridgeport, making twenty arrivals and departures each day.

A great advancement in manufacturing operations will undoubtedly soon be witnessed, and it would be wisdom on the part of those who contemplate new enterprises of the kind, or desire to remove into a more eligible location than they now occupy, to examine into the advantages attending the factory-sites which are now offered by the Ousatonic Water Company. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to find any other situation possessing equally advantageous features within so short a distance of the great metropolis, and prudence would suggest securing the favorable opportunity now extended, for such chances for profitable investment are not likely to remain very long without due appreciation.

Some of the superior advantages of the location are its proximity to New York City, its connection therewith by rail and water,—being distant only two and one-half hours by rail,—the frequency of the trains allowing ample time for daily transaction of business, and return, from either point. Transportation by water and two competing lines of railroad, either Bridgeport or New Haven, insures low rates and connection with all freight-lines throughout the country.

If we compare the rate of freight from Birmingham to New York and the cost of coal at Birmingham with the rate of freight from the other New England manufacturing centres to New York and the cost of coal



at these manufacturing centres, the desirability of the Birmingham location will be apparent.

The average cost of freight between New York City and the principal New England manufacturing centres is about three times as much per hundred as between New York and Birmingham, and the average price of coal at the same places more than twice as high as at Birmingham, which would make a difference in the items of freight and coal, for an average mill of one hundred horse-power, of about four thousand dollars annually. This difference would pay the rent for a good mill-site with one hundred horse-power at Birmingham and leave a margin of about two thousand dollars. If we also consider the cost of a dam, flowage, and canal, with the repairs necessary to keep them in order,—which are usually part of the expenses of the mill-owner, but which in this case are provided and maintained by the company,—the difference in favor of the Birmingham location will be greatly increased.

The location in the midst of a manufacturing community, with a population of ten thousand within a radius of two miles, and the proximity of other manufacturing-towns of the Naugatuck Valley, are of great advantage in respect to skilled labor.

For beauty of scenery, health, and educational facilities the location ranks among the first. The beautiful views up either river, Housatonic or Naugatuck, which form a junction here, are the subject of remark by all who visit the place. Birmingham has churches of all denominations, excellent schools, bank with three hundred thousand dollars capital, savings bank with over one million dollars deposit, telegraph- and express-offices, also gas- and water-works. Its proximity to New Haven, only ten miles distant by rail, adds to its desirability as a place of residence.

The company own a large amount of real estate in the immediate vicinity of their works, providing ample room for mills and for the accommodation of operatives; also lots more remote, admirably adapted for first-class residences.

The present officers of the company are as follows: President, E. N. Shelton; Vice-President, D. W. Plumb; Secretary, D. S. Brinsmade.

*The Derby Silver Company*, manufacturers of silver-plated ware, was organized in January, 1873, with a capital of sixty thousand dollars, which has since been increased to one hundred and forty thousand dollars. The company is now doing a large and successful business. The present officers are: President, E. De F. Shelton; Secretary, W. J. Miller; Treasurer, William E. Downs; Directors, George W. Cheesman, D. W. Plumb, William E. Downs, E. N. Shelton, E. De F. Shelton, W. J. Miller, P. McEnerney.

*Birmingham Corset Company*.—The firm of J. W. Birdseye commenced business about fourteen years ago in White Hills, Huntington, for the manufacture of hoop-skirts, and seven years ago, in April, moved to the village of Shelton, continuing in same business.

They also, two years later, commenced the manufacture of corsets in a moderate way.

The business has rapidly increased, and at the present time one hundred dozen corsets per day are manufactured, and over two hundred persons are employed. Capital, about sixty thousand dollars; value of present annual product, about one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars.

*The Shelton Company, Manufacturers of Tacks, Bolts, etc.*—This business was established by E. N. Shelton in 1836. In 1854 he was succeeded by the present company, and the manufacture of small bolts was commenced. Upon the completion of the Ousatonic dam, in 1871, the works were removed to Shelton. About three tons of small bolts, etc., are made per day.

The officers of the company are: President, E. De F. Shelton; Secretary and Treasurer, George Blakeman.

*Wilkinson Brothers & Co.'s Paper-Mills*.—The first mills erected by this firm in Shelton were of wood, commenced in October, 1871, and were in operation in November of the following year. Nov. 4, 1878, the mills were totally destroyed by fire, but their rebuilding was immediately commenced, and in four months and eighteen days the manufacture of paper was begun.

The mills, which are of brick, were enlarged very much, and many radical changes made both in the construction of buildings and also in machinery. The present buildings cover about an acre of ground. Additions have been made, and at the present time the establishment is furnished with two one-thousand-pound and two six-hundred-pound washer-engines, and six six-hundred-pound and one eight-hundred-pound Gould beating-engines. The machine-room is sixty by one hundred and thirty feet, and has one sixty-eight-inch cylinder and one eighty-four-inch Fourdrinier machine, built by Rice, Barton & Fales' Machine- and Iron-Works, of Worcester, Mass. The finishing-room is fifty by one hundred, and has two stacks of super-calenders. The cutting-room is forty by fifty, and the dust is removed by a Sturtevant exhaust blower.

There are three large rotary boilers, with capacity for ten tons of paper per day. About sixty hands are employed.

Feb. 1, 1879, the firm was changed by taking into partnership Charles A. Whedon and George S. Arnold, making five in the firm at present time.

The buildings are protected from fire by a complete system of automatic sprinklers (Parmelee's patent) and the town water-works, with six double hydrants in the yard and directly in front of the mill. In addition to the town supply of water, they have a large Holyoke Machine Company's double rotary fire-pump, capable of supplying eleven hundred gallons of water per minute. Steam for drying, boiling, and heating is supplied from four steam boilers.

This firm are now (May, 1880) building wood-pulp works, to be run in connection with the present mills.

The store-house, forty by one hundred and fifty, two stories, for manufactured and raw stock, is situated across the canal, about one hundred and twenty-five feet distant from the mills.

The Wilkinson Bros. & Co.'s mills rank among the leading establishments of the kind in the country, and are such as give character and stability to a town. Manilla, colored, envelope, and hardware papers are manufactured, known by the trade as the "Derby Mills."

*Radeliff Brothers*, manufacturers of hosiery goods, erected their factory in 1874. They employ about one hundred and ten persons, and the value of annual product is one hundred and forty thousand dollars.

*The Derby Cotton-Mills*, Robt. Adams proprietor, were established in 1880. They employ three hundred and twenty-five hands, have seventeen thousand spindles, and turn out four thousand five hundred pieces of goods per day. Value of annual product, three hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The mills manufacture linings, mosquito-netting, buckram, and crinoline.

Among other enterprises may be mentioned the Beardsley Building Company, Zachariah Spence, machinist, and Church Brothers, manufacturers of brackets and wooden-ware.

*Shelton Water Company*.—The village of Shelton is supplied with water by the Shelton Water Company. The officers of the company are: President, D. W. Plumb; General Agent, C. H. Nettleton.

*Sharon Bassett's Bolt-Factory* was established in 1872, and at present employs about sixty persons. Value of annual product, one hundred thousand dollars.

*G. C. Maltby & Son*, manufacturers of spoons, forks, and Maltby's decorated cocoa-nuts, is a flourishing establishment, and employs about eighty persons. The factory building was erected by the late Edwin Wooster, who was drowned in the Housatonic in April, 1876.

*Wilcox & Howe*, manufacturers of carriage-hardware, employ about forty persons, and the value of annual product is about one hundred thousand dollars.

*The Star Pin Company* was established in 1867 at Wells Hollow, with Geo. H. Peck, president, and Joseph Tomlinson, secretary and treasurer. Their present brick factory in Shelton was erected in 1875. They employ fifty hands, and the value of the annual product is about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

D. W. Plumb is the present president of the company, and G. H. Peck secretary and treasurer. In addition to pins, hooks, and eyes, hairpins are also manufactured.

## MILITARY RECORD.

From records in the adjutant-general's office.

### FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company A.*

Joel N. Bradley, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; wounded; must. out May 31, 1864.

### SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company D.*

S. J. Burdell, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; died Nov. 29, 1862.

F. W. Curtis, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; trans. to Invalid Corps.

F. R. Clark, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

D. S. Garrett, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.

Ira C. Northrop, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

S. Rounds, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; wounded and trans. to Vet. Corps.

G. S. Webster, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out June 2, 1865.

E. L. Webster, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. Jan. 27, 1863.

C. S. Wells, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; wounded and disch. Nov. 28, 1864.

John Qunleon, enl. March 31, 1864; must. out Dec. 25, 1865.

### FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company K.*

George Smith, enl. March 30, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

#### *Company F.*

J. La Salle, enl. Sept. 6, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

### FIRST CAVALRY.

#### *Company D.*

Amos H. Wheeler, enl. Nov. 25, 1861; disch. Nov. 25, 1864.

A. L. Burr, enl. Nov. 19, 1861; disch. Sept. 13, 1865.

H. N. Burr, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out June 9, 1865.

#### *Company G.*

John Guthrie, enl. Sept. 7, 1864.

### THIRD INDEPENDENT BATTERY.

George Inman, enl. Sept. 5, 1864; must. out June 23, 1865.

D. S. Rockwell, enl. Sept. 5, 1864; must. out June 23, 1865.

J. Scholby, enl. Sept. 3, 1864; must. out June 23, 1865.

### FIRST ARTILLERY.

#### *Company E.*

F. Tomlinson, enl. Dec. 5, 1863; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

#### *Company F.*

Adam Biegal, enl. Dec. 3, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

### SIXTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company G.*

Frederick Miller, enl. Dec. 3, 1864; killed Feb. 22, 1865.

### ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

#### *Company C.*

J. Graber, enl. March 22, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

James Jackson, enl. March 24, 1864; wounded and must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

William Smithy, enl. March 23, 1864; captured.

#### *Company I.*

James Hassett, enl. Dec. 28, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

Henry Moore, enl. March 31, 1864.

### TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

#### *Company D.*

George Inman, enl. Aug. 27, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

L. H. Whitney, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Feb. 1, 1863.

Charles Beard, enl. Aug. 31, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

B. Bronson, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

F. M. Clemons, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

S. A. Benedict, enl. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

William Brooks, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.

L. N. Bronson, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; died June 30, 1863.

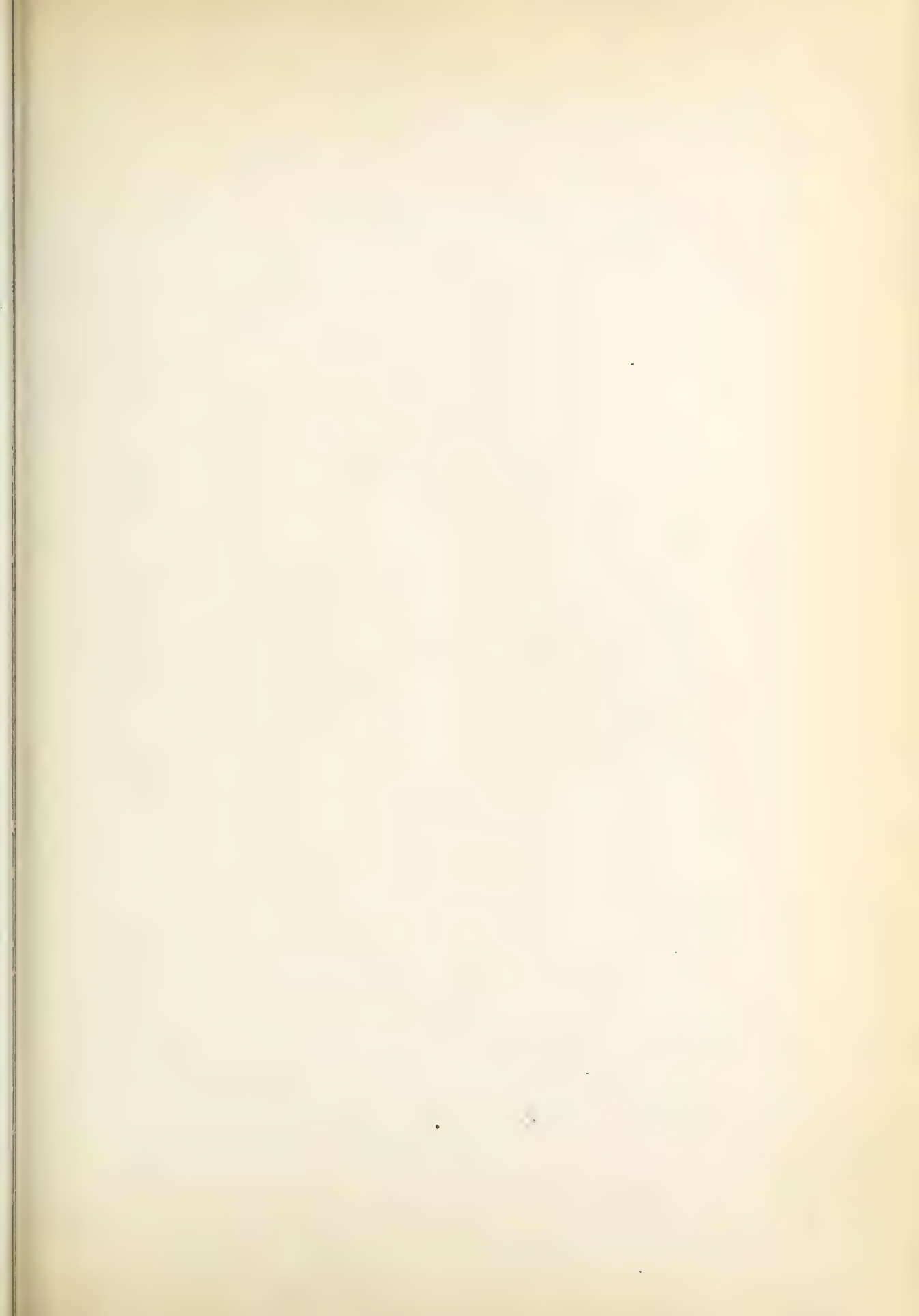
C. L. Burrite, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

O. N. Blackman, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

T. C. Cornell, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; killed June 23, 1863.

H. L. Dorman, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

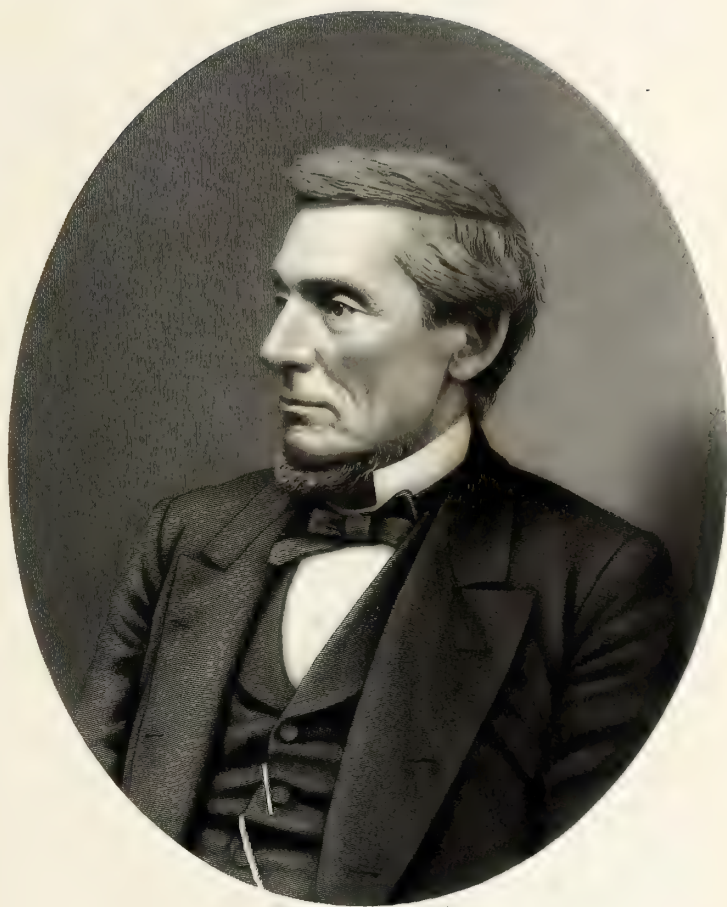






*G. A. Shelton. M. D.*





E. A. Shelton





J. Ewen, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 James Hubbell, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 S. O. Hubbell, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 E. A. Hopkins, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 D. Huckins, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Charles Judson, enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 O. L. Rowley, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 J. Scholly, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 S. Tyther, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 G. S. Thompson, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 D. Ufford, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 D. S. Wheeler, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Albert Yale, enl. Aug. 27, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company G.*

J. P. Hubbell, enl. Nov. 12, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps.

NINTH REGIMENT.

*Company F.*

James Howard, enl. March 31, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

FIFTH REGIMENT.

William Armstrong, enl. March 16, 1864.

William King, enl. March 16, 1864.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### THE SHELTON FAMILY OF CONNECTICUT.

As far as is known, the Sheltons scattered through the Northern States are descendants of Daniel Shelton, and those in the Southern States, where the name has often been changed to Chilton, are descendants of Richard Shelton, his brother.

The old home of the Shelton family in England was at Shelton, in County Norfolk, but the branch from which the American Sheltons are descended were more recently in Derbyshire. Daniel and Richard Shelton came to this country before 1690, Richard going to Virginia and Daniel to Stratford, Conn., where he settled. He was one of the non-resident proprietors of Waterbury, Conn., and owned lands in Stratford, Stamford, Farmington, Oxford, Woodbury, and Derby. He lived in that part of Stratford called Long Hill. He married April 4, 1692, Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Welles and granddaughter of Hon. Thomas Welles, one of the early Governors of Connecticut; he died in January, 1728, at about sixty years of age. He had two daughters and seven sons. One son died aged twenty-one, the others married and lived within what were then the limits of the town of Stratford.

The eldest son, Joseph Shelton, born June 24, 1696, married Mary, daughter of Joseph Hollister, of Glastonbury. Joseph Shelton lived at Long Hill; he died there Aug. 10, 1782, aged eighty-six. He had four daughters and two sons,—Joseph, who died aged fourteen, and William Shelton, born July 26, 1739, who married, Oct. 1, 1764, Susannah, daughter of Thomas Strong, of Brookhaven, L. I., a descendant of Elder John Strong, of the Dorchester colony, Elder Brewster, of the "Mayflower," and Roger Ludlow, Deputy-

Governor of Massachusetts. William Shelton lived at Long Hill; he died Jan. 27, 1812, aged seventy-three. He had two daughters and six sons. Philo and Thomas died without issue. William, Jr., graduated at Yale in 1788, was a physician, and lived in Huntington. Two of his sons were physicians,—Dr. William Shelton, of Stratford, and Dr. James Shelton, of Huntington.

Selah, son of William Shelton, had eight daughters and two sons. George lived in Ohio and Missouri, and Alfred in Huntington, where his descendants now live.

George, son of William Shelton, had two sons,—Charles, who was for eight years medical missionary in India, and George Wellington, who lives in Birmingham, Conn.

Joseph, eldest son of William Shelton, born Aug. 27, 1765, married, Nov. 24, 1791, Charity, daughter of Stephen Lewis, of Stratford, Conn. Joseph Shelton lived at Long Hill; he died Sept. 1, 1848, aged eighty-two; he had three daughters and five sons.

The youngest son, Edward Nelson Shelton, was born Sept. 4, 1812; he received his education at the public school in Huntington and the academy in Derby, at Partridge's then celebrated academy in Middletown, the last year of its existence, and from scientific lectures at Yale during one winter. He is a man of prudence and generosity, of keen business foresight and great public spirit, having been always a leader in whatever was for the welfare of the town or the church of which he is a member, a man of honor and strict integrity, a wise counselor, and a true friend.

Mr. Shelton's business career has been one of marked success. He has been identified with manufacturing, mining, banking, and various other enterprises. He commenced manufacturing tacks, nails, etc., in 1836, at Birmingham, and has continued the same successfully to the present time, besides assuming responsibilities as chief executive officer of many other corporations. He has held the office of president of the Birmingham National Bank—formerly the Manufacturers' Bank—since its organization in 1848, and that of president of the Ousatonie Water Company since it was organized in 1866. Nothing that Mr. Shelton has been connected with has so well shown to the public his energy, perseverance, and business ability as this. The project of building a dam across the Ousatonie River had long been considered, and to Mr. Shelton's efforts the fulfillment of it is principally due. The labor in connection with it was very varied and arduous; four distinct efforts were required: first, the securing the land, then the charter from the Legislature, then the necessary capital, and then the supervision of the work in all its details until the result was obtained in the development of one of the finest water-powers in the country, and the establishment of the thriving and growing village which, in his honor, is called Shelton.

## G. A. SHELTON, M.D.

Gould Abijah Shelton; the subject of this sketch, is the fourth son of Judson Curtiss and Hannah Lewis Shelton, and was born in Huntington, Aug. 19, 1841. He received his early education at the common schools of his town, but at eighteen years of age, desirous of pursuing a more extended course of study, he entered Staples Academy at Easton, Conn., where he remained three years under the popular instructor H. W. Siglar, thus making thorough preparation for a collegiate course at Yale, in which institution he matriculated in 1862. During his junior year, he left his class to engage in the work of teaching. Late in 1864 he accepted the position of instructor in the languages and mathematics in Mountain View Seminary, at Fishkill-on-the-Hudson; the year following he was elected principal of the public school at Port Washington, Long Island, N. Y. Filling his engagements here with credit to himself and satisfaction to his patrons, he decided to follow the bent of a long-felt inclination, and at once entered the medical school at Yale College, from which institution, after three years of arduous application,—in the class of 1869,—he received the degree of M.D., immediately afterwards locating in the new village of Shelton, in his native town, and offering his professional services to the public.

It is not a little remarkable that Huntington should have enjoyed a succession of as capable men, of the same profession and family name, extending over so long a period. William Shelton, Jr., M.D., received his degree from Yale in 1788; he was a native of Huntington, and until his death, Aug. 29, 1819, enjoyed a highly successful practice. He was succeeded by his son, Dr. James Hovey Shelton, who, throughout life, was held in the highest esteem, both as a man and as a physician. His labors closed with his death, which occurred on May 10, 1868. The professional mantle fell upon the nephew of this latter representative, and to-day Dr. G. A. Shelton not only enjoys the advantages of the prestige of a century, but for his own worth and ability, through his own energy and success, he has attained an enviable place in his profession and the society in which he moves. For nine years he has been an active member of the board of school visitors, always taking a lively interest in everything that elevates the educational standing of the schools of his town. For three years he has been register of vital statistics, and is a member of the Fairfield County, Connecticut State, and American Medical Associations.

Dr. Shelton was united in marriage, June 16, 1874, to Emily Plumb Capel, niece of Hon. D. W. Plumb, of Shelton. Miss Capel was born in Bridgeport, Conn., Aug. 12, 1847.

## GENEALOGY.

G. A. Shelton is the son of Judson C., who was the son of Samuel Frederick, who was the son of Daniel, who was the son of Samuel, who was the son of Daniel, the first settler of the name in Connecticut.

## DAVID SHELTON.

Daniel Shelton, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, with his brother Richard, emigrated to this country from Yorkshire, England, in the year 1690. Daniel settled in the town of Stratford, Fairfield Co., Conn., Richard going to Virginia. Daniel married Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Wells, of Wethersfield, Conn., who bore him nine children,—Elizabeth, Sarah, Joseph, Daniel, Thaddeus, Samuel, James, John, and Josiah.

Samuel, the fourth son, married Abigail, daughter of Philo and Mahitaba Nichol, by whom he had fourteen children,—Mary, Daniel, Samuel, Elizabeth, David, Abigail, Joseph, Andrew, Sarah, Ann, Josiah, Philo, Isaac Wells, and Agur.

Agur, the fourteenth child, was born Aug. 11, 1758, marrying Abigail Newton, daughter of Rev. Christopher Newton, who bore him six children,—Polly Amelia, Charles, Avis, Abigail, Christopher Newton, and David.

David Shelton was born Sept. 17, 1799, and was united in marriage to Jane Perry, June 4, 1830, dying June 2, 1872.

Jane Perry was born March 18, 1811, and was the daughter of A. Hawley Perry, who came to Huntington at the age of twenty-one years and lived there until his death, Nov. 21, 1826. Mr. Perry was the son of Yelverton Perry and Patience Tomlinson, of Oxford. He married Polly Leavenworth, March 6, 1809. Polly Leavenworth was the daughter of Edmund Leavenworth, the youngest son of Capt. Edmund Leavenworth, who was the son of Dr. Thomas Leavenworth, the first settler of that name in Fairfield County.

David and Jane Shelton had but one child, Mary Jane, born Feb. 8, 1833, and who was united in marriage to Edwin Wooster, May 23, 1860. Being the only child, great pains were taken in her education and training, which were amply repaid in the development of a character of rare sweetness and vivacity. In disposition combining amiability and liveliness, she was the idol of her parents and the acknowledged favorite of a large circle of friends. Her early death, which occurred June 4, 1864, no doubt did much to shorten her father's life and was the first real sorrow of her mother's life, preparing her, as it were, for another heavier sorrow in the death of her husband.

Mr. Wooster continued to reside with Mr. and Mrs. Shelton, to whom he was greatly attached, after the death of his wife, until his own unfortunate death, April 20, 1876. On the night of April 20, 1876, he was piloting the "Dunderburg" down the river above the dam. The night was dark, and, deceived by the light or shadows, in some way he missed the canal lock and the boat went over the dam. His two companions were saved, but Mr. Wooster was drowned. He was a man of more than ordinary business ability, and by his energy and sagacity did much towards the successful completion of the dam.

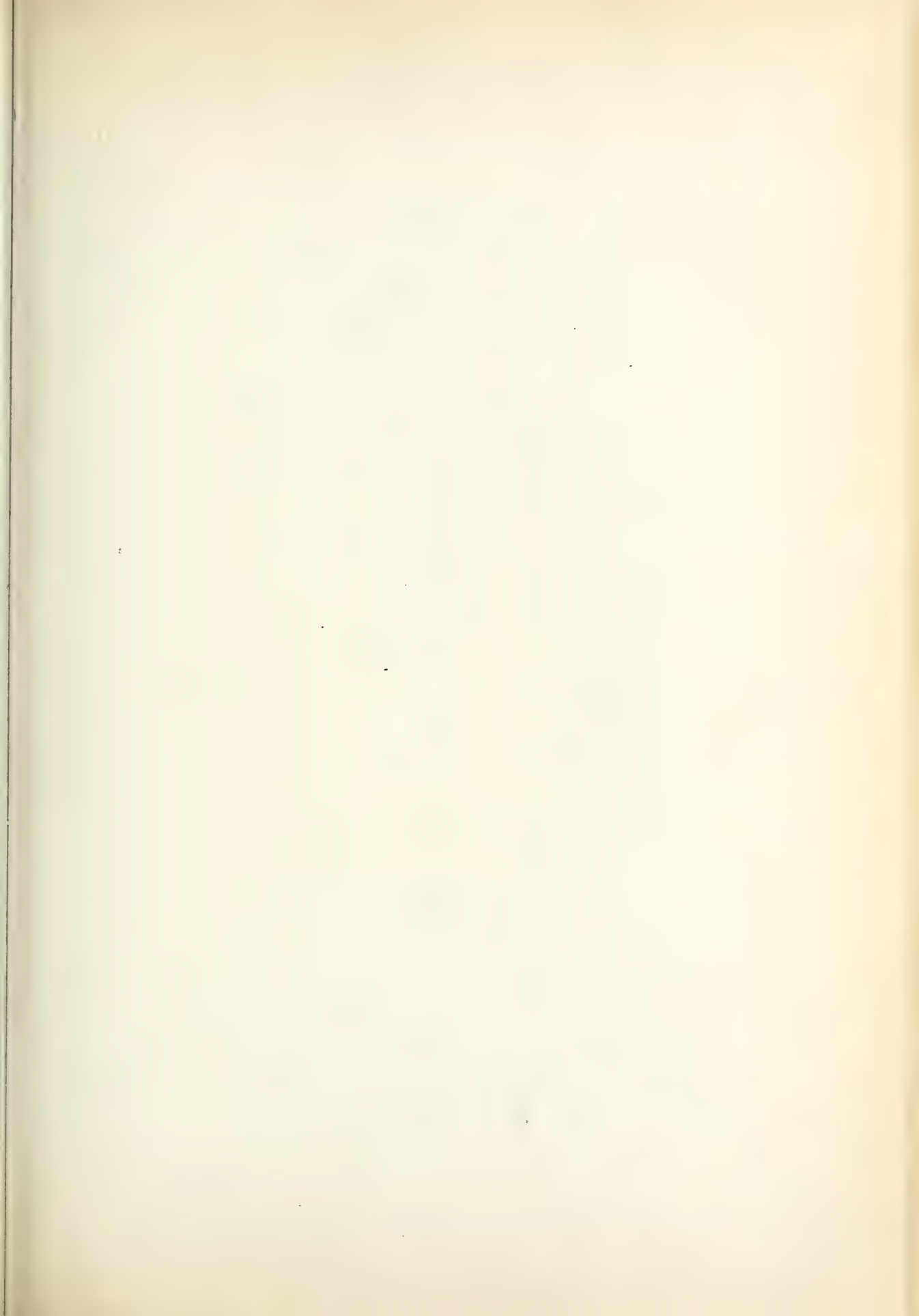


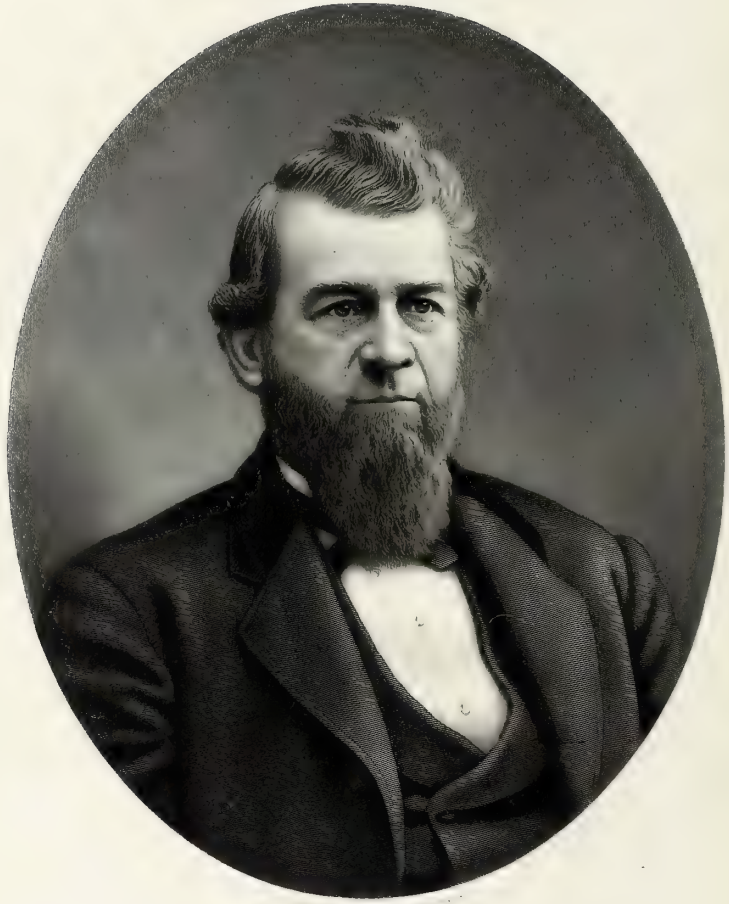


*DAVID SHELTON.*









*W. C. Downs*



Mr. Shelton was from a line of farmers, and as a business man was careful rather than pushing. Inheriting comfortable property from his father and acquiring a moderate property by his wife, he was independent of trade and traffic, and preferred to quietly preserve and enjoy that which he had rather than to strive to accumulate. His accounts were always straight and accurate, and he never went into debt. In politics he was a Democrat, as was his father before him. Quiet and unostentatious in his mode of life, domestic in his tastes, his amiable and modest bearing endeared him to a large circle of friends, whom it was his delight to entertain.

Affectionate in disposition, his marital relations were most fortunate. In his wife he found a true woman, a genuine friend,—a warm second in the exercise of that genuine though modest hospitality that made his house a favored resort. Few couples perhaps enjoyed so smooth and pleasant a life as they. Mrs. Shelton still lives at the old Shelton homestead, preserving her intellect and activity to a remarkable degree.

Charles Shelton, brother of David, a graduate of Yale College, is now a practicing physician in the town of Cheshire, Conn., which town he has represented in the Senate and lower House of the General Assembly. Christopher N. and David were graduates of the Episcopal Academy at Cheshire. Christopher was town representative for a number of years, and prominent in educational works.

#### JAMES B. BRINSMADE.

James B. Brinsmade graduated at Yale in 1813; went to Easton, Pa., as principal of an academy. About 1820 came to New York and went into mercantile business. He died in 1857. The last twenty-five years of his life were devoted almost exclusively to the cause of education for the poor in the city, acting in the capacity of a trustee of the Public School Society, and of vice-president of the American Sunday-School Union. He had four children, all of whom died early in life without issue except his son, J. B.

He was born in New York City in 1824 (May 1st), graduated at Yale in 1845, was admitted to the bar in 1847, practiced law in Albany till 1853, then moved to New York and at once entered into a large practice. His health failed in 1868, as the result of overwork and close application to business. He had already acquired some interests in the iron business which required attention, and, abandoning his profession, he became an iron-master, which he continues to the present time with success. He has six children,—three boys and three girls,—Henry, 23, Mary, 21; William B., 16; Eleanor, 13; Alice, 11; Charles L., 9. His home in winter is in Brooklyn, and in summer at Lake Mahopac.

His grandmother was Mary Beebee. Her father was

Rev. James Beebee, the first minister settled in Stratford (now Trumbull). He preached in a "meeting-house" which stood where the Trumbull church now stands. He was a chaplain to the army which invaded Canada in the old French war, and he had a son James, who was a captain in the Revolution, and was wounded at Monmouth. Ex-Judge Lucien Birdseye, late of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, is grandson of the latter.

Rev. James Beebee had another son, Rev. Henry Beebee (both graduated at Yale). Gen. Henry B. Carrington, U.S.A., is his grandson. Gen. Carrington was the commander of the expedition which culminated in the Fort Fetterman massacre. He was retired for wounds received in service, and was detailed to take the chair of military science in Wabash College. He is the author of "Absaraka," "Crisis Thoughts," "Battles of the American Revolution," and other works. He also graduated at Yale in 1845.

Mr. J. B. Brinsmade has in his possession the commission as captain of militia issued by Governor Trumbull to his grandfather, Abraham Brinsmade, and tradition says that he fought at Ridgefield under Gen. Benedict Arnold.

#### NELSON H. DOWNS.

The subject of this sketch is one of the most prominent self-made men now residing in the town of Huntington. His ancestors for generations had been tillers of the soil and residents of Fairfield County. His father, Lewis Downs, is to this day remembered as one of the thriving representative farmers of the *ante-bellum* period.

Until eighteen years of age Nelson H. remained upon his father's farm, doing customary labor during the spring and summer and attending the common schools during the winter season; his education, therefore, was limited to an acquaintance with the ordinary English branches, yet, by his large and varied experience in subsequent years, and through general reading, he now has a mind well stored with much useful information, and holds that place in society that belongs only to a gentleman of esteem and intelligence.

When eighteen years of age, with the acquiescence of his parents, he left the farm and engaged in business with his brother, who was then a merchant in the new village of Birmingham. In consideration of health and general preferences, at the expiration of seven years Mr. Downs disposed of his mercantile interests and embarked in manufacture upon his own account, and he has since been more or less engaged in this kind of industry. He first made carriage-joints, next matches, then tacks. He was among the first to manufacture hoop-skirts, and the very first to make corsets, in the village of Bir-

mingham. His extraordinary foresight revealed the advantages, and with characteristic promptness he anticipated all others in the erection of the first factory on the west bank of Ousatonie; he was also attracted by the beautiful eminence beyond, and quickly made purchases to the right and to the left, and early erected upon a point commanding a charming view one of the most sightly and desirable residences to be found in the surrounding country. Altogether, Mr. Downs has erected four factories, and quite a number of dwellings and other buildings. For eighteen years he gave his personal attention to his manufacturing business, and throughout the whole time it was his invariable rule to pay all of his employees, every fortnight, with his own hands; he failed but once, and then on account of sickness. Using money only as he made it, he conducted his affairs on the pay-as-you-go system, and in all of his varied enterprises gave but two notes, and at no time executed a mortgage on property. His factory was the first industry of Shelton, his residence the sixth building; and this thriving village owes much of its rapid progress, both as to its manufactories and private residences, to the energy and exertions of Mr. Downs.

The family mansion is worthy of special note. Beautifully located upon the commanding eminence that here runs parallel with the river, the view is superb, taking in Birmingham, Derby, Ansonia, and miles of the Ousatonie River. In construction it is characteristic of the man: from basement to garret it is filled with original conceptions and home-like conveniences.

Mr. Downs, we are told, never had political aspirations, and, though frequently urged by his party to accept nominations, always declined to do so, and never attended a political caucus. Before the war a Whig of the Bell and Everett stamp, he has since voted with the Republicans. He has held various offices of public trust, the duties of which were faithfully and satisfactorily performed.

Warm-hearted and generous in his friendships, liberal and open-handed in his charities, his ready and vigorous aid is always counted upon in matters of public weal. No work of public utility failed to receive his assistance, and no poor man was ever turned away from his door. Although Mr. Downs is not a member of any church, he has always been liberal in his contributions both to the erection and support of religious institutions.

Mr. Downs has retired from active business, owing to bad health, and is now enjoying that leisure which his successful business career has secured him.

On May 8, 1843, he was united in wedlock to Elizabeth B., oldest daughter of Abijah Wallace, by whom he has had four children, named in the family genealogy given below. Mrs. Downs is an excellent lady, justly esteemed by a large circle of acquaintances.

#### GENEALOGY.

Joseph Downs, born Jan. 14, 1768, died March 17, 1823; Hannah Patterson, wife of Joseph Downs, born July 28, 1767, died June 9, 1857. To this couple were born the following children: James, born July 13, 1786, died Aug. 27, 1868; Philo, born Aug. 1, 1788, died June 15, 1862; Lewis, born Dec. 19, 1790, died March 19, 1876; Ezekiel, born March 2, 1793, died March 28, 1866; Hepsey, born Sept. 2, 1795, died Aug. 11, 1874; Beach, born Dec. 18, 1797, died July 28, 1865; Hannah, born Jan. 8, 1800, died Feb. 13, 1853; Webb, born July 25, 1802, died March 9, 1874; Eliza, born July 2, 1804, died Oct. 24, 1846.

Lewis Downs was united in marriage to Mary Gilbert, and to them were born the following children: Sidney A., born Aug. 13, 1817; Henry L., born Feb. 7, 1820, died Feb. 10, 1872; Nelson H., born Nov. 18, 1821.

Eli Gilbert, father of Mrs. Lewis Downs, died Oct. 18, 1847, at the age of eighty-four; his wife died Sept. 2, 1840, at the advanced age of eighty-two; and their daughter, the wife of Lewis Downs, lived to the ripe old age of eighty.

To N. H. Downs and wife were born the following: Sarah E., born July 30, 1845, who lived but one month; Hattie W., born Feb. 28, 1849; Edward W., born Oct. 20, 1852; Lizzie, born Jan. 15, 1863.

Hattie W. was married to H. F. Wanning, June 14, 1869. There were three children,—to wit, Gracie E., Frankie N., and Hattie D.

Edward W. was married to Maggie Barker, May 4, 1874; at the expiration of two years this union was dissolved by the death of his beloved wife, leaving a son named Frank Westley. On April 30, 1879, Edward W. Downs was married to Alice Benedict.

Abijah Wallace was born Nov. 3, 1794, and died Dec. 26, 1877. Pauline Wakeman, his wife, was born Aug. 15, 1797, and died Sept. 15, 1847. Their daughter, Elizabeth B., wife of N. H. Downs, was born Nov. 6, 1821.

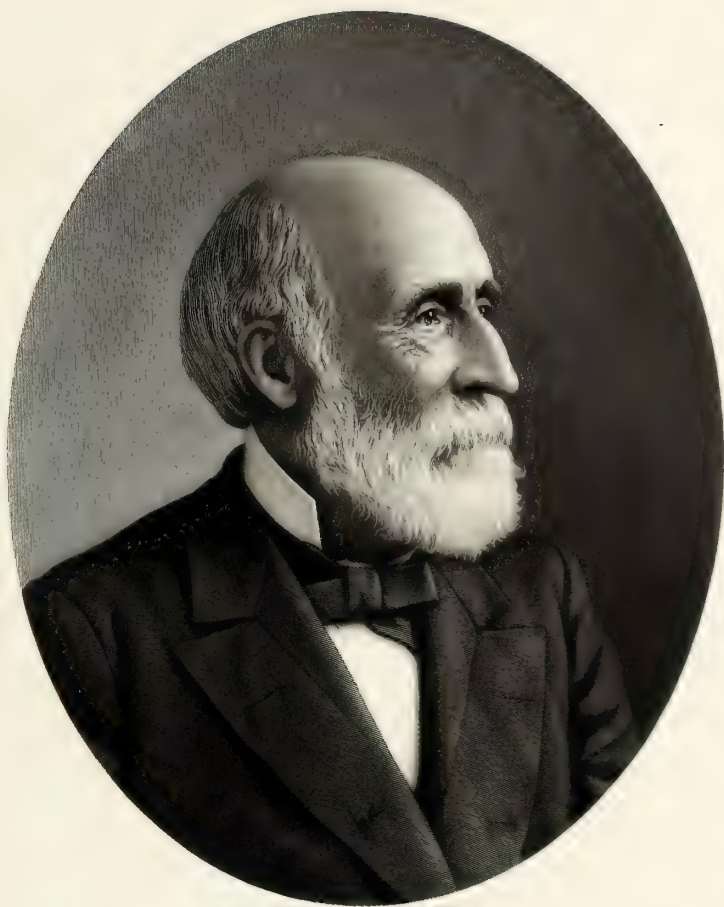
#### D. W. PLUMB.

Among those thoroughly identified with the business and social interests and general prosperity of Huntington, particularly the part embraced by Shelton, none are more worthy than he whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

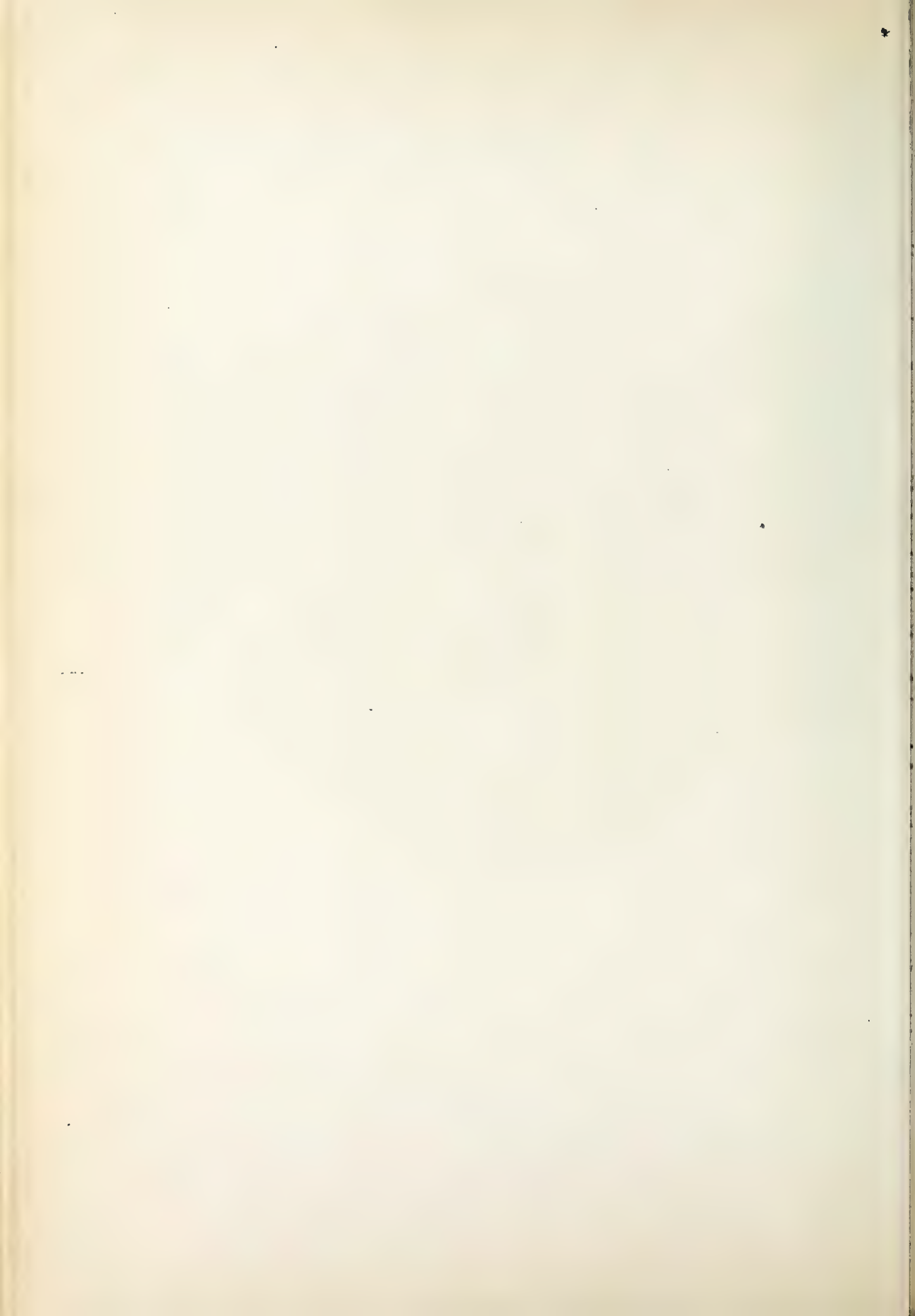
D. W. Plumb was born Oct. 13, 1808; he is of English descent, though his ancestors were early settlers in the town of Milford, New Haven Co., Conn. His father Noah, his grandfather David, and his great-grandfather Noah, were all farmers of highly respectable standing, and residents of this section of New England.

When David was five years of age his father removed with his family to what is now known as North Bridgeport, where he resided until his death, in 1862, at fourscore years of age. He was a citizen of esti-





*D. W. Plumb*









*Wm Wilkinson*



mable worth, and always wielded a good influence in the community where he resided. He represented Bridgeport many times in the Legislature, and in the year 1841 both father and son David were representatives of their respective districts in the State Senate.

David's mother, whose maiden name was Urania Welles, was of Stratford. She was a descendant of Hon. Thomas Welles, who was Governor of the State in 1655 and 1658. She died in her eighty-second year.

David was the eldest of eight children, whom we name in the order of their birth,—viz.: David W., Louisa T. (deceased), Mary N. (deceased), Hepsy B. (deceased), Sally E., Elias N. (deceased), Emily M., and Horace S.

David enjoyed the advantages of the common and select schools of his day, and at twenty-four years we find him selling goods on his own account in a small country store in North Bridgeport. He closed business here in 1836 to engage in the manufacture of woolen goods at the new village of Birmingham, where he continued till 1848, when, to enlarge the business, he removed to Ansonia, and there remained in the same line of industry till 1865, when he disposed of his interests to the Slade Manufacturing Company. Three years later he erected in Shelton his present residence, upon a site that commands a view of the grandest business enterprise with which he was ever identified. To the brain, nerve, and money of E. N. Shelton, D. W. Plumb, and others, thousands who once knew nothing of the beautiful Ousatonic are indebted for the opportunity they today enjoy for obtaining an easy support—yes, in many instances, considerable fortune.

From the beginning of the enterprise, Mr. Plumb has been prominent in the affairs of the Ousatonic Water Company.

In addition to his varied business cares and trusts, Mr. Plumb has been active in his investigation and elucidation of questions affecting the nation's history, the State's prosperity, and his county and town's general interests. He represented the town of Derby in the State Legislature in the years '38, '52, '60, '62, and '64, the only person who has been so frequently chosen to represent the town since the adoption of the constitution. He was a senator from the Fifth District in 1841.

In 1860 he procured the passage of the act authorizing the removal of the Bank of North America from Seymour to Ansonia, and in 1862 obtained the charter of the Savings Bank of Ansonia. The Bank of North America on its removal to Ansonia had its title changed to that of "The Ansonia Bank," of which he was president for quite a time, and until his resignation. He is now vice-president of Birmingham National Bank. In 1864 he obtained the charter for the borough of Ansonia and the incorporation of the Ousatonic Water Company. The latter was strongly opposed by parties who were interested in shad-fisheries.

It will thus be seen that the life of Mr. Plumb has been one of active business enterprises, beginning in early boyhood and attaining practical results rarely realized as the fruits of one's own unaided exertions. In addition to business concerns and official duties, he has been thoroughly identified with the growing interests of the villages of Ansonia, Birmingham, and Shelton. He has grown up with them, they have grown up with him. By honesty and constancy of purpose, sound judgment, and strict integrity in all dealings, he was enabled to early gain the confidence of the community and to successfully terminate matters that he undertook. He never stooped to any meanness in all his varied transactions: there has been no double-dealing. He hates shams of all kinds; pretensions and superficial seemings he abhors. He constitutes a notable specimen of the American growth which starts from small beginnings, encounters adversity, yet conquers, and develops into wealth, wide personal influence, and financial control.

In politics a staunch Republican; in religion not an avowed professor, yet churches and ministers of all denominations could testify to his liberality.

Mr. Plumb has been married twice, but has no children,—first to Miss Clarissa Allen, of Derby, who died in 1865 without issue; and in 1875 he married Miss Louise Wakelee, of Huntington.

#### WILLIAM WILKINSON,

of Wilkinson Bros. & Co., was born in Nottingham, England, in 1834. When six years of age his father moved to Canada East and bought a farm. William remained with his father for ten years, in the mean time receiving from the district schools a good English education.

At sixteen years of age William went into the pine-woods of the Adirondack Mountains and engaged in the lumbering business for one year. Next we find him a pupil at Dunham Flat Academy, where he remained eighteen months. Upon quitting school, with the capital accumulated in the mountains, he began the sale of merchandise, traveling through the country with a horse and wagon while disposing of his wares. Quitting his business at twenty-one years of age, he emigrated to the territory of Minnesota, where he followed the trade of a mason for four years. At twenty-two he married Miss Elizabeth E. Fay, by whom he had one daughter, Emma, now deceased. As an evidence of Mr. Wilkinson's popularity at his new home, it is worthy of remark that within four years after locating he was elected to the responsible office of high sheriff of the county, which position he filled for three consecutive terms.

At twenty-six he went to Pike's Peak,—the year of the discovery of gold in that locality. Along with thousands of others from the States, he found in his search for gold a bitter experience and disappointment. He was fortunate in losing only one-half of his

capital, which at that time amounted to fifteen hundred dollars.

Returning to Minnesota he resumed his business as a mason, which he continued until the death of his wife, an event that occurred when he was thirty years of age. Pretty soon we find him in New York City with a cash capital of three dollars. At the suggestion of an older brother, he invested two dollars and seventy-five cents in one ream of tissue paper, which he disposed of at three dollars and twenty-five cents. His next sale was one bundle of twenty-four by thirty-six paper, which was sold to Barnum Bros., clothiers, of Chatham Square. He assisted his brother at chores, who was employed at Wm. H. Parson's store, and made that place his headquarters, doing business in the manner above named for about twelve months. At the expiration of this time he and his brother Joseph began business on their own account at No. 42 Duane Street, their joint capital being two thousand two hundred and eighty-five dollars. They prospered for eighteen months, when William purchased his brother's interest for eight thousand dollars. He admitted as a partner his brother Thomas P., who added four hundred dollars to the capital. Two years later William H. Leach was admitted into the firm. In 1870, owing to the increase of business, larger and better quarters were taken at No. 72 Duane Street. Prosperity again followed, and in 1871 they decided to build a mill of their own, to be operated in connection with the store, and it was agreed that William Wilkinson should locate, build, and run the mill. His attention was early called to the advantages of the power of the Ousatonic Water Company, and, after examining the location, he decided on erecting the mill at Shelton, in the town of Huntington. A fine establishment was built and run successfully until the fourth day of November, 1878, when, at 4.30 P.M., it was totally destroyed by fire. The insurance was adjusted on the 28th of November, and in the afternoon of the same day work was begun on the new mill, and, through the force and energy of Mr. Wilkinson, it was completed and the manufacture of paper begun in just four months and eighteen days from the date that rebuilding was commenced. The total length of the mill is four hundred and thirty-five feet, and it covers about two acres of ground. Owing to the increase of business, on the 1st of February, 1879, two new partners were admitted,—Charles A. Whedon, of New York, and George S. Arnold, of Birmingham, Conn.,—and another store, No. 74 Duane Street, New York City, was occupied. The company deals in all kinds of paper and twines in New York, and manufacture A No. 1 Manillas, all the different colored papers, English hardware and Bristol boards. The "Derby Mills" are among the largest in the manufacture of paper in the United States. They employ about seventy hands and have a daily capacity of twenty thousand pounds of paper. In addition to their own mill, Wilkinson Bros. & Co. control five others,

selling them their stock and taking their product. The company are at the time of this writing engaged in erecting a large wood-pulp mill over two hundred feet long, to be run in connection with the present establishment. The firm's annual business is in excess of one million five hundred thousand dollars,—an outgrowth of a cash capital of three dollars,—all of which has been accomplished in sixteen years.

Mr. Wilkinson is a man of extraordinary energy, keen judgment, and great foresight. He knows no such word as failure; undertakings which would stagger the majority of men are inaugurated by him and pushed through to successful consummation. Sharp and curt at times when busy, at others he is one of the most courteous and agreeable of gentlemen. In charity, he is one of the readiest and most liberal; he lends substantial encouragement to all enterprises that are for the public good.

He has built two elegant residences in Shelton, one of which is occupied by himself and family, the other by the relict of a former employee, who lost his life while doing hazardous work for the company. Mr. Wilkinson is a living example from which all may learn to conquer fortune and meet with general success.

It will be seen that it was by no mere luck or chance that he is to-day at the head of such a stupendous enterprise as the Derby Mills; it is owing to early formed habits of economy, persevering diligence, and unfaltering application to whatsoever he had undertaken. Never idle himself, he has no sympathy whatever with the drones of society. We meet with no more apt disciple of the school that teaches "whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

Mr. Wilkinson devotes himself to his business rather than to political affairs, and, although frequently urged to do so, he has never allowed his name to be used for office by either party.

For his second wife Mr. Wilkinson married Hannah Maria Briggs, by whom he has three children,—John A., Frederick Charles, and Albert Theodore.

#### HON. ROYAL M. BASSETT.

This gentleman was born in the town of Derby, Nov. 22, 1828. His education was obtained at the common district schools, except one year that was spent at the Academy of Stiles and French, at New Haven, and two annual terms at the Haddam Academy.

His father, Sheldon Bassett, was one of the leading men of Derby, and a pioneer in the business enterprises of Birmingham, which have brought to the towns of Derby and Huntington their present prosperity.

He was long engaged as a merchant, then as a manufacturer. He held many official positions with credit, but after the purchase of the Colburns' iron-foundry, in 1850, he devoted all his time to this busi-

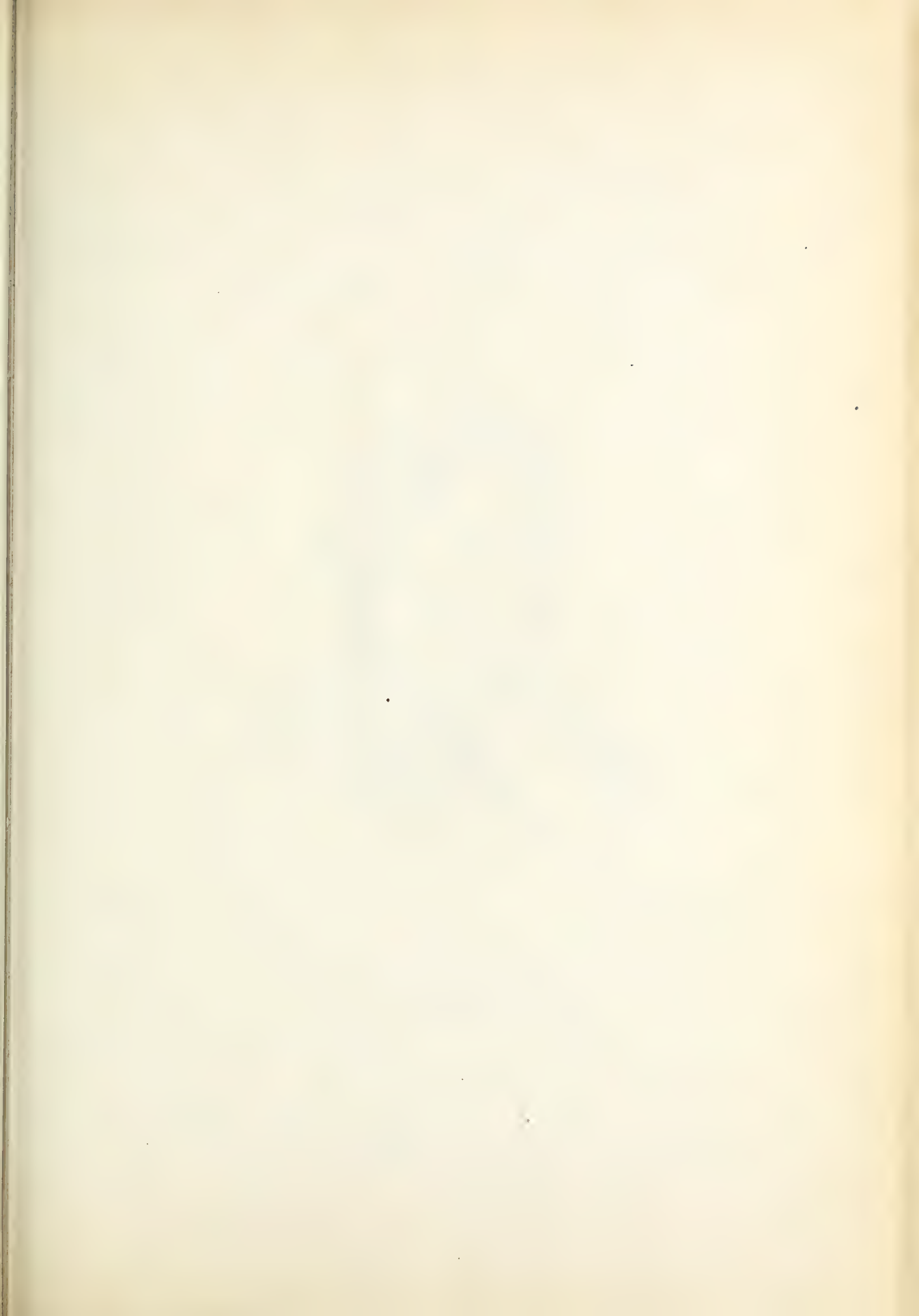




*Royal M Bassett*









*Corn und Leinwand*

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ness enterprise until his death, which occurred June 26, 1864, in the sixtieth year of his age.

On the decease of his father, Royal M., with his brother Theodore, managed the iron-foundry with great success, giving steady employment to about one hundred and twenty-five hands for sixteen years, making it a valuable and most desirable establishment to Birmingham.

Under its present management it is among the first solid manufacturing concerns in the Naugatuck Valley.

Royal M. Bassett has been engaged in various manufacturing enterprises, railroads, and real estate operations during more than a quarter of a century. Is now director in three railroad companies, and president of a Northern railroad. His adaptation to this kind of business is remarkable, and he has managed with such skill and judgment as to gain the confidence and good will of all with whom he has been associated.

President of the iron-foundry sixteen years, warden of the borough of Birmingham for two years, an active, efficient, and influential committeeman of the Birmingham public schools for twelve years, besides filling with honor many other local positions. These united have placed him among the reliable and public-spirited men of his native town.

The Ousatonic water enterprise, which is the outgrowth of Shelton, and makes an enterprising and flourishing spot in Fairfield County, was encouraged and fostered by Mr. Bassett. He was one of its active company workers, also one of the original incorporators of the company, and is now one of its directors. He was also one of the incorporators of the Derby Gas Company, located in Shelton, and being now a stockholder and principal director, identifying him largely with the interests of this infant village, for these reasons he very properly deserves the place accorded him in this history.

In all his business transactions he has proved himself a thoroughly upright man, and has been remarkably successful in his large and diversified pursuits. Mr. Bassett's mother was Harriet Hull, a niece of Gen. William Hull, of Detroit notoriety. In 1858, Royal M. was married to Mrs. Frances J. Stratton, of Bridgeport, by whom he has had three children, two sons and one daughter.

Mr. Bassett has never mingled much in politics, though he has always been a warm Democrat, and has represented the Fifth Senatorial District in the Legislature with credit to himself and honor to his party.

Social, affable, of great gentlemanly bearing, liberal, and ever willing and ready to forward any needed work for the public good, he stands among the popular and influential citizens of his native place and the adjoining town of Huntington.

#### EDMUND LEAVENWORTH.\*

Edmund Leavenworth was born in Huntington, Conn., Dec. 14, 1766, and was closely identified with the affairs of the town for nearly three-quarters of a century. His early life was spent in active work on his father's farm and in shipbuilding. Having a constitution naturally robust, this early training developed a fine physique and great muscular strength, and he became very fond of athletic sports, jumping, wrestling, hunting, and horse-racing. He was fond of deer-hunting on horseback, and made frequent visits to Long Island to enjoy this sport. He was the owner of many fine horses at different times, and races on the road lying along the river-bank near his residence were of frequent occurrence. At these races many of the best horses of the surrounding country were competitors. With Mr. Leavenworth, however, these sports were but the spicing of a very active and busy life. His place was noted for the amount of business done there. At all hours of the day men and teams could have been seen busily engaged, some scoring and hewing and others hauling timber for the building of bridges, wharves, and ships. In these pursuits a large number of horses and oxen were employed, and, true to his taste, Mr. Leavenworth took particular pride in the best animals that could be obtained. His judgment of such stock was remarkably good. Indeed, his judgment of workmanship in scoring and fitting was such that journeymen, as recommendation to themselves, would refer to the fact that they had hewed timbers for Edmund Leavenworth. He built several sloops at his shipyard, the last two of which were fitted out for the West India trade, but, being captured by French privateers in the war of 1812, involved him in financial ruin. His claims for indemnity were covered by the "French Spoliation Bill," but these claims were never paid by the United States government.

Genial, warm-hearted, benevolent, strongly attached to his friends, he possessed great personal popularity. His influence in town affairs was such that he could command a majority for any measure he wished to carry. He was elected selectman for thirteen successive years, and the poor of the town were never better cared for than during this time. In his political preferences he was Democratic, having never voted any other ticket in his life. He cast a vote at every Presidential election from Washington's to Buchanan's, and in later life referred to this fact with great pride. At one time he left New London in a sloop on the morning of election-day and arrived at the voting-place (Stratford) fifteen minutes before the polls were closed.

Mr. Leavenworth was truly an original character, having attended school but three days. Familiarly called "Uncle Ed" by those who knew him late in life, he is still quoted as the author of pithy and quaint

\* This name is sometimes spelled without the "a."

remarks, expressions, and anecdotes. His manners and language were unpolished, but the roughness was outward rather than within, for there was a kindness and sympathy within him which but few possess.

In his maturer years he inclined more to the ways of religion, and, his choice being the Episcopal Church, he united with them, and was a member of that communion when he died. Fairfield County doubtless contained many more highly cultured than Edmund Leavenworth, but it had very few who were more whole-souled and generous and ready to help the suffering in time of need.

Although but twelve years of age in 1777, when his father, Capt. Edmund, was ordered to Fairfield with his company, he volunteered to go, and served as a waiter to his father in that campaign, joining the company as a private April 2, 1777. When his father with his company was again ordered out, in 1779, Edmund again enlisted as a private, and served during the campaign.

He died in Derby, Jan. 20, 1857, aged ninety-one, and with his two wives, only son, and eldest daughter lies buried at White Hills. He was married to Mary Judson, Jan. 5, 1786, and to Amy Tomlinson, Oct. 26, 1823. His children were: Hepsey, born Nov. 17, 1786, died Jan. 18, 1865; Polly, born Aug. 27, 1789, died May 31, 1871; Delilah, born Jan. 1, 1791, died February, 1876; Maria, born March 13, 1794, still living, 1880; Laura, born Sept. 29, 1796, died Jan. 27, 1865; Edmund, born Dec. 8, 1801, drowned in Ousatonic River, June 13, 1823.

#### GENEALOGY.

Edmund Leavenworth was the son of Capt. Edmund Leavenworth, the son of Dr. Thomas Leavenworth, son of Dr. Thomas Leavenworth. The last-named is the progenitor of all the Leavenworth families in the United States.

#### HENRY GLOVER.

Henry Glover, youngest son of Simeon Glover, of Newtown, Conn., was born Nov. 19, 1816.

In early life he served an apprenticeship to the blacksmith trade, after which he studied for the ministry. On account of the weakness of his voice, which broke down under the effort to preach, Mr. Glover abandoned the idea of preaching and turned his attention to the school-room, following that profession for a number of years, teaching in Bridgeport and Westport. His health failing him in the school-room, he entered the stove business in Bridgeport about the year 1850. This he followed for seven years, removing to Brookfield to engage in farming in 1856. There he lived for four years, when, having an opportunity to sell to advantage, he did so and returned to Bridgeport, where he entered a foundry. Preferring farm life, however, for which he had a decided taste, he only remained in the foundry a year, when he purchased a farm in the town of Huntington, where he

lived for six years. Again meeting with a good offer, he sold this farm and bought one near the village of Huntington Centre, where he died Oct. 1, 1879, falling dead from his chair from heart disease. His mother also died suddenly from the same cause.

In Huntington Mr. Glover engaged in the dairying and gardening business, making a success of it and gradually improving and beautifying his quiet country home.

In religious belief Mr. Glover was a Universalist, having joined that denomination when quite a young man. Forbidden to preach on account of the weakness of his voice, he always took an active interest in church matters, and was an official of his church organization at Bridgeport for many years. He was a man of sterling integrity, living strictly up to his Christian principles. In manners genial, by nature kind-hearted, he gained both the respect and the esteem of his neighbors and acquaintances, and was called upon several times to fill offices of public trust.

In politics, Mr. Glover was a Republican from the first organization of that party, and was alive to all the questions of the day.

Mr. Glover was married March 20, 1838, to Henrietta Smith, daughter of Henry A. Smith, a son of Fitch Smith, of Derby, Conn. The union was blessed by two children,—Henry Fordyce, born Dec. 2, 1842, and Theophilus Nichols, born Aug. 9, 1847.

Henry Fordyce Glover succeeds his father in the management of the farm and dairy, and is a man strong in nerve and body.

Theophilus Nichols Glover is a minister of the Universalist faith, and fills the pulpit of that church at Dowagiac, Michigan.

Simeon, father of Henry Glover, was married three times. His third wife, Mary Gregory, bore him four children,—Ives, Melora, Nancy, and Henry. Simeon was the son of Henry. Henry had three sons,—Simeon, Elias, and Solomon. Henry was the son of Henry, who was the son of John Glover, who came to Newtown from Stratford.

#### REV. THOMAS PUNDERSON.\*

The name and the pleasant face of one long since glorified will awaken many tender and endearing recollections in the minds of surviving friends in his former parishes, in the ministry, and in the church at large. "His record is on high." To those who knew him best, in the favored intimacy of home, no earthly record nor speaking likeness is needed to keep him ever clearly in sight. To those less favored in the intimacy of acquaintance, no better memorial can be offered than the following biographical sketch, prepared for the *New York Observer* by the late Rev. Dr. Hewit, of Bridgeport, a neighboring pastor and a beloved friend.

\* By the Rev. Rollin S. Stone.



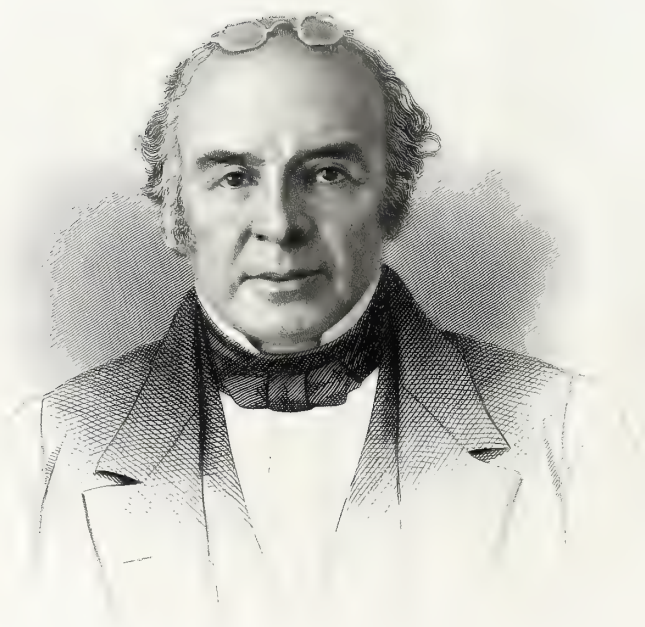


*Henry Glover*











"The late Rev. Thomas Punderson was born in New Haven, Conn., Dec. 28, 1783; a descendant of John Punderson, one of the original seven pillars of the First Church, then under the ministry of John Davenport; was graduated at Yale College, September, 1804; was licensed to preach the gospel in 1806; spent a part of the summer of 1807 on a mission to the northwest portion of the State of New York; was ordained to the work of the ministry in the Second Congregational Church and Society in Pittsfield, Mass., Oct. 26, 1809; was married to Miss Betsey Day, of Catskill, N. Y., May 4, 1813; was dismissed, in consequence of the reunion of the Second with the First Church, Feb. 26, 1817; was installed pastor of the church and society in Huntington, Conn., Nov. 18, 1818; was dismissed Jan 1, 1844, and died Aug. 1, 1848.

"Being a corporate member of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, he attended the annual meeting in September last at Buffalo, and while on his way home he was taken ill of a bowel complaint, from the effects of which he did not recover. On Thursday morning last, July 27th, a stricture of the large intestines took place, followed by acute pain, and terminating fatally on the morning of Tuesday, Aug. 1, in the sixty-fifth year of his age and the thirty-ninth of his ministry, leaving a widow and four children (a son and three daughters, one of whom is married) to mourn their irreparable loss.

"He was aware of the severe and dangerous nature of his last illness, and when it was evident that his recovery was hopeless, he manifested the same calm and even temper which he exhibited through life. With the tenderness of a husband and a father, and with the faith, hope, and sublime tranquillity of a saint, he blessed his wife and children, one by one, in the name of the Lord; and when his failing voice had sunk to a scarcely audible whisper, he exclaimed, 'Grace, 'tis a charming sound! Glory to God in the highest!' and expired.

"The character of Mr. Punderson is more easily apprehended than it can be described. He was a transparent man,—'an Israelite indeed.' His piety, his integrity, his benignity, his humility, his disinterestedness, his cheerfulness, his consistency,—indeed, all his qualities, as a man, a Christian, and a minister of the gospel,—were evident as the light. *He walked with God.* In his own house he was a pattern for our imitation in all that is amiable in domestic life, and his dwelling was the home of purity, comfort, and thankfulness. In the house of God he was a good minister. He was sound in the faith once delivered to the saints, and he preached the distinguishing doctrines of grace with an unction which *the love of the truth* only can impart. He was not ambitious, neither was he covetous or envious. Patiently, meekly, earnestly, constantly, he sought the present peace and future salvation of all the souls committed to his care. He loved his work, and he loved his people.

No one hath aught to lay to his charge; nor is there any one known who insinuated even that he was not an example to believers in every good word and work. Few ministers of the gospel, if, indeed, any there are, who may with more confidence than he exclaim, 'I am pure of the blood of all men.'

"His funeral was attended on Thursday, the 3d inst., by a large concourse of the inhabitants of the town, of all denominations, and from the towns adjoining, and by his neighboring brethren. The deep solemnity of the people through all the services, from the dwelling-house to the church and from the church to the grave, gave impressive witness to the universal conviction that he was a man of God, and that he had gone to receive from the lips of the Lord, whom he had served in his life and glorified in his death, the plaudit, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant! enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.'

To the foregoing obituary sketch by Dr. Hewit, a member of Mr. Punderson's family adds the reminiscence that in his missionary tour in the State of New York in the summer of 1807, spoken of above, "he was accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Bennet Tyler," afterwards president of East Windsor Seminary, Conn., and that "he preached in Rochester when that place contained but one frame house, and the only building capable of accommodating a congregation was a barn, which was used on that occasion in lieu of a church."

The present writer recalls a temperance meeting which he had been invited to address in Mr. Punderson's parish full fifty years ago, when a mere sophomore himself, and how, at the close of his youthful and perhaps useless effort, the beloved pastor came to his support with a rousing and most effective home-made and impromptu speech. He drew a striking comparison between the ravages of strong drink and those of beasts of prey let loose in a community and destroying many a precious life, while yet the people did not seem to be at all alarmed and did not bestir themselves to check the dreadful slaughter.

Near the close of his quarter-century pastorate in Huntington, when so many churches were wearying of their old pastors and longing after smart young men, he one day preached a mildly satirical sermon from the complaint of the Israelites in the wilderness, "Our soul loatheth this light bread" (Num. xxi. 5). If they did not see the quails falling round the camp that day, they were served with a dish of "strong meat" well flavored and prepared.

His long, quiet, uneventful life *was yet full of telling points*,—full of gentle humor and silent force,—not tame, dull, monotonous, at all; "not slothful in business: fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." Years after his decease, and at the grave of his noble wife, a venerable deacon said, in answer to the inquiry how the church had prospered since he left it, "We made a great mistake when we let Mr. Punderson go."

He belonged to a generation not at all inferior to

the present, but very unlike,—a generation of ministers not adapted to the wants of our more bustling and aggressive age, but in their day and generation faithful and beloved, and whose praise was in all the churches of the land.

Having lost by death one daughter and an only son, and having survived her husband nearly twenty-eight years, Mrs. Punderson died in New Haven, April 30, 1876, and was buried in Huntington, by the side of her husband and among the friends of her youth. Two married daughters still survive her,—Mrs. Emily P. Ritchie, of Brooklyn, and Mrs. Frances P. Gilbert, of New Haven.

#### JOHN I. HOWE,

the eldest son of William Howe and Mary Ireland, was born in the town of Ridgefield, Conn., July 20, 1793, and died in Birmingham, Conn., Sept. 10, 1876.

He remained at home, working on his father's farm in the summer and attending the district school in the winter, until the age of nineteen, when he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Perry, a physician of that town. He was graduated at the medical university of New York about the year 1814. He commenced the practice of his profession in the city of New York, and for several years was one of the resident physicians of the New York almshouse.

On the 15th of May, 1820, he was married to Cornelia A., daughter of George Ireland, of New York. He continued in the city until the year 1829, when he was compelled, by a severe illness, which seriously impaired his constitution, to abandon his profession and his residence, and removed to North Salem, N. Y. It was a most bitter disappointment to be obliged to resign a profession to which he was admirably adapted, and in which he had secured a very honorable position.

For two or three years before leaving New York he became engaged in experiments on India-rubber, with a view to its application for the purposes to which it has since been so successfully applied, and in 1828 he obtained a patent for rubber compounds. In his own words, "So far as I know, I was the first person who attempted to utilize rubber by combining other substances with it, but I did not happen to stumble upon the right substance."

While engaged as a physician at the New York almshouse he had seen English pins made by the old manual process, and had heard of a machine having been invented for that purpose. During the winter of 1830-31 he employed himself in a series of experiments with a view to constructing a pin-machine, which resulted in a rude model. Acquiring in these efforts gradually the skill and experience in mechanical drawing upon which so much depends in perfecting the details of complicated mechanism, in the winter of 1831-32 he succeeded in building a machine at the establishment of Robert Hoe & Co.,

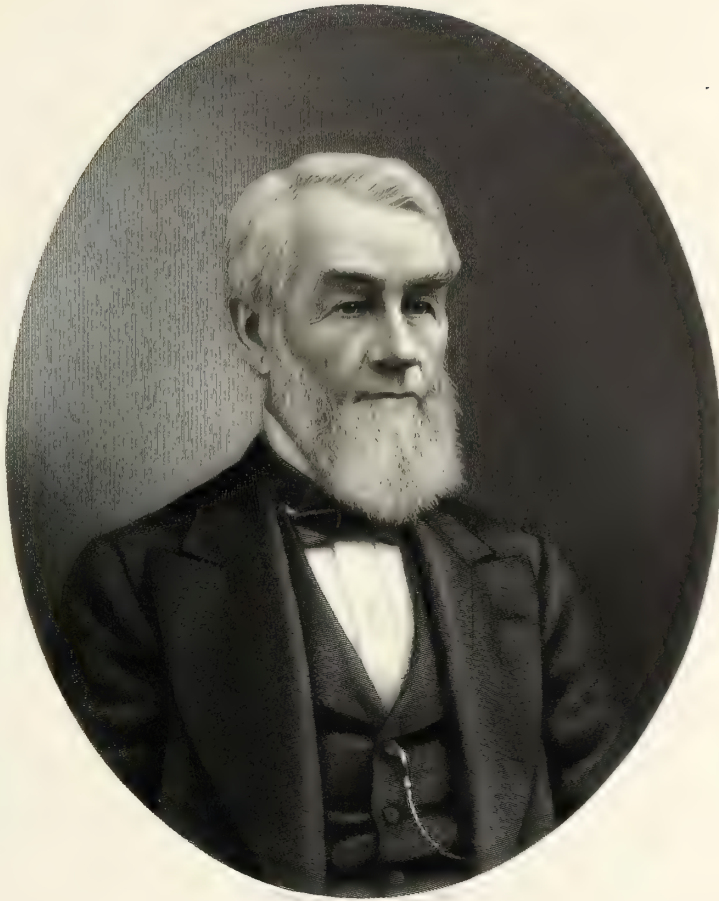
in New York, that was successful as a working model and would make pins, though in an imperfect way. This machine was patented in 1832, and in the same year it was exhibited at the fair of the American Institute, and attracted considerable attention. The Institute awarded him a silver medal "for a machine for making pins at one operation." In the winter of 1832, Dr. Howe began to construct a second machine, which was completed in the spring of 1833. For the purpose of securing patents in Europe he sailed for England in May, 1833, and reached London after a passage of thirty days, then considered short. Patents were secured in France, England, Scotland, and Ireland during the year, and in January, 1834, Dr. Howe left London for Manchester, where he was engaged in building machines according to the principles of his invention until the spring of 1835, when he returned to New York.

In December of that year the "Howe Manufacturing Company," named after its founder, was organized for the purpose of manufacturing pins by means of Dr. Howe's machines, and he was appointed general agent of the company, and in that capacity had the management of its manufacturing department until 1863. The company, in 1836-37, built five machines for making what are called "spun-heads," which machines were all altered into solid-headers, and were run successfully for a short time, when they were superseded by a new "rotary" machine, invented by Dr. Howe. The first rotary was completed in 1838, but the patent was not taken out until 1840. In 1842 the American Institute of New York awarded Dr. Howe a gold medal for the "best solid-headed pins," which were made on this machine.

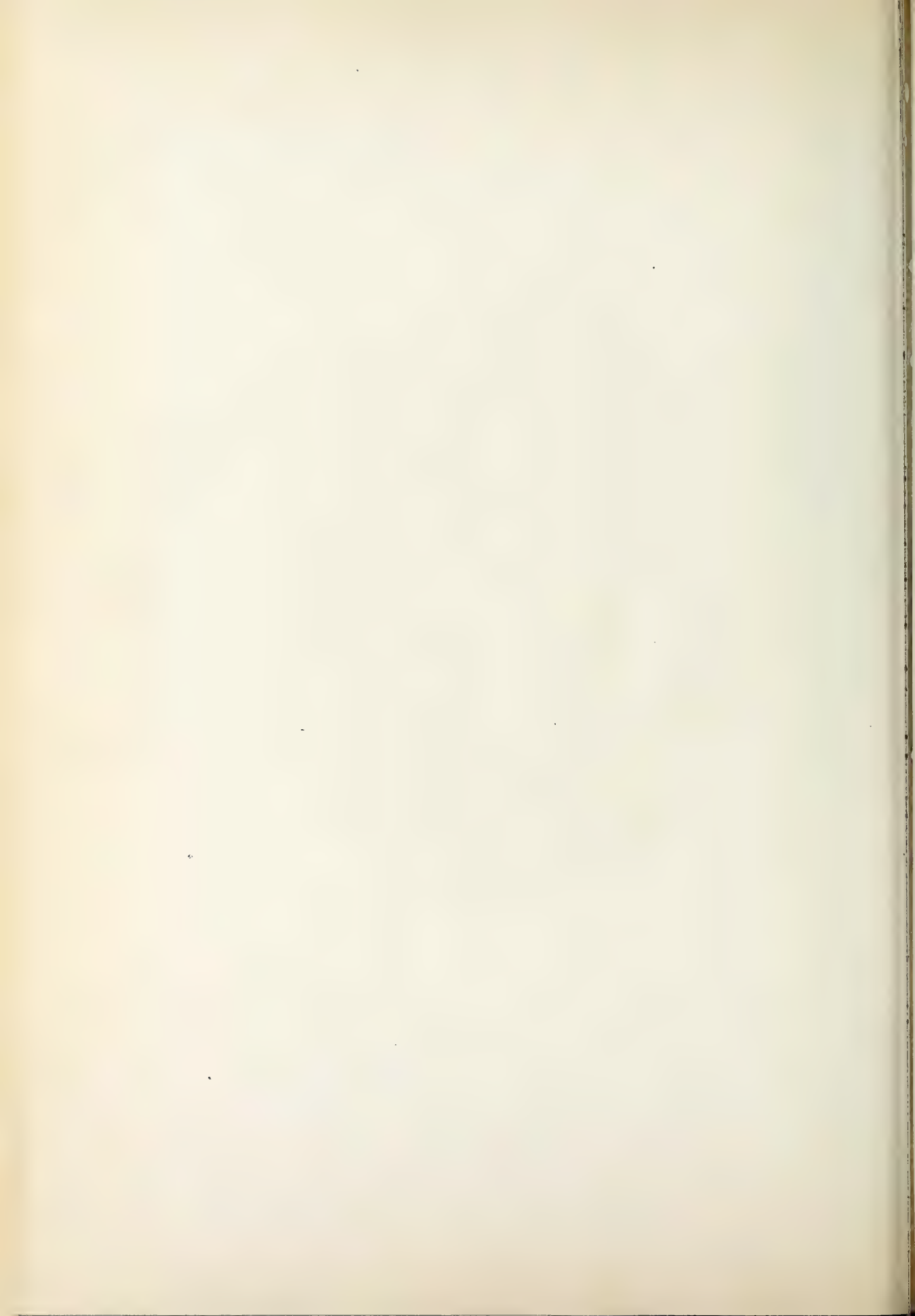
Previous to this—to wit, in April, 1838—the company had removed their manufactory from New York to Birmingham, Conn., for its advantages in water-power. This removal compelled Dr. Howe to locate in Birmingham, where he continued to reside until his decease.

In 1842, Dr. Howe invented an important improvement in the operation of sticking pins in paper, which consisted in the construction and operation of "crimping-bars." Dr. Howe's skill and devotion to the business compelled success. The early years of the business were years of struggle and toil. Skilled labor, appropriate tools, and perfect machinery were not at command as in these days. The language of the historian of Derby is well deserved: "Dr. Howe, with a persevering courage, contending against prejudice, inexperience, and poverty, knew no defeat, and must be placed at the head as the first practical and successful pin-manufacturer by means of automatic machinery, however worthy may be his numerous predecessors and competitors, especially Slocum, Fowler, Atwood, and others;" as also that of Dr. J. L. Bishop in his "History of American Manufactures:" Dr. Howe was "the inventor of the first practical automatic pin-making machine," "and has contrib-





*Wm. D. Howe*







## CHARLES HUBBELL,

the subject of this sketch, was born in the town of Huntington, Fairfield Co., Conn., Jan. 5, 1817. Christopher Hubbell, his father, was a farmer of but moderate means, and gave to Charles little besides an ordinary education. Being a man of more than ordinary industry, who stood not back at small difficulties, he gradually accumulated a comfortable property, and gave to his children good educations. In the matter of education and schools he was ever interested, and the meeting of the district school board never found him an absentee. In disposition Mr. Hubbell was quiet and domestic, always finding something to do on the farm. In politics an earnest Democrat, as were all his people, he gave the principles of that party staunch support, but never entered into politics as a debater or office-seeker. As a neighbor and a citizen he was a good man, ready at all times to face his duty and perform it to the very best of his ability.

On Sept. 10, 1848, he was united in marriage to Miss Charlotte A. Shelton, born Jan. 9, 1828. Charlotte A. was the daughter of Wm. Shelton, son of Jeremiah, the son of Daniel, who was the son of Thaddeus, son of Daniel Shelton. Daniel Shelton came from Deptford, Yorkshire, England, and settled at Long Hill, Huntington, about 1690.

Mrs. Hubbell's mother was Lucy Johnson,

daughter of Ebenezer Johnson, a tailor and farmer of Huntington.

Christopher Hubbell, father of Charles, was married twice. His first wife was Ann Wells, to whom he was married Dec. 23, 1802, and who died May 18, 1814. By her he had three children,—John, born Oct. 27, 1803; Betsy Ann, born Nov. 4, 1805; Maryette, born Dec. 6, 1807. John became a sea captain, and died in the

West Indies,—it is supposed, of yellow fever. Betsy Ann married Mr. Blakeman, and died Nov. 22, 1835. Maryette married Mr. Webb Downs, of Monroe.

Sept. 14, 1815, Christopher Hubbell was married to his second wife, Melissa Tucker, who bore him three children,—Charles, born Jan. 5, 1817; Wells, born June 17, 1818; Jane Melissa, March 2, 1826.

Mr. Hubbell found in Charlotte Shelton a faithful helpmate, to whose industry he owed much,

and to whose affectionate influence his children owe much. He died Aug. 31, 1878. His children are: Amanda M., born Nov. 1, 1850, married to Geo. P. Bidwell, Oct. 28, 1874; Theresa J., born Oct. 11, 1854; Warren C., born March 22, 1860. Warren succeeds to the management of the farm. The only male representative of his branch of the family, he promises to worthily follow his father's example of temperance and industry, and is justly held in esteem by the community.



CHARLES HUBBELL.





**F. G. PERRY.**



**M. B. PERRY.**

**FREDERICK G. AND MILES B. PERRY.**

But a little more than one decade ago "the lowing herd roamed slowly o'er the lea" where now is heard the buzz and whir of machinery, the rattle of the busy loom, the heavy thud of the massive trip-hammer. The site of the present thriving and busy village of Shelton was "seeded down to grass, its soil undisturbed save by the farmer's plowshare."

Samuel Leavenworth Perry, son of Abner Perry and grandfather of F. G. and M. B. Perry, was born Feb. 18, 1762. Growing to manhood's estate he married Anna Davidson and located among the rugged hills of Huntington, opposite Birmingham, where the town of Shelton is now located. Undismayed by the ruggedness of its aspect, he built the house now occupied by his grandsons on one of the most commanding building sites in the vicinity, and commenced the laborious task of felling timber and removing the stone. Dying Jan. 13, 1828, at the age of sixty-six, his son Garry continued the improvement of the estate, and by his energy and industry was enabled to make his family comfortable and prosperous. Garry Perry was born Sept. 13, 1792, and was married to Sallie Birdseye, of Stratford, Nov. 24, 1824. His wife lived not quite a year, dying Oct. 9, 1825. Mr. Perry remained a widower until Oct. 11, 1837, when he was married to Fanny Bennett, daughter of Isaac Bennett and Mary Johnson, of Easton. By this marriage he had two children, Frederick Garry, born Sept. 29, 1838, and Miles Bennett, born Oct. 6, 1840.

Mr. Perry was a man of delicate strength, industrious habits, and considerable force of character; a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church, taking an active part in church and school matters of his day. He died at the age of fifty, Sept. 8, 1842.

The early education of Frederick and Miles Perry was received at the schools in Birmingham, Frederick finishing his education at Franklin, N. Y., and Miles at the academy at Easton, Conn. They engaged in farming until 1873, when they entered the coal and wood business in Shelton, in which they are at present engaged.

Dealing with all alike, they have increased their business from the sale of one thousand tons of coal the first year to six thousand tons for 1879. The fact that these gentlemen live together, keeping no accounts with each other, but hold their property in common, fittingly illustrates their feelings towards each other.

Frederick Perry was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Beach, Dec. 21, 1870. Miss Beach is a daughter of David M. and Emily Buckingham Beach, of Trumbull. David M. Beach is son of Eli B. Beach, and he a son of Daniel Beach, a soldier of the Revolutionary war. Frederick G. Perry has had two children, Jessie Bennett, born April 25, 1872, dying Aug. 22, 1872; and Emily Blakeman, born July 19, 1874. F. G. Perry served the town as representative during the session of 1878-79; also as selectman and town agent.

M. B. Perry has never taken part in public politics. Indeed, it can be said of both that they are disposed rather to quietly look after their own affairs than those of their neighbors or the general public. In politics both gentlemen are Republicans.

The children of Samuel L. Perry were Anna Maria, Charlotte, and Garry. Dr. John Tomlinson married Anna Maria, by whom he had one child, Samuel Perry; and upon her death married Charlotte, by whom he had two children, John B. and Anna Maria.





uted efficiently to the establishment of an important branch of American manufactures."

His life was essentially a home-life. To know him as he was it was essential to enter that circle. He was a devourer of books, mostly scientific; but there were few subjects that escaped his thoughtful investigation. A perseverance that would not turn aside from its object, that would not be baffled or thwarted, that came what would his purpose must be accomplished, was his most characteristic trait. Diffidence baulked his public utterance, but those who have read his wonderfully clear and readily understood descriptions of complicated machinery know how thoroughly he was master of this accomplishment.

While a resident of Birmingham, Dr. Howe held many offices of trust, and interested himself in all new business undertakings. Especially was he interested in that great enterprise which resulted in the damming of the Ousatonie River, and contributed by his moral and material aid largely to its success.

In the war for the preservation of the Union he was responsive to every call, and contributed fifteen hundred dollars to the families of soldiers who were at the front.

During the latter years of his life he alternated between his books and his fruits; in the cultivation of the latter, and in the propagation of new species, he found genuine pleasure, leaving as a legacy more than fifty new kinds of pears. He died in his garden, under the branches of a favorite peach-tree, his basket partly filled with specimens of fruits intended for exhibition at the International Exposition at Philadelphia. Thus peacefully and alone he passed away, in the place where he had spent so many happy hours. It was on a beautiful Sunday morning in September. Life rounded and full was ripe for the gathering along with his fruits.

It is good to contemplate such a life, warm in its friendships, faithful in its relations, clear in its convictions, unbending in its integrity, winning the esteem of the wise and the approbation of the good.

Dr. Howe's descendants at the time of his death were two grandsons and two granddaughters, the children of his only daughter, Mrs. William E. Downes.

## CHAPTER XLI.

### MONROE.

Geographical—Topographical—Streams—Surface—Soil—Reminiscences of Monroe, by Rev. T. T. Waterman—Early Settlers—Their Locations—Incidents—Public and Select Schools—Initial Events—St. Peter's Church—Mineral Deposit—Civil History—Organization of Town—First Town-Meeting—Officers Elected—Representatives to the General Assembly from 1824 to 1881.

THIS town lies in the eastern part of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Newtown and the Housatonic River; on the east by the Housa-

tonic and the town of Huntington; on the south by Huntington and Trumbull; and on the west by Easton and Newtown. The surface of the town is generally uneven, and in some portions exceedingly rough. The soil is good and well adapted to grazing.

### REMINISCENCES OF ONE HUNDRED YEARS IN MONROE.\*

The following excellent address is not taken entire. Some extracts not strictly historical have been eliminated:

"The flight of time, bearing with it all we have of possession, friendship, and life, is full of instruction. The past is the present as it was and is. It is all stern reality. In this sense, in the words of Solomon, that which hath been now is.

"To-day, as a church and congregation, we record the passing away of 3,153,600,000 seconds, 51,560,000 minutes, 876,000 hours, 36,500 days, or one hundred years of our religious history. This history commenced in the organization of this church, Dec. 14, 1764. Of the order of exercises on that occasion, the place in which the persons by whom those exercises were conducted, the sentiments uttered, the emotions expressed, the portions of Scripture read, the hymns sung, the prayers offered, the sermon preached, we have no record. Tradition is silent. To my knowledge no one lives to tell us of that day and that scene.

"Were it otherwise we might give reality to the enactments of that interesting hour by a sketch of the men, women, youth, and children who then entered into solemn covenant with each other and with the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Gathered amid joy and tears, anxieties and misgivings, and yet with buoyant and blessed hope to plant, on this then wilderness hill-top, a branch of the true vine, which to-day is and to-morrow and still to-morrow we trust will be, all who on that day wept and rejoiced around this then new altar of the Lord, this then new communion-table, have mouldered back to dust. Unknown to us by name, in their works they live, and by all that is dear in the past and grateful in the present of our existence as a church, they with the emphasis of 'a hundred years ago' greet us in love to-day.

"We remember their deeds of Christian heroism and love, and, bidding them 'All hail!' we render thanks unto God and bless His holy name.

"In attempting to signalize the hallowed associations of this hour, I shall notice some particulars connected with the early history of our State and county, and some as identified with individuals and incidents in our advance as a church and congregation.

"The settlement of our State commenced in 1635, or two hundred and twenty-nine years ago; that of Stratford,—which then embraced Newfield (now Bridgeport), North Stratford (now Trumbull), New Stratford (now Monroe), and Ripton (now Huntington),—in 1639.

"The Indians were numerous at that date in this section. Their number in the State was computed to be twenty thousand. Of these some four thousand were trained warriors; three hundred of this class were in the limits of Huntington. Some of these were friendly and greatly aided the first settlers by teaching them the mode of cultivating corn and of securing other means of subsistence. Others, not a few of them, were intensely hostile, and against them and their depredations the settlers had constantly to watch and in stern battle array to fight. A yell of an Indian at morning, noon, or midnight was a doleful sound in the ears of fathers and mothers and neighbors, exposed and wholly unprotected as they were. Of all this we in our quietude have no just conception.

"The Indians prepared the ground for corn with the clam-shell or a small piece of wood sharpened for the purpose, and cultivated it with the same implements. They leveled large forest-trees such as they wished for their canoes, some of which accommodated forty or fifty men, by fire and their stone axes.

"In 1639 it is stated there were not more than five plows in this State. The price of a cow was one hundred and fifty dollars, of a pair of oxen two hundred dollars, and at one season that of corn was three dollars per bushel.

"In 1637 the snow lay from the 4th of November until the 23d of

\* By T. T. Waterman. Delivered on Dec. 14, 1864, at the centennial celebration of the organization of the Congregational Church, Dec. 14, 1764.

March, and was at times three or four feet deep. The whole inland of our State was a perfect wilderness,—no roads, no dwellings, no cultivated grounds. Wolves, bears, foxes, deer, moose, wild turkeys and fowl of various descriptions, and Indians were the tenants. Aside from these, all was solitude, silence, and gloom. Thus, too, was it for nearly one hundred years from 1639.

"In the year 1713 thirty-eight towns had been incorporated. Nine of these were in Fairfield County,—Stratford, Fairfield, Greenwich, Stamford, Norwalk, Woodbury, Danbury, Newtown, Ridgefield. The population of the State was then seventeen thousand; one regiment of militia in each county, four regiments in the State. But one cloth-mill in the State, and all its operator could do was to full the cloth, which was worn unshorn and unpressed.

"The first printer in the State was Thomas Short, 1709. He settled in New London, in 1710 printed the Say-Brooke Platform, and soon died. The next printer was Timothy Green, of Cambridge, Mass., and son of Samuel Green, the first printer in North America. He settled in New London, 1714.

"During this period, near 1647, the use of tobacco was unfortunately introduced, and to prevent, if possible, its disgusting prevalence, no person under the age of twenty years was permitted to use it, unless under medical treatment. All persons over twenty years of age were prohibited using it in company, or when traveling with others, and but once a day. Had this wisely-designed proscription of this noxious weed prevailed, the health, manners, and thrift of thousands would have been greatly promoted, the worse than useless expenditure of millions of dollars, and the melancholy fact that the cultivation of corn and substantial vegetable crops is being supplanted by this impudent and rampant twenty-four-inch leafed and vile worm-bearing narcotic, and this on our best soil, would have been prevented. But then, as now, fleshly appetite proved itself a mighty spoiler of man's dignity, refinement, and peace. Not a few then, as now, could let decency and thrift and money go to make their tobacco-quids and their puffing sure! It was thought strange in 1647, and if possible is more strange in 1864, that an intelligent man could consent, by chewing it, to make a sink of his stomach, a sink-drain of his throat, and a sink-spout of his mouth, or by smoking it a fireplace of his mouth, a chimney of his nose, and a smoke-house of his brain!

"In 1646 such were the disappointments and sad forebodings of the settlers at New Haven that they formed a purpose to leave the country. They had invitations to Ireland and to Jamaica, in the West Indies, and actually, it is said, entered into treaties for the city of Galloway as a place of settlement. They were providentially prevented from executing their designs, and in 1664 what spot more attractive and beautiful and far famed than that then sad and gloomy and about to be forsaken New Haven?

"At this time the settlements were almost exclusively on the line of the sea-shore. All was labor, sacrifice, exposure, watchfulness, and warfare. Every man must be drilled as a soldier,—a soldier when he stood in his door; a soldier when he sat at his meals; a soldier when he went to his corn-field; a soldier when he entered the place of worship; a soldier by day and by night. Those were days of unconceived peril and endurance, and thus for some one hundred and fifty years in our State. Incidents surpassing fiction, and acts of heroism by man and woman and child, characterize those eventful days. What was then attempted and accomplished for the sake of liberty and truth, home and country, and in preparing this our beautiful heritage for us and our children and children's children, is replete with instruction and counsel. All this may be forgotten by us and be unknown to our descendants, but it will all live in our history and in the book of God's account.

"For holy faith, triumphant zeal, and beneficent design the record stands unsurpassed in the annals of man. If through party prejudice, sectarian zeal, or any other influence any persons choose to be ignorant, so let them be; or if any choose to know only to prevent, divide, it may be denounce, so to let them do. May God enable us and ours to know and revere His name in these wonderful darings and doings of our fathers in this State from 1635 to 1776.

"In the midst of all this endurance and heroism on the sea-shore, hunting and exploring expeditions into the interior were not infrequent. The hills about us, as Bagburn and Barn and Moore, attracted early notice, and were favorite spots, being at an early date partially cultivated and settled. In 1755, as tradition affirms, Mr. Samuel Lewis, with his family, moved from Stratford and settled on this then forest-covered and wild but beautiful hill; his residence was north and west of the green, on the street running north. Mr. Frederick Lewis, the father of Mr. Henry Lewis, was then two years old. He died in 1825.

"The mother of Mr. Henry Lewis was the widow of the son of Deacon

Henry Hawley, one of the first deacons of this church. The family name of Mrs. Lewis was Scott; she was a member of this church.

"The landed estate of this early and enterprising settler, Mr. Samuel Lewis, or portions of it, are now in the possession of the respected representative of the third generation of this family, who is present to-day. Mr. Samuel Lewis gave distinctive proof of his interest in this church and society by presenting the Rev. Mr. Rexford a lot of ground, on which he erected the tenement which is standing, a memorial of the first pastor of this church.

"Capt. and Deacon Henry Hawley, as we infer, was from Stratford, and a direct descendant, if not son, of Mr. Samuel Hawley, one of the prominent first settlers of Stratford. The traditional record of Deacon Hawley is highly commendatory. He was intelligent, industrious, patriotic in the colonial service, evangelical and consistent in his Christian profession. He resided near Mr. Samuel Lewis, north and west of the green; the ruins of his homestead still speak the place. He probably settled here as early as 1756, and was, we suppose, at the organization of the church, and then or soon after appointed its deacon. By name he is identified with a family of many influential branches, and which, in its public and private relations, has been and is known and felt throughout this county. I cannot say that any of his immediate descendants remain in this town. The name frequently occurs in our list of members from the commencement to the present time.

"Gideon Hawley and Elias Hawley were early and prominent settlers in the more western portion of the town. Their influence was felt as members of this society and church; they lived to be aged. Gen. Eli Hawley, who years past has done this society valuable service, and who is now eighty-seven years of age, is of this branch of the family.

"The wife of Deacon Henry Hawley—Ruth, I believe—was sister of Deacon John Judson, and, in the language of tradition, was mighty prim,—that is, as I take it, a smart, bright-eyed, neat, precise, well-to-do lady, one who in word and deed caused her influence to be felt, if not feared. She was, I infer, a good wife for a deacon, as she certainly was the wife of a good deacon.

"The family of Deacon Judson, we suppose, was among the earlier settlers. He lived on Elm Street, nearly opposite the residence of Mr. Hiram Beardslee. He is said to have been wealthy, a large landholder, and, as the phrase is, 'no fool.' As we infer from tradition, he was a man of strong common sense and firm adherence to right, just, and equal law. He was a justice of the peace or judge, and, as he wore his leathern apron in court rather than silk and French broadcloth and a wig, was called the 'Leathern-apron judge.'

"It is reported that some guilty of witchery were arraigned before him for various misdemeanors. As he was too honest to be bribed and too bold to be frightened by invisible things or by dead men, he proved himself too much for Beelzebub strategy, wizard legerdemain, and profane hobgoblinism. As the record is, he put the criminals and witches through by law. He lived to be some eighty years of age, and was an influential and early deacon in this church. His descendants still exist in New York,—none of them, I believe, in this town.

"It is given as an illustration of the influence of his decisions against the impudent claims of spirit mediums and dealers with the unseen world, fortune-tellers, midnight wonder-doers, apparitions, voices, ghosts, and the like harum-scarums, that among the inhabitants of this town there is little credit given to these absurd and consummately silly nerva compatoron wizzarda naponadas quas tuno dead man and womana ono poolaveon delusions.

"In one instance a young lady of one of the families we notice to-day was told, as a means of deterring her from a discharge of her duty, frightening her into the faith, in going alone to a certain place in the evening that she would meet a man with his head cut off coming towards her. 'Ah, indeed!' said this Judge Judson heroine; 'I should be much more alarmed if I should meet a man with his head on!' That is noble womanhood! It is men with their heads on that we all, especially young women, have reason to fear.

"Capt. Joseph Moore, whose residence was on the northeast corner of the green, on a lot now owned by Deacon N. Wheeler, has a reputation among the first settlers in this centre. He was a man of pecuniary means, and, in the language of the day, 'head of the heap.' He is said to have been very clever when he was pleased and had his own way. He was a shrewd and comical genius. He at least had influence and generosity.

"The original meeting-house, it seems, was at first located by a committee appointed for the purpose to be one-half mile west of this, near Mrs. William Beacher's residence. Capt. Moore and others were dissatisfied, and procured the appointment of another committee, who located it on this hill. Capt. Moore donated the land for its site, and also for our



present common or green. Through thoughtlessness or to save labor the beautiful turf and triangular form of this common has at times, and for highway purposes, been disfigured in a manner which we believe, could Capt. Moore be present and witness the same, would call forth from him emphatic words and gestures. Happy is it for some who thus err in working out their highway tax that the doctrine of spirit mediums is false; otherwise the spirit of the old and stern gentleman to their sorrow might be after them.

"A daughter of Capt. Moore tradition signalizes as a noted belle, in personal charms, attainments, and general attractiveness surpassing all other female youth in this section. She married the Rev. Mr. Monson, a brother of Mrs. Rexford, who was pastor of a church in Lenox, Mass., and afterwards removed to this place, and here died. Connections of this family still reside in this place, and are members of the church. Mr. Monson, of New York, son of this lady, gave fifty dollars towards the erection of this house of worship.

"Capt. Moore was appointed to superintend the building of the meeting-house, which was raised on the 21st and 22d days of June, 1769, some five years after the organization of the church. It occupied ground a few feet in advance of this edifice, encroaching upon the green. The house, tradition states, was some seventeen years in the process of completion. This delay was the result, no doubt, of the difficulty of procuring materials, and specially of securing laborers, as the young men (many if not most of them) were in the ranks fighting the battles of our freedom.

"Capt. Moore, being a white-oak and persevering kind of man, held it on its course, and in 1786, as we judge, it was completed and dedicated. The last religious service held within its walls was on June 13, 1847. This house, which happily succeeded it, was raised July 20, 1847, and was dedicated Dec. 15, 1847, seventeen years ago to-morrow.

"Previous to the erection of the regular meeting-house, there was a temporary building, in form like a barn, in which divine services were held. For a time the Rev. Jedediah Mills, of Ripton, who has honorable mention for energy, eloquence, and zeal in the history of this State, preached to the people here every third Sabbath. Originally the settlers here attended meeting at Ripton, being, many of them, until 1764 members of that church.

Reference is made to houses built with fireplaces and rooms convenient to be occupied by persons from a distance during intermission on the Sabbath, and thus called 'Sabbath-day houses.' In the one noted in this place, or in a portion of it, an old Mrs. Tooley lived, sweeping and looking after the things of the meeting-house.

"Almost immediately on the organization of the church the Rev. Elisha Rexford was ordained its pastor. This happened on the 9th of January, 1665, twenty-six days after the event of organization. We infer from this that Mr. Rexford must have been with the church, probably as a supply, previous to its formation. No doubt he was happily instrumental in consummating the interesting event.

"Mr. Rexford, as I understand, was a graduate of Yale College, and married as his first wife a Miss Monson, of New Haven. In tradition he bears the reputation of a wise and good man, punctual, intelligent, and consistent in his ministrations, sound in doctrine, correct in practice, economical and frugal, loyal to his country and to freedom, acting as chaplain in the Revolution, respected and beloved by his people, until his death, April 3, 1808, or for a period of forty-four years.

"In his pastoral relation he numbered some four thousand five hundred and seventy-six Sabbath services and many occasional week-day ministrations. An interesting revival occurred during his ministry, which gladdened his own soul and greatly strengthened and refreshed the church. The influence going forth from a wise, thoughtful, kind and true-hearted man of God day by day, and week by week, and Sabbath by Sabbath, for forty-four years,—and such years as were those from 1765 to 1808,—and thus in his daily conversation, example, preaching, and counsel in seasons of bereavement and death, of marriage and of burial, may be silent with him in the grave, unthought of by us as the moss-covered stone telling the spot where his dust reposes; that influence was and still is immensely great. Felt by those who with him have here worshiped and with him have gone to their home above, and felt by us who here live and worship to-day,—ay, and will be felt along down successive generations of those who will come after us!

"He for a time gave his attention to the subject of education, having had, as I understand, a select school for both sexes in this place.

"Mr. Rexford was seventy-one years of age when he died, and must have been twenty-seven when he was ordained as pastor of this church.

"The letter of Mr. Rexford to this society in which he tendered his resignation of his pastoral office is extant, and breathes a spirit of love to the truth and to the best good of this people worthy of his office and his age. It is dated Dec. 29, 1807.

"Another family of influence in the society and church bore the name Deforest. At an early period they settled in the south part of the parish, and removed here in or before the year 1776. Mr. Deforest built and kept a public-house and store on the west side of the green,—the first store opened in the centre, the trading previous to 1776 having passed to Ripton. This Mr. Deforest was father of Deacon William Deforest, of Bridgeport, and Lockwood Deforest, Esq., of New York. He was a social and stirring old man, and a faithful overseer and tutor of the boys and their manners when rude and boisterous, and when throwing stones at the meeting-house or marking on the fences. He entertained the officers of a French force of some five hundred men who during the Revolutionary war were quartered for a few weeks on this hill. He named his son De Lazon, after one of those officers.

"This family was, we infer, descended from the Huguenots, and had a natural ease and gentility of address, and politeness of manner,—matters which all Frenchmen, if not all Americans, regard.

"The family left in the year 1800. They still exist and are influential in Bridgeport and in New York. Two of them, William and Lockwood, gave each fifty dollars to aid in the erection of this house. One of these, Deacon William Deforest, I remember as one prominent in the church in Bridgeport, of which my father was long pastor. He was a gentleman of fine appearance and genial manner, kind, shrewd, and sympathetic. His quick-uttered words, expressive smiles, and graceful gestures would interest children and men in advanced life. He lived to a good old age, and died a few years since in the triumph of Christian faith.

"The memory of Capt. Nathan Booth, who resided in Elm Street, is embalmed in a donation of ten pounds made to the church to meet the expenses of the communion-table. This somewhat singular yet effective legacy increased, and was sufficient a few years since to furnish the neat silver set for our communion-table. It is still on interest as a fund in the treasury of the church.

"Mr. Booth is said to have been social, somewhat set in his ways, blunt, and facetious in his intercourse with others. He was a great foe to card-playing and gambling, the favorite employment of idlers and heedless ones. He was plain-spoken on these topics, and has left a record which it would be well if many youths and persons more advanced would in this day heed. He was, moreover, fond of music, and, as I infer, a good singer and leader of the choir in this church.

"The descendants of this somewhat noted man are still with us in the persons of Mr. William Booth, his great-grandson, and Elisha Booth, a great-great-grandson. To the one the society credits a donation of one hundred and ten dollars towards the erection of this church, and to the other the favor of acting chorister for a series of years. Of him, as in the fullness of his warm heart he proves himself full of song, it may be said he comes honestly by it. May he and his still live here to sing and pray and praise!

"There was another family of this name, Zechariah Booth, noted for social influence. They resided in Elm Street, and opposite to Mr. C. T. Crane's. This family, I believe, is not now represented in the place.

"Honorable mention is made of a Mr. James Judson, who was father of Mr. Levi Judson and Miss Betsey Judson. At an early date he settled here and built or occupied the house next east of the Wakeman place. The family is still represented by membership of children and grandchildren in this church, and highly respectable branches of the same are in other towns. Miss Betsey Judson still lives, a constant attendant upon divine service here, and manifests a strong love to the church and society. She has been connected with the church fifty-one years. Mr. Levi Judson, her brother, is some fourscore years on, and in the sunset of his days.

"Special allusion, too, is made to the family of Beardslee, and particularly to an early settler on Bagburn Hill, reported to me as old Capt. Beardslee,—captain, I suppose, in the colonial service, and a true patriot.

"Mr. Samuel B. Beardslee and Judge Beardslee, Esq., once a prominent lawyer in this place, and Mr. Agur Beardslee, formerly a deacon of this church, are descendants immediately or more remotely from him. This family, Mr. Samuel B. Beardslee, Mr. Elisha Beardslee, Col. Samuel Beardslee, and Dr. Edward M. Beardslee, is still prominent in this church and society.

"There must have been a good deal of power and much of the spirit of 1664 in that same old captain on Bagburn Hill a hundred years ago. He speaks, in a subscription of some six hundred and forty-two dollars by his grandchildren or great-great-grandchildren, in behalf of the erection of this meeting-house. He speaks from Sabbath to Sabbath in our sweet-toned and sweetly-touched melodeon, and in the alto notes of our choir, and in all our services to-day, and we trust will continue here thus to speak in his children's children until time shall be no more.

"Capt. Robert Lewis and family are remembered and named with re-

spect. He built the residence now occupied by the Misses Lewis, though an entirely distinct family. His son, Lieut. Legrand Morse Lewis, is noticed as an intelligent, influential man. This family has, I believe, become extinct. They are nevertheless well remembered.

"A family of some note is named as the Carpenter family, and as having lived during or at the close of the Revolution in the Wakeman place. The father was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. This is said to have been a talented family. A daughter, by her own energy and efforts, became noted as a teacher in New Haven, and afterwards at the South. Mr. Carpenter was for some time mail-carrier between New Haven and New Milford,—an office of importance, and even distinction, in those days. Then the news traveled on weary-footed horses, not, as now, on the breathings of steam or the wings of the lightning. Then, day by day, on wilderness roads, 'mid cold, and sleet, and snow in winter, and burning heat in summer, the newsman must sound his horn on time at each expectant farm-residence or village-office. Welcome then was the sound of his voice or his horn as he came with tidings from near and afar. In all this Mr. Carpenter was a man who could and did well fulfill his trust. The family is gone, being now unknown here.

"A Mr. Cole, whose name often occurs in the filed accounts of this society, was a blacksmith. His shop was near the residence of Rev. Mr. Rexford. He is said to have been a singular or very peculiar man. He, for some reason, in hardening iron seemed to have hardened his heart. His family were interested in and attended church.

"Deacon Wheeler, of Ripton Parish, was committee on land-titles, then a great and responsible business. He had, from his office, a special influence in this town. He was a prominent man,—a man of integrity and promptness, and shrewd in trade.

"His son, Nathan Wheeler, the father of our respected friend, Deacon Nathan Wheeler, of this church, purchased the Monson—originally the Capt. Moore—estate, and removed to this place. He lived and died in the Monson house, the ruins of which mark the northeast corner lot of the green. These grounds are still in possession of the family, being owned by Deacon Wheeler.

"A deep interest has ever been felt by this family in this church and society. The valuable lot on which this edifice stands was given to the society in 1847 by Deacon Nathan Wheeler, who generously added a subscription of one hundred and thirty-five dollars towards its erection. The sister of Deacon Wheeler, Mrs. Betsey Smith, was also a contributor to this object, and has in times past and recently manifested a deep and valuable interest in the house itself, and in the general welfare of the church and society.

"Thus the owners of the Capt. Moore estate have twice furnished a spot of ground upon which this our ark of God has rested. Believe me, as blessings came upon the house of Obed-edom for attentions to the ark of the Lord, so will blessings come upon all who in love and faith sustain the house of God and its worship.

"Samuel Wheeler, Esq., was a cousin of Deacon Nathan Wheeler and son of Mr. Joseph Wheeler. He for years traded in this place. He was father of Mr. Henry S. Wheeler, who was a devoted member of this church and society. He generously remembered its necessities in his will, and to-day speaks to us in the continued ministrations of this pulpit, and will continue so to speak while years, and even centuries, roll by. A memory thus embalmed in the services of the house of God is fragrant indeed.

"The mother of Henry S. Wheeler, the first wife of Samuel Wheeler, Esq., was, I am informed, a daughter of Dr. Fitch, of Norwalk, and sister of the mother of the late celebrated Professor Knight, of Yale College.

"In this connection it is proper and just that reference be made to Mr. Henry T. Curtis, whose donations and labors in behalf of this edifice and this church and society shine so conspicuously on our records. He is connected by marriage with the family of Henry S. Wheeler, and has most effectively co-operated with that devoted man in elevating and perpetuating the services of this our sanctuary. Though gone from our town, he lives in our grateful remembrances. Such benevolence and such labors never die. They have their reward.

"I have heard, too, of a singular and eccentric, and yet talented, kind of genteel and eloquent pauper peripatetic or street-roamer who years since came to this town from Windham, in this State. He was noted for his somewhat imposing dress,—his cocked hat, buckskin breeches, and large knee-buckles in antique style. He had great resources for conversation and extemporary addresses, was keen at an impromptu and lightning retort, was full of curious figures of speech and remarks, and by original and not always reverential touches tended to wake up, if not to astonish, more stupid thinkers. As he passed a school-house such was his power, I have been told, that the boys would at times form in a line and, paying him their respects, he would address them and pass on his way. He was

a friend and admirer of Mr. Rexford, of whom he once remarked, in his quaint and significant style, that he was a good man, a peculiar man: he was the friend of both worlds.

"This man was a poet, and the following is given as a sarcastic impromptu comment upon a careless lawyer after his being summoned as a witness in a case before Justice Adams, in Ripton, and which went by default of the writ:

" 'A court were had,  
The writ was bad,  
And could not be amended;  
The plaintiff lost  
His expected cost,  
And so the matter ended.'

"This strange genius, around whose history a deep mysteriousness gathers, was, through disappointment in his early hopes, probably insane, and was thus lost to the standing and influence which his talents and connections in life rendered him signally capable of sustaining. We refer to him to remind you what a lasting influence the most penniless and obscure person may have upon the thoughts and manners and characters of a community.

"My father was in his early ministry pastor for ten years in Windham, and the family name of Manning was of note there. The name is now of note in Western New York, and descendants of this same strange man known here have character and influence. How and why a descendant of that family should so live and die here in this town is a mystery. Believe me, there is a cause for all this, and it may well lead us all to ponder our ways lest our descendants be, like him, mere mysterious wanderers or paupers in the world.

" 'He sleeps the sleep of death,  
Gone to his long and last account,  
Unknown to us, but known to God.'

"The regularly reported pastors and acting pastors of this church are eleven in number, and as follows: Elisha Rexford, John Noyes, Asahel Nettleton, Chauncey G. Lee, Amos Bassett, Daniel Jones, James Kant, Robert D. Gardner, Lewis M. Shepard, Edward B. Emerson, George C. Prudden.\*

"The church, as reported now, numbers thirty-four males and seventy-one females; total, one hundred and five,—the largest number ever on its list. Thus is the seal of God's covenant love visible upon the event of its organization, one hundred years ago. The little vine then planted in this wilderness still lives and flourishes. From its branches rich clusters have been plucked for the upper sanctuary, while its influence in beloved members gone hence far and near is widespread. There is scarcely a family in the congregation which has not in it one or more members of the church; in some instances all the members of the family are members of the church. In not a small portion of the families in the congregation both heads of the family are in covenant with us. Most, too, of the youths over fifteen years of age are one with us in Christ. With rare exceptions, the families of the congregation are regular attendants upon the sanctuary and contributors to the support of the same, and to different benevolent objects.

"During the current year, the last of this one hundred years of our history, our contributions for home and other objects have equalled, it is computed, six hundred dollars. During this year, through the enterprise and benevolence of the general committee,—Mr. Charles T. Crane, David A. Nichols, and Samuel C. Beardslee,—the interior of this house has been handsomely and beautifully refitted. In this the members of the church and society and of the female sewing society have cheerfully and generously contributed. Such services and benevolent aid live on. This day, too, greets us a united church and people. Peace and joy, brotherly love, and friendly co-operation in a remarkable degree here reign, the language of each, one and all, being—

" 'I love Thy kingdom, Lord;  
The house of Thine abode;  
The Church our best Redeemer made  
With His own precious blood.'

"These are pleasing comments upon the fruits of the organization which has lived one hundred years this day all told, and which, we trust, will live with increasing faith and unity and zeal centuries on centuries yet to come.

\* The successors of Mr. Prudden have been T. T. Waterman, O. S. St. John, William B. Curtis, Alfred Waterman, Dighton Moses, and Rev. Charles D. Hubert.—Ed.



"The preaching of the word has thus not been void. The faithful preaching of that word, as it has been here seen and honored, is a standing testimony in its effects to the life-giving energies and joys thereof. Honored and happy is the people who thus sustain and rejoice in a distinctive, searching, and uncompromising dispensation of the word of God.

"Nor has this church been blessed only in its ministers; it has been specially so in its deacons. Of these, as recorded, there have been sixteen: Henry Hawley, Edmund Lewis, Peter Curtis, Elijah Curtis, John Judson, Deodate Silliman, Daniel Wilcoxson, John Wilcoxson, James McEwen, Agur Beardslee, Elihu Curtis, Daniel Tomlinson, Ebenezer Lewis, Nathan W. Wheeler, Daniel Nichols, and Isaac Barr.

"Of Henry Hawley and John Judson we have before spoken.

"Peter Curtis was an early settler on Bagburn Hill. In intelligence, enterprise, patriotism, and faith as we infer, a representative man. He was sound in the faith and in practice,—a man of prayer and constant in his attendance upon the sanctuary; a lover of the church. He was the great-grandfather of Mr. William Curtis and Charles Curtis, still residents on portions of the original estate.

"This name Curtis is identified with the past and present history of our church and town. It is titled in Church and State, in law, politics, education, medicine, agriculture, and military display. Some five hundred and ninety dollars is credited to this name in behalf of the erection of this church. Whether Deacon Peter Curtis is connected with the ancestry of all this numerous generation I am not informed.

Daniel Wilcoxson resided, and probably was an early settler, on Barn Hill. He was wealthy, a man of ability and faith. His son, Daniel Wilcoxson, was a graduate of Yale College, and for some two years was a teacher in Bermuda,—a gentleman of taste and influence. Tradition states that he introduced the first piano into this town, if not the first in this county. This simple relic of the past is in possession of Mr. H. Beardslee. It was manufactured by Bull, Tottigham (now London), and presented to Miss Sylvia Curtiss, in the year 1802,—sixty-two years ago. Daniel was accidentally drowned, being thrown from his horse in crossing Leavenworth Bridge,—the first bridge built over the Housatonic River.

"Elihu Curtiss, son of Peter Curtiss, lived beyond East Village, on or near what was called Webb's place. He was fitted for college. A large landholder, a man of ability and of wide political influence, he was often a member of the State Legislature; was esteemed as an honest and exemplary man; was a warm supporter, I infer, of the church and of public worship.

"James McEwen was an early settler, and resided on the beautiful northern slope of Bagburn Hill, on the corner opposite the residence of our friend Charles McEwen. The ruins of his homestead are still visible, and some fruit-trees stand to memorialize the spot. His mind ran in a remarkable degree upon the Bible, with which, as illustrated by Brown's 'Commentary,'—a large folio volume,—he was remarkably familiar. He was a man of great faith, social and quiet, and a great loss, as we may well infer, when he died. It is stated of him that he was absent but one Sabbath for years from the sanctuary. He was found dead in his corn-field in or near the year 1815. His descendants, as represented in our midst, are known and esteemed by us, a granddaughter, Mrs. Samuel B. Beardslee, and a grandson, Mr. Charles McEwen, being members of this church.

"Ebenezer Lewis lived in Walker's Farm District. He was a man of property, and remarkable in prayer and exhortation. His daughter married the father of Mr. W. Plumb, and in that family he is honorably represented in the church.

"Elijah Curtiss, a son of Elihu Curtiss, and grandson of Peter Curtiss,—and grandfather, I believe, of Mr. William and Charles Curtiss,—a man of marked ability, shrewd and influential, went to the Legislature several times; was a true patriot, strong in the principles of the gospel, and a great supporter of public worship. It is reported of him that for years he did not fail to attend meetings on the Sabbath. His name and faith still live,—the third in one family descent who sustained a deaconship in this church.

"Edmond Lewis, son of Deacon Benjamin Lewis, was a devotedly pious and exemplary man,—one of whom the world took knowledge that he walked with God. He had no children, and gave an important legacy to this society. In the support of the preaching of the word this legacy speaks his praise, and will speak it while this church and society shall exist.

"Deodate Silliman lived on the road west of Upper Stepney. He is reported as a man of deep social feelings, given to pleasantry and wit in conversation, and yet a man of devout feelings, and one deeply interested in the welfare of the church and society. He was uncle to the late eminent Benjamin Silliman, professor in Yale College.

"John Wilcoxson, nephew of Deacon Wilcoxson, lived on Barn Hill; was a man of faith and prayer. He died in 1820.

"As far as tradition affirms, all these deacons were men of ability and worth. They were, too, blessed, we believe, with exemplary wives, who with them loved and helped sustain the church.

"At different periods, when the society was feeble and supplies were not obtained for the pulpit, divine service was maintained by the deacons. In this they were sustained by the members of the church and society and their families. This is named as one of the great means of preserving the church. It speaks volumes for the intelligence and energy of the deacons and the true-heartedness of the people. Even the young people, it is said, were punctual in attendance, and thus most happily and effectively aided in the work of building up this temple of the Lord.

"The bell, or the first one, if there have been two, must have been procured early,—probably in 1786, the year when the first house, as we infer, was dedicated. I find in the filed accounts of the society charges for repairing the tongue of the bell as far back as 1795, if not earlier. The present bell dates 1826; if so, it has pealed forth its joyous notes for some thirty-eight years—or some two thousand times—as Sabbath after Sabbath has rolled by. The tongue, worn by frequent utterance, on the last Sabbath loosed its hold, dropped from its place, and was reverentially silent during the day. It has been refitted, and stands again ready to do its joyful work, we trust, for a hundred years to come.

"The singing of the congregation and church has ever been, we judge, well sustained and of more than a common order. It was early conducted, we believe, by Capt. Nathan Booth,—certainly for a number of years by Mr. Abel French, who was an esteemed and active member of this society. More recently it has had the valuable services of Mr. Elisha Booth, aided by Messrs. Elisha Beardslee, Charles McEwen, Hiram Beardslee, William Curtiss, Dr. Edward M. Beardslee, Miss Wheeler, Page, Curtiss, the Miss Beardslees, and others well known by all.

"Many a sweet psalm and hymn has during the five thousand and two hundred Sabbaths of the one hundred years now closing here sent forth its sweet utterances of penitential joy and excellent praise. Many a time, with help of the flute, clarinet, bugle, and more recently the melodeon, have voices sweet sounded forth 'Old Hundred,' 'Windham,' 'Denmarke,' 'Wells,' 'Mear,' 'China,' 'Delight,' 'Mortality,' 'Majesty,' 'Lenox,' and the anthem, 'See the Purple Banners Flying,'—tunes which, amid all the revolutions and changes and boasted improvements in sacred music, remain unsurpassed in power of musical and devotional effect. While, then, we would have what is good in the new, let us at the same time remember and honor what was, and is, so precious in the old.

"Among the teachers of select and private schools I find reference to Rev. Mr. Rexford, a clergyman, who succeeded him, Legrand Moore Lewis, Samuel Monson, Miss Hannah Howley, Miss Nancy Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Atwell, Miss Lyon Judson, Samuel B. Beardslee, Dr. E. M. Beardslee, Dr. R. Grey, and Miss Wheeler. The elements of knowledge were thoroughly taught in these nurseries of intelligence and good morals. The schools of those days, though far inferior in advantages, were wonderfully effective.

"To the close of the last century, and somewhat into this, there were but few if any four-wheeled vehicles. Journeying and passing to and fro was performed on the saddle,—side-saddle and pillion,—on horseback or on foot, or on the ox-sled and cart.

"Then the conveniences for warming school-houses and churches as now enjoyed were unknown, the only stove being the small hand foot-stove, some of which, as curiosities, still exist in our midst. Not long since, a stranger here inquired of a friend, 'What is that square tin thing in a frame that woman carries about in church?'

"Then there were but few roads and bridges and means of communication by travel or by letter. The celebrated Judge Swift, of this State, then a member of Congress in Philadelphia, in his anxiety to hear from home by mail, the time being some three weeks, said, in a note to my father, that the best idea he ever had of eternity was given him while waiting for the mail.

"Then friends comparatively near by each other were far apart, and a few miles from a river or shore settlement was like being in the distant wilderness or on or beyond the Rocky Mountains.

"Well do I remember, quite within this century, when thoughts of the wilderness West, as in Central or Western New York and Ohio, were full of dread and alarm. Then a song, the chorus of which, as I remember it,—

" 'We'll travel through the wild wood,  
We'll hunt the buffalo,  
And we'll camp on the banks  
Of the pleasant Ohio,'—

seemed like an utterance of the ages to come.

"No less distinctly do I remember the first four-wheeled, one-horse wagon seen in Bridgeport. I was quite small,—not so high as the wheels,—say in 1815. It attracted as much attention as a locomotive has more recently. It was thought a wonder that the fore and hind wheels would run in the same track, and that it could be turned about without taking it to pieces. That wagon was owned by Capt. George Hoyt, the then cashier of the Bridgeport Bank. It was brought, I believe, from somewhere in the county near here."

#### ST. PETER'S CHURCH.\*

At the beginning of the present century the parish of New Stratford (now Monroe) was incorporated with the town of Ripton (now Huntington), and for a long time these two organizations were substantially one, having the same rector and a united interest. The earliest accounts of this parish are therefore much scattered and necessarily few, many of the records being in the adjoining town and mingled with other statistics, and later ones imperfectly kept or not kept at all.

We have no means of knowing who composed the families and members of this church at its organization, and the first real intimation of its existence as a parish dates at the commencement of this present century. In an old number of the *Churchman's Magazine*, under date of September, 1807, we find a published account of the consecration of this church.

It seems, from the account given, that Bishop Jarvis and a number of his presbyters, on the 16th of September, 1807, assembled in Bridgeport, where he consecrated the Episcopal church there by the name of St. John's. On the day following, the 17th, the bishop proceeded to the church in Trumbull, and administered the rite of confirmation to forty-one persons. "On the 18th the Episcopal church at New Stratford (Monroe) was consecrated by the bishop, and named St. Peter's church. Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Burhans, and an appropriate sermon was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Baldwin. At this church the rite of confirmation was administered to thirty-six persons." After its consecration it continued for many years in connection with the church at Ripton, the same rector officiating in both places. Five years after the consecration of this church we find, from Bishop Jarvis' address in June, 1812, that "Mr. Rayner has been regularly dismissed from the church in Hartford, and hath been chosen rector of the parish in the town of Huntington."

The first parochial report of these two parishes found in print is in 1815, when Mr. Rayner reported for the two parishes one hundred and fifty families and only seventy-two communicants. Five years later, in 1820, the number of communicants in the two parishes amounted to about one hundred, and in 1825 the same number is still given.

In 1827, Bishop Brownell says in his convention address, "The Rev. Mr. Rayner having made an arrangement with the parish of Huntington for a dis-

solution of his pastoral connection with that parish, I have given my consent to the same, and the parish of Huntington is now vacant."† From these data it will appear that Mr. Rayner held the rectorship of the two parishes about fifteen years,—from 1811 to 1826. For a short time he remained rector of this parish alone, but from 1827 to 1829 no mention is made of the parish of Monroe in the conventional reports.

In the report for 1829 it is stated that Mr. Rossiter had taken charge of this parish in connection with Trumbull, and in his report for 1830 he gives the number of communicants as thirty-two, and in 1832 as fifty-one. From 1834 to 1838 we find that the Rev. Mr. Rossiter had charge also of St. James' Church, Newtown, in addition to his charge of Monroe; but from 1838 to his decease, in 1846,—a period of eight years,—he ministered in this parish alone. The holding of full services in this parish, with the exception of a short period by Mr. Rayner in 1827, commences with 1838. Mr. Rossiter's whole rectorship here, including his connection with the parishes of Trumbull and Zoar, extends from 1829 to 1846,—a period of seventeen years. He died November 25th, and was buried Nov. 26, 1846 (Thanksgiving Day), aged fifty-nine years, eleven months, and seven days.

Mr. Rossiter was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Betts, who remained in charge of the parish three years. During his rectorship the chancel arrangements were altered and a silver communion-service purchased at a cost of ninety-eight dollars. About the same time the font was presented to the church by the late Mrs. Rossiter, the expense of which was thirty-five dollars, and about the same time the chandeliers are reported as a gift of Mr. George Lewis. These little items are here mentioned to show that a commendable spirit of improvement and interest was manifest under his rectorship.

The Rev. Mr. Betts was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Hoffman, who was rector just three years, taking charge of the parish at Easter, 1850, and resigning it Easter, 1853. He was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Godfrey, who was rector one year.

At the convention for 1855 the Rev. Mr. Judd is reported as officiating in Monroe, which he continued to do till 1858, when the Rev. Seth Davis assumed the charge, which he held until death released him. It was during the incumbency of the latter (1859) that great improvements were made in this church, by the addition of a recess, chancel, and by other renovations which the church required.

Mr. Davis died in Monroe, July 6, 1862, aged sixty years, and was succeeded by Rev. James Edward Coley, who remained until Sept. 5, 1877. Since that time the church has had no settled rector. Services are now held by Rev. Silas B. Duffield, as a supply, this being his third year.

\* Compiled from a memorial sermon delivered by Rev. James Edward Coley, in November, 1872.

† Convention Report for 1827.



The present officers of the church are as follows: Wardens, F. W. Wheeler and Samuel S. Hurd; Vestrymen, Orville B. Sherwood, William A. Clark, Hobart E. Beardsley, Benjamin S. Hurd, Homer E. Clarke, William B. Beardsley, Agur Beardsley, Samuel G. Huntington, Henry W. Edwards, Walter Beardsley, Charles Staples, Martin J. Mullett, and Frank Beardsley.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, STEPNEY.\*

Previous to the erection of the present house of worship there was a class in Lower Stepney, which was formed by Burton Beach, who then resided at Daniel's Farms, and led the class some time after its formation. He subsequently became a member of the New York Conference, and is still a highly-esteemed superannuated member.

Lewis Penfield afterwards took charge of the class, which position (as leader) he held for many years; and he became the chief promoter of Methodism in Stepney, he and his brothers, Andrew and William, bearing for some time the principal financial burdens of the church, and they were active in its spiritual prosperity.

At the time of its formation the class at Lower Stepney was connected with the Daniel's Farms church, the preacher from that church frequently holding services in the school-house and in a building owned and fitted up by the Pennfields.

The erection of a church being contemplated, on the 28th of November, 1836, on the application of Lewis Pennfield and others, Ira Ferriz, preacher in charge, appointed the following persons trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Stepney: Lewis Pennfield, Abram S. Johnson, Elam Beard, Albert Johnson, and William Pennfield. Lewis Edwards, Esq., donated the ground on which to erect the church.

An unoccupied barn belonging to the Pennfield brothers, in Lower Stepney, was used as a shop, in which were prepared all the building materials for the church, but it was all consumed by fire. The Pennfield brothers, upon whom the loss mainly fell, commenced again the erection of the church, which was dedicated in July, 1839. Rev. Geo. Coles preached the dedication sermon; Nathaniel Mead was the preacher in charge.

The church, since its formation, has been blessed with not a few gracious revival seasons. Under the labors of Rev. Mr. Mead, during the winter following the dedication of the church, there was a great revival, which resulted in a large accession to the membership. In 1842, during the first pastorate of Rev. Mr. Stebbens, a revival occurred at Cutler's Farms, resulting in a large ingathering. During the pastorate of Rev. H. N. Mead, of 1855-56, there was a large accession. Mr. Mead was assisted in the

revival work by Rev. Elbert Osborn. There were also revivals under Rev. Mr. Lovejoy in 1865, and Rev. Mr. Laine in 1869; while more or less revival influence has attended the labors of all the pastors.

In 1856 the parsonage was purchased, during the pastorate of Rev. L. D. Nickerson, and in 1873, under the pastorate of Rev. D. Osborn, quite extensive repairs were made.

In 1870, under the administration of Rev. D. Nash, the church edifice was repaired and very much improved. The church property now consists of a pleasant and commodious house of worship and a neat and comfortable parsonage, both free from debt.

#### MINERAL DEPOSIT.

The following reference to the mineral deposit in Monroe is from Barbor's "Historical Collections":

"Monroe is much celebrated for its extensive deposit of minerals. More than fifteen years since, a shaft was sunk a few feet on the farm of Mr. Ephraim Lane. This revealed a rich variety of interesting mineral substances. Among them were tungsten, tellurium, native bismuth, native silver, magnetic and common iron pyrites, copper pyrites, galena, blende, tourmaline, etc. It is greatly to be desired that this locality should be further explored. Four miles south of this spot is a vein of fluorspar about two feet in width.

"The vein is much penetrated by quartz, mica, feldspar, and talc, but it has been hitherto examined only on the surface. It is principally massive, and its structure foliated or coarsely granular, but it presents well-defined cubical crystals. Its colors vary from white to deep violet and purple, and are principally various shades of the two latter. But the most interesting circumstance relating to it is its splendid phosphorescence. The light emitted when it is thrown in a dark place upon a hot shovel is the purest emerald green; pieces of an inch in diameter become in a few seconds fully illuminated, and the light is so strong and enduring that when carried into a room lighted by candles or by diffuse (not direct) light of the sun, they still continue distinctly luminous, and the light dies away very gradually as the mineral cools.

"Mr. Lane has also discovered on his land a locality of beryls, some of which are very large. Native sulphur has been found near the surface of the earth."

#### CIVIL HISTORY.

The first town-meeting was held June 16, 1823, when the following officers were elected: Capt. Levi Edwards was moderator; Selectmen, Daniel B. Hubbell, Samuel Beardsley, and August Lewis; Town Clerk, Samuel Wheeler; Treasurer, August Lewis; Constables, Fred. Nichols, Asa B. Beardsley, Alonzo Chapman, Wm. Beach, and Roswell Wells; Grand Jurors, Wm. Richards and Geo. L. Sherman; Tythingmen, Nathan Sherman, James Clark, Abel Hawley, A. Sherman, and Henry Lane; Haywards, Benj. M. French and Andrew Judson; Sealer of Weights and Measures, John Curtis.

"Voted, That Abel Babbitt's pound be a lawful pound, and that the same Abel be Key Keeper of the same."

"Voted, That Philip Nichol's yard be a lawful pound, and that Philip Nichols be Key keeper."

"Voted, That Ephraim Sherwood's yard be a lawful pound, and that said Ephraim be Key Keeper."

"Voted, That swine be allowed to go at large on the common with a good and sufficient ring in the centre of their nose."

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1824 TO 1880.

1824, Ebenezer Beardsley; 1825-26, Cyrus H. Beardsley; 1827, Levi Edwards; 1828, Henry Lum; 1829, Agur Lewis; 1830, Ezra Beardsley; 1831, Cyrus H. Beardsley; 1832, William Wheeler, Jr.; 1833, Levi Edwards; 1834, Charles Curtiss; 1835, Levi Edwards; 1836, Cyrus H.

\* Contributed by Rev. C. T. Mallory.

Beardsley; 1837, Charles Curtiss; 1838, Mark Leavenworth; 1839, William Beach; 1840, Roswell Wells; 1841, Judson Curtis; 1842, Samuel C. Beardslee; 1843, Agur Cable; 1844-46, Cyrus H. Beardslee; 1847, Agur Beardsley (2d); 1848, James W. Beardsley; 1849, David Beach; 1850, Eli D. Beardslee; 1851, Charles Blackman; 1852, Ephraim Leach; 1853, Stephen French; 1854, David Beach; 1855, Giles O. Keeler; 1856, Lewis Sherman; 1857, David Wells; 1858, William Hubbell; 1859, Charles B. Clarke; 1860, Charles L. Hubbell; 1861, Waite Clarke; 1862, Burr Wheeler; 1863, Preston D. Peck; 1864, Judson Curtis; 1865, D. F. Whitlock; 1866, C. L. Bostwick; 1867, Charles W. Curtiss; 1868, Willis Turner; 1869, Eli D. Beardsley; 1870, Burr Hawley; 1871, James C. Johnson; 1872, William H. Curtiss; 1873, John Powell; 1874, Frederick W. Wheeler; 1875, David Warner; 1876, Henry C. Riker; 1877, Lucius D. Lane; 1878-79, Charles B. Wheeler; 1880, Edward M. Beardsley.

#### MILITARY RECORD.

From records in the adjutant-general's office the following list is taken:

##### FIRST CAVALRY.

###### *Company D.*

John Davis, enl. Dec. 1, 1861; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

###### *Company H.*

J. M. Turney, enl. Nov. 25, 1863; must. out Oct. 2, 1865.

###### *Company L.*

P. Foley, enl. Dec. 2, 1864; must. out Oct. 2, 1865.

William Brown, enl. Nov. 28, 1864.

J. Burke, enl. Dec. 12, 1864.

Robert Lee, enl. Nov. 28, 1864.

Thomas O'Neil, enl. Dec. 12, 1864; disch. Jan. 9, 1865.

##### MISCELLANEOUS.

William Riley, Co. C, 1st Art.; enl. Dec. 12, 1864.

G. A. Moses, Co. G, 10th Regt.; enl. Nov. 1864; must. out June 6, 1865.

C. Holmes, Co. C, 11th Regt.; enl. March 24, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

George Sherman, Co. B, 13th Regt.; enl. Feb. 1, 1862; disch. July 5, 1862.

John Lewis, 11th Regt.; enl. Dec. 9, 1864.

M. Pryor, Co. A, 15th Regt.; enl. Dec. 1, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

James Cook, Co. A, 15th Regt.; enl. Dec. 1, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

Thomas P. King, Co. H, 15th Regt.; enl. Nov. 30, 1864; must. out Dec. 13, 1865.

William Riley, Co. K, 13th Regt.; enl. Feb. 22, 1861; died June 8, 1865.

John Dunn, Co. C, 5th Regt.; enl. Dec. 1, 1864.

James Ryan, Co. C, 5th Regt.; enl. Nov. 29, 1864.

J. P. Tomlinson, Co. A, 8th Regt.; enl. Sept. 27, 1861; transferred to Invalid Corps, July 1, 1863.

Charles Holmes, Co. C, 11th Regt.; enl. March 24, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

S. Knowles, Co. C, 11th Regt.; enl. Nov. 29, 1864.

H. A. Smith, Co. A, 8th Regt.; enl. Oct. 1, 1861; disch. Nov. 25, 1861.

H. Lake, Co. A, 8th Regt.; enl. Sept. 25, 1861; disch. Feb. 5, 1862.

A. Leavenworth, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Feb. 19, 1864.

Edward Nichols, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

H. B. Nichols, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 9, 1862; transferred to Invalid Corps; disch. July 1, 1865.

Ira Penfield, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

W. R. Smith, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

John B. Waylan, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. Oct. 8, 1863.

W. Malloy, Co. E, 10th Regt.; enl. Dec. 15, 1864; must. out Oct. 25, '65.

J. W. French, Co. A, 14th Regt.; enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.

R. W. Whitcomb, Co. A, 14th Regt.; enl. June 9, 1862; must. out March 1, 1863.

William Winn, Co. A, 14th Regt.; enl. Dec. 12, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

W. H. Adams, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. March 13, '63.

J. H. Saylor, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. Dec. 23, 1862.

W. P. Bradley, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 11, 1862; killed July 1, 1863.

J. W. Booth, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 14, 1865.

W. S. Clark, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 7, 1862; died May 2, 1863.

J. W. Clark, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. June 21, 1864.

Eugene Hubbell, Co. D, 17th Regt.; enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Feb. 2, 1863.

G. B. Johnson, Co. G, 23d Regt.; enl. Sept. 8, 1862; died July 4, 1863.

P. Parmelee, Co. G, 23d Regt.; enl. Aug. 27, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

W. H. Wheeler, Co. G, 23d Regt.; enl. Aug. 29, 1862.

J. N. Wheeler, Co. G, 23d Regt.; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

C. E. Lyon, Co. D, 7th Regt.; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out July 20, 1865.

A. Downs, Co. K, 2d Regt.; enl. Jan. 5, 1864; died Sept. 18, 1864.

J. H. Taylor, Co. H, 2d Regt.; enl. Jan. 2, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

H. D. Burr, Co. H, 2d Regt.; enl. Jan. 2, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### CHARLES B. WHEELER,

son of Eli and Cynthia (Banks) Wheeler, was born in the town of Easton (formerly Weston), Fairfield Co., Conn., April 11, 1821. His father was a farmer in Easton, married Cynthia Banks, and had a family of seven children, of whom Charles B. is the third. He died at the age of fifty years.

Charles B. remained at home, working at farming summers and attending the common school winters, until he was sixteen years of age, when he commenced to learn the boot-and-shoe business, which he has followed more or less ever since. In 1851 he began to manufacture for himself, and during our great civil war manufactured boots and shoes for the United States army, and had in his employ about seventy-five men. He is still engaged in the boot-and-shoe trade.

In politics he is an uncompromising Republican, and as such is the leader of his party in his town. He has twice been a member of the State Legislature, being the first Republican representative ever elected in Monroe, one term of which he was chairman of the committee on federal relations. In 1879 he was selected by the Legislature to be a commissioner of Fairfield County for the three years ensuing. He has been a selectman of Monroe, collector of the town taxes for twelve years, commissioner by appointment by the Supreme Court, chairman of the Republican committee of the town for a number of years, besides other town offices. He was a candidate for the State Senate in 1872, and though defeated he ran far ahead of his ticket in many towns. He is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has held various offices therein. He married Parmelia, daughter of Elam Beard, Nov. 19, 1851, and at the present time is living in Upper Stepney, town of Monroe, where he settled Sept. 5, 1850.

The Wheeler family is one of the oldest in this part of the county, having settled in Fairfield County with the first colonists. The mother of Mr. Wheeler is still living, and is in good health, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. She resides with her son Ezra B.



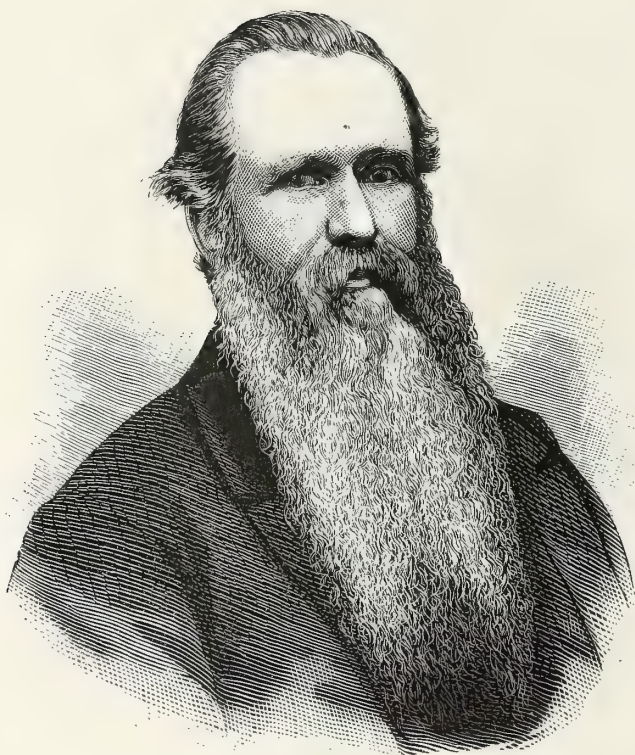


*C. B. Wheeler*









*E. M. Beardsley*





*F. W. Wheeler*

**FREDERICK W. WHEELER.**

Intimately connected with the early settlement and development of Fairfield Co., Conn., may be found the name of Wheeler, from whom have descended some of the best citizens of the county or State.

Frederick W. Wheeler is the only son of Chauncey Wheeler and Laura J. Lum, and was born in the town of Monroe, Conn., in August, 1841, at the "old homestead," which has been in the family for five generations. "His great-grandfather was named Joseph Wheeler, his grandfather William Wheeler, and his father Chauncey (who died April 29, 1880, aged seventy-six), all of whom were industrious men and good citizens, and left the best of legacies, 'a good name.'"

His advantages for an education were such as the common schools of his town afforded, which he diligently improved. At an early age he engaged in business, dealing in horses and cattle, which, added to farming, constitutes his chief business at present. He is one of the leading agriculturists in the town, and his judgment is often sought in matters of business.

Very early in life Mr. Wheeler took an active part in political matters, being both by choice and inheritance a Jeffersonian Democrat. He was elected in 1866 to the office of selectman, and continued in that position for five consecutive years. In 1872 he was elected town clerk, and held that position until 1879.

In 1874 he was chosen to represent his town in the State Legislature, where, by his genial disposition, rare integrity of character, and sound judgment, he made many warm friends.

He is a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church of Monroe, and has been warden for several years.

In 1861 he married Estelle R. Brewster, a lineal descendant of the "Mayflower" pilgrim, and five children are the fruit of this happy union.

**DR. E. M. BEARDSLEY,**

only son of Samuel B. and Abigail McEwen, was born in Danbury, Conn., March 5, 1823. He is a lineal descendant of Samuel Beardsley, who was born at Stratford, Conn., June 20, 1718. He was a farmer in Stratford. He married Anna French. They had a large family of sons and one daughter. He died June 20, 1790.

One of his sons was named Samuel, who was born in Monroe, Conn., May 14, 1760. Like his father, he was a farmer. He married Phebe, daughter of Silas Curtis. She was born Jan. 19, 1767, and died in 1857. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was several times a representative to the State Legislature. He was magistrate and selectman of his town for a great many years. He and his wife were esteemed members of the Congregational Church

of Monroe. He died July 20, 1836, aged seventy-six years. They had six children, viz.,—Silas C., Elisha, Agur, Samuel B., Nancy, and Maria. Silas C. was a farmer, and died at seventy-six. Elisha was a farmer, and died at seventy-eight. Agur was a farmer in Monroe, and died at eighty-one.

Samuel B., the father of Dr. Edward M., was born in Monroe, Jan. 22, 1795, graduated from Yale College in 1815, and followed the noble profession of teaching for more than forty-seven years. He taught at Snow Hill, Md., from 1815 to 1819, then in Bridgeport for many years; then he went to Danbury, Conn., and taught several years, then returned to Monroe and taught a select school until 1861. He was a very successful teacher, as hundreds of his pupils will attest. He was, as his fathers before him, a Jeffersonian Democrat until the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, when he became a staunch Whig, and later a Republican. He married Abigail, daughter of Lemuel McEwen, Feb. 20, 1819.

They have two children,—viz., Edward M. and Elma A., who married John G. Stevens, now of Monroe, Conn.

Mrs. Beardsley was born in Monroe, formerly New Stratford, Feb. 27, 1798. She is still hale and hearty and living with her son Edward M. Samuel B. died Sept. 17, 1873.

Dr. E. M. Beardsley was educated by his father, and graduated from the Yale Medical College in 1844. During the time he was getting his education he was an assistant teacher to his father, and in that capacity made many warm friends. Soon after his graduation he was engaged in the drug business for some two and a half years in New Haven, when he returned to Monroe and followed the profession of teaching and the practice of medicine until 1861, since which time he has devoted himself to his profession. His practice has been very extensive, reaching far into the adjoining towns, and many are the families in Monroe and elsewhere that look to him with gratitude for his wise and timely aid.

Of late he has retired from the active duties of his profession and devotes himself to agriculture. In politics he has always been a staunch Republican, but has never taken an active part in politics. In the fall of 1879 he was elected by the Republicans of his town to the State Legislature. He served as a member of the committee on foreign relations. He married Elizabeth A., daughter of David O. Gray, of Monroe, April 22, 1855. They have seven children,—viz., Samuel B., Edward G., Charles M., Sarah A., Louis B., Elizabeth A., and Mary L.

#### JAMES C. JOHNSON.

The subject of this sketch is the only son and eldest child of Albert and Mary L. (Wheeler) Johnson, and was born in the town of Newtown, Fairfield Co., Conn., Dec. 8, 1833. His father was a son of Joseph

W. Johnson, and was born in Newtown, Conn., March, 1798, and died at his residence in the town of Monroe, Fairfield Co., Conn., on the 14th of February, 1871. He was a farmer and cooper by trade, a man universally respected by those who knew him. In politics a Democrat, and in religion he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He married Mary L. Wheeler, and to them were born three children,—viz., James C., Mary J., and Huldah F. Mrs. Johnson still resides on the "old homestead" with her daughter, Mrs. Huldah F. Edwards.

James C. Johnson was reared on the farm, and early learned those principles which have been the chief characteristics of his life. His advantages for an education were confined to the common schools of his town, except a few terms spent at an academy. During the time spent in obtaining his education he worked on the farm and in his father's cooper-shop summers, and went to school winters. He taught school two winters, and now recalls with pleasure the time thus spent.

On the 26th of September, 1855, he married Marietta C., daughter of Miles and Eloisa Beardsley, of Trumbull, Conn. She was born in Trumbull, Conn., June 8, 1834. They have four children,—viz., Miles B., Mary E., Seymour J., and Merwin W.

Mr. Johnson purchased his present farm of one hundred and thirty acres in 1856, built his house in the summer of 1857, and in September of that year settled where he has continued to reside, and where his children have been born. He has made nearly all the improvements on his farm, and is to-day regarded one of the best men and farmers in this town. He is a man well proportioned, about six feet in height, and will weigh about two hundred pounds. He possesses great force of character and a vast amount of energy. Physically he has not his superior in the town, and probably no man of his years in the town or county has done more hard manual labor. He enjoys the respect and confidence of his fellow-townsmen, and he is generally regarded one of the leading men in the town. He is one of the leading Democrats of his town, and as such has been constable, magistrate, assessor, and a member of the State Legislature in 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Congregational Church of Monroe Centre, and he is one of the liberal supporters of the same. Very little is known of his early ancestors in this country, but it is well known that President Andrew Johnson and Hon. Jas. E. Johnson are descendants of the same Johnson in this country.





Photo by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*James C. Johnson*





## CHAPTER XLII.

## NEW CANAAN.

## THE FIRST SETTLEMENTS.—THE OLD PARISH.

Geographical—Topographical—The First Settlements—Organization of "Canaan Parish"—The Pioneers—The First Meeting-House—The Primitive Dwellings—Revolutionary Incident—"Ye Old Training-Days"—Slavery—The Whipping-Post and Stocks—Pioneer Merchants—Early Physicians—Industrial Pursuits—Boot and Shoe Manufacturing, Etc.

THE settlement of New Canaan was doubtless commenced soon after the year 1700 by inhabitants of Stamford and Norwalk, and the names of the adventurous settlers may be found in the history of those towns elsewhere in this work, as it formed a portion of the old parishes until its incorporation, in 1731.

New Canaan is first noticed in the Stamford records as a distinct parish Dec. 8, 1730, when John Bouton and others ask liberty of moving out of town to join with a part of Norwalk in order to be a society. The permission, however, was not granted; yet in the following year, under date December 14th, Ebenezer Seeley and Nathaniel Bouton are appointed tythingmen for the new society. In the following year, 1702, Ebenezer Seeley and John Bouton are chosen tythingmen for "Canaan Parish."

At a town-meeting in Stamford, held Dec. 27, 1733, it was voted that "the town agree that there shall be a committee chosen to agree with those men that have land lying where it may be thought needful for a highway for the convenience of Canaan parish to go to meeting, and to lay it out where they think it may be most convenient."

The first meeting of the New Canaan society was held July 1, 1731, with John Bouton moderator and John Betts, Sr., clerk. The following is a list of the Stamford settlers in New Canaan as appear in 1732: John, Nathaniel, Daniel, Eleazer, and John Bouton, Jr., John Davenport, John Finch, Nathaniel Green, James Hoyt, Job Hoyt, Joshua Hoyt, Eliphalet Slason, Eliphalet and Ebenezer Seeley, Thos. Talmadge, David Stevens, and David Waterbury.

The late Prof. Samuel St. John says,—

"The next year there were forty-seven members,—thirty on the Norwalk and seventeen on the Stamford side. The first question discussed by them was the expediency of building a meeting-house for the public worship of God. Decided in the affirmative, twenty-four to one. They were unable to agree upon the place where the building should be erected, and they appointed a suitable person to represent them in the General Court to be held in October, to request the Hon. Assembly to appoint a committee to fix a place for the house. It was decided that the house should be built at the lower end of Haines' Ridge, the house to be thirty feet square and of a height suitable for one tier of galleries. A building committee was appointed, who were either to let out the work 'by the great' or hire men by the day. They levied a tax of ten pence on the pound in the list. Then follows a list of members, with their assessments. In February, 1732, they appointed a committee to make application to the reverend elders of the county for advice and direction in order to the calling and settlement of a minister. They were directed to Rev. John Eells, of Milford, who preached among them nine months on probation, and in June, 1733, was settled among them as their minister, residing on Clapboard Hills. After this time the society's meetings were

devoted to such business as devolves upon it at the present day, with several items which are now managed by the town, such as taking charge of the schools, laying out highways, etc. Their meetings were commonly warned to be held at 'sun two hours high at night.' Clocks and watches were probably not common, and we find an appropriation of two shillings nine pence to buy an hour-glass.

"At this time all inhabitants of the parish were members, and were taxed for its support; it is not strange that some should have been restive and sought relief. One member petitioned the Legislature to that effect, but met there a committee from the society, who successfully opposed the petition. They assessed themselves as high as nineteen pence on the pound, and collected it by 'stress' if necessary.

"The building of the meeting-house was a severe draught on their slender resources. As the expenses of the society were defrayed by tax, the seats were common property, but the society was accustomed to 'seat the meeting-house,' as it was termed, according to 'rate and dignity.' By vote, they gave Rev. Mr. Eells the seat next to the pulpit, on the women's side. Similar seatings of the meeting-house appear in the records of Stamford and Norwalk. It was the custom to appoint some person to 'set the psalm.'"

## SINGING BY RULE.

"In 1739 they voted to 'sing by rule,' or that which is called the *new way* 'in the congregation.' Huntington says this change from the old to the new way of singing had been introduced in 1721. The eight or nine tunes brought over by the pioneers 'had become barbarously perverted,' and the Rev. Thomas Walter, of Roxbury, Mass., composer, in that year published 'The Grounds and Rules of Music Explained, or an introduction to the Arte of singing by Note.' The book contained twenty-four tunes harmonized in three parts.

"After six years' 'experience' (as it was termed) with Mr. Eells, some began to be dissatisfied, and in 1740 the society appointed a committee to acquaint Mr. Eells and see if he would give his consent to have a vote tried to see who is *easy* and who is *uneasy* with him. The test showed twenty-four *uneasy*. In 1741, Mr. Eells was dismissed. Tradition assigns to him ability, learning, and piety, together with certain eccentricities deemed inconsistent in a minister of the gospel. He continued to reside here until his death, in 1785.

"The society proceeded promptly to fill his place. The Rev. Robert Silliman was ordained February, 1742.

## THE ANCIENT MEETING-HOUSE.

"During his ministry there was such increase in the congregation as to require an addition to the meeting-house eleven feet on each end and twelve feet on the south side. They also built a society-house north of the meeting-house, twenty-one by sixteen feet, with seven-foot posts. This was probably to accommodate those who came to meeting from a distance, and was furnished with a fireplace, where they might spend the time between services, the meeting-house being without any device for heating.

"In 1750 the society resolves to build a new meeting-house, fifty feet by forty, with one tier of galleries and turret (belfry). This structure was so far advanced as to be deemed fit for use in 1752, though the galleries were not made until 1787. In 1797 the turret was completed and the first bell obtained, which was to be rung not only on the Sabbath, but also at nine o'clock every evening except Saturday. The new house was built a short distance north of the old one and about one hundred and fifty feet southeast of the present building. For ninety years it was in constant use as a place of worship. Every Sabbath, Thanksgiving, and fast-day its courts were well filled with devout worshippers, and the memory of the old meeting-house will ever be hallowed. It was built in the style quite common in that day, precisely like the one then in Stamford, except that the latter had a spire that rose from the ground. Opening the double doors, on the south side, we entered an area of small square pews, whose floors were elevated about eight inches above the floor of the central portion of the room. This latter was at first filled with slips on each side of the centre or broad aisle leading up to the pulpit. A narrow aisle passed quite around these slips, furnishing access to the pews which occupied the entire walls except where the doors on the east, the south, and the west sides, the stairs leading to the galleries at the corners, and the pulpit at the centre of the north side, occupied the space. The slips in the centre were afterwards (in 1808) converted into square pews. The galleries were deep, filled with square pews along the south wall, and elsewhere with the long slips. The choir was ranged along the front, and sometimes extended nearly the entire length of the galleries, the bass on the west, the treble on the east, and the tenor, or 'counter,' with the leader on the south. The pulpit was a hexagonal structure, placed upon

a pillar, about eight feet above the floor, and reached by a flight of stairs; it was neatly finished and painted white. Above it was suspended a canopy or sounding-board, hexagonal in shape, about seven feet above the floor of the pulpit, with a screw at the top of the iron rod supporting it, so that its height might be adjusted to the proper distance for reflection of the sound. The arrangement was indeed stiff and awkward, and was often severely criticised. I remember hearing one clergyman—a man of large size—remark that he would as soon get into a hog's head and preach from the bung. The deacons' seat was directly beneath the pulpit, access to it being had through the minister's pew.

"To resume the history of the parish: When their minister, Mr. Silliman, had served them a quarter of a century, some *uneasiness* began to manifest itself. A vote in April, 1768, showed forty-six 'easy' and thirty-seven 'uneasy' with him, but not long after they voted, twenty-four to fifteen, that they would employ Mr. Silliman no longer. Mr. Silliman appealed to the General Assembly at Hartford, and the society appeared there by their representative. The Legislature sent a committee to see how peace could be restored, who advised Mr. Silliman to ask for a dismissal, and in June, 1772, he was dismissed.

"In the succeeding winter Mr. William Drummond, born and educated in Scotland, was settled as minister. He remained five years, and was succeeded by Rev. Justus Mitchell, who by his scholarship and devotion to his calling and to the cause of education secured the prosperity of the entire community and gave the parish a desirable fame throughout the State. A spirit of toleration manifested itself, and the records show many instances of the release of persons, who preferred other modes of worship, from their responsibilities to this society. The pews were rented to defray expenses and relieve from taxation. Mr. Mitchell died in 1806."

#### THE PRIMITIVE DWELLINGS.

Among the first houses erected within the present limits of this town were a few rudely-constructed buildings, on what is now known as "Clapboard Hills." Several of the first houses were also built at "Canoe-Hill." Following more closely the western slope of the river, a cluster of houses was built on the upper part of Haines' Ridge, among which were the old residences of Col. Enoch St. John, Elnathan Lockwood, Mr. Moses Comstock, Mr. Uriah Reed, and Mr. Aaron Comstock. Three of these have been demolished and one so remodeled as not to appear like an old house, while one remains essentially unchanged in aspect.

The settlers from Stamford followed similarly the course of the Noroton River, as also, still farther west, that of Mill River. A single style of architecture was almost universal, not only here but throughout New England, in those days. The house was of two stories in front, presenting two eligible chambers, while the rear roof sloped off to the height of seven or eight feet from the ground. A massive stone chimney was in the centre, with its huge fireplace admitting back-logs and fore-sticks four feet long, and still furnishing warming-room within its jambs for all the children. Here was the ponderous crane with its assortment of trammels of varying lengths for pots and kettles, the iron andirons, tongs, and *peel* with its handle four feet long, terminating in a large hemispherical knob (this was used for cleaning out the coals from the brick oven, which occupied a part of the deep recesses of the old chimney), the spider, the skillet, the griddle,—all over the open fire. No prosaic, economical cooking-stove or range had yet made its appearance.

The rooms of these old-time houses were ranged

around the chimney,—the keeping-room and parlor, on either side in front, the latter with its beaufet displaying the glittering pewter plates and platters and a slender assortment of china cups and saucers; the kitchen in the rear, with bed-rooms on either side; the hall in front, with winding stairs leading to chambers above. These all communicated by doors, so that on festal occasions, in families moulded not according to the strictest sect of the Puritans, this arrangement furnished ample scope for merry games and dancing.

#### INCIDENT OF THE REVOLUTION.

The following incident was related to the late Dr. Edwin Hall, of Norwalk, by Miss Phebe Comstock, who lived at Canoe Hill during the Revolution. She used to go over to her uncle's and climb an apple-tree from which Norwalk could be seen distinctly. Went to meeting at New Canaan. In cases of alarm, which was given by firing three guns in succession, the men left all and hastened to the parade. Such alarms often came. Her father would run in and say, "Now, girls, unyoke the oxen and turn them out," and in less than five minutes would be off to the parade. They used to carry their guns to meeting; no more thought of going to meeting then without their guns than we do now without our psalm-books. "They never had an alarm without repairing to the parade; and they did not go slow, neither." The alarm at the burning of Norwalk came about daybreak. Went to the apple-tree; saw the flames; heard the guns. Her father and four brothers were engaged in the defense; the "dreadfullest day she ever saw;" the guns kept firing a long time; "a dreadful fight." She saw the "red-coats" take up several of their dead or wounded and carry them to their boats; saw the steeple of the meeting-house fall in.

#### TRAINING-DAYS.

The first Mondays of May and September were by statute training-days, and every able-bodied man of a certain age was required to appear for inspection and drill. At ten o'clock they assembled on the "parade-ground," which was an open field given to the town for this purpose. The commanding officer sent his compliments to the minister, with a request that he would favor them with his presence, which he did, and opened the exercises with prayer. Soon after they adjourned for dinner. There were two companies,—one uniformed, called the grenadiers, the other the militia. The music was fife and drum, and when, after wondrous evolutions, they marched down the ridge to the meeting-house hill, the martial ardor of the boys was at boiling-point.

The Thanksgivings were much like those of the present day, except that the house of God was well filled and the Thanksgiving anthem fell upon enchanted ears. The public exercises began with the reading of the Governor's proclamation. (It had been read two successive Sundays before.) It was an awe-



inspiring document, especially as it closed with the ominous injunction, "All servile labor and vain recreation are on said day by law forbidden." After the service the reunited families gathered round tables loaded with a bewildering multiplicity of dishes, among which roast turkey and pumpkin-pie held their long-established pre-eminence. There, amid representatives of three or perhaps four generations, this family festival held high carnival. Long may it keep its power to recall the sons and daughters of New England to the old homesteads.

#### SLAVERY.

Many of the early families were owners of slaves, and when the Emancipation Act was passed by the State, only those born after a certain date were exempted, leaving the others still under the ban of this hated bondage.

#### THE WHIPPING-POST AND STOCKS.

This evidence of civilization stood at the angle of the road, southeast of the Congregational church, and here the strong arm of the law administered the requisite number of lashes to the luckless wight who chanced to fall a victim to its degrading punishment.

#### EARLY MERCHANTS.

One of the earliest merchants was Samuel St. John, in a building which stood near the Congregational church. Other early tradesmen were Nathan Seeley, Husted & Hoyt, Nash & Hoyt, Raymond & Comstock, etc.

#### PHYSICIANS.

Among the pioneer physicians were Daniel Bouton, Joseph Silliman, S. S. Noyes, and Lewis Richards. The latter was in active practice about fifty years, and Dr. Noyes about sixty years, when he died at an advanced age. The present physicians are Theodore Roberts and W. G. Brownson (homœopaths).

#### INDUSTRIAL PURSUITS.

"The occupations of the early inhabitants of New Canaan were purely agricultural, with artisans enough barely to supply their own wants. The tailors and mantuamakers, and even shoemakers, were accustomed to circulate through the town semi-annually, making up the requisite wardrobes of the families. The farmers were exceedingly patient, hard-working men; their farms required clearing not only of trees and bushes, but of the numerous stones which in this diluvial soil almost covered the face of the earth. To dispose of these stones, they built walls inclosing small fields. They raised wheat (until the Hessian fly destroyed that crop), rye, corn, oats, and potatoes. Timothy or herd-grass was introduced at a comparatively late period. Their hay consisted of the harsh, low meadow-grass and the natural grasses of the uplands near their barns. The great problem with them was, how to winter their stock. They supplemented their tender supply of hay with cornstalks and

husks and oat-straw. Their stock in the spring were emaciated, and many of them died of "horn distemper," which generally meant starvation. The old wooden plow was a rough, heavy, clumsy instrument, and I remember hearing discussions among the workmen on the probability of the introduction of an iron plow which was then in use in the West of that day,—that is, Central and Western New York. I rejoice in having lived to see the toils of the husbandman relieved by the steel plow, the tooth-harrow, the horse-rake, the mower and reaper, and other machines which not only lighten labor, but make it more efficient. Nor will we forget the spinning-jennies, power-looms, and sewing-machines which relieve the women of the present day from that incessant hard labor which in the case of their grandmothers, together with the inevitable care of the household, crushed their physical energies and suppressed every rising aspiration for intellectual and æsthetic culture. Let the spinning-wheels, large and small, go to grace the elegant parlors of New York—and I would that they were gifted with speech!—to portray the scenes of unrepining toil enacted at their sides in days gone by; and perhaps gentlemen might profit by a plow or flail of the olden time in their offices."

#### BOOT- AND SHOE-MANUFACTURING.

But there came a time when the enterprise of New Canaan was turned in the direction of manufacturing boots and shoes. The town was dotted over with little shops and ranked among the foremost in that manufacture. "Niles' Register," giving an account of the town in 1818, states that fifty thousand pairs of boots and shoes were annually sent out.

The following are now engaged in this business: Benedict & Co., J. F. Bliss & Co., George Lockwood, J. & T. W. Benedict, H. A. Pinney, W. G. Webb & Co.

*Benedict & Co.*—This firm is a successor of Benedict, Hall & Co., and has a reputation second to none in the country for the manufacture of a good quality of goods.

*J. & T. W. Benedict.*—The business of which this firm are the lineal successors was commenced in about the year 1779 or 1780 by James Benedict, in a small way in a shop attached to his dwelling.

There, with a number of apprentices, he made shoes for the New York market. In those days there were only about four different styles made, whereas now it would be impossible for any one to find out the number. James Benedict was in course of time succeeded by his son, Caleb Benedict, who in turn was followed by his son, C. S. Benedict, who in turn was followed by his sons, the present firm of J. & T. W. Benedict. This is a representative institution of the town.

Prominent among the obsolete concerns was that of Ebenezer Ayres, who was a large manufacturer in 1825, and was finally succeeded by his son, Hebron L.

Jared and Amos Ayres, brothers of Ebenezer, were also early manufacturers.

#### CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS.

*H. B. Rogers & Co.*—This business was established about twenty years ago in a small way, in connection with a country store, by Comstock, Rogers & Co., and was continued by that firm until within a few years, when it passed into the hands of the present firm. This is a large establishment, and justly merits its present success.

George Lockwood commenced business in about 1840. The firms of J. F. Bliss & Co. (J. F. Bliss, Stephen Bishop, James Fairty), William G. Webb & Co., and H. A. Finney, although not among the oldest established in New Canaan, are mostly representatives of the shoe-manufacturing business.

#### THE NEW CANAAN NURSERIES.

The New Canaan Nurseries were established in 1848 by Stephen Hoyt, of New Canaan, and D. C. Scofield, of New York. In 1856, Stephen Hoyt bought out D. C. Scofield. He then took his two sons, James and Edwin, into the business, and increased the business until over one hundred acres were covered with nursery stock. This nursery is, and has been for many years, the largest in New England, and, in fact, east of Syracuse, N. Y.

The nursery has no specialties, but grows a general assortment of fruit, forest, and ornamental trees. The plantings for a few years past have been about one hundred thousand apple-trees, ten thousand to fifteen thousand cherry-trees, twenty thousand pear-trees, one hundred thousand to one hundred and fifty thousand peach-trees, one hundred thousand, or over, currants, and strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, etc., in large quantities, while forest- and evergreen-trees have claimed a large place. The nursery at present embraces three hundred and fifty acres, and is rapidly increasing.

The senior partner, Stephen Hoyt, died in 1879, aged seventy-nine years, and the business has since been conducted by his sons, James and Edwin. Their sales extend over New England and many of the Southern and Western States.

As stated above, this is a representative institution of its kind in the United States, and much credit is due its enterprising progenitors and those through whose industry and perseverance it has secured its present enviable reputation.

### CHAPTER XLIII.

#### NEW CANAAN (Continued).

#### ECCLESIASTICAL AND EDUCATIONAL.

The Congregational Church—St. Mark's Episcopal Church—The Methodist Episcopal Church—The Baptist Church—The Universalist Church—Roman Catholic—Methodist Protestant, Silver Mines—Methodist Episcopal, Selleck's Corners—Early Educational Regulations—The New Canaan Academy.

#### THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

As the history of the parish was really a history of the Congregational Church up to the time the parish was incorporated as a town, and as that history has been thoroughly detailed on previous pages, the church narrative will be continued from that time (1801).

Upon the organization of the parish the society henceforth devoted itself solely to the care of the temporal affairs of the church. The pastors from Mr. Mitchell have been as follows: Rev. William Bonney, 1808–31; Rev. Theophilus Smith, 1831 until his death, in 1853; Rev. Frederick G. Williams, 1854–59; Rev. Ralph Smith, 1860–63; Rev. Benjamin L. Swan, 1864–66; Rev. Joseph Greenleaf settled in 1871, and is the present incumbent of the pastoral office. The present church edifice was erected during the ministry of Mr. Smith, and was dedicated in 1843.

#### ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first Episcopal church building erected within the present bounds of New Canaan was raised May 13, 1762, on land obtained from Mr. Husted, about three-quarters of a mile northwest from the present church edifice. Says the late Professor Samuel St. John,—

"There had been a discussion respecting its location on or adjoining the parade-ground. The building was soon rendered fit for use, but was not completed for many years, and for that reason, probably, was never consecrated. At this time the church-people here were accustomed to attend service at Norwalk and Stamford, and the rates which were collected of churchmen in this parish were paid over to the rectors of those churches. In 1791 they organized themselves into a distinct parish. From that time there have been regular records kept. The first wardens were Stephen Betts and Dunlap Coggeshall, and there were thirty-four heads of families who considered themselves as belonging to the church and contributed to its support. Services were held about one-fifth of the Sabbaths, but the church languished until the project was conceived and executed of building a new church edifice nearer the village. The lot whereon the present building stands was purchased of Mr. Richard Fayerweather. The building committee were Samuel Raymond, Edward Nash, David S. Knight. The building was finished and consecrated May 6, 1834; the old one had been taken down the year before.

"At this time the Rev. Charles Todd was rector, dividing his time equally between this church and the one in Ridgefield. He resigned his charge in 1835, and was followed by Rev. Jacob L. Clark, who also had the care of both churches. After his resignation, in 1837, Rev. David Ogden was called to give his undivided attention to this church. In 1842 ill health compelled him to give up his parish, and he died in 1845. The succeeding rectors were Rev. William Everett, 1845–46; Rev. Dr. Short, 1846–52; Rev. William Long, 1852–55; Rev. William H. Williams, 1855–58; Rev. William Cook, 1858–63; Rev. William A. Des Brisay, 1864–74; Rev. Isaac W. Hallam, Easter, 1875–79. Rev. T. B. Fogg became rector in 1879, and is the present incumbent.

"The church edifice was remodeled and the spire erected during the pastorate of Rev. William H. Williams, and reopened May, 1858. In the



winter of 1873-74 the interior was frescoed and two windows placed in the chancel. The Sunday-school was organized in 1853, under the superintendence of Miss Esther Betts."

#### THE METHODIST CHURCH.

The first Methodist society established in this part of the county was at Dantown, in 1787, by Rev. Samuel Q. Talbot. It is believed that this was the first Methodist society organized in New England. Among the first members of this ancient church were Samuel Dunn and Rhuama, his wife, 1787; Sarah Selleck and Hannah De Forest, 1787; John Slawson, Rhoda Slawson, Enoch Stevens, and Rhuama Bishop, 1799; Betsey Jones, Susanna Fancher, Anna Seeley, John and Rebecca Hanford, Benjamin and Nancy Seeley, Sarah Jones, Polly Stevens, Thirza Potts, Dorcas Coe, 1809; Millicent Raymond, 1810; Seth and Nancy Olmstead, 1812; Nancy Avery, Agnita Dunn, Nathaniel Dunn, 1814; Anna Slawson, Ruth Dunn, Sanford Dunn, Betsey Dunn, Harriet Stevens, 1819; Isaac and Lois Jones, John and Sarah Seeley, Isaac Potts, Sanford and Betsey Selleck, John D. and Betsey Slawson, Betsey Brown, Abigail Pennoyer, Caroline Monroe, Samuel and Nancy Selleck, Mary Dunn, Catharine Jones, Martha Hoyt, Isaac and Nancy Selleck, 1812. A church edifice was erected in 1800.

The first Methodist society in New Canaan was organized in 1808, at Silver Mine, and the following were among the first members: Capt. Ebenezer Crofut, Nathan and Sally Monroe, Abigail Beers, Daniel Betts, Luther Comstock, Silas and Hannah Hayes, Abigail Raymond, Delia Dickens, Miles Root, Nehemiah Stevens, May Gromsey, Joseph Fitch, Amos Dickens, Daniel and Esther Chase. The above-named persons were all members of the church prior to 1829.

From 1816 to 1833, New Canaan formed a part of the Stamford circuit, which is the oldest in New England. In October, 1833, the first Methodist house of worship, which is the present town-hall, was dedicated. From 1833 to 1836, New Canaan was united to Norwalk in a circuit under the pastorate of two ministers. These were Rev. Elijah Hibbard, Rev. Abram S. Francis, 1833; Rev. Luther Mead, Rev. Abram S. Francis, 1834; Rev. David Stocking, Rev. John Crawford, 1835. In 1836, New Canaan was set off by itself as a station under the pastorate of a single minister.

This denomination of Christians has made rapid progress, endeavoring faithfully to do the work of a true church of the Lord Jesus Christ. The present house was dedicated Dec. 21, 1854.

The following are the successive pastors of the Methodist Church and their terms of service: Revs. J. Crawford, 1836; Clark Fuller, 1837; S. W. King, 1838-39; J. W. Selleck, 1840-41; Charles F. Pelton, 1842; Jesse Hunt, 1843; James H. Romer, 1844-45; A. H. Ferguson, 1846-47; J. D. Marshall, 1848-49; Jacob Shaw, 1850-51; L. D. Nickerson, 1852-53;

Harvey Husted, 1854-55; Mark Staple, 1856-57; J. L. Gilder, 1858-59; C. B. Ford, 1860-61; A. H. Mead, 1862; William T. Hill, 1863; J. M. Carroll, 1864-66; William F. Collins, 1867; S. M. Hammond, 1867; S. M. Hammond, 1868-70; B. T. Abbott, 1871-73; I. M. Carroll, 1874-76; A. V. R. Abbott, 1877, present incumbent.

#### THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

Universalist preaching began in the town in 1832, Mr. Hillyer, and afterwards Mr. Hitchcock, officiating. They have no separate organization.

#### THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Services according to the Roman Catholic forms of worship were first held here in a hall in the village, subsequently in the town-hall. Their church was built in 1863. Clergymen from Norwalk, principally, have officiated at this church. It is at present under the charge of Father Russell, of Norwalk.

#### THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

The first person in New Canaan professing faith in Christ through baptism by immersion was baptized by Rev. John Gano, of New York City, in the year 1772. Soon after, as Elder Gano was baptizing in Stamford, where a Baptist Church was organized in 1773, Baptist meetings were held in New Canaan, and have been held at varying intervals to the present time. The records of the Canaan parish have several votes exempting Baptists from paying society rates so long as they remain of the persuasion.

Nov. 4, 1871, the First Baptist Society of New Canaan was incorporated. Their house of worship was opened Feb. 6, 1873, the service of recognition being held in that house the 13th day of March following. Their pastor is the Rev. E. M. Ogden.

#### THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH OF SILVER MINE.\*

This church was organized in the year 1837, by Revs. Henderson and Langdon (the latter the colleague of the former), at the house of Mr. Ezekiel Beers. Among the first members were Amos Dickens, Delia Dickens, Hannah Hays, Abby Beers, Sarah A. Beers.

Religious services were held at the house of Ezekiel Beers and at the school-house, under the charge of Revs. Timberman and Wade, Griswold and Lent, and W. H. Johnson until the year 1844, when, under the latter, the society enjoyed a wonderful revival influence, and F. L. Aiken, Lydia B. Aiken, Perry Beers, Sanford Beers, Charles Platt, Michael Harrison and wife, with many others, united, thus greatly increasing their strength numerically.

In the year 1844, Rev. J. J. Smith assumed the pastoral charge, and the society proceeded to build a church. In the month of August of the same year

\* Contributed by T. L. Dibble.

the house was dedicated, the Rev. Zenas Covel officiating, taking for his subject, "The prayer of Solomon at the dedication of the temple."

The first board of trustees was composed of Amos Dickens, F. L. Aiken, William S. Beers.

Rev. Smith was followed in the pastorate by Rev. Witzel and Joshua Hudson, each retaining it for three years,—the time prescribed by discipline. Their successors have been Revs. O. C. Dickerson, R. R. Diossy, — Crossman, J. H. Painter, E. Jones, P. Weaver, G. B. Wray, N. Britton, M. Staple, J. Holden, I. Brown, T. L. Dibble.

Latterly the church has been less uniform as to the length of time she has retained her pastors, owing largely to the change of boundaries of the work of which she has been a part. She has prospered, though subject to so many changes. The pastor for the longest period was Rev. M. Staples, he being continued for seven years in succession.

A few of her first members yet live; others have passed away. At present her membership numbers forty-six. The present officers are: Clerk, J. B. Miller; Trustees, A. P. Beers, Henry Harris, William E. Lane, William Reynolds, F. L. Aiken; Treasurer, F. L. Aiken; Pastor, T. L. Dibble.

There is also a Methodist Episcopal Church at Selleck's Corners, but we have been unable to obtain any data concerning it. Rev. William T. Gilbert was pastor in March, 1879.

#### EDUCATION.—THE NEW CANAAN ACADEMY.

"Among the early settlers of New Canaan were very few men of literary culture. Neither the tempestuous times which had engrossed their earliest attention nor their slender pecuniary resources had allowed them the advantages of any scholastic training. But the New England fathers (and our pioneers were among them) saw that the only way to establish here and perpetuate a society which could satisfy their hopes would be by means of a careful, thorough, and general education of their children. The fundamental laws of the colony required, under severe penalties, every town to provide means for the early instruction of their children. The statute reads:

"The selectmen of every town shall have a vigilant eye over their brethren and neighbors to see, first, that none of them shall suffer so much barbarism in any of their families as not to endeavor to teach, by themselves or others, their children and apprentices so much learning as may enable them perfectly to read the English tongue and knowledge of the capital laws, upon penalty of twenty shillings for each neglect therein."

"It was still further provided that 'every town having fifty householders in it should forthwith appoint one within the town to teach all such children as shall resort to him to write and read, whose wages shall be paid either by the parents or masters of such children, or by the inhabitants in general.' Among the earliest functions discharged by Canaan parish is the appointment of school committees. Where the first school-house was built and *when* cannot now be ascertained. It was doubtless, like their first meeting-house, exceedingly plain, with no needless room in it, and no useless expensive adorning. At this day we can have no adequate conception of the extreme difficulty attending those early educational measures, but their influence on succeeding generations has been incalculable. For a more extended education than that furnished by the common—or, as it is now termed, district—school no provision was made for many years. Rev. Justus Mitchell, who was settled in the ministry here in 1783, kept a select school during a considerable time. Eight young men from New Canaan and a large number from other places were fitted for college with him. Eliphalet St. John, Esq., who graduated at Yale College in 1791, devoted himself to teaching at his residence on Brushy Ridge, and though the school consisted mainly of young men from New York fitting themselves for business,

still some citizens of New Canaan and adjoining towns availed themselves of the advantages of this school.

"The New Canaan Academy was established in 1815, and the building erected in 1816. The teachers were, successively, Rev. Herman Daggett, Rev. James H. Linsley, Rev. John Smith, Dr. Samuel W. Belden, Rev. Dr. Milton Badger, Rev. Theophilus Smith, Hon. David L. Seymour, President Julian M. Sturtevant, Rev. Dr. Flavel Bascom, Rev. Dr. Alfred Newton, Rev. John C. Hart, Rev. William B. Lewis, Prof. Ebenezer A. Johnson.

"This academy about 1834 was converted into a private boarding-school, and was owned and taught successively by Messrs. Silas Davenport, David S. Rockwell, and Rev. J. L. Gilder. The academy was revived in 1859, taught by Rev. J. C. Wyckoff for several years, afterwards by Mr. Thomas Pease, and was broken up during the last year of the civil war. Twenty-five persons have graduated at Yale College from this town, a majority of whom would have not enjoyed the privilege of a collegiate education had not the academy enabled them to fit themselves here. Besides these graduates, a much larger number of young men were fitted for business; young ladies also enjoyed in the academy the advantages of a thorough course of study. It ranked second only to the churches in elevating the standard of moral and intellectual culture in the town."\*

## CHAPTER XLIV.

### NEW CANAAN (Continued).

#### CIVIL AND MILITARY.—LODGES, Etc.

Organization of Town—The First Town-Meeting—Officers Elected—Selectmen, Representatives, Town Clerks, and Treasurers from Organization of the Town to 1880—Present Town Officials—Harmony Lodge, No. 67, F. and A. M.—Wooster Lodge, No. 37, I. O. of O. F.—Friendship Division, No. 10, S. of T.—First National Bank—New Canaan Savings Bank—Board of Trade—Postmasters from 1818 to the Present Time—Military Record.

THE town of New Canaan was incorporated in 1801, and embraces the same territory formerly within the bounds of "Canaan parish."

#### THE FIRST TOWN-MEETING.

The first town-meeting in New Canaan was held June 29, 1801, when the following officers were chosen: Samuel St. John, Town Clerk and Treasurer; Isaac Richards, Joseph Silliman, and Joseph Seeley, Selectmen; Aaron Comstock and Samuel Bolt, Constables; Phineas Smith, Nathan Seeley, Selleck Scofield, Thaddeus Seymour, and Matthew Fitch Gregory, Listers; Seth Hickok, Peter Bishop, and Israel Slawson, Grand Jurors; Nehemiah Lockwood, Seth Kellogg, Fence-Viewers; John Hickok, Sealer of Leather; James Lockwood, Sealer of Measures; Nathaniel Fitch, Sealer of Weights; Aaron Comstock, Keeper of the Pound; Claus Weed, Jr., Jesse Hickok, Tything-men.

#### SELECTMEN FROM 1801 TO 1880.

The following is a list of the selectmen from the organization of the town to 1881:

Isaac Richards, 1801-9, 1819-20-22; Joseph Seeley, 1801-4; Isaac Benedict, 1805-10, 1812-15; Jesse Richards, 1805-7; Enos Weed, 1808-10; Nathan Seely, 1811; Samuel Boulton, 1811; David Stevens, 1812-15; James T. Eels, 1814; Jonathan B. Benedict, 1815-16, 1819-26, 1832-34; Aaron Comstock, 1817-18; Ebenezer Hanford, 1817-18; Ebenezer Crofut, 1817-18; Stephen Hoyt, 1819-30; Seth Weed, 1823-30; Elipha-

\* The above sketch of the academy was taken from the excellent address delivered by the late Prof. Samuel St. John, July 4, 1876.



let St. John, 1826; Holly Sanford, 1827-31; Joseph Silliman, 1832; Hezekiah St. John, 1833-38; Hanford Davenport, 1833-34; Watts Comstock, 1835-38; Hanford Carter, 1835-48; Daniel Bostwick, 1840-41; Samuel Hoyt, 1842; John Raymond, 1843-44; James Pattison, 1844; Hezron L. Ayres, 1845-46; Charles Raymond, 1845-47, 1857-58; Alfred Raymond, 1846-55; Caleb S. Benedict, 1847; Andrew Benedict, 1848-51; Thomas Raymond, 1849; Uzal Husted, 1849; Sylvanus Seely, 1850; John Warren, 1850; Burling D. Purdy, 1851, 1871-77; Stephen Hoyt, 1851; Peter Smith, 1852-59; William L. Waring, 1853-79; Samuel C. Silliman, Jr., 1856; Nehemiah E. Weed, 1859-62; David B. Hoyt, 1861; George Lockwood, 1862; Ira P. Davis, 1863; Benjamin Hoyt, 1864-69; Andrew K. Comstock, 1864-66; Samuel K. Lockwood, 1868-74; Joseph F. Silliman, 1873; Thomas M. Fairty, 1876-79.

The present, 1880, town officers are as follows: B. D. Purdy, Thomas M. Fairty, William L. Waring, Selectmen; Junius Benedict, Town Clerk and Registrar; Thomas Raymond, Town Treasurer; J. Crawford, F. E. Chichester, S. N. Raymond, Assessors; Lewis K. Hoyt, Solomon Lockwood, Edwin Hoyt, Board of Relief; George S. Johnson, Isaac Lea, Henry O. Taylor, S. Henry Hoyt, Constables; T. Hawley, H. Terrell, William Wardwell, John E. Whitney, Grand Jurors; Burling D. Purdy, Jr., Russell L. Hall, Registrars of Voters; Charles Raymond, Samuel N. Raymond, Auditors of Town Accounts; Joseph Greenleaf, William E. Husted (1880), L. M. Monroe, Edwin Hoyt (1881), W. G. Brownson, B. D. Purdy (1882), Board of Education; Thomas Raymond, Treasurer Town Deposit Fund; Joseph Lambert, Joseph F. Silliman, Thomas H. Borden, J. L. Raymond, Justices of the Peace.

#### TOWN CLERKS.

Samuel St. John, 1801-24; Edward Nash, 1826-35; Joseph Silliman, 1835-39; Samuel C. Silliman, Jr., 1840-41, 1843-47, 1849-52; David S. Rockwell, 1842; John B. Lambert, 1848; \* Lucius M. Monroe, 1854-55; Noah W. Hoyt, 1856-58, 1865-73; † Selleck Y. St. John, 1859-64, 1873-75; Augustus S. Dann, 1876-77; Junius Benedict, 1878-79. ‡

#### TOWN TREASURERS.

Samuel St. John, June, 1801-25; Isaac Richards, 1825; Stephen Hoyt, Jr., 1826-39; Charles Raymond, 1840-52; § William E. Raymond, 1845; Benjamin Hoyt, 1853-75; Augustus S. Dann, 1876. ||

#### REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

1801-06, Joseph Silliman; 1806-07, Isaac Richards; 1808, Joseph Silliman; 1809, Samuel St. John; 1810, Joseph Silliman; 1810-16, ¶ Samuel St. John; 1817-18, \*\* Nathan Seely; 1819, Isaac Richards; 1820, Nathan Seely; 1821, Stephen Hoyt; 1822-28, Samuel Raymond; 1829, Watts Comstock; 1830-33, Samuel Raymond; 1834, Edward Nash; 1835, Joseph Silliman; 1836, Stephen Hoyt, Jr.; 1837, Samuel Raymond; 1838-39, Watts Comstock; 1840, Stephen

\* Resigned in February, 1849, and Samuel C. Silliman, Jr., appointed in his place.

† Resigned March 4, 1873, and S. Y. St. John appointed.

‡ Present (1880) incumbent.

§ Except the year 1845.

|| Present (1880) incumbent.

¶ A special session was called by the Governor, John Cotton Smith, on the fourth Wednesday of January, 1815, to consider a memorial from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Rhode Island to protect the petitioners against improper legislation by Congress. Delegate to the convention, Samuel St. John.

\*\* A Constitutional Convention was held in 1818, which discontinued the October session of the General Assembly. Delegate to the convention, Nathan Seely.

Hoyt, Jr.; 1841, Samuel Raymond; 1842-45, no choice; 1846-47, Hanford Carter; 1848, Burling D. Purdy; 1849, Timothy E. Raymond; 1850, Joseph Silliman; 1851, George Gearheart; 1852, Carlisle Lockwood; 1853, Samuel K. Lockwood; 1854, Benjamin N. Heath; 1855, Samuel K. Lockwood; 1856, Benjamin Hoyt; 1857-58, Noah W. Hoyt; 1859, William E. Raymond; 1860-61, Benjamin N. Heath; 1862, Benjamin Hoyt; 1863, Ebenezer J. Richards; 1864, Stephen H. Pardee; 1865, Apollos Comstock; 1866, Caleb S. Benedict; 1867, Charles Raymond; 1868, Ebenezer J. Richards; 1869, Francis L. Aiken; 1870-71, Mark Staples; 1872, Caleb S. Benedict; 1873-74, Burling D. Purdy; 1875, Justus F. Hoyt; 1876, †† Burling D. Purdy; 1877, William E. Husted; 1878, S. Y. St. John; 1879, Samuel N. Raymond.

#### POST-OFFICE.

The New Canaan post-office was established Jan. 19, 1818, and Samuel St. John was appointed postmaster. The following is a list of incumbents of the office from its establishment to the present time:

Samuel St. John, appointed Jan. 19, 1818.  
Edward Nash, appointed Jan. 25, 1825.  
Erastus Seely, appointed March 8, 1833.  
Thomas S. Husted, appointed Nov. 23, 1833.  
Charles Raymond, appointed March 26, 1839.  
Thomas S. Husted, appointed July 3, 1841.  
Charles Raymond, appointed Sept. 4, 1844.  
Benjamin Hoyt, appointed Dec. 12, 1849.  
Samuel C. Silliman, Jr., appointed June 23, 1853.  
Henry B. Hoyt, appointed Sept. 3, 1853.  
Noah W. Hoyt, appointed April 26, 1861.  
Stephen H. Pardee, †† appointed Aug. 24, 1866.  
Noah W. Hoyt, appointed March 22, 1869.  
Noah W. Hoyt, reappointed ‡‡ Dec. 11, 1872.

#### HARMONY LODGE, NO. 67, F. AND A. M.

This lodge was instituted May 30, 1825. The following were the charter members, those marked with an asterisk (\*) being deceased: Horatio Weed,\* James Stevens,\* Samuel Carter, Jr.,\* Eliphalet Weed,\* Daniel Bostwick,\* Darius St. John, Ebenezer Carter, Jr.,\* Henry Chambers,\* Rufus Richards,\* Hanford Carter,\* Timothy E. Raymond, Jacob Reed,\* John J. Brown,\* Stephen Betts,\* Samuel Carter,\* Joseph Watson,\* Samuel Raymond,\* Richard Fayerweather,\* Caleb Benedict,\* Anson D. Pennoyer,\* John Seeley,\* Thaddeus M. Keeler,\* Isaac Lockwood,\* Hiram Talmadge,\* Caleb S. Benedict, Enos H. Weed,\* John F. Raymond, Leander Slawson.\* The first officers were as follows: Samuel Carter, Jr., M.; John Seeley, S. W.; Eliphalet Weed, J. W.; Caleb Benedict, Treas.; Horatio Weed, Sec.; James Stevens, S. D.; Rufus Richards, J. D.; Darius St. John, S. Stew.; Caleb S. Benedict, J. Stew.

During the Anti-Masonic excitement the charter was surrendered to the Grand Lodge, and at that time Mr. Caleb S. Benedict was Master. It was restored in May, 1860, and Mr. Caleb S. Benedict was Master. Present Master, Samuel H. Raymond. Present members, eighty-eight. The officers for 1880 are as follows: Samuel H. Raymond, W. M.; Justus K. Raymond, S. W.; Henry G. Benedict, J. W.; Noah W. Hoyt, Treas.; Theodore W. Benedict, Sec.; John

†† Constitution amended making January session.

‡‡ Mr. Pardee was appointed postmaster by President Johnson, but never entered upon the duties of the office.

§§ Present incumbent.

Edward Richards, died.  
 De Witt C. Ruscoe, must. out.  
 Lewis Randle, died.  
 Chauncey Raymond, disch. for disability.  
 Floyd S. Ruscoe, must. out.  
 Justus M. Silliman, must. out.  
 Charles E. Seeley, must. out.  
 James A. Smallhorn, must. out.  
 George H. Wood, died.  
 Francis Weinberg, must. out.  
 William Wilson, must. out.  
 Martin Wassing, disch. for disability.  
 Squire A. Waterbury, disch. for disability.  
 George E. Waterbury, trans. to Vet. Res. Corps.  
 Harry Waterbury, must. out.  
 George W. Weed, must. out.  
 Charles L. Bartow, must. out.  
 John Birdsall, died.  
 Charles Crofoot, must. out.  
 William S. Fitch, must. out.  
 Patrick Innis, must. out.  
 Charles Vitemheimer, must. out.  
 William Wright.

#### TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT.

Joseph C. Cronk, must. out.  
 Joseph Thomson, must. out.  
 Joseph Adams, must. out.  
 Daniel Wakeman, disch. for disability.  
 Nelson R. Copes, must. out.  
 George W. Thomson, must. out.  
 William Jefferson, must. out.  
 Perry Williams, must. out.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### PROFESSOR SAMUEL ST. JOHN.

Professor Samuel St. John was born in New Canaan, March 29, 1813, and was in his sixty-third year at the time of his death. He graduated at Yale College in the class of 1834. In 1838 he accepted an appointment as professor of chemistry, mineralogy, and geology in the Western Reserve College, at Hudson, Ohio, in which office he remained until 1851. He was principal of the Cleveland Seminary for young ladies from 1852 to 1856, and during this time was professor of chemistry and medical jurisprudence in the Cleveland Medical College. In 1856 he was appointed professor of chemistry and medical jurisprudence in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City. This position he held until his death.

When appointed to the New York college he made his home in his native village, and continued to take an active interest in all enterprises undertaken for the benefit of the place. He was one of the first and best friends of the New Canaan Railroad. He became president of the company, and to him is greatly due the success of the enterprise. One of his last conspicuous public services was the writing of a "History of New Canaan," which he read at the celebration of the Centennial Fourth of July, and which is an enduring memorial of his interest in New Canaan and its people, as well as of his literary skill.

Professor St. John married, in 1840, Amelia P. C. Curtis, who died December, 1856, in Cleveland, Ohio. Their children were Walter, died in infancy; Eliza C.; Samuel B.; George, died in infancy. Samuel B. was born in 1845. He graduated at Yale College in 1866, at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1870. He was house surgeon of the Bellevue Hospital and Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, New York; surgeon of the New York Dispensary, Northwestern Dispensary, New York, and to the Eye and Ear Infirmary, New York; attended the hospitals in Edinburgh, London, Berlin, Vienna, and Paris in 1872 and 1873. He is a member of the New York Ophthalmological and American Ophthalmological Societies (whose rules prohibit the announcement in print of any specialty).

In 1835, Dr. St. John visited Europe in company with Dr. Parker. He went to Europe a second time, and once more in 1873 he visited the Vienna Exposition in company with his son and daughter. He died Sept. 6, 1876.

We cannot, here, give anything like a comprehensive analysis, or pay adequate tribute to the character of one who, for his profound learning, useful life, labors, and noble example of unselfishness and integrity, was an honor not only to New Canaan, but to Connecticut, which has lost many better-known citizens, but none of more solid attainments or more real worth. Very rarely does the loss of a citizen occasion such a deep and heartfelt sorrow, such wide-spread and universal sense of bereavement in any community, as did the death of Professor Samuel St. John in the town of New Canaan. It is another proof that real goodness, real nobility of character, will compel recognition in every class of society, and when such a one is taken away there is no exception to the general sorrow, and the humble, the proud, the poor, the rich, the vulgar, the refined, the reckless, and the thoughtful, all unite, for a time at least, in one common bond of mutual grief. Well is it for those on whom the lesson makes a permanent impression, who are able to grasp the full meaning of such a life, and who resolve to make it a model for their own.

Dr. St. John was loved in New Canaan as few men are loved in any community. A native of the village, he ever regarded New Canaan as his home, no matter how far away circumstances led him in the active labors of his life. New Canaan was the scene of his childhood and youthful memories, and in his riper years, when circumstances permitted, New Canaan was his chosen and permanent home. He was known and beloved by everybody in the town, young and old alike. He was a warm friend of every project having for its object the good of the town, and devoted his time, talents, and means to promote its interests. He was a true patriot, loving his country and her institutions with loyal affection, but his scholarly and philosophical mind, his broad culture

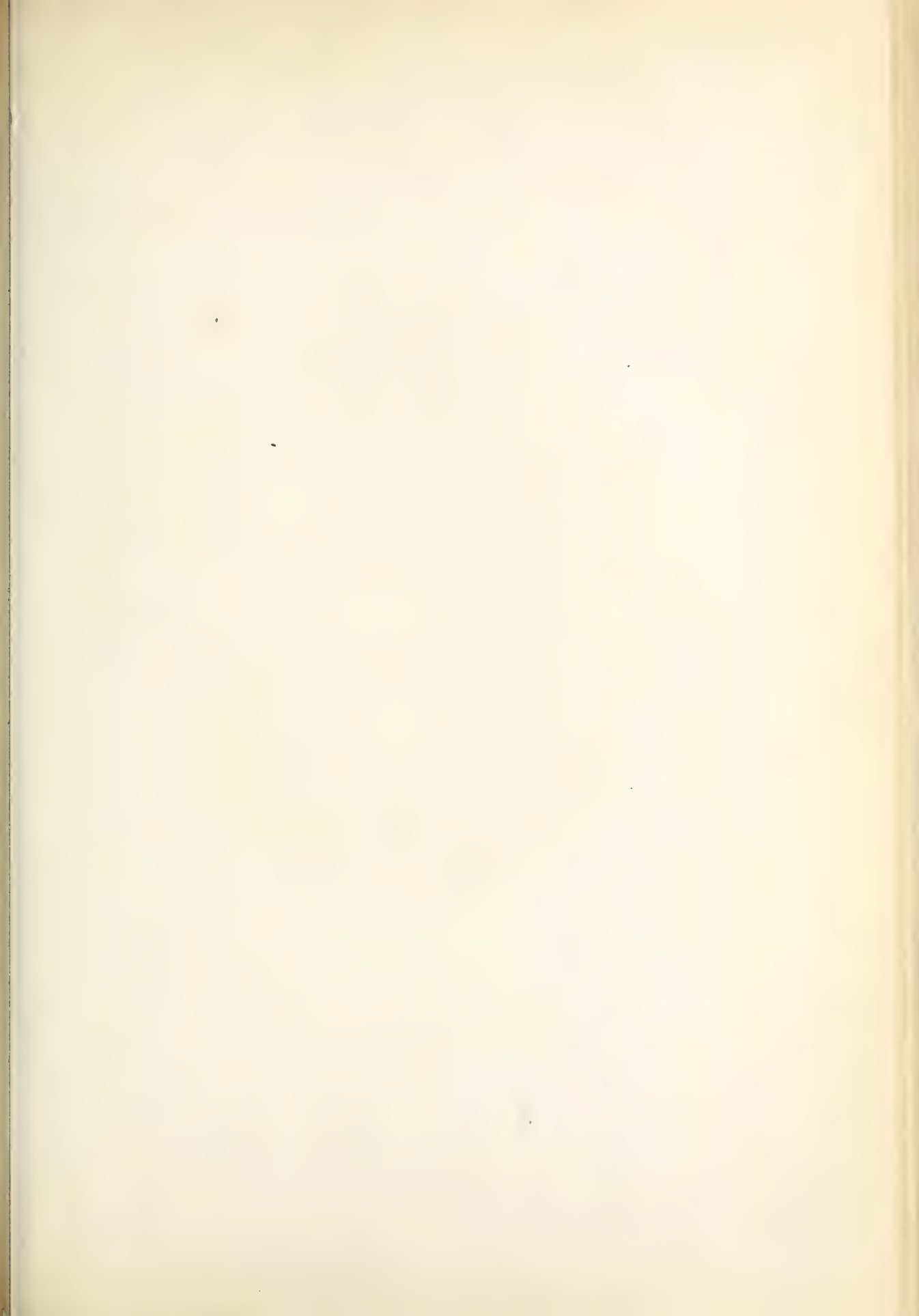


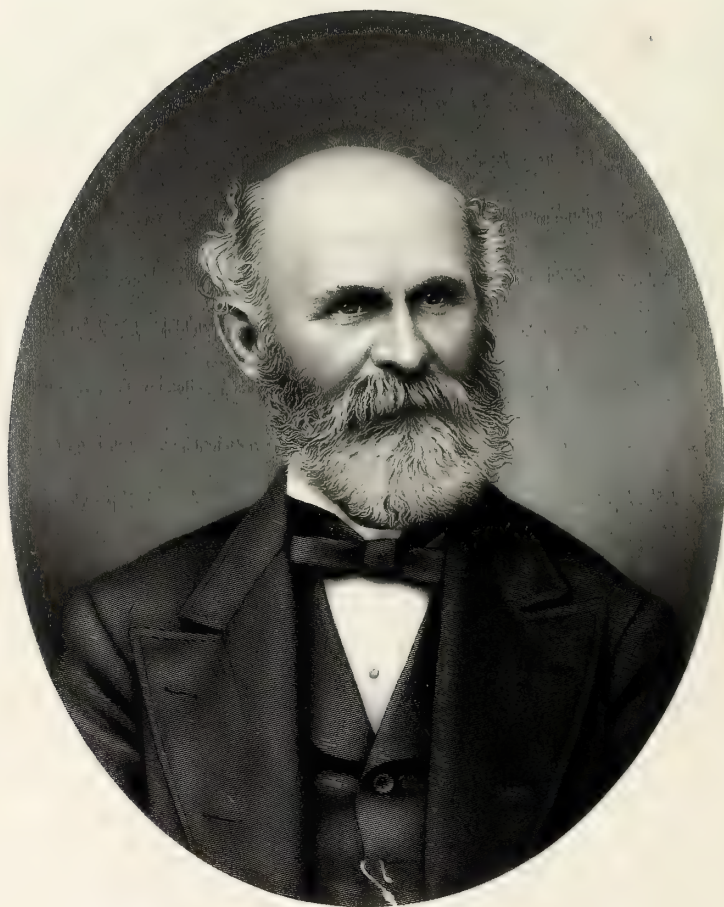


Samuel S. John.









*S. Y. S. John*



"rich with the spoils of time," and with the results of his own observation, and original research in the domain of science and learning, made him more than willing to keep aloof from active connection with the management of partisan struggles.

In conformity with recommendations of the President's proclamation, that some suitable history be written of each town in the United States during the Centennial year, supplemented by an urgent invitation of a committee of his townsmen, and upon the positive assurance that he would be interfering with the prerogative of no one, he consented to write the "History of New Canaan," which he delivered on the Centennial Fourth of July, as before stated. From this address the historian of this work has largely drawn for material for the history of that town, for which due credit has elsewhere been given. The closing words of Professor St. John's historical address are significant, and we cannot do better, perhaps, than to reproduce them here: "We who are now assembled here, gathering up the influences of this occasion, must soon be numbered with the congregations of other days. The time of our departure is at hand, to make room for our successors in the theatre of life. It may be that our posterity will assemble here to review their past. Shall it be amid joy or sorrow? The answer is in part left to us. May he who, at the distance of another century, shall stand here to celebrate this day, still look around upon a free, happy, and virtuous people; and may the God of our fathers give us grace to so administer the trust committed to us that our record shall enable the historian to rank us with them as having been faithful to the principles which they established!"

#### SELLECK Y. ST. JOHN.

Selleck Y. St. John, the oldest child of Zadock and Mary W. St. John, was born at South Salem, Westchester Co., and State of New York, on the 10th day of February, 1819. His father was the third son of Samuel St. John, of Ridgebury, Conn., where he was born in 1793, and died at Lewisboro' (formerly South Salem), Westchester Co., N. Y., in 1865.

His mother was the oldest child of Ebenezer Selleck, of Lewisboro', where she was born in 1801, and where she died in 1876. His parents were married Jan. 8, 1818; they lived together forty-seven years, and had four sons. The father's death was the first in the family.

Until thirteen years of age the subject of our sketch had only the ordinary advantages of a common school; then for the best part of two years he was favored with the advantages of an excellent practical academy, conducted by his cousin, Samuel S. St. John, Esq., at Ridgefield, Conn.

At sixteen years of age he entered as a clerk the store of Seymour Comstock, Esq., of New Canaan,

who was at that time one of the leading merchants of this place and vicinity, and continued in the mercantile business as a clerk and for himself for about eighteen years. He has often been elected by the people of New Canaan to various offices of trust and responsibility,—town clerk for nine years; fifteen years continuously elected a magistrate, whether the town went Democratic or Republican, and was finally obliged to refuse to qualify to get rid of it, because of its interference with his other duties; was among the very first magistrates, if not the *very first*, in the State to try a case under the "Maine Law," so called, passed in 1854; was elected to the Legislature in 1878, and served in the session of 1879, the first that met in the new State-House, at Hartford.

In 1859 the New Canaan Savings Bank was chartered, and upon being organized he was chosen its treasurer, in which capacity he served seventeen consecutive years, and then was chosen its president for two years, but resigned before the expiration of the second year.

In 1865 the First National Bank of New Canaan was established, and he was chosen its cashier, in which capacity he has served until the present time.

In 1868 the New Canaan Railroad was organized, and in the following year he was chosen one of its directors, and served continuously until, in 1876, he was chosen to fill the vacancy made by the death of Professor Samuel St. John (who had been president from its organization), and continues in that capacity to the present time.

The New Canaan Cemetery Association was organized in 1867, of which he was chosen one of its directors, in which he has served continuously to the present; and upon the death of Capt. Stephen Hoyt, its first and only president until his death, which occurred in February, 1878, Mr. St. John was chosen his successor, and still acts in that capacity.

In December, 1840, Mr. St. John was married to Mary A., daughter of Holly Seymour, of New Canaan, who died in 1833, leaving a widow and five children. His widow died in 1849, leaving the two youngest children, a son and daughter. It was the mother's dying request that Mr. St. John and wife should give up their own home and come back to the old homestead, which had been in the family from the earliest settlement of the town, where her children had been born and reared, and make a home for the young brother and sister. The promise was made and sacredly kept, and from that time until the present, a period of over thirty years, there has scarcely been a time, however short, but that they have had this brother and sister or their children, as well as other nieces and nephews of himself and wife, as members of their family, and in which they have always been treated with love and kindness, as if their own.

They had only two children of their own, and both are now deceased,—Amanda, born in 1844, died March.

1879, leaving one little girl, Josie May Martin, to the care and affection of her grandparents; Hannah, born in 1854, and died in 1860.

During the last thirty years of his life Mr. St. John has often been chosen to act as executor, administrator, assignee, or trustee of estates and guardian of minor children. Perhaps no man in the town has ever been intrusted with the care and custody of other people's money to such an extent and such large amounts, and up to this day he has never failed at the proper time to account for every dollar of the millions thus confided to him.

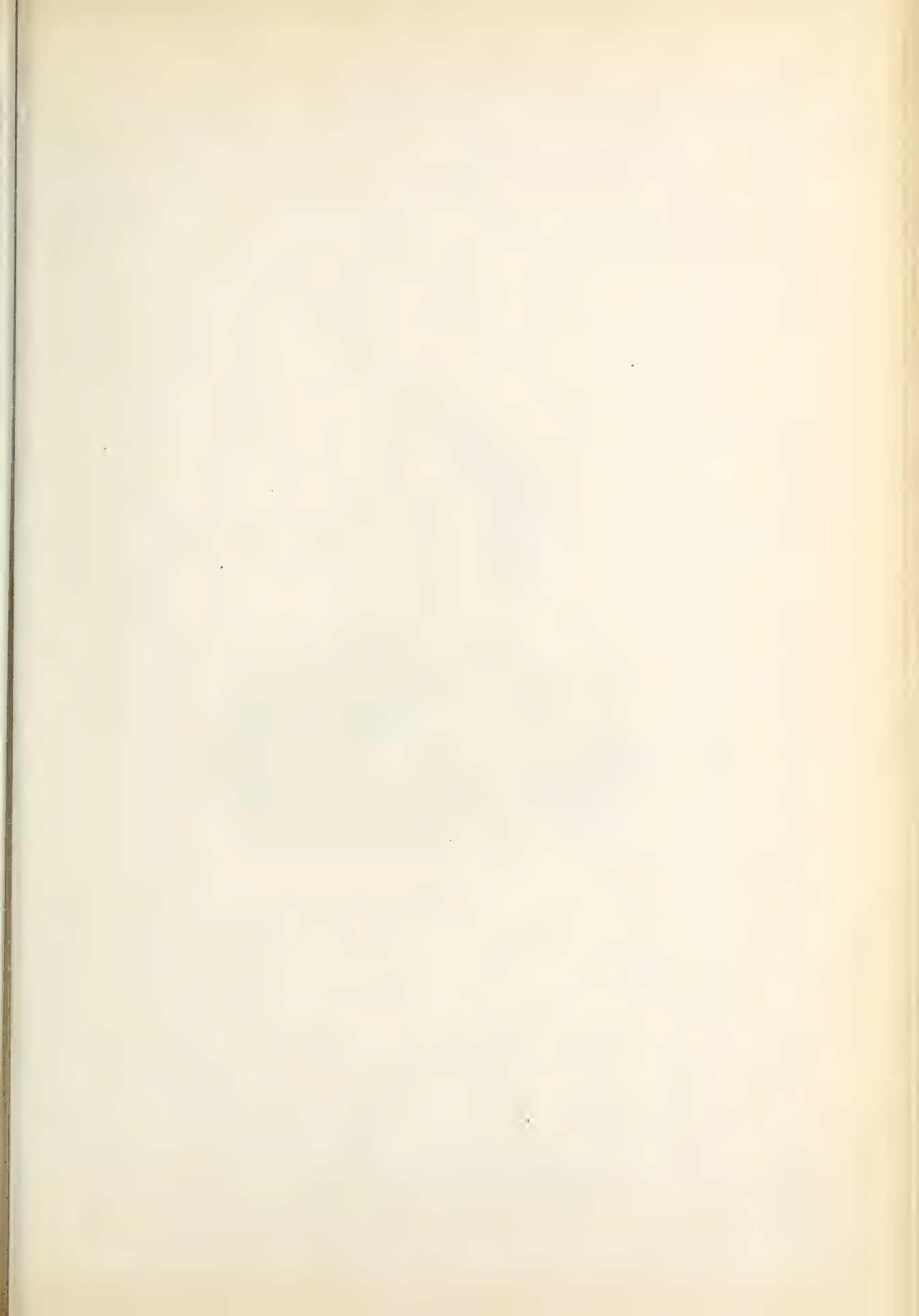
Another feature of his business life in which he has great reason to congratulate himself is the fact that, while acting so prominently in a fiduciary capacity, and especially during the late war and just after, when so many had money to invest, and there were so many schemes to answer this great demand, some of which were worthy, and an innumerable number of unworthy ones, as was natural, his advice was often sought by men and women as to what or where they should invest their money. And he has the proud satisfaction of knowing that no person, and no estate of which he had charge of the investments, but that have already or can now realize one hundred cents on the dollar. And it was not because he was not thoroughly tempted, as thousands of other men were, constantly besieged and implored to take the agency of this, that, or the other thing, with large and tempting commissions offered as the price of his advice and influence. Happy man! A million dollars would be poor pay for the blotting of such a record and memory as that.

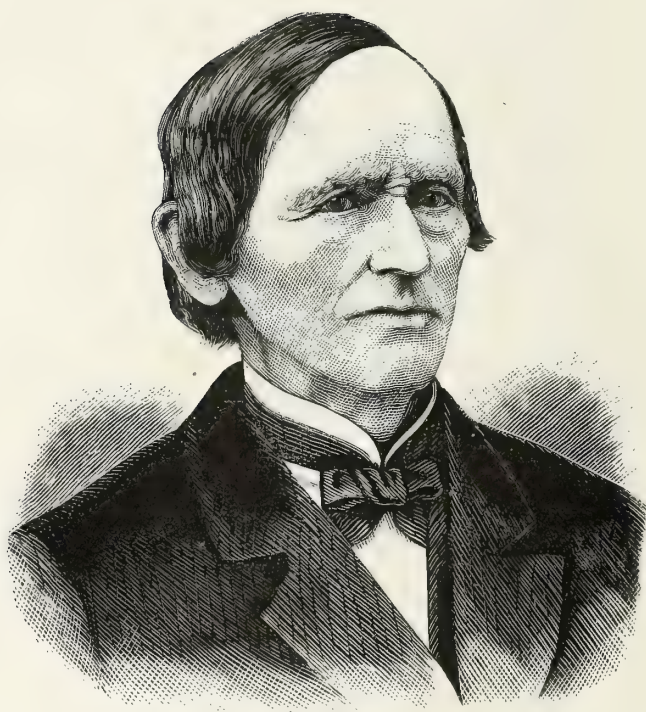
On the temperance question Mr. St. John has been a "radical" from early boyhood, having signed the pledge when only fourteen years old; that was the "old pledge," which covered alcoholic beverages only. A year or two later, alone and by himself, without persuasion or influence of any sort, never having heard a discussion or lecture on the subject, but simply reading an article in a newspaper that accidentally came into his hands, he resolved to abstain from everything that could intoxicate, and from that time until 1876, a period of over forty years, no intoxicating liquors passed his lips, and then only as he took other poisons, from the hands and by the advice of a trusty friend and physician. Forty-three years ago this summer he and six other young men—all under or about twenty years of age—organized the New Canaan Young Men's Total Abstinence Society, and circulated the first pledge of that kind in the town, which has borne good fruit. And, what is a remarkable fact, six of those men are still living, one only having fallen from grace, who died several years ago.

During the winter of 1840-41 he was induced to attend and listen to a lecture on slavery. He went to the meeting with a strong prejudice against abolition and abolition lecturers; but what he heard made a profound impression upon his mind, as it was well

calculated to do, the argument being principally moral and biblical. When leaving the house an intimate friend said to him, "What do you think of that?" meaning the lecture. The answer was, "I hardly know what to think, but it *seems* to be God's truth." "Well," said the friend, "what are you going to do about it?" "I don't know; try to do right. If I become convinced that slavery is contrary to right and justice and cannot be reconciled with the 'Golden Rule,' then I shall be an abolitionist. I must be!" And yet hoping, almost praying, that he might see his way clear to "do right" and yet not be obliged to become an abolitionist. It soon became known that he was on the anxious seat, and his friends became as anxious to save him from what they thought would be utter ruin and disgrace; those that were *real* friends labored in season and out of season, kindly, calmly, and prayerfully; *pretended* friends sneered and prophesied and even threatened, and this only added fuel to the fire, for his was a nature that might be won, but could not be bullied or bribed. It is impossible in these days to comprehend or hardly believe the strife and struggles that the abolitionists of forty years ago had to endure and surmount. It produced alienation of long-time friends, broke up the affections and harmony of churches and families. His experience was only that of thousands of others. Friends tried to persuade, dear relations, with blood-connected ties, begged and prayed that he would listen to reason and save himself and them from disgrace. *Ministers of the Gospel of Jesus of Nazareth* interfered with advice and remonstrance. And finally the culmination came one evening, when calling upon *the one minister* who of all others had his love, confidence, and veneration. When, with a kind and loving seriousness and prayerful earnestness befitting the attempt to "snatch a brand from the burning," his reverend friend (and he knew and felt it was a *real* friend) pictured and set before him, as only a master hand can do, the grand and glowing prospects that were opening before him as a young man, in business relations, in society, and in the church, everything almost that an intelligent, ambitious young man might be supposed to aspire to, was apparently almost ready to fall into his hands, the interview ended. Mr. St. John had expected to attend an anti-slavery meeting that evening and had stopped on his way. He was staggered for a while; he saw and felt the deep and sincere earnestness of his friend; knew he was a good, esteemed, and earnest minister of the Gospel, and that he ought to know a great deal better about such a question of morals than himself; knew and admitted that many and most of the consequences so dreaded by his friends would come upon him, and yet he did not half know the consequences that would follow him as an open and avowed abolitionist, and well he did not, for he thought he had all he could bear. He passed out of his friend's door into the darkness of night with a heart full almost of agony and eyes raining tears







*C. L. Benedict*



down his face. As he went slowly down the street he reasoned with himself. Worldly ease and ambition tempted him to give up and yield to the entreaties and try to believe that the slave was better off as he was than he would be to be a "free nigger." But a good spirit said, "How about the 'Golden Rule?' can a slaveholder be doing what, and as he would that, others should do unto him? and John Wesley says, 'American slavery is the sum of all villanies,' and *I believe it!* I will be an abolitionist and accept the consequences. Thank God for this decision! *I know I am right.*" And from that moment there was never anything that could amount to a temptation to turn back. All that was prophesied came upon him, and more; but all the trials and difficulties were ordained for good, as is promised to them that are faithful to God and humanity and a good conscience, and now this chapter of his experience in life is regarded and cherished as the brightest, and crowded with pleasant memories.

Of course, as may be inferred, from the time of his conversion he voted as he prayed and talked and wrote. He acted with the poor, despised "Liberty party" fanatics until the organization of the "Free Soil" party, then with them until the organization of the Republican party, whose grand and glorious mission was to first stop the spread, then strangle, and finally, with flashing sabre and glittering bayonets and thundering cannon, in the hands of a million "Boys in Blue," stamp out for aye and evermore the American system and "sum of all villanies." With this party he stood from the first, and stands to-day with "malice towards none and charity towards all."

In 1836 he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, where he still worships. Creed and professions he regards much less than the every-day walk and conversation, and, while reverencing the Bible, he has no fears that it will be sacrilegious to have the old one revised and corrected, fully believing that we have as good and learned men as they had two hundred years or more ago, that are capable of revising it in the interests of truth, righteousness, and revelation. He has no anxiety either about what science has already developed, or will develop, in reference to the truth of what is esteemed Bible teachings, for wherein *truth* is really found God will be found also, and He can be trusted to take care of His own.

From his earliest recollections he has been fond of reading, and in his sixteenth year subscribed for Mr. Greeley's *New Yorker*, a weekly literary paper, which, he insists, he has never seen excelled. He continued that until its publication was suspended. He has been a constant reader of the *Tribune* from its start, has taken the daily regularly for twenty-eight years, and considers himself under obligations to Horace Greeley for more and better sound common-sense instruction in morality, social as well as political, than all other persons or sources combined. In addition to the popular magazines and other monthly issues, he

averages, besides the *Daily Tribune*, at least one weekly every day, Sunday included, and has one of the largest, if not the largest private library of miscellaneous books in the town.

His farm, which, when he came into possession, had been without a proper head for seventeen years, and had become almost a waste, has been cleared up, drained and fenced, buildings renovated and added to, until it has become one of the best farms in the vicinity, and is now an unpretending but comfortable and delightful country home.

He was re-elected to the Legislature in 1880.

#### CALEB S. BENEDICT.

The Benedicts are of English descent, and came to this country at a very early day, settling in Norwalk, Conn.

The great-grandfather of Caleb S. Benedict, also named Caleb, was one of the earliest settlers of New Canaan. He died in 1761, at the age of fifty-two. An arm-chair used by him is in the possession of the family. James Benedict, one of his sons, died at the age of ninety-five. He was the founder of the shoe business in New Canaan. His youngest son, Caleb, was the first to begin the manufacture of peg shoes in that place, having bought the right to do so from parties in New York. His was a town-right, which permitted him to manufacture in New Canaan only. He from a small beginning manufactured quite extensively at last, probably to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars per annum. He was married at about the age of twenty to Miss Ellis, daughter of Hezekiah St. John, of New Canaan. There were fifteen children, of whom Caleb S. was the eldest son. He was born in New Canaan, Oct. 28, 1803, and was reared to the trade of his fathers, working in his father's establishment until his marriage, Nov. 9, 1826, to Miss Hannah E., eldest daughter of Deacon William and Polly (Mills) Crissey, of New Canaan, when he engaged in business on his own account. The children of the last-recorded marriage have been eleven in number, of whom eight are living,—namely: Harriet E., now Mrs. H. D. Lockwood, of Stamford; Mary J., now Mrs. William E. Husted; Joseph I.; Junius C. S., Jr.; Polly M., now Mrs. George Kellogg, of Ocean Grove; Theodore W.; and Henry G. The three deceased are Harriet E., William C., killed in battle of Murfreesboro', and Edward S.

Three years since, Mr. and Mrs. Benedict celebrated their golden wedding, at which there were present ninety-nine guests, the major part of whom were their descendants.

The life of Mr. Benedict has been one of active business; considerable of his time has been given to the interests of the public, having at various times held almost all of the town offices. In 1866 he was

elected to the Legislature, representing his town again in that body in 1872.

The manufacture of the establishment with which Mr. Benedict is connected does not exceed thirty thousand dollars per annum. Associated in business with him are several of his sons.

#### EBENEZER J. RICHARDS.

The Richards are of Welsh extraction, and trace their descent in this country from Samuel Richards, who was one of the original settlers in Norwalk, and who was great-grandfather to the subject of our sketch.

James Richards settled in New Canaan some years before the Revolution. One of his children, Jesse, youngest but one of a large family, was married to Miss Lydia, daughter of Jesse and Lydia Hickok, of New Canaan. His children were six by his first wife; his second marriage was to Clarissa, daughter of Judge Ebenezer Lockwood, of Westchester, N. Y.

Ebenezer J. Richards was the only child of this second marriage, and was born April 3, 1816, in New Canaan. His opportunities for acquiring an education were such as are afforded by the common school, with one term at a higher institution of learning in New York City.

Possessing talents which would have enabled him to reach success in professional life, he has clung to the calling of his father, that of farming, from choice, believing that to be a business requiring quite as high order of talent to prosecute successfully as the learned professions. Mr. Richards enjoys the reputation of a successful farmer.

Ebenezer J. Richards was married somewhat late in life to Miss Julia M., youngest daughter of Hartford and Mabel (Fitch) Carter, of New Canaan.

Mr. Carter was a man of more than ordinary talent and force of character, and represented his town a number of times in the Legislature, and was for many years one of its selectmen.

E. J. Richards has filled many town offices, and in 1863 represented his town in the Legislature of his State.

#### WILLIAM EDGAR RAYMOND.

William Edgar Raymond, third son of Samuel Raymond, was born in the city of New York in 1821. His grandfather, William Raymond, moved into the parish of Canaan about the year 1785, from Norwalk, settling on a small tract of land in the eastern part of the township, where he built a house in which he lived and died. He was a descendant of one of three brothers who immigrated to this country from France in the early settlement of the colony of Connecticut. Two of the brothers, according to tradition, settled in New London, the third in Norwalk. William Raymond was a soldier in the French-Canadian war, and

his discharge and receipt are on file in the comptroller's office at Hartford. He came into the parish of Canaan a cripple, from wounds received in battle, and was comparatively a poor man, but he reared quite a large family of children,—sons and daughters,—all of whom, with the exception of the youngest son, Samuel, went to other States and settled, and their numerous descendants have made honored names for themselves and families.

Samuel Raymond early saw his situation,—that his father's few acres of rough land would not give him a living,—and prevailed on his father to allow him to do something for himself. On the rocky farm of one Matthias St. John, young Samuel began the real battle of life, remaining with him until he was bound out to learn the trade of shoemaker. Mr. St. John afterwards married his oldest sister. At the age of twenty Samuel purchased his time and went to Walton, Delaware Co., N. Y. Here he remained one year, and returned to his native town and commenced the manufacture of shoes, in which he was moderately successful.

In 1808 he was married to Polly, daughter of Jacob Selleck, a well-to-do farmer of New Canaan. Jacob Selleck became the purchaser of "the Shaker Farm" when that society sold out and removed to Lebanon, N. Y. It is now owned by the sons of the late Capt. Stephen Hoyt. The children of Samuel were Charlotte, Charles, Thomas, and William E.

Samuel Raymond was a man prominent not only in his native town, but also in his county and State. He was well versed in the laws of the State, some of which he drafted, while many were passed during his membership in the Legislature. He represented New Canaan in the Legislature thirteen years, with one year in the Senate, and his influence was second to none. An extensive reader, retaining all he read, he could cope in debate with the ablest members of his day. A strong partisan, but not an extremist, he was thoroughly honest, and no party measure ever received his encouragement or support if in his view there was anything wrong in it. Party caucuses never succeeded in whipping him into the traces, and for his adherence to what he conceived to be the right, which was contrary to the views of his party in a matter relating to the banks of the State, he was at one time "read out."

For many years previous to 1842 he had been engaged in the mercantile business. That year he was elected sheriff, and sold his business to his three sons. This business was in a short time bought by the two youngest sons, who remained together several years, and was finally bought by William E., who continued it down to 1857, when he sold out and went to Iowa, where he had a large interest in government lands. He went West with the intention of engaging in banking, but, not liking the way they did business in that new State, in the autumn of the same year he returned to Connecticut.

In 1859 he was elected to the Legislature, and the







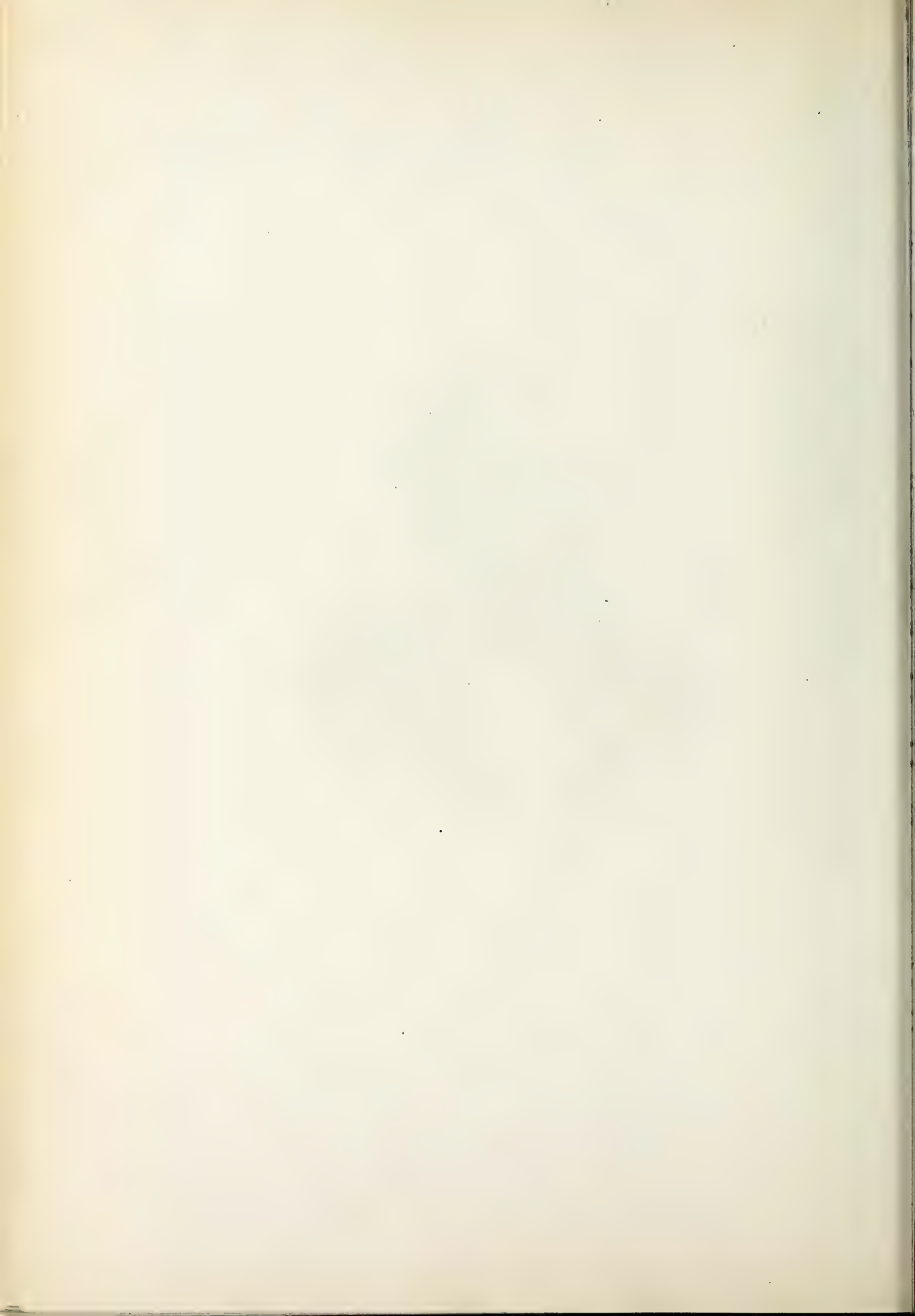
Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*Ebenger J. Richards*

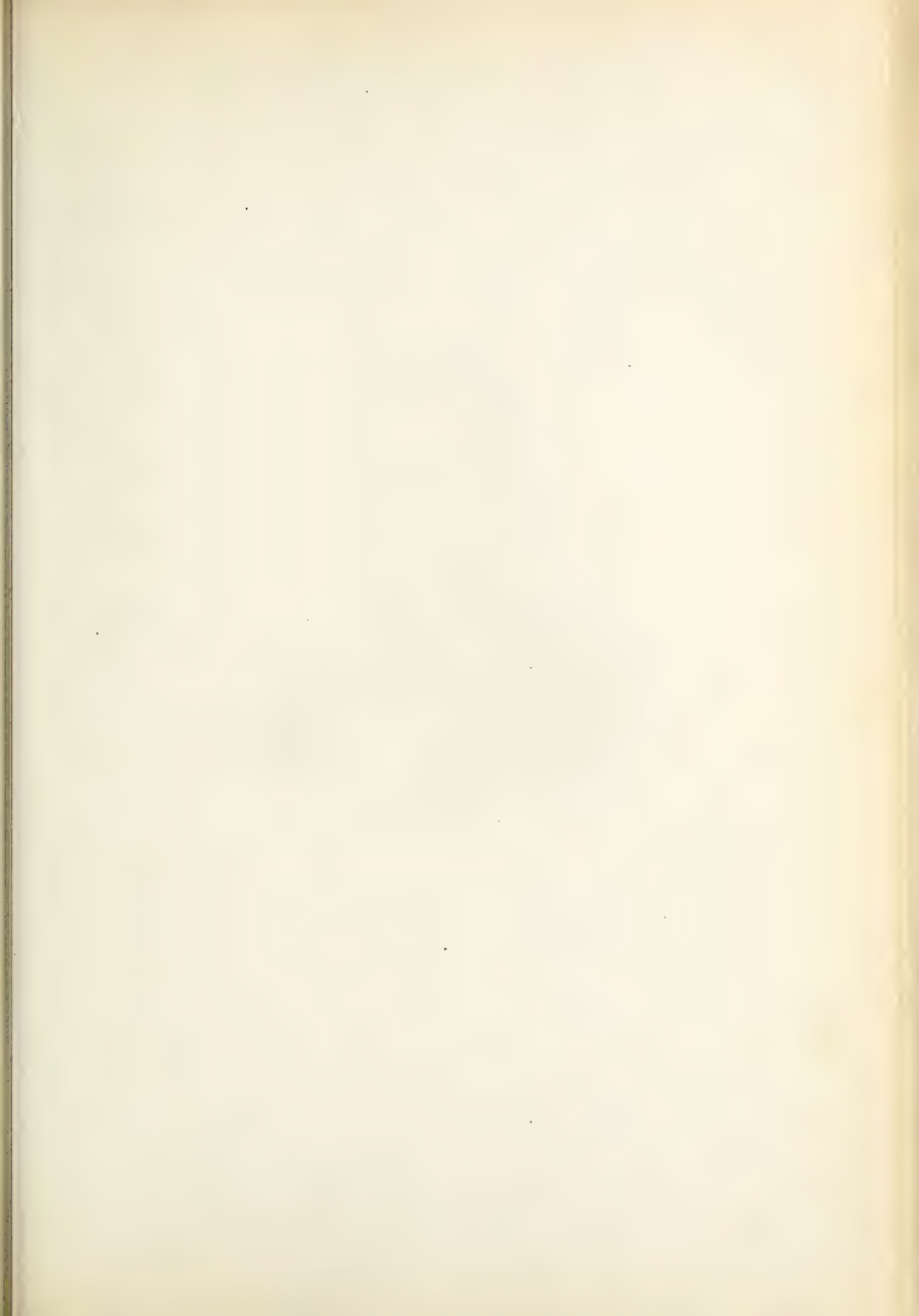




*William E. Payson.*







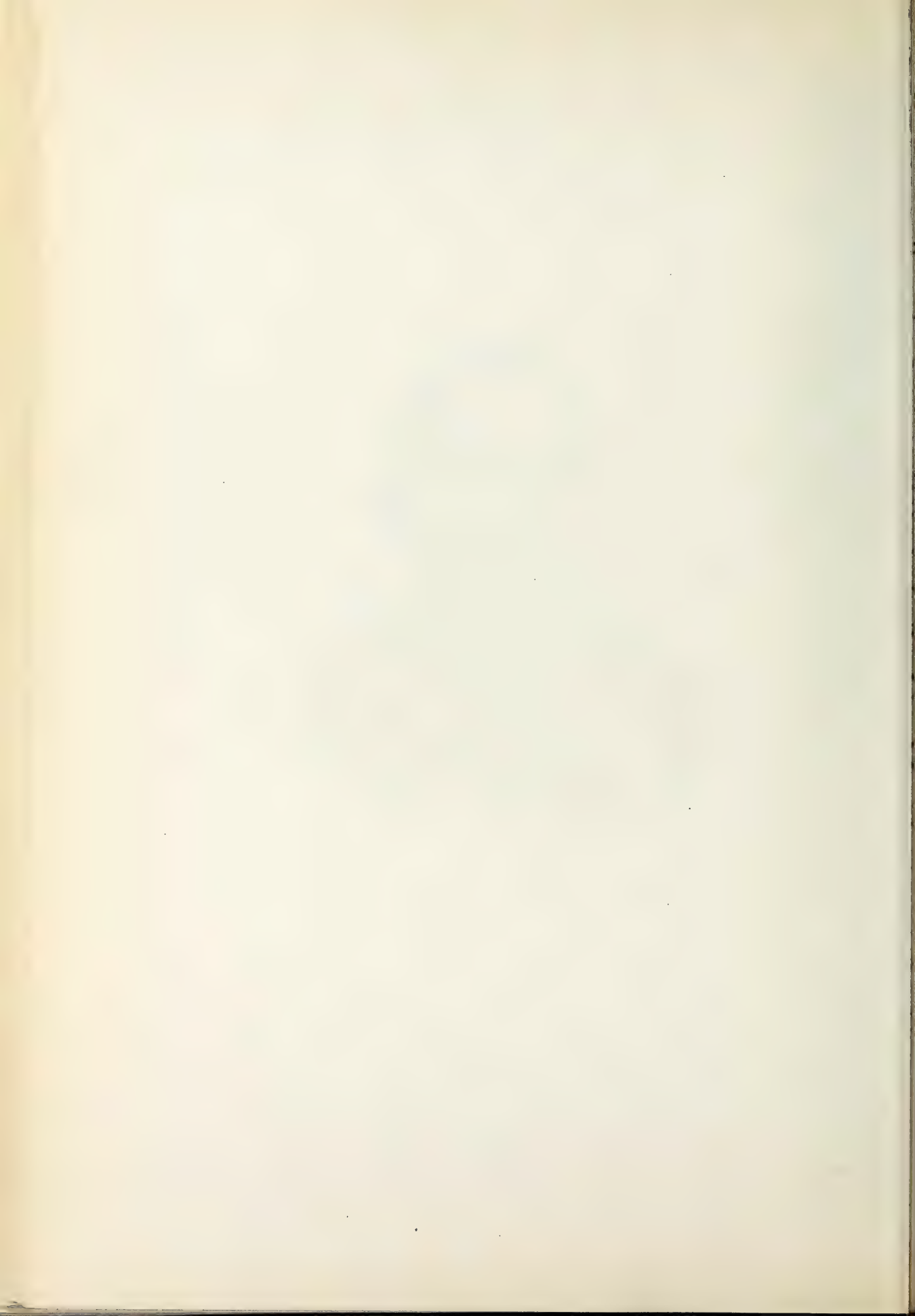


*Russell L. Hall*





*Stephen Hovey*





same year he engaged in manufacturing, following it to 1875, when he retired. In 1873 he was elected State treasurer, faithfully and satisfactorily performing the duties of that office for four successive years. The present four and a half per cent. bonded indebtedness of the State was recommended in his last report to the General Assembly, and by its adoption many thousands of dollars have been saved to the taxpayers.

William E. Raymond has filled various offices of trust and responsibility. At present he is an active trustee of the New Canaan Railroad; is a bank director and an honorary member of the American Board.

Samuel Raymond died in 1865, at the advanced age of nearly eighty-two, and is still well remembered.

#### RUSSELL L. HALL.

Russell L. Hall was born Aug. 18, 1832, in Warren, Litchfield Co., Conn., and is of Welsh descent. His early life was spent in laying the foundation of the education which has enabled him to become the successful business man he is to-day. His education was both common school and academic. At the age of sixteen he began the trade of cabinet-maker, in Goshen, Litchfield Co. As an apprentice he worked for George S. Brewster for nearly five years, receiving as compensation twenty-five dollars first, with five dollars advance each year, receiving for the last year forty-five dollars.

In 1853 he came to New Canaan, the place of his present abode, and in the following spring embarked in business on his own account. His success has been uniform, and he stands to-day one of the prominent men of his adopted town.

Elnathan Hall, his great-grandfather, was a large landholder in the western part of Fairfield County at an early day, and just before the Revolution purchased a large tract of land in Vermont, which he divided among his children, some of whom went there to live. His youngest son, Elnathan L., moved to Fairfield County, where he learned the trades of tanner and shoemaker, which business, in connection with farming, he followed through life. His wife's name was Huldah Stone, of Danbury, and their children eight in number, all of whom are living, the youngest about sixty, the eldest nearly eighty.

Norman S. Hall, father of Russell, was a native of Litchfield County. His business was that of tanner, principally. His wife was Mary A., eldest daughter of Russell and — Hurd Stone, of Kent. Their children were Russell L., Harriet E., Ezra S., Amelia Sophia (deceased), Mary J., Charles W., Laura I., and Lucy M. (deceased).

Russell L. Hall was married Dec. 24, 1857, to Miss Betsy A., eldest daughter of Reuben and Sarah (Scofield) Jones, of New Canaan. Their children are Julia M. and Lewis C.

Mr. Hall has filled with satisfaction to his constituents various offices of trust in his town. He has been treasurer of New Canaan Savings Bank for some time, and in 1878 he was elected president of First National Bank of New Canaan, having previously filled the office of vice-president of the institution for several years.

#### CAPT. STEPHEN HOYT.

Capt. Stephen Hoyt was born in New Canaan, April 7, 1800. He was the only son of Stephen and Polly (Carter) Hoyt, and had four sisters. Of these, Polly married Bradley Keeler; Hannah, Alfred Seeley; and Sally Carter, Benjamin Hoyt; while Julia, the youngest but one, died unmarried at the age of nineteen. An only son, Stephen enjoyed all that parental and sisterly love could provide, while he, on his part, contributed, to the extent of his ability, to their comfort and happiness. His parents, in comfortable circumstances, planned to give him a collegiate education, but "Man proposes, God disposes." Young Stephen's eyesight failing him in part, he was obliged to abandon study and seek other pursuits.

When twenty years of age he taught the winter term of what is known as the White Oak District School. The spring following he entered mercantile life, taking his father's interest in the store kept by Husted & Hoyt. The business was carried on in the corner-store now owned by S. C. Weed,—the only store at that time in the village of New Canaan. At the end of about five years Mr. Husted sold his interest to Edwin Nash, who remained in the firm until his death, in 1845. In 1837, Benjamin Hoyt became a partner, and business was conducted under the firm-name of S. & B. Hoyt. In 1840, Stephen sold his interest to Andrews Weed, that he might give his entire attention to the cultivation of his farm bought three years before.

At twenty-three he was married to Sally, daughter of Caleb Benedict, commencing housekeeping in a new building built by his father opposite the old home.

In 1824 he was elected captain in a company of militia, serving three years, during the time marching his company to Norwalk to do honor to Gen. Lafayette, then making the tour of the States.

As a merchant he was obliging and popular, and quite successful, but on account of his large and growing family, which he felt could be better trained in the country, he abandoned mercantile for farm life. This he did against the opposition of his father's family, who idolized him and wished him to remain near them.

In politics he was a Whig, and represented his party in 1836 and 1840 in the State Legislature. As selectman he served several terms, and for many years was treasurer of the town deposit fund. He was an earnest advocate and defender of human liberty, and joined the Free Soil party in 1848 and the Re-

publican party in 1856. He was, during the Rebellion, a thorough Union man, giving of time, money, and voice, aiding his town to raise its quota, and in assisting the families of those who had gone to the front. After the war he withdrew from active politics and devoted himself to the improvement of his farm.

He was a man of high moral character, and entered heartily into any project having for its object the elevation of mankind or the improvement of his town. He took a resolute stand in 1840 in connection with the, in his town, unpopular Washingtonian reform movement. Signing the pledge, he banished from his table and fields cider, as well as all other intoxicants. In this new and unpopular sphere he showed the same resolute determination characteristic with him in all his undertakings. He spent much of his time and money in attending and sustaining State, county, and town temperance organizations, and for years was rarely absent from their weekly meetings held in the town.

He was one of the fourteen charter members who organized Friendship Division, No. 10, Sons of Temperance, in New Canaan, in 1845,—an organization which has existed upwards of thirty-five years, with a membership at the present writing of nearly two hundred. At his death he was one of the few charter members who remained true to the great principles of this reform.

Capt. Hoyt took great interest in the New Canaan Railroad, giving much time and money towards its construction. He was stockholder and director of the First National Bank, and for several years its president, and for many years director and loaning committee of the savings bank. He interested himself in forming the Union Cemetery Company, of which he was chosen president. To this work he devoted much time and labor, and advanced the money necessary to make the survey, lay out the drives and walks, and for other work necessary to bring the corporation into a self-sustaining association.

The cemetery was dedicated in 1872. The elm-tree standing in the triangle of the road as you enter the village of New Canaan from the east was planted there by Capt. Hoyt in 1870, and the stone coping surrounding it was caused to be placed there by Mrs. Dr. W. Parker.

As a farmer Capt. Hoyt was eminently successful. His farm, bought in 1837, was known as the Shaker Farm, comprising at that time one hundred and sixty-three acres of worn-out rocky land, with poor fences and outbuildings. He entered at once upon the work of improvement, and long before his death had the satisfaction of bringing about a complete transformation, the rocky, unproductive fields giving place to grass, orchard, and tree-covered, fertile ones, and the old tumble-down fences and buildings entirely replaced by new. In 1842 he cultivated a few onions, increasing the quantity of ground until five acres were annually cultivated, yielding from two thousand five

hundred to three thousand bushels. In 1846 he started the first milk-route in New Canaan. In 1848 he formed a partnership with a Mr. Scofield for the purpose of starting a nursery in New Canaan. Seeds were sown and every arrangement made for growing nursery stock. This was the beginning of the celebrated nursery of Stephen Hoyt's Sons, now carried on by James & Edwin Hoyt, who have more than one hundred acres exclusively devoted to the growing of young trees.

Kind-hearted and liberal, no man of his generation in New Canaan was more identified with its interests; and he was ever ready to lend a helping hand to those seeking his aid. He gave employment to a large number, many of whom were with him continuously for nearly thirty years.

Of his ten children seven are still living, three having died in infancy.

Oct. 23, 1873, Capt. Hoyt celebrated his golden wedding, which was participated in by nearly two hundred guests, and was a social occasion long to be remembered.

He died Feb. 24, 1879, thus ending the career of an energetic, persevering, and good man.

#### AARON JELLIFF, JR.

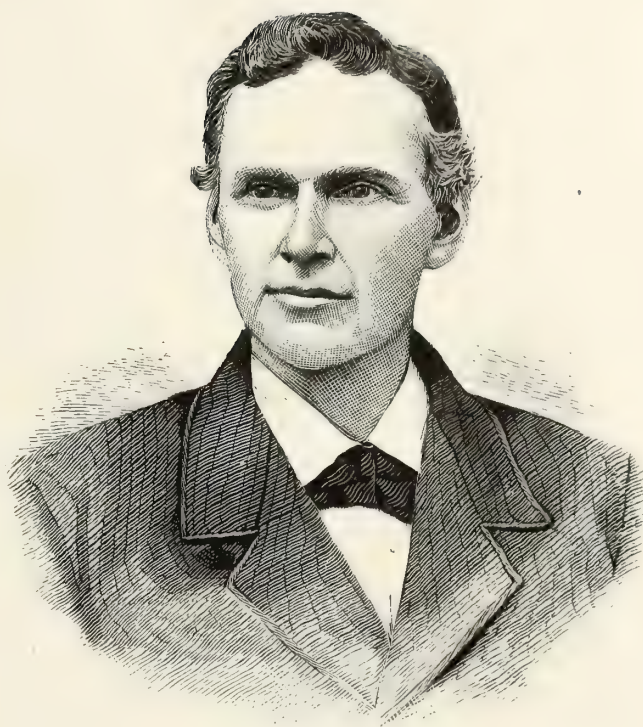
Aaron Jelliff, Jr., was born in Wilton, Fairfield Co., Conn., March 2, 1839. His father, also named Aaron, was a hatter by trade, following it for some years in his native town, Wilton, also in Pennsylvania. Relinquishing the hat business, he began in a small way the manufacture of wire sieves.

He was married to Miss Caroline Dunning, of Wilton, and became the father of nine children, of whom Aaron was the fifth child and fourth son. His second wife was Mrs. Bartram, of Redding. Of this union there was no issue.

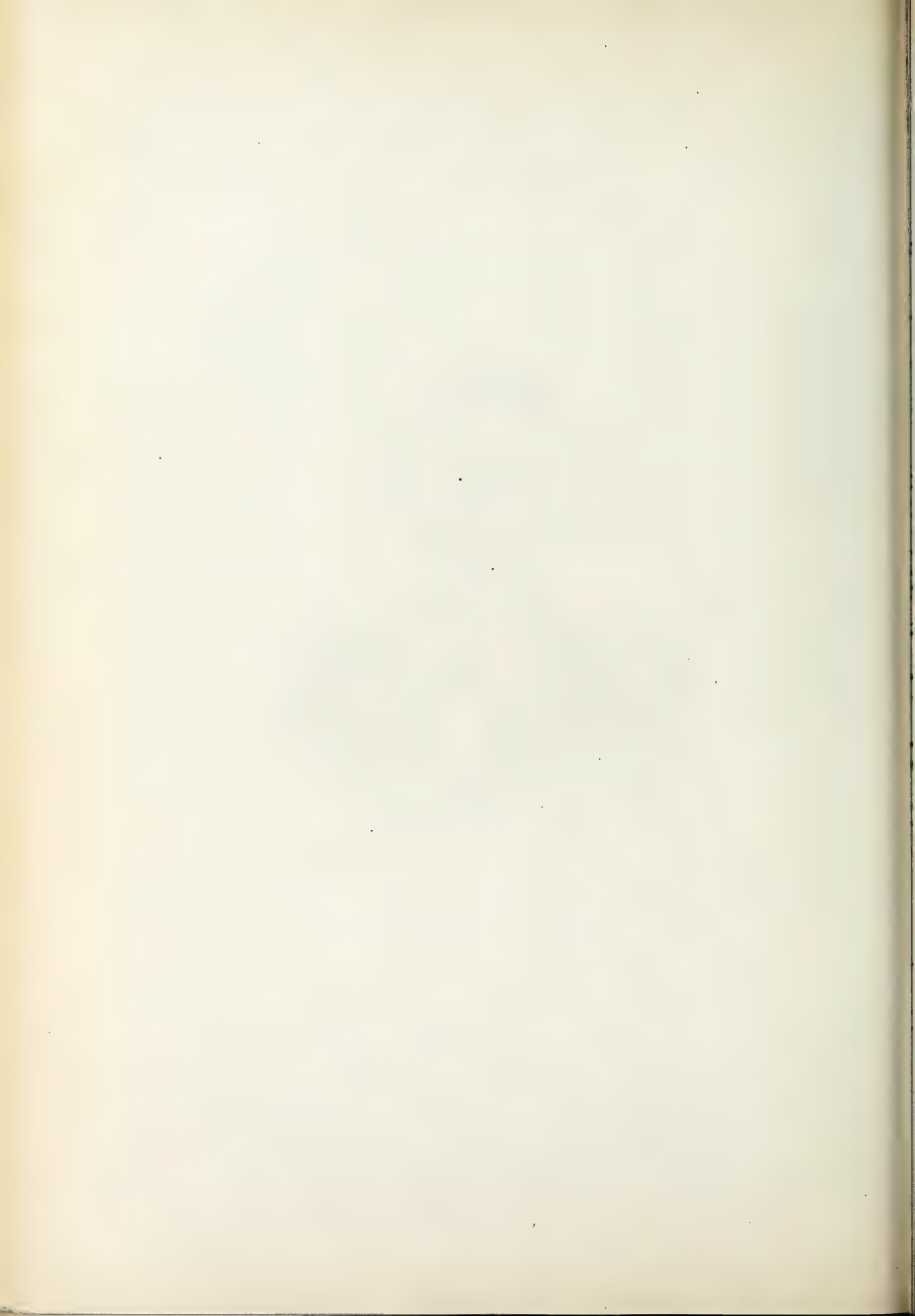
Aaron Jelliff, Jr., learned the business of sieve-making from his father, whom he assisted up to and after his marriage, which took place on his reaching his twenty-first birthday, to Samantha, daughter of Major and Hannah (Keeler) Dickens, of Redding. The only child which has been born to them is George H., born Dec. 18, 1861. After his marriage Mr. Jelliff commenced the manufacture of brush-blocks in Georgetown, soon after removing to Wilton, where he continued the business until 1868, when he connected with it the business of making coal-sieves, weaving his own cloth and making his own frames. To this small business he has added from time to time, until now the product of the factory consists of coal- and flour-sieves, of muzzles, wire-cloth, and the celebrated "Rival Ash-Sifter." This latter business has reached such proportions as to crowd out the brush-block business almost entirely.

In 1869, Mr. Jelliff moved to the town of New Canaan, and took possession of what is known as Waterbury's Mills, which, in company with his brother





*Aaron Jelliff Jr*







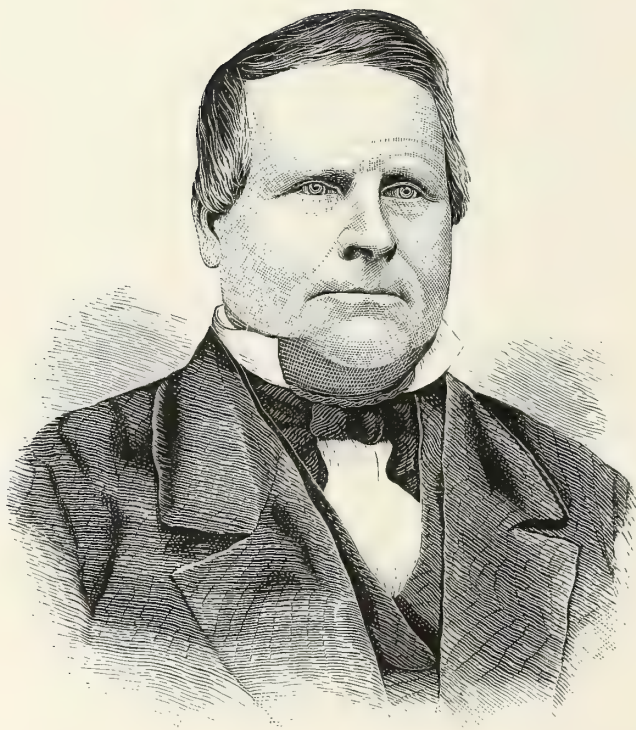


Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*Samuel Comstock*





Photo. by G. S. North, South Norwalk.

*Francis E. Chichester*





Charles, he had recently purchased. The property was in a sad state of dilapidation,—“Nothing local, as one might say,” but the whole having, not a mild, but a strong and most pronounced, flavor of decay. But the brothers were not of the kind easily discouraged, and set about repairing the place as well as their limited means would allow. First they were obliged to build a house to live in, which done they turned their attention to the mill, finding it necessary to substitute a new wheel for the ones in the mill in order to get the power requisite for their business. They put in a “Lefie” wheel twenty-three inches in diameter, by which they get over fifteen-horse power, and by the aid of which they do all the sawing and planing for their frames.

#### SAMUEL COMSTOCK.

Samuel Comstock is descended from the pioneer of that name who was one of the earliest settlers of Norwalk.

Abijah Comstock, the paternal grandfather of Samuel, settled in New Canaan on the farm which has ever since been owned and occupied by his descendants. His wife's name was Deborah Benedict, and their children were eight, four sons and four daughters, of whom the father of our subject, also named Samuel, was the youngest; he was a farmer by occupation, but bore the title of major, probably of militia. He was also engaged in mercantile pursuits to some extent. He was born July 15, 1767; married, Dec. 6, 1793, to Catharine, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah (Green) Clock. Joseph Green, father of Sarah, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and was killed at Compo, April 30, 1777, in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

The children of Samuel and Catharine (Clock) Comstock were eight, four sons and four daughters, as in the preceding generation, of whom the subject of this memoir was son. He was born July 4, 1802, and died March 11, 1871.

The family of which he was a member consisted of Deborah, Dinah (deceased), Hannah (deceased), Ruth (deceased), Samuel (deceased), William (deceased), David, a Congregational minister, now living retired in Stamford, Conn., and Thomas Anthony, living in Brooklyn, and the father of Anthony Comstock, agent for the Society for the Suppression of Vice.

Samuel Comstock's education was derived from the common school of his native town principally, with a short academical term in New Canaan Academy. At his father's death, which occurred when he was sixteen, he was obliged to withdraw from his studies, which he never afterwards found time to resume, and assume charge of the farm, as the eldest son.

His father, just previous to his death, which occurred suddenly, had been engaged in repairs and improvements at considerable expense, which left

the estate somewhat encumbered. This encumbrance young Samuel, by his industry, prudence, and foresight, ably assisted by his mother, an energetic woman of excellent judgment, soon removed, and was able to assist his younger brother. At the age of thirty-five Samuel was married to Sarah, daughter of David and Cynthia (Abbott) Comstock, of Norwalk. Their children were Hannah (deceased), Sarah, Eliza, Josephine, Clementine, and Samuel. In politics Mr. Comstock was a Whig, but, although taking a lively interest in political matters, he persistently refused office.

In religious matters he was very liberal. He was a regular attendant at the Congregational church in New Canaan, and a member of “the society.”

Dinah Comstock, second sister of Samuel, was the wife of Rev. Chester Isham, at the time of his death settled over Trinitarian Church, Taunton, Mass. Ruth, the youngest sister, kept a young ladies' boarding-school in New Haven for more than twenty years. This school was started by Dinah (Mrs. Isham) and Ruth Comstock, and was known as Dwight Place Seminary, also as Miss Comstock's school, and on the death of Mrs. Isham was continued by Ruth Comstock, as stated above. The school had an enviable reputation, and educated ladies from all parts of the United States.

#### FRANCIS E. CHICHESTER.

Throughout the entire history of the southern portion of Connecticut the name of Chichester figures. It is an English name and found among the original settlers of Norwalk. The paternal grandfather of Francis E. Chichester was David Chichester, and on his mother's side, Enos Weed, both natives and lifelong residents of the town of New Canaan, Fairfield Co.

David Chichester was a soldier in the Revolution, and took part in the battle of Ridgefield. The action was quite severe, David, however, escaping with no greater damage than two bullet-holes through his coat. His widow after his death was a pensioner of that war. David was the father of a large family, all of whom reached an advanced age, the youngest being sixty before a death occurred among the children.

Enos Weed was three times married,—first to a Miss Powers, of New Canaan; his second and third wives were sisters, named Andrews, of Darien.

The eldest son of David Chichester, Isaac, was a Presbyterian minister, and at his death was settled at Bennington, N. Y. Alanson Chichester, third son, was the father of the subject of our sketch. He was a farmer by occupation, a man of much force of character, though retiring in his manner. He was married early in life to Sally, eldest daughter of Enos and Kesiah (Powers) Weed, of New Canaan. Their children were Hannah, Francis E., George A. (merchant in Danbury),

Sarah (deceased), David N. (living on the homestead in Pound Ridge), and Mary P.

Francis E. Chichester was the eldest son and was born Nov. 15, 1822, in New Canaan, where he lived until his fifth year, when his father removed to Pound Ridge, Westchester Co., N. Y. Here Francis remained till his marriage, Jan. 29, 1845, to Miss Adelia J., second daughter of Frederick and Polly (St. John) Barrett, of Bedford, N. Y.

Francis' boyhood was spent in helping his father with his farm work and in attending school. After his marriage he returned to his native town and began farming on his grandfather Weed's farm, working it on shares at first, afterwards buying it, it being his home at the present time. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Chichester have been Amelia J. (now Mrs. Samuel L. Whaley, of New Canaan) and Helen F. (deceased).

In politics Mr. Chichester is Republican, and by his party has been elected to fill various town offices.

The entire family are members of the Congregational Church of New Canaan, to the support of which they liberally contribute.

## CHAPTER XLV.

### NEW FAIRFIELD.

Geographical—Topographical—Original Grant—Ebenezer Burr—First Survey—Indian Village—Indian Burying-Ground—The Pioneers—The Drain Company—Ecclesiastical—First Congregational Church—List of Representatives.

THE town of New Fairfield lies in the northern part of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Sherman; on the east by Litchfield County and the town of Brookfield; on the south by Danbury; and on the west by Putnam Co., N. Y. The surface of the town is generally hilly, and the soil fertile.

This town was granted to twelve proprietors, who made a division and allotment of rights and surveyed it about 1736-37. The grant comprised the present towns of New Fairfield and Sherman, called the "Lower and the Upper Seven Miles." The choice of location in the allotment was won by Ebenezer Burr, of Fairfield, who, not having explored the township, chose the centre lot in the "Lower Seven Miles," which, when located and surveyed, included a large part of what is now called "Short Woods," a mountainous portion, and the least valuable of any of the townships. The remains of a dwelling occupied by some of the descendants of Ebenezer Burr still exist near the residence of Richard Barrett.

The southeastern portion of the town, easterly from Wood Creek, was surveyed by Thomas and John Edwards, of Stratford, in 1737. Their survey comprised a tract of two hundred and thirty-six acres, and included a part of the farms now owned by B. B. Kellogg, Esq.,

and Mrs. H. G. Betts. This portion of the town was then called the "Apple-trees," from some apple-trees which it is said were planted by the Indians, and were standing within the recollection of persons now living. On a portion of this tract surveyed by the Edwards were an Indian village and burying-ground. Many stone implements and curiosities of Indian workmanship are turned up by the plow in cultivating the soil, some of which have been presented to the Smithsonian Institution, at Washington, by Mr. B. B. Kellogg.

The ridge of land northerly from Neversink Pond was surveyed by Onesimus Gould a little later in the same year of the Edwards survey. A large tract of swamp-land, covered with pine, now known as "the Pine Swamp," had previously been surveyed by Thomas Reed. Gould's survey commenced at the southwest corner of Reed's pine swamp, and running westerly over the hill to near the south end of "Bear's Pond," and then southerly by the swamp around the south end of the ridge by Neversink Pond, thence northerly to the place of beginning, taking in all the upland.

In the swamp northerly from Neversink Pond was formerly a heavy growth of white cedar. This was considered of so much value by the first proprietors for the purpose of making pails, tubs, and woodenware, which were all home-made, that this tract was surveyed and divided into twelve lots, which still remain as originally surveyed. The title to some of these lots is rather vague, in consequence of their not having been distributed or properly conveyed in the settlement of the estates of the proprietors or their descendants.

#### THE PIONEERS.

Among the early settlers were Medack Rogers, grandfather of D. B. Rogers, of Danbury, Jeroe Scudder, who lived in what is now Centerville, Thomas Burse, the Beardsleys, the Penfields, Squire Treadwell, grandfather of L. P. Treadwell, treasurer of the Union Savings Bank of Danbury, and Amos R. Stevens. The latter was in the war of the Revolution, and was an ancestor of Hon. Ezra Stevens, who represented this district in the State Senate. The Manzer family were at one time prominent in the affairs of the town. There were five sons in the family, to each of whom the father gave a farm. He was a large landholder, and owned nearly the whole northeastern part of the town. The names of other settlers may be found in the history of the Congregational Church. The Kelloggs were early and prominent settlers. (See biography of Hon. B. B. Kellogg.)

#### THE DRAIN COMPANY.

A petition for the organization of this company was granted by the Superior Court in September, 1880, and S. L. Warner, of New Milford, and B. B. Kellogg, of this town, were appointed scavengers. The petition was presented by proprietors of the extensive



swamp-lands situated in the towns of New Fairfield, Brookfield, and New Milford, with certain described bounds named, for the purpose of draining and improving such lands.

Messrs. Warner and Kellogg were directed by the court to call a meeting of the proprietors, to be held at Mr. Kellogg's residence, to appoint a third scavenger and other officers. The meeting was held Oct. 11, 1880, when D. H. Wanzer, of New Milford, was elected third scavenger, C. D. H. Kellogg clerk, A. E. Knowles, of New Milford, collector, and B. B. Kellogg, treasurer.

These swamp-lands comprise a tract estimated to contain near three thousand acres, a large portion now unimproved and unproductive, except for a growth of wood on some portions, most of which has sprung up since it was partially drained under a grant from the Legislature passed in 1842.

Previous to that time it had been a vast quagmire, much of it covered with water the greater part of the year, a feeding- and resting-place for the wild geese and ducks in their migratory flights from the sea to the northern lakes and return, the paradise of the muskrat, the mink, and the otter, and where the farmers sometimes turned their swine during the summer months to feed on the wild roots which grew in abundance in this water-covered marsh, losing sight of them for weeks, and sometimes months, until time for fattening in the fall, when after a long and weary hunt they would be found in a semi-wild state, but in a much improved condition.

The commissioners appointed in 1842 made a survey of the stream, having to navigate it in a boat, and also of what was called the "outlet." This is a narrow gorge between what is known as the Green Pond Mountain and the high ridge directly east. The obstruction may have been formed by a slip from the mountain in some former period, thereby causing the inundation of a large tract of land, the water gradually wearing a partial channel through the obstruction in the course of years, leaving the accumulated vegetable deposit a store-house of undeveloped wealth, waiting for the intelligence of some age to appreciate, develop, and utilize its fertility.

The commissioners had the prejudices of many of the then proprietors to contend against. They looked upon it as a Nazareth out of which no good could come. Many a stray steer or cow had broken from its enclosure and wandered into the treacherous bog, and found a resting-place for its bones, or if discovered in season been hauled out with ropes by the combined strength of the neighboring farmers, who often, after a hard day of labor, were called upon at sunset or dark to assist in pulling from the mire. It seemed to them "casting bread upon the waters" with no hope of return.

The commissioners had the stream cleared of obstructions and deepened the outlet, expending about fourteen hundred dollars, which was paid by an as-

essment on the proprietors. The draining was only partially accomplished, but the result fully proved the wisdom of the projectors. Some of the more elevated portions have been cultivated and now made into valuable meadow, and, with further improvement which the scavengers now appointed have in view, it is believed the whole can be converted into most valuable lands for meadow and general agriculture.

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.\*

The church was organized Nov. 9, 1742. The first pastor was Benajah Case, and on his settlement two hundred acres of land were given him by the town-proprietors.

When Mr. Case was settled, or how long he remained pastor, we have now no means of ascertaining, as the first leaf of the church records was lost years ago. The first entry on the society's record was in 1755. There had been a difficulty with Mr. Case, it appears, throughout most of his pastorate. The society was trying to settle it with him, and voted to leave it to outside parties. At the same time they were extending invitations to their "Danbury neighbors" to join with them in society business and privileges, referring to a district on the north part of Danbury, called Pembroke, some of whom acceded to their invitation. The probability is that Mr. Case's pastorate extended to 1755 or thereabouts.

Rev. James Taylor was installed pastor in 1758, and in 1764 complaint was made against him that he left the doctrines and principles of the church, and had drawn off a part of the people, and met in a private house for worship. The following is the protest of a part of the society:

"Whereas, At a meeting of the South Society in New Fairfield, December the 6th, 1764, the Society, by a major vote, invited Mr. James Taylor into the meeting-house to preach, although he has, notwithstanding his ordination vows, openly deserted his pastoral office, cast off with seeming contempt the religious constitution of this colony, and separated from the First Church in this Society, and has with others set up and maintains a meeting in a private house on the Lord's day, to the disturbance of those that worship in the meeting-house, contrary to a law of this colony in that case made and provided; and it is judged by a united council of both Consociations in this county of Fairfield that he, ye sd Mr. Taylor, ought not to be employed or encouraged in exercising any part of the ministerial office. The subscribers, looking upon sd Mr. Taylor to be an intruder into ye sacred work of the ministry, think ourselves in duty bound to enter a protest against sd vote, as witness our hands on ye sd date above.

"JOHN BEARDSLEE.	NEHEMIAH BEARDSLEE.
"OBADIAH BEARDSLEE.	PETER PENFIELD.
"BENJAMIN TAYLOR.	GIDEON BEARDSLEE.
"JOHN FAIRCHILD.	JOSIAH BEARDSLEE.
"ELNATHAN HALL.	DAVID WAKELEE.
"DANIEL SMITH.	SETH TROWBRIDGE.
"PHINEAS BEARDSLEE.	ELIJAH FAIRCHILD.
"HEZEKIAH ODELL.	

"Test: SAMUEL TROWBRIDGE,  
"Society's Clerk."

A vote was passed in society's meeting "ye 21st day of May, 1765," that they would not employ Mr. Taylor any longer, and Mr. Taylor would not give up

\* Contributed by D. B. Rogers.

the use of the parsonage land till in 1768, when Rev. Joseph Peck was called as pastor.

The names of the first members cannot now be given on account of the loss of some part of the first records. Doubtless, some of the following names found, under date of 1758, are of the first: Benajah Case and wife, Deacon Samuel Trowbridge and wife, Deacon Pardee, Thomas Hodges and wife, Samuel Wheeler and wife, John Beardslee and wife, Obadiah Beardslee and wife, Elnathan Hall and wife, Jabez Hall, Samuel Gregory and wife, Nathaniel Barnum and wife, John June and wife, Andrew Fairchild and wife, Thomas Brush and wife, Caleb Trowbridge and wife, Hezekiah Odell and wife, James Baker and wife, John Mitchell and wife, Joseph Rundle, Josiah Bass, Thomas Cosier, Eben Stevens and wife, Jonathan Weeks and wife, Edward Lacey and wife, Abel Barnum and wife, Noah Smith and wife, Daniel Smith and wife, Mary Comstock, Dorothy Pardee, Jemima Beardslee, and Eunice Beardslee.

In 1775, Mr. Peck was dismissed at his own request. In 1786, Rev. Medad Rogers was installed pastor, and in 1818 a revival began in the busiest season of the year, and about one hundred were converted. It has always since been spoken of as the "great revival." There have been seasons of revival at different times since and additions to the church.

The present number is not far from fifty resident members. Many in years past have removed to various parts of the West and elsewhere.

In the last century the minister was supported by tax in part, and in part by a farm of about two hundred acres. The taxes were not always paid, from poor individuals, consequently the minister suffered and the society was getting behind in paying him. At one time a receipt was given by one of the ministers for one thousand dollars as balance for a long term of years. At some of the society meetings a committee was appointed to see how much the minister would be willing to accept in lieu of what was due him. One hundred dollars in money was frequently all he would name for a year.

The following are extracts from the records of the society taken at random:

"Dec. 1, 1756.—*Voted*, To adjourn this meeting to Monday next, at sun one hour high, at the school-house."

At another time,

"*Voted*, To adjourn sd meeting the 13th of Instant April, at sun 2 hours high at night, at ye school-house. Put to vote to give Sergeant Hezekiah Stevens 2 shillings & 2 pence for sweeping the meeting-house & shutting the doors and windows for ye ensuing year past, etc.

"*Voted*, To give Leed & Jabesh Hall four shillings for sweeping the meeting-house & keeping the kee of the dore, & opening & shutting the dore & shutting the windows for ye year ensuing.

"1794.—*Voted*, To Mr. Elisha Hubbard 19s. 9d. to sweep the meeting-house & shut doors & windows (sd house to be swept once in 2 weeks).

"1795.—*Voted*, To Elisha Hubbard £1 4s. & 9d. for sweeping, etc., if he do it well.

"*Voted*, To give Eleazer Osborne \$3.99 for sweeping the meeting-house, etc., in 1803."

They were in the habit of renting the pews from 1755 to 1798, when we see no more record of the fact.

Rev. Ebenezer Davenport preached for the society in 1766; it is not known how long. They were much pleased with him, and made him an offer of settlement, but he did not accede to the proposal. They also made proposals to a Mr. Mills and to a Mr. Barrett. The society voted that the grist that was brought first to the mill should be ground first. They also voted on the subject of schools and dividing into districts, etc.

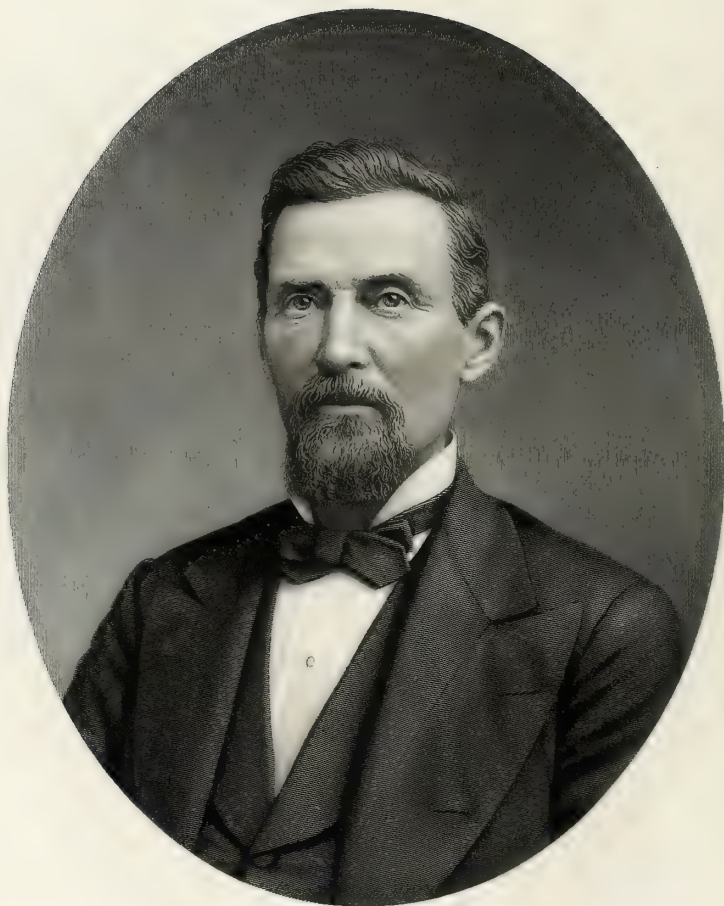
The following are the dates of ordination and dismissal of the several pastors of the church in New Fairfield after the Rev. Benajah Case: James Taylor, 1758-64; Joseph Peck, 1769-75; Medad Rogers, 1786-1822 (he died in 1824, aged seventy-four); Abram O. Stansbury, 1823-26; Daniel Crocker, 1827 (died 1830); George Coan, 1833-35; Benajah Y. Morse, 1835-38 (supply); David C. Perry, 1838-44; Henry H. Morgan, 1844-49; Lewis Pennell, 1849-53; Aaron B. Leffers, 1855-58; Ezra D. Kenney, 1859-61 (supply); William S. Clark, 1861-63; Daniel D. Frost, 1863-65; Stephen A. Loper, 1865-67; Charles B. Dye, 1868-71; Erastus B. Claggett, 1871-77; — Lum, 1880. Enoch Knapp, Deacon. The present church building was erected in 1836.

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1764 TO 1880.

1764, Ephraim Hubbel, Capt. Eleazer Hubbel, Capt. Elnathan Hall; 1765, William Barns, Capt. Eleazer Hubbel, Capt. Elnathan Hall; 1766, Capt. Eleazer Hubbel, Eph. Hubbel, Dan Towner, Jas. Potter; 1767, Dan Towner, James Potter; 1768, Dan Towner, James Potter, Nehemiah Beardsley, Eph. Hubbel; 1769, James Potter, John Page; 1770, Capt. Jas. Potter, Capt. Nehemiah Beardslee; 1771, Eph. Hubbel, Alex. Stewart, Capt. Nehemiah Beardslee, Zacheus Towner; 1772, Zacheus Towner, Alexander Stewart, Capt. James Potter, Alexander Fairchild; 1773, Alexander Stewart, Alexander Fairchild; 1774, Zacheus Towner, Capt. Nehemiah Beardslee, Alexander Fairchild; 1775, Ephraim Hubbell, Capt. Nehemiah Beardslee, Alexander Stewart, Capt. Dan Towner; 1776, Ephraim Hubbell, Capt. Nehemiah Beardsley; 1777, Capt. James Potter, Maj. Nehemiah Beardsley, Samuel Hungerford, Alexander Stewart; 1778, Ephraim Hubbell, John Page, Nehemiah Beardsley, Stephen Barns; 1779, Capt. James Potter, Stephen Barns; 1780, Stephen Barns, Col. Nehemiah Beardslee, Capt. James Potter; 1781, Capt. James Potter, Nehemiah Beardslee; 1782, Stephen Barns, Eleazer Hubbell, Nehemiah Beardsley, Capt. James Potter; 1783, Nehemiah Beardsley, Capt. James Potter, Doct. James Potter; 1784, Stephen Barns, Capt. William G. Hubbell, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley; 1785, Stephen Barns, Capt. Gaylord Hubbell, Amos Brush; 1786, Stephen Barns, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, James Potter; 1787, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Capt. James Potter; 1788, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Capt. James Potter, Ephraim Hubbell, Stephen Barns; 1789, Ephraim Hubbell, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Gideon Allyn; 1790, Gideon Allen, Zacheus Towner, James Potter; 1791, Zacheus Towner, Samuel Allen, James Potter, Nehemiah Beardsley; 1792, James Potter, Samuel Allen, Nehemiah Beardsley; 1793, James Potter, Nehemiah Beardsley; 1794, Stephen Barns, Gideon Allen, Amos Brush; 1795, James Scofield, Stephen Barns, James Potter; 1796, Stephen Barns, James Scofield, Amos Brush; 1797, Joseph Bearse, Stephen Barnes, Alexander Stewart; 1798, Joseph Bearse, James Potter, Stephen Barnes, Amos Brush; 1799, Joseph Barce, James Potter, Stephen Barnes; 1800, Stephen Barnes, James Potter, Nehemiah Beardsley; 1801, Samuel Allen, Joseph Bearce, Jr., Nehemiah Beardsley; 1802, Nehemiah Beardsley, Samuel Allen, Stephen Barnes, Joseph Bearce; 1803, Joseph Bearce; 1804, Abel Gregory, Isaac Knapp; 1805, Abel Gregory; 1806, Joseph Silliman, Uriah Mead; 1807, Abel Gregory, Levi Bearce; 1808, Joseph Bearce, Eliakim Nash; 1809, Abel Gregory, Samuel Blackman, Jonathan Bulkley; 1810-12, Abel Gregory, Samuel T. Barnham; 1813, S. B. Barnum, Abel Gregory; 1814, Samuel T. Barnham, Abel Gregory; 1815, David Lane, Abel Gregory; 1816,







*B. B. Kellogg*



Seelye Richmond, Samuel T. Barnum; 1817, Samuel T. Barnum, Jabez Treadwell; 1818, Jabez Treadwell, Benjamin Bearce; 1819, Samuel T. Barnum; 1820, Jabez Treadwell; 1821, Samuel T. Barnum; 1822, David Lane; 1823, Thaddeus Barnum; 1824, Samuel T. Barnum; 1825, Elias Stephens; 1826, Samuel T. Barnum; 1827, Amzi Rogers; 1828, Stephen Hopkins; 1829, David Barnum; 1830, Robert Platt; 1831, Amzi Rogers; 1832, Reuben Hodge; 1833, Jabez Treadwell, Jr.; 1834, Daniel Ball; 1835, Abel M. Sherwood; 1836, Samuel T. Barnum; 1837-38, Levi Penfield; 1839, Jabez Treadwell; 1840, Ransom Wilson; 1841, no record; 1842, Hanford M. Kellogg; 1843-44, no record; 1845, Daniel Ball; 1846, Medad R. Kellogg; 1847, Levi Penfield; 1848, Norman Hodge; 1849, Nathan B. Wheeler; 1850, Medad R. Kellogg; 1851, George W. Wilson; 1852, Edwin Hodge; 1853, Luther Mead; 1854, Medad R. Kellogg; 1855, W. H. Wanzer; 1856, Amasa Barnum; 1857, T. D. Rogers; 1858, Willis H. Wanzer; 1859, Norman Hodge; 1860, Luther Mead; 1861, David Treadwell; 1862, Marshall Treadwell; 1863, Hendrick H. Wildman; 1864, Ezra Stevens; 1865, Dimon Disbrow; 1866, Covil Treadwell; 1867, Ezra Stevens; 1868, Reuben Hodge; 1869, Hinman Knapp; 1870-71, Lewis L. Hopkins; 1872, Reuben Hodge; 1873, Willis H. Wanzer; 1874, Hinman Knapp; 1875, Lewis L. Hopkins; 1876, William J. Kellogg; 1877, Edward Treadwell; 1878, Dimon Disbrow; 1879, H. H. Wildman; 1880, Amos Hodge.

### MILITARY RECORD.

#### FIRST REGIMENT.

Nathaniel Couch, enl. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.

#### Company E.

J. K. James, enl. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.

#### THIRD REGIMENT.

#### Company C.

Jam Ballard, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Geo Barnum, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
I enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
rdasley, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
edict, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. July 21, 1861.  
, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
eebe, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
nl. May 14, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.  
rne, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 21, 1861.  
on, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. July 21, 1861.  
ronson, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
arns, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### BARZILLAI BULKLEY KELLOGG.

Barzillai Bulkley Kellogg was born Dec. 25, 1818, at the old homestead, in the eastern part of New Fairfield, Fairfield Co., Conn. His ancestors were English, Daniel Kellogg, of the seventh previous generation, being one of the original settlers of Norwalk. His great-grandfather, Martin Kellogg, settled in New Fairfield about 1765, the township having been surveyed about twenty-eight years previously.

Barzillai B. Kellogg was reared on the farm, receiving a common-school and academic education, and taught in the public schools. In September, 1844, he was married to Emeline, daughter of Daniel Johnson, of Brookfield. She died April 29, 1880, having reared a family of seven children.

Mr. Kellogg has been largely engaged in building and real-estate operations and in various public improvements. In 1858 he was elected State senator for

the Eleventh Senatorial District, and for many years he has been justice of the peace; was an active supporter of the suppression of the Rebellion; was elected first selectman of the town in 1869, re-elected continuously for ten years, and again in 1880. He is at present acting in the interests of the drain company for improving the swamp-lands of Wood Creek Valley. In 1860 he was made a director of the National Pahquioque Bank in Danbury, and elected its president in 1879.

#### KELLOGG GENEALOGY.

1. Daniel Kellogg, one of the original settlers of Norwalk, Conn.,\* married, in 1655, Bridget Bouton, daughter of John Bouton.

2. Samuel Kellogg, born Feb. 19, 1673, married, Sept. 6, 1704, Sarah Platt, daughter of Deacon John Platt.

3. Martin, born March 23, 1711, married Mary —; he died July 7, 1756. She married (2d) March 22, 1757, Capt. Samuel Hanford, of New Canaan Parish.

4. Martin, born Oct. 10, 1740, married, May 13, 1762, Mercy Benedict, born April 13, 1742, daughter of James Benedict, of Danbury, who was born in 1710; Mercy Knapp, his wife, was born about 1713.

5. Martin, born Sept. 3, 1763, married Rachel Stevens, of Danbury, born in 1766. He died May 3, 1813; his wife died April 29, 1831.

6. Hanford Martin Kellogg, born Oct. 2, 1788, married Sarah Bulkley, of New Fairfield, born Nov. 27, 1792; died Feb. 5, 1851. He died June 11, 1870.

7. Barzillai Bulkley Kellogg, born Dec. 25, 1818, married Emeline Johnson, born July 19, 1821; died April 29, 1880.

#### ALEXANDER BUCKLEY BRUSH.

Alexander Buckley Brush was born in New Fairfield, Fairfield Co., Conn. His great-grandfather, Thomas Brush, was born in 1715, and settled in Greenwich some time anterior to the Revolution, coming from Long Island, moving to New Fairfield a short time afterwards. Thomas Brush's family consisted of eight children, one of whom was Amos. The latter was married to Miss Hannah Bearse, who bore him eight children, among whom was Ely, father of the subject of this brief sketch. He was a farmer by occupation; served in the war of the Revolution as minute-man; was married to Rilla, daughter of Stephen Davis, of New Fairfield. Their children were Alexander B. and Hannah Elizabeth Graves.

Alexander B. Brush was born in 1829, on what has been the homestead of the Brush family for three generations. In 1874 he was married to Mary Louisa, daughter of S. Merwin Mead, Esq. The issue of this union has been three children,—Alexander A., Ella M., and Anna L.

\* See Hall's History of Norwalk.

Mr. Brush's occupation is that of farming and stock-raising. He is one of the representative men of his town, and has filled numerous local offices; is on the school committee and a selectman of his town.

#### ENOCH KNAPP.

Enoch Knapp, grandson of Jonathan and son of Dr. Isaac Knapp, was born in Greenwich, Fairfield Co., May 29, 1805. He is of German extraction, the first of the family settling in this country early in the eighteenth century. His grandfather, Jonathan Knapp, also a native of Greenwich, was a farmer by occupation. His family consisted of twelve children,—eight sons and four daughters. The fourth son was Dr. Isaac Knapp, born in Greenwich, who at about the age of twenty-five settled in New Fairfield, where he married Amy, the daughter of Amos and Hannah Brush. Their children were seven in number, five of whom are still living,—namely, Enoch, Sarah Leech, Ezra B., Dr. David A., and Euphemia H. Theresa (deceased) and Isaac H. (deceased), the latter leaving one son,—Smith H.

Dr. Knapp was the first of the profession to practice medicine in New Fairfield, and became one of the most prominent physicians in the county, being particularly successful in treating malarial fevers, at one time very prevalent in his circuit. He died in 1838.

Enoch Knapp was educated in the schools of his town, with one term at the New Canaan Academy. In 1838 he married Rachel A., daughter of Deacon Seeley and Louisa Rogers Barnum. Their children were: Almira E., Sarah T., Charlotte L., Mary C., Isaac Seeley, Frederick Enoch, Mary Louisa (deceased) and Isaac S. (deceased).

Deacon Seeley Barnum was a son of Deacon Ephraim Barnum, of Bethel, Conn., who for many years was an active member of his church.

The father of Miss Rogers, the Rev. Medad Rogers, was a minister in New Fairfield, where he preached for nearly half a century.

In his calling—that of farming and cattle-raising—Mr. Enoch Knapp has been very successful. He is an active member of the Congregational Church of his town, to the support of which he liberally contributes, and in which he has officiated as deacon for twenty years.

#### HENDRICK H. WILDMAN

is the second son of Hezekiah Wildman, or Wellman, the latter of which was probably the original name. He was born March 25, 1790, in the town of Sherman, which at that time was a part of New Fairfield. At the age of twenty-five years he married Martha Wakeman, by whom he had one daughter, Phebe Jane, who married Napoleon B. Turner, of Ridgebury, Conn. He was drafted during the war of 1812

and served for a time in the militia at Bridgeport, his neighbors in his absence harvesting his crop for him. His first wife died about 1817, and in 1818 he married Lassey M., daughter of Abijah Watkins, who bore him two sons,—viz., Marvin E. and Hen-



*H. H. Wildman*

drick Hudson Wildman, the subject of this who was born in the town of New Fairfield, 25, 1830. He attended the district school until was about thirteen years of age, when he took a course of three years' study at the New Fairfield Academy, a portion of the time working for his board by doing chores for the principal. At the age of twenty years he commenced teaching district schools winters, and followed that occupation about twenty years, teaching school during the winter and working upon a farm in the summer. Mr. Wildman has been acting school visitor for twenty-four years, constable of his town during one term, assessor of taxes five terms, three times member of the board of relief, register of votes fifteen years, town auditor twelve years; he has held the offices of commissioner of the Superior Court and justice of the peace on an aggregate of fifteen years, was contractor for keeping the poor of the town from 1870 to 1876. He was elected to the House of Representatives at the General Assembly of 1863, and re-elected in November, 1878, for the session of 1879, serving on the committee on education. He took an active part in the debates of the House, and was noted for his clear and concise manner of expression in such debates.

Mr. Wildman was married Oct. 14, 1852, to Eve-



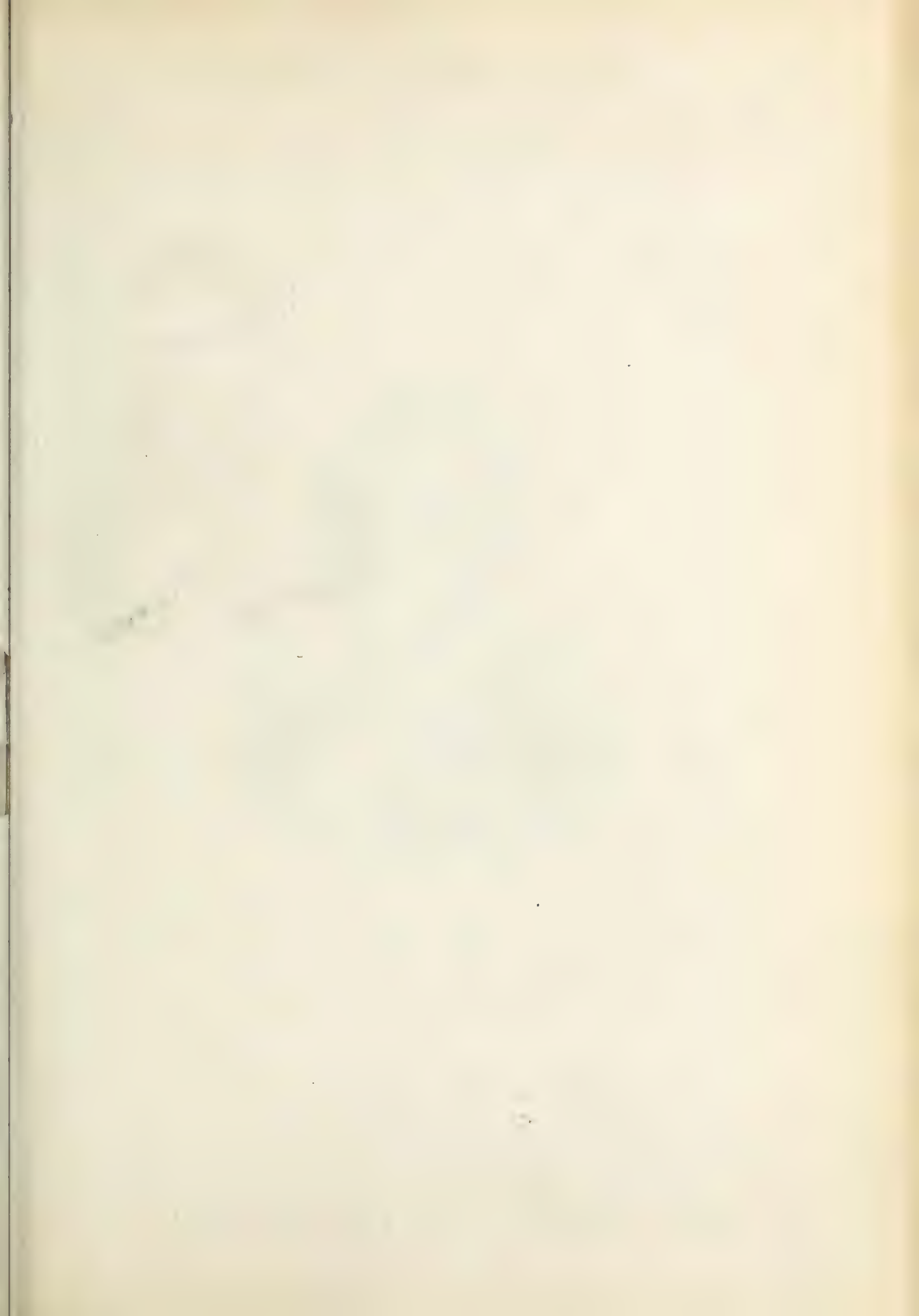




Photo. by J. H. Folsom, Danbury.

*A. B. Brush*



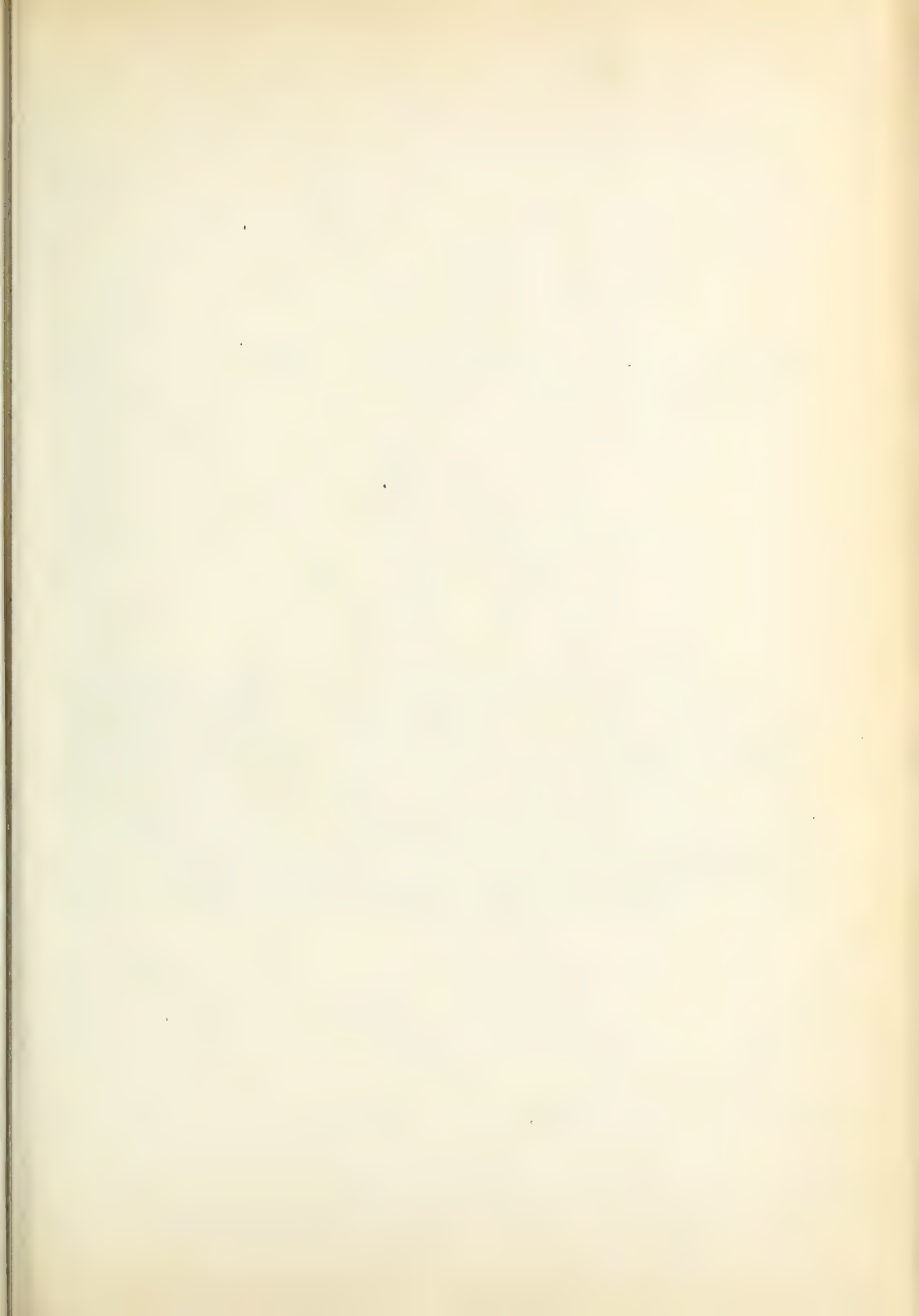


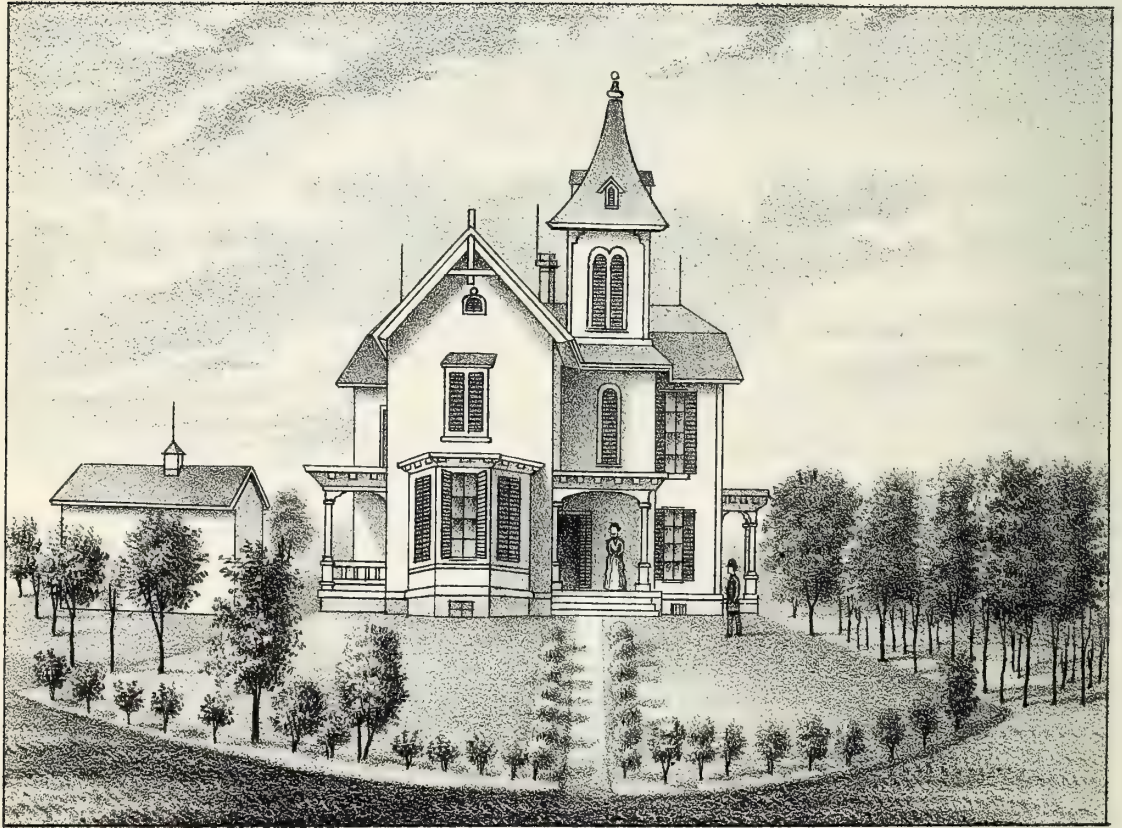
Photo. by J. H. Folsom, Danbury.

*Enoch Knapp*









*RES. OF WILLIAM PLATT. NEWTOWN, FAIRFIELD CO., CONN.*



line, daughter of Matthew L. and Eliza Pearce, of New Fairfield. They have had six children, four of whom are now living,—to wit, Phebe G., Hendrick Hudson, Jr. (now constable of New Fairfield), Lucius P., and Lillie G. The other two children died in infancy.

Though not admitted to the bar, Mr. Wildman is recognized by the fraternity as a pretty good lawyer, and has some local practice in that capacity. He is a member of the Grand Lodge of Odd-Fellows of the State of Connecticut, and has filled nearly all the elective offices in the subordinate lodge.

## CHAPTER XLVI.

### NEWTOWN.

Geographical—Topographical—Indian Name—Location of Indian Village—The Indian Purchase—Early Records—First Officers—Laying out of Lands—First Grist-Mill—Penalty for Non-attendance at Town-Meetings—"Pitching" for Land—Fulling-Mill—"Beating ye Drum"—Town Stock of Ammunition—Ear-marks—Taking Care of the Toll—The Pioneers—Early Births—Town-Houses—The Hanging of Robert Thomas—Old Lawyers—Merchants—An Advertisement of 1792—Villages.

This town lies on the northeast border of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by the town of Brookfield and the county of New Haven; on the east by New Haven and the town of Monroe; on the south by Monroe and Easton; and on the west by Redding, Bethel, and Brookfield. The surface of the town is hilly, and consists principally of gravelly loam, which is very productive.

"The Indian name of the town was Pohtatuck. The principal seat of the Indians appears to have been at the junction of the Pohtatuck with the Housatonic River."

#### THE INDIAN PURCHASE.

This town was purchased of the Indians by deed dated July 25, 1705. It is signed by Indian chiefs, who bear the euphonious names of Manquash, Massumpas, Nunnawauk, etc., and they testify by their signatures or marks that in consideration of four guns, four coats, four blankets, forty pounds of lead, ten pounds of powder, and a few other comparatively valueless articles, they do give a tract of land eight miles long and six broad, more or less, bounded by what is called the Great River, to William Junos, of Stratford; Justice Bush, of New York; and Samuel Hawley, Jr., of Stratford.

The earliest record in the old town book is as follows:

"At a meeting of the Proprietors of New Towne, held Sept. 24, 1711, legally met at y<sup>e</sup> house of Peter Hubbell, yt was then voted that Peter Hubbell should be Towne Clarke for the year ensuing.

"Voted, That Abraham Kimberly should be Constable for y<sup>e</sup> year ensuing.

"Voted, That Ebenezer Prindle & Thomas Sharp shall be surveyors of high ways for the year ensuing.

"Voted, That Joseph Graye and Daniel Foote shall be fence-viewers for the year ensuing.

"Voted, That Thomas Lake shall slip his twenty acre division, and take it up on the west side of the road, against the heiter part of Newhaven plains, westerly of said plains, to be laid out by the committee upon the said lake charge.

"Voted, That each proprietor containing the number of forty-eight shall forthwith, as soon as can conveniently be done, have four acres of meadow apeice laid out by the committee, the said committee to lay out the same in the great meadow at the south end of the town, laying on the deep brook, and the meadow at the north end of the town, where it may be as convenient either under mount tom or elsewhere, as also four acres of meadow for the ministry, as the rest are laid out; and it is to be understood and it is voted that swamp-land that is suitable is accepted as meadow, and so to be laid out, the said committee to size the whole meadow and swamp-land, and the proprietors to draw for ye lots as hath been usual unless they order otherwise.

"Voted, That Mr Pheneas Fisk is invited to come to this place to preach a sermon amongst us, and that we may discourse him about settling amongst us a minister of the gospel for half a year or some other space of time, as may be agreed on, for a Trial; and that Lieut. W<sup>m</sup> Adams be the person to invite him on that design, and wait upon him here as soon as can be conveniently attended to."

#### GRIST-MILL.

"Dec. y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>, 1711, it was voted that Jeremiah Turner should have liberty to builde a grist-mill, and the Town to promise to give y<sup>e</sup> sd Turner 40 acres of land adjoining to y<sup>e</sup> mill."

Under date Dec. 14, 1711, is the following record:

"At a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> inhabitants of Newton, legally meett, at y<sup>e</sup> home of Daniel Foot, Voted, That Mr. Benj. Sherman, Ebenezer Pimall, and Samuel Sanford shall agree with Jeremiah Turner, and draw an agreement with said Turner concerning a grist-mill upon the said brooke."

Dec. 14, 1714, an agreement was entered into for the building of a grist-mill between the town and Samuel Sanford. The document closes as follows:

"Set to our hands and seals in Newton, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1714, and in y<sup>e</sup> first year of our Sovereign Lord George, &c. Signed, sealed in presence of Joseph Gray and Peter Hubbell.

"SAMUEL SANFORD, THOMAS BENNITT, ABRAHAM KIMBERLY, DANIEL FOOT.

"Recorded by Jos. Peck, Recorder, Sepr. 21, 1715."

#### PENALTY FOR NON-ATTENDANCE AT TOWN MEETINGS.

Dec. 30, 1712, it was again

"Voted, That all and every person or persons duly and legally notified to give y<sup>e</sup> attendance at y<sup>e</sup> respective town-meetings y<sup>t</sup> hereafter shall be, and shall refuse or neglect to attend on y<sup>e</sup> sd Town-meeting, at Time and place, shall pay y<sup>e</sup> sum of three shillings to y<sup>e</sup> treasury of y<sup>e</sup> Town, except y<sup>e</sup> fine be remitted and returned by the Town."

At the same meeting it was

"Voted, That all that absent themselves from y<sup>e</sup> town-meeting when legally warned shall paye a fine of 3 shillings to the town treasury except they give reasonable satisfaction."

#### SAW-MILL.

March 17, 1712, it was

"Voted, That Benj. Sherman and Capt. John Holly and John Seeley shall have liberty to gat a saw-mill on the deep brook south of the towne."

#### PITCHING FOR LAND.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of Newton, legally warned, held April 2, 1712, it was

"Voted, For to take the fore acres devition that is to be laid out by pitches.

"Voted, That the proprietors shall go, 8 in a company, and draw by figures, as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, till the whole number of 40 lots be laid out.

"Voted, That Mr. John Glover shall have his pitch at the reare of his

home-lot to the high way west, and north so furr as it will hold out, and the s<sup>d</sup> Glover will pay to the town treasurer 12 shillings for his pitch.

"Voted, That Abraham Kimberly shall take his pitch at the rere of his home-lot so far as it will hold out.

"Voted, That Abraham Kimberly shall draw for all the proprietors of the towne.

"Voted, That if any of the proprietors are absent when the time come for to pitch they shall loose their pitch, and the next shall take it successively.

"Voted, That Samuel Faris shall be a committee man in the roome of Ebenezer Prindle.

"Voted, That the 7 daye of Apl. shall be the day for the company to pitch, and successively till they have done, excepting fowl weather hinder."

#### FULLING-MILL.

In 1712 it was

"Voted and agreed, That Joseph Dudley shall have liberty to get a fulling-mill on the deep brooke above the saw-mill, and the use of half an acre of land about his mill, provided he do not damnifie the saw-mill, so long as he maintain a sufficient fulling-mill thereon the deep brook."

#### BEATING THE DRUM.

December "ye 9th," 1712, it was

"Voted, That Stephen Pamerly shall have the use of an acre and a half of land which is the burying-place, provided he clear the bushes and fence it, and sow it with English grass-seed.

"Voted, That Nathaniel Pamerly is to beat the drum for the year ensuing.

"Voted, That Peter Hubbell do keep a house of Entertainment for the year ensuing."

#### TOWN'S STOCK OF AMMUNITION.

"At a lawful town-meeting of ye inhabitants of Newton, held March y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>, 173<sup>4</sup>, voted by ye inhabitants that a rate and tax of one penny half-penny shall be levied upon the rateable estate of ye inhabitants above s<sup>d</sup>, to defray ye charges of providing a Town Stock of ammunition, viz., powder, bullets, and flints.

"Entered by Jos. Peck, town clerk, y<sup>e</sup> Date above."

#### EAR-MARKS.

The following are specimens of ear-marks used in the early times to distinguish sheep, cattle, etc.:

"Joseph Peck's eare-mark for his cattle & other Creatures is a half-penny on ye inner side of the neare eare. Recorded June y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup>, 1714, by me, John Glover, Town Clerk.

Caleb Dayton's ear-mark was "two half-pennies upon the fore-side of each eare. Recorded January 11, 1714, pr me, Joseph Peck."

Benjamin Dunning and Samuel Farris were grand jurors in 1712.

January y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>, 1712 "13. The town grants Samuel Sanford liberty to "set a grist-mill upon y<sup>e</sup> Pond brook for to grinde y<sup>e</sup> towne graine. Recorded by me, John Glover, Recorder."

#### TAKING CARE OF THE TOLL.

In December, 1745, "John Lake was chosen and appointed a committee man for to take care of the town's part of the toll of Sandford's mill, so-called, belonging to the inhabitants of Newton, for y<sup>e</sup> yeare ensuing, and give an account to y<sup>e</sup> select men, and that he is to have one bushel of good wheat for his service."

#### PIONEERS.

The following were among the residents of the town of Newtown in 1712: John Leavenworth, Moses Johnson, Ephraim Hawley, Jedediah Hawley, Henry Botsford, Henry Botsford, Jr., Daniel Foot, Jede-

diah Parmelee, Ebenezer Johnson, Joseph Peck, Joseph Peck, Jr., James Birsee, Nathaniel Birsee, Jeremiah Johnson, Thomas Northup, Thomas Pearce, Jonathan Hubbell, John Platt, James Baldwin, Benjamin Northup, Ebenezer Platt, Stephen Parmelee, Matthew Sherman, Joseph Benedict, John Botsford, Joseph Benedict, Jr., Nathan Baldwin, Gideon Benedict, Caleb Baldwin, Samuel Pearce, Capt. Thomas Tousey, Samuel Griffin, Samuel Sommers, John Lake, Benjamin Dunning, Daniel Booth, Stephen Burritt, Johosopha Prindle, Capt. Thomas Bennett, Edward Fairchild, John Golat, Stephen Hawley, Joseph Botsford, Ephraim Prindle, Noah Parmelee, Joseph Prindle, John Blackman, Thomas Skidmore, Jeremiah Northrup, Lieut. John Northrup, Joseph Brigtole, Moses Botsford, Ebenezer Prindle, Benjamin Dunning, Jr., Samuel Sanford, Lemuel Camp, Peter Hubbell, John Hull, Job Sherman, Abel Booth.

#### EARLY BIRTHS.

The following births are recorded:

"Abigail Sherman, ye daughter of Matthew Sherman, by Hannah, his wife, borne November ye 13<sup>th</sup>, 1711.

"Rebekah Sherman, ye Daughter of Matthew Sherman, by Hannah his wife, born July y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup>, 1715.

We find the following reference to a "fair" in the town records under date of April, 1785:

"The town voted to prefer a memorial to the next General Assembly petitioning for a charter twice each year in this town."

#### TOWN-HOUSE.

The first vote concerning the erection of a town-house was taken Dec. 8, 1766, and Jonathan Booth, Ebenezer Ford, and Nathaniel Nichols were appointed a committee "to examine into what place is most convenient to suit said house, and also what said house will cost, and make report at the next meeting."

The first town-house stood on the site now occupied by Trinity church. The second occupied the present site of the residence of Mrs. Charles Brisco. The third was over Baldwins & Beers' store. The fourth, and present, was over the store owned by Norman B. Glover.

#### HANGING IN NEWTOWN.

The first and only execution that ever occurred in Newtown was the hanging of Robert Thompson as a spy in June, 1777. The following is a copy of the warrant for his execution, and the certificate of the officer commanding that the execution was duly performed:

[SEAL.]

"To Lieut. Samuel Richards, of Col. Wyllis' Battalion, in Continental Service:

"GREETING:

"Whereas, Robert Thompson, of New Town, in the State of Connecticut, was, on the 21 day of April, An. Dom. 1777, before a General Court-Martial, holden at Danbury, whereof Colonel Charles Webb was President, accus'd of Spying out the State of the Army & Country with Intent to give Intelligence thereof to the Enemy & of enticing Sundry Persons, Inhabitants, & Dwellers in Connecticut, into the Enemy's Service, of which crimes Sundry Proofs were exhibited & Produced before Said Court, and the Said Thompson fully heard In his Defence: and Said Court, upon Consideration thereof gave Sentence that Said Thompson



was guilty of a breach of the 19 article of the 13 Section of the Rules & Regulations of the Army, & also of a Regulation of Congress of the 21 of August, 1776, and that he Suffer Death, which Sentence is approved, and Execution thereof remains to be done.

"These are, therefore, to require & order you, the said Samuel Richards, to cause the Said Sentence to be executed by hanging the Said Thompson by the Neck, in New Town aforesaid, on the Ninth day of June, Inst., between the Hours of Eight in the morning & Six in the Afternoon; for which this Shall be your Sufficient Warrant.

"Given under my Hand & Seal in New Haven, the Sixth Day of June 1777.

"SAM. H. PARSONS,  
"Brig'r-General."

"NEWTOWN, June 9, 1777.

"In obedience to the within warrant, I did, on this day, being the 9 day of June, 1777, direct a Sergeant of the detachment under my command to draw out twelve soldiers of the detachment, and with their assistance perform the execution of the within-named Robert Thompson, which execution I saw duly performed on said day; and on the application of his friends I consented to have them take down the body for interment at their discretion.

"SAMUEL RICHARDS."

#### OLD ATTORNEYS.

Among the prominent lawyers who were either born or practiced their profession in Newtown, was William Edmonds. He served in the Revolutionary war, and was wounded at the battle of Ridgefield and lay on the field over night. He afterwards became judge of the Superior Court.

Among others who have practiced here were Asa Chapman,\* Samuel C. Blackman, Col. Timothy Shepherd (who was in the war of 1812), Benjamin F. Shelton, D. B. Beers, Isaac M. Sturges, Henry Dutton, Charles Chapman, Frederick D. Mills, Amos S. Treat, F. B. Swift, and James A. Wilson,†

The father of Gen. William T. Sherman also studied law here, in the office of Judge Asa Chapman; so also did ex-Governors Clark Bissell, Holbrook Curtis, and J. B. Thornton.

#### PHYSICIANS.

The first disciple of Æsculapius in Newtown was Dr. Gideon Shepherd. He was followed by Bennet Perry, Oliver Bancroft, John Judson, Thomas D. Shepherd, C. H. Booth, Dr. Shelton, Dr. Skidmore, George Judson, Erastus Erwin, Thomas Dutton, and — Graves.

Dr. Thomas Chambers was an early physician here, and was known as the "stick" doctor.

The present physicians are Monroe Judson, F. N. Bennett, William E. Bronson, Celest A. Benedict, William C. Wile, and George T. Brown.

#### MERCHANTS.

The first merchant in Newtown was David Curtis, who kept a store on the site of the present store of Sanford & Hawley. The old building is standing, and occupied by the Bee office and a tin-shop. He was succeeded in the same building by Elijah Nichols & Son, who remained a number of years, when it passed into the hands of Nichols & Prince. This firm was

succeeded by Joseph Nichols, son of Elijah. Joseph finally sold to Baldwin & Beers, and removed to New York.

This firm continued nearly half a century, when they were succeeded by Henry Sanford, who carried on the business fifteen years, when he associated with him Eli C. Barnum. This partnership continued about six years.

This firm was succeeded by Sanford & Hawley, the present firm. Mr. Henry Sanford is a veteran in the mercantile business in the town, having conducted its business on this site over forty-three years.

Ezra Morgan, father of D. N. Morgan, the present (1880) mayor of Bridgeport, was a merchant in this town for over forty years, and did much to advance the material interests of the town and county.

#### ADVERTISEMENT OF 1792.

The following advertisement appeared in the *Farmers' Journal*, published at Danbury, under date Dec. 22, 1792:



BELL-FOUNDRY,

SMITHERY,

JEWELLERY, &C.

THE Subscriber respectfully informs the public, that he carries on, at his shop at the head of the street in NEWTOWN, the GOLD-SMITH'S business in all its branches: Casts Bells for Churches.—Makes and repairs Surveyor's Instruments,—Church Clocks, and Clocks and Watches of all kinds—where orders will be punctually attended, and all favors gratefully acknowledged, by the public's humble fervant,

ZIBA BLAKSLEE.

Newtown, March 27, 1792.

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#### VILLAGES.

The village of Newtown is pleasantly located on an elevated ridge a little north of the centre of the town, and is an important station for the Housatonic Railroad. The main street, upon which is located the business of the village, is one of the finest in this section. It contains two churches, Episcopal and Congregational, and an academy.

*Sandy Hook* is a manufacturing hamlet located on the Pohtatuck Brook, a fine mill-stream which furnishes an abundance of water-power. Here are located the New York Belting and Packing Works, besides other industries.

*Hawleyville* is a small hamlet and a station on the Housatonic Railroad, located in the northwestern part of the town. Cold Spring is a post-office in the southern part of the town.

In Barber's "History," published in 1838, he says, "The borough of Newton is situated on the southern termination of a ridge of elevated land. After ascending the ridge from the south there is a broad and level street about eighty rods in extent. The borough is mostly built on this street; there are about forty or fifty dwelling-houses, three churches,—one

\* See chapter on the bar.

† Still in practice at Sandy Hook.

Congregational, one Episcopal, and one Methodist,—and four mercantile stores.”

Of Sandy Hook he writes, “The flourishing village of Sandy Hook is situated about one and a half miles northeast of the centre part of Newtown, at the foot of a rocky eminence, a bluff, from the top of which is a fine prospect of the surrounding country. A fine mill-stream (the Pohlatuck) runs in a northerly course through the village at the base of the bluff, which rises almost perpendicularly to the height of one hundred and sixty feet. Near Mr. Sanford’s cotton-factory, at the northern extremity of the village, some traces of coal have been discovered. The village contained, in 1834, one cotton, one hat, one comb, and two woollen-factories. There was also one machine-shop and one establishment for making brass. The village contained about fifty families in 1834; it is at the present time rapidly increasing.”

## CHAPTER XLVII.

### NEWTOWN (Continued).

#### CHURCHES\*—LODGES—SCHOOLS—CIVIL AND MILITARY HISTORY, ETC.

The Congregational Church—Trinity Church—The Methodist Episcopal Church, Sandy Hook—Other Churches—Granite Lodge, I. O. G. T.—Alpha Juvenile Temple—Olive Branch Temple—Myrtle Temple—Schools—The Newtown Savings Bank—The Newtown Bee—The Chronicle—Manufactures—Railroads—Civil History—Military—Representatives—Selectmen.

THE following is an abstract from the address delivered at the centennial of the Congregational church:

“What has the past to tell us of the history of our world from the beginning up to the year 1700, when the authentic history of this town and church (as preserved in the documents and records) begins? I say from the beginning, for I propose to begin at the beginning, as every historian should. We need not wait long for an answer to this question. The oldest and the best history of this town, and all towns and all parts of our world—written by inspiration—replies, ‘In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and the earth was without form, and void.’ The elements which compose the soil of this continent and of this town, then, were brought into existence by the creative act of God, and for a time—a long time (we know not how long)—were formless, confused, and unfashioned. But He who created was not idle, and in the successive periods of creation, so vividly and beautifully described in the first chapter of Genesis, He separated earth from water and light from darkness.

“He gathered the waters together into yonder seas and lakes and rivers, and depressed the land into these

valleys or uplifted it into these hills; and when, finally, the firm world stood forth with its rocky skeleton, He covered it (in the course of ages) with the soft soil, and then clothed this huge body with the verdure of trees and shrubs and grass, each having its seed within itself. Finally, he placed on a selected portion of the earth man, created in His own image, and made him lord and possessor of all. When God saw what He had made He pronounced it very good. I believe this town was included in the survey, for these hills then rose toward heaven as now; the same streams flowed through these valleys, and these places now so familiar to us were then fully prepared for our habitation. The dust beneath our feet is as old as the world; the rocks in our glens, the boulders upon our meadows, yonder lake, hollowed out from the midst of the surrounding hills and filled with the water of heaven, this air, this sky, the stars which will look down upon us to-night, all are as they were in the beginning, or rather at the end of the beginning, when God looked upon the rolling earth and pronounced it finished.”

#### PURCHASE AND SETTLEMENT OF NEWTOWN.

“Thus it came to pass that a company of men from the then important settlements of Stratford and Milford bought a tract of land of the Indians living on a stream called the Pootatuck, which soon after was incorporated as a town, and, in distinction from the old town, Stratford, from which it was taken, called Newtown. This town, then, from the time of its creation, waited for its name, and so its nominal existence, six thousand years at least; but during all this time it was an object of care to Him who created it, and with whom a thousand years are but as one day.

“The town was formally settled in 1709, the first nucleus of a village being, as I am told, on the plain near Mr. Philo Clark’s residence, but afterwards changed to this hill. (On vol. i., page 90, of the town records is a plan of the original thirty-four home-lots on Main Street, each lot sixteen by forty rods, with the names of the original owners.) On Dec. 19, 1710, William Junos and Mr. Bush sold their share for twenty-two pounds ten shillings (about one hundred dollars) to thirty-seven men named in the deed. Among these thirty-seven names I find the following names of families still residing in the town: Hawley, Prindle, Nichols, Curtiss, Sherman, and Judson. Free grace Adams is also named, but most of them have no descendants or representatives of their name living among us. In the next year—i.e., in 1711—a grist-mill was erected by vote of the town on Pond Brook, and afterwards another on Pootatuck Brook. In 1717 the first school-house was built; it was twenty-five feet square and stood nearly opposite this church; it was used also as a town-house. Other framed buildings soon followed, and the town of Newtown, now fully organized, took its place in history. Homes were established, marriages, births, and deaths

\* A large portion of the church history was contributed by Rev. J. P. Hoyt.



occurred, and the foundation laid for the life and happiness of future generations.

"The first white child born in Newtown was Jeremiah Turner; his grave is near Hawleyville. He was born in 1709 and died in 1778, aged sixty-nine years. The large elm in front of Mr. Russell Wheeler's house, which is over one hundred years old and has sheltered six generations, was planted about the time of his death, and thus is a connecting-link between us and the settlement of this town. May woodman and time alike spare that tree!

"This town, which had its origin in the way related, is one of the largest, if not the largest, in area of the towns in the State. Although once a new town in fact as well as name, it is now one of the oldest of the towns,—older, *e.g.*, than our neighbor, Watertown, by seventy-five years, and older than this nation by seventy years. It has always had an honorable history. Newtown was prosperous, populous, and influential before Bridgeport had a name, and it has given to the world men and women who have lived and do live in deeds and words. Governors, cabinet-officers, legislators have lived here, and one-half score of generations of men, women, and children unknown to fame, but known to God. Oh what an influence has been exerted by the many thousands who have had their homes here! What revelations would be made if the past should speak of them and tell us the story of their hardships and trials, their sorrows and joys!

"Think of all those who erst have been  
 Living where thou art even now,  
 Looking upon life's busy scene  
 With glance as careless and light as thou.  
 All these, like thee, have lived and moved,  
 Have seen what now thou lookest upon  
 Have feared, hoped, hated, mourned, or loved,  
 And now from mortal sight have gone."

"We do think of them to-day, and, thinking, we are made solemn by the thought that we are but a part of the long procession,—that we, too, are passing away; that we soon shall be numbered with the generations that are gone, and our successors will sometime be asking 'the days that are past' about us.

"If the days that are past be compared with those that are present, what wonderful changes will appear! Imagine that the Indians who sold this town to its original proprietors, or those original proprietors themselves, should awake from the sleep of the centuries and survey this goodly land, what would they see which they did not see in 1700 or 1705? In the place of forests and swamps are meadows and cultivated fields; in place of log huts or wigwags are substantial, and often costly, houses; in place of a few red men or hardy settlers is a population of over four thousand. Where the Pootatuck rolled its silent way to the 'Great River' are large manufactories, which supply all parts of the country and the world with articles then unknown, while the railroad and tele-

graph and our printing-presses would call forth exclamations of astonishment and many questions.

"But I must not forget that we are assembled to-day not to be questioned by our predecessors or ancestors, but to question them. 'Ask now,' says our text, 'of the days that are past.' Let us, then, continue to ask questions of the past. This morning we asked what the past could tell us of history up to the time and during the time of the settlement of this town.

"It would be interesting to recount many more facts and traditions which have come down to us from colonial times, but it is impossible, in such an outline as this, even to allude to them. We therefore hasten to ask another question,—viz.:

"What has the past to tell us of the history of the town, and especially its churches, from 1700 (for our ecclesiastical history begins almost with the century) down to the present time? Here we enter upon a broad and almost boundless field; we can cull only a few of the more important facts and join them, as links in a chain, binding us to the past."

#### THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

"That a church was early founded in this town we cannot doubt, and it is probable that a rude church edifice was built about 1710, succeeded by a better building, fifty by thirty-six feet, erected in 1717 at the intersection of Main Street and a 'lane running east and west,' probably where the liberty-pole now stands. But the first allusion to church matters which I have been able to discover in the abstract of the town records before me is dated Sept. 24, 1711, when, at a meeting of the proprietors of Newtown, it was voted to invite Mr. Phineas Fisk to preach one year 'on trial.'

"Mr. Fisk, it seems, declined the call, and so, on May 21, 1713, or at an adjourned meeting held soon after, a call was extended to Rev. Thomas Tousey, of Wethersfield, to preach for one year at a salary of thirty pounds, afterwards increased to sixty pounds and the proceeds of some land which the society agreed to break up, sow, and harvest."

#### THE FIRST PASTOR, REV. THOMAS TOUSEY.

"Mr. Tousey graduated at Yale College in 1707. He began his ministry here in or about 1714, and the formal organization of a church occurred soon after, probably on Oct. 17, 1715. An old record states that thirty families were then included in the parish. For a time there seems to have been harmony and good feeling in the church, but in 1723 there appeared signs of restlessness and dissatisfaction; some declared that they could not 'sit easy under him' (I quote from the town records), and others that they 'were of a different persuasion,' meaning, doubtless, that they favored the Church of England. The result was that Mr. Tousey went to England, received a commission as captain in the king's army, and on his return re-

signed the pastoral office; he remained in the place, however, and took an active part in church matters and in town politics until his death, which occurred March 14, 1761. His grave has been identified, but I have not been able to decipher the moss-covered epitaph. I notice that he was selected to fix the boundary between New Milford and Newtown, and also appointed in 1743 to oppose the formation of a new ecclesiastical society in Newbury, now called Brookfield. He lived, I am told, near the present residence of Mr. C. H. Peck, and was the ancestor of Governor Tousey (whose father lived at the head of the street where Mr. Charles Morehouse now resides) and of all bearing that name who have at any time lived in our town, and also of many of our citizens bearing other names. He was an eminent man, and I regret that so few memories and traditions of him are preserved.

"In July, 1724, just one hundred and fifty-six years ago, the society called Rev. John Beach, of Stratford, giving him in settlement one hundred and twenty-three acres of land and a home-lot of four acres, a house forty by twenty feet, and a salary of sixty pounds, afterwards increased to one hundred pounds.

"In 1735, soon after the erection of the first Episcopal church, the Congregational Society, stimulated, perhaps, to such extravagance by the growth of the other society, added to their church six 'fashionable pews' (fashionable being spelt on the records 'fationable,' and adjoining 'agining,' showing not the ignorance of our ancestors, but the unsettled state of English orthography before the days of Webster). The other seats were merely rough benches, and were probably un-'fationable.' Before this luxurious(?) addition to the church edifice had been made, the society had called another minister, in the person of Rev. Elisha Kent."

PASTORATE OF REV. ELISHA KENT (1733-1740).

"The vote was taken Jan. 30, 1732, and is signed by sixty-four males, all apparently active members of the society, showing that, notwithstanding the withdrawal of Mr. Beach and his party, the society was vigorous, large, and strong. This is further shown by the fact that Mr. Kent's salary in 1740 was two hundred pounds, and his successor's, in 1744, three hundred pounds, or about fifteen hundred dollars,—a large sum for those days, even if paid in what were called 'bills of credit.' The society, it appears, also gave Mr. Kent one hundred and four acres in settlement, provided (and here I quote from the record) 'that Mr. Elisha Kent shall give good security that if he shall see cause to alter his principles from ye foundation on which he shall be settled, he will pay ye above Presbyterian party ye sum of four hundred pounds lawful money,' or about two thousand dollars. You will observe that those shrewd men did not intend to lose their minister again without making him pay roundly for the trouble he would cause them.

"But they did not foresee the trouble he would make in another direction. About ten years after his settlement certain charges were alleged against him; there was a long and tedious investigation on the part of the church and association, and he finally was dismissed. The documents relating to the trial and to the man are very voluminous, and after a somewhat careful perusal I am in doubt (and it seems to me that his associates were in doubt) as to his innocence or guilt. I cannot but think that he was harshly judged, and so misjudged. He appears to have lived a useful life ever after, and was much esteemed by his church in South East, N. Y., where he died July 17, 1776. He was the grandfather of Chief Justice and Chancellor Kent, one of the most eminent men of his day, and great-grandfather of Elisha Kent Kane, the renowned Arctic explorer."

PASTORATE OF REV. DAVID JUDSON (1743-1776).

"Mr. Kent's successor was Rev. David Judson, who was ordained in September, 1743. For many years the church and society were united and prosperous under Mr. Judson. I note a few items of interest: In 1745 the church edifice was repaired at an expense of two hundred and thirty pounds; glass was inserted in sashes,—something new for those days; a bell of five hundred pounds' weight was procured, and apparently was melted and recast and rehung on the 3d day of July, 1768. This bell cost twenty-seven pounds four shillings. It still hangs in the steeple, and for more than one hundred years has summoned the people to the sanctuary and tolled the knell of the departed. I saw it recently, and read upon it this inscription: 'The gift of Cap. Amos Botsford and Lt. Nath. Briscoe; John Witter, fecit 1768.' Perhaps some one who now reads this will follow their example, and put a new bell in the steeple to record his name and speak his fame with its iron tongue for one hundred years to come.

"Mr. Judson and the majority of the church, it would seem, were not favorable towards the Saybrook Platform, and some items recorded have led me to think that they sympathized with the Sandemanians, or Glassites; but no definite action was taken, and the church soon returned to the orthodox faith.

"Mr. Judson died, after a long ministry of thirty-three years, Sept. 24, 1776, aged sixty-two, of a disease caught, as it is said, while visiting the American camp in the Revolutionary war. His grave is in our cemetery; a cypress, evidently self-sown, grows out of the heart, as if to keep his memory green.

"There is among the records of the church a time-stained and faded, but very valuable, record of the births, marriages, and deaths for a quarter of a century, in Mr. Judson's handwriting; the last entry is that of Mr. Judson's own death, made by some friendly hand.

"The following summary of Mr. Judson's ministry may be of interest; it was compiled from the



ancient record referred to: Ministry from 1743 to 1776, thirty-three years; marriages, 1743 to 1776, two hundred and twenty-six, or yearly seven; deaths, 1756 to 1776, three hundred and seventy-eight, or yearly nineteen; baptisms, 1744 to 1776, eight hundred and eighty-seven (including thirteen slave-children owned by seven masters), and eight adults,—only eight,—showing how almost universal infant baptism was at that time. The average number of children baptized yearly in this church was twenty-seven. Received into the church: (a) On owning the covenant, from 1743 to 1776, ninety; (b) by letter, 1757 to 1776, five; (c) by profession, 1757 to 1776, one hundred and sixty-nine (or yearly eight). Total additions in twenty-three years, two hundred and sixty-four.

"There were probably one hundred and fifty families connected with this congregation at that time, and over two hundred members. All the eight hundred and seventy-nine children whose baptism is recorded by Mr. Judson are now dead; the last survivor was Mr. Lampson Birch, who was baptized Oct. 27, 1771. (His widow reached the advanced age of one hundred and two, and died in 1879.)

"In the year 1758 (the record continues) there were thirty-four deaths, nearly double the usual number. Of these, one was a child of Lieut. Winton, 'which waded into Taunton Pond and was drowned, aged seven years;' another a son of Alexander Bryon, who died in the Revolutionary army; and another a son of William Northrop, about twenty years old, 'who was lost in the armie by the sword of the enemy in September.' This was the year of the capture of Louisburg and of the expedition against Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

"In the church in that year (1778) 'Watts' Psalms were adopted to be used altogether in public worship, and Deacon Northrop read the Psalms and Ebenezer Ford and James Blackman tuned them.'

"Among the baptisms recorded is this: 'Venus, negro child belonging to Abner Booth, baptized Oct. 26, 1743.'

"Among the marriages this: 'Peter Negro and Ginny Negro (Negro being used as the family name), servants to Matthew Curtis, were married April 3, 1752.'

"Negro slavery in Newtown! How strange this reads at the present day, when not a slave exists in the United States.

"There is also in this record a long list of deaths, with the diseases which ended life,—a list enumerating all the ills to which flesh is heir. If I should give the list many, perhaps most, of the present native inhabitants of this town would learn when, where, and of what their ancestors died, for there is scarcely a family name in Newtown but is included in this list. This is one thing that ought to unite all the residents of this town in their interest in and affection for this church; in this church your ancestors were baptized, and by its ministers they were married and buried.

This church is the ecclesiastical homestead of all Newtown. Let me suggest that measures be taken to copy and preserve this old record; it is becoming more and more illegible every year, and yet more and more valuable every year. I have deposited it for safe-keeping in the town clerk's office.

"It is supposed that the church edifice of the Congregational Society was occupied by troops during the war of the Revolution, and the vane now on the steeple bears the marks of bullets then fired. This town was intensely loyal to the 'loving and loved Sovereign Lord, King George,' as he was styled, and in 1775 presented an able protest to the State Legislature against the action of Congress. (See town records, vol. iv., pages 30-34.) The town, however, furnished its quota.

"This society at the close of the Revolutionary war was in a low condition, on account of the loss in men and means occasioned by the war, and the parsonage, which must have stood on or near the site of the present Episcopal church edifice, was sold to pay its debts."

PASTORATE OF REV. Z. H. SMITH (1783-1798).

"Zephaniah H. Smith was the next minister. He, as well as all his predecessors and most of his successors, was a graduate of Yale College. His pastorate began in 1783. A tax of one penny on every pound was assessed in order to provide him a settlement. A house on the main street was also built for him in 1786 (the same now owned by Mr. George Stuart), but he made the society a poor return for their generosity. The records show that he tried to break up the church organization and to form a Sandemanian Church upon its ruins. He caused those who opposed him to be excommunicated, and finally abandoned his charge without being dismissed, leaving the church almost a wreck, floating upon the troubled sea without a pilot and almost without a crew. But a few faithful souls remained in the ship, and, although discouraged, they nobly stood at their post and rescued the Zion they loved from utter destruction. Mr. Smith removed to Glastonbury, in this State, became a lawyer, and died in 1836, aged seventy-seven. His daughters still reside there, and have become known to fame by their refusal to pay taxes unless allowed to vote. They are also known as accomplished scholars, and have recently published a translation of the Bible from the original Hebrew and Greek, for all of which Newtown can claim its share of the honor.

"The church edifice, which until 1793 had stood in the middle of the street, nearly opposite its present location, was moved back to its present site, the Episcopal Society (since it was for their accommodation) bearing the expense and doing the work."

PASTORATE OF REV. JEHU CLARKE.

"Jehu Clarke was the next pastor. He resided just opposite the present parsonage. He was in-

stalled in 1799, the services being held (by invitation) in the Episcopal church. The Congregational Church was now at the lowest ebb in its history; it was so completely demoralized that it was reorganized, and comparatively few were found who were willing to identify themselves with it.

"In 1808 an attempt was made to build a new Congregational church edifice, and in order to raise funds a public lottery was held, authorized, as was the custom of the day, by the Legislature. As might have been expected, this ill-advised course did more harm than good, and during the war of 1812 the church was so deeply involved in debt that a tax of seventeen cents on the dollar was assessed to meet expenses. The church edifice was only partially finished, and for want of support Mr. Clarke resigned in 1816; he died in 1839.

"Several candidates supplied the pulpit from 1816 to 1825, among them Rev. Lauren P. Hickok, D.D., since president of Union College, and Rev. Mr. Burritt, whose labors were blessed in the conversion of at least sixteen persons who united with the church and greatly strengthened it; but still the membership was comparatively small, and many recorded as members were absent from the place."

#### PASTORATE OF REV. WILLIAM MITCHELL.

"Rev. William Mitchell was elected pastor and installed Jan. 14, 1825. Mr. Mitchell was a faithful and laborious pastor,—one of the best, I should judge, the church has had. During his ministry there was a powerful revival, chiefly in Taunton, which resulted in many conversions and twenty additions to this church. A 'Ladies' and Gentlemen's Missionary Society' was successfully established, also a temperance society. The church and society, however, unfortunately lost about one-half of the fund (which had accumulated during successive pastorates) by the failure of the Eagle Bank in New Haven. Although crippled by the loss, five hundred dollars were spent in repairing the church edifice and eighty-five dollars in procuring the communion-set now in use.

Mr. Mitchell resigned and was dismissed May 31, 1831. He moved to Vermont and then to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he died of yellow fever, Aug. 1, 1867."

#### PASTORATE OF REV. N. M. URMSTON.

"Rev. N. M. Urmston's pastorate began Dec. 5, 1832, and ended April 1, 1838. He, as well as Mr. Mitchell, lived at the head of the street where Mrs. Bennett Fairchild now resides. Nothing of special interest occurred during his pastorate. The church records abound in accounts of trials and excommunications; it is to be regretted, I think, that names and facts were not suppressed. It is better to hide a brother's fault than to make it the subject of a lengthy record. It is well that the church should be purified and cleansed, but not at all necessary to pre-

serve the filth and the rubbish. 'Let the past, then, bury its dead from our sight.'

"Mr. Urmston, after leaving Newtown, preached in Cornwall and Sherman, in this State, and then went to Ohio. I received a card from him recently; he is very feeble and infirm, and may not be living now. He was succeeded by several temporary supplies—Rev. Mr. Leadbetter, Rev. Mr. Ambler, and others—until 1845, when Rev. Jason Atwater became stated supply."

#### PASTORATE OF REV. JASON ATWATER.

"Mr. Atwater, like Mr. Mitchell, was a conscientious and faithful pastor. He resided where Mrs. Booth Terrill now lives; indeed, there is scarcely a building in Main Street that does not seem at some time to have been occupied by a minister of this or some other church. The interests of the churches in general, and of this church in particular, were dear to Mr. Atwater, and he labored hard and successfully in this his chosen field. At first there was a decided advance under his leadership; the broken walls of Zion were literally and figuratively repaired, for after a three years' effort twelve hundred dollars were raised, and the church edifice, which had again become somewhat dilapidated, was renovated, put in good repair, and dedicated anew Jan. 7, 1847. The congregation increased in numbers, and a new life seemed infused into the church. But a decline or a reaction set in, and the question of abandoning the ground and removing the church to Sandy Hook was seriously agitated. A council, however, advised against it, and God set his seal of approval upon the decision by graciously reviving his work and adding to His church thirty-five members, many of whom have been, and are now, the most valued and useful of our number.

"In 1852 the basement was fitted up and new seats and a new pulpit provided for the audience-room of the church, at an expense of five hundred dollars. There seems, however, to have been another reaction. Some of the strong arms upon which the pastor leaned were taken away by death or removal, and, somewhat discouraged, Mr. Atwater accepted a call to Southbury. He showed his continued love for and interest in this church by leaving it a legacy of one hundred and fifty dollars at his death, which occurred in 1860."

#### RECENT PASTORATES.

"The remaining pastors of this church until the year 1874—Rev. W. H. Moore, Rev. W. F. Arms, Rev. D. W. Fox, Rev. H. B. Smith—are yet among the living; their work is not yet done, and of them and their work, therefore, we will not speak at length. Mr. Moore's pastorate lasted from 1856 to 1862, when he was dismissed to be a bishop over our Connecticut churches. He still fills the responsible position of State secretary. Mr. Arms' pastorate was very short, only about a year, from May, 1863, to September, 1864. He went from here to Greenwich, Conn., then removed to Pennsylvania, and is now in Sunderland,



Mass., pastor of a church of more than three hundred members. Mr. Fox was the first minister who occupied your pleasant and commodious parsonage, which cost about two thousand dollars but is now worth more than twice that amount, proving our Saviour's words, 'Give, and it shall be given.' No society or individual loses by a generous act. Mr. Fox, like his predecessor, Mr. Moore, was the registrar of this Con-sociation; his health unfortunately soon failed and he was dismissed; he is now pastor of a church in New Jersey.

"This church, therefore, had three pastors during the late civil war, in striking contrast with the Revolutionary period, when it had one pastor for a third of a century and until he died.

"Rev. Henry B. Smith was the next pastor, from 1867 to 1873. From here he removed to Green-field Hill, thence to Staffordville, Conn., and is now living in South Amherst, Mass. He was a faithful pastor and an earnest worker, especially in the Sab-bath-school."

#### THE PRESENT PASTORATE.

"The present pastorate has been the longest this church has had in more than one hundred years (with two exceptions). Your minister\* preached his first sermon in this church Jan. 11, 1874. The previous year the interior of the church had been remodeled and beautified, as you see it to-day, at an expense of two thousand five hundred dollars. Since then seventy have been added to the church and fourteen hundred dollars to the fund (five hundred dollars being donated by Miss Sarah Blackman, of New Haven, a descendant of the first pastor, Rev. Thomas Tousey). The debt resting on the society has been paid; we are at peace among ourselves; this church, I am assured, numerically and financially, is now more prosperous than at any time for a century past. And yet it never needed the help of all its members and friends more than now. If this help is given, this church may recover what it has lost and be in generations to come what it was in colonial times, before the war for our liberty drained it of its resources and members. If so, we will be thankful; if not, we will be hopeful and still do our work. For this church has a work to do; it is a 'free union church,' where all who love our Lord and cherish a hope of immortality and heaven may have a home; where an evangelical gospel shall be preached, but each one be permitted and expected to think for himself. 'We preach as those who must give an account,' but we 'judge not, that we be not judged.' God is the Judge of all. Our motto is, 'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.' Brethren and friends, if all you who are, or ought to be, interested in the welfare of this church do your whole duty its future is assured. Such is the past and present of this church; the past has told its story.

\* Rev. J. P. Hoyt.

"One hundred years from now the pastor of this church (who will he be?) will doubtless prepare a centennial sermon similar to this, and to him we will commit the record. What will that record be? What will be the future of this nation, this town, and of this church? Will the changes of the future be as great as those of the past? Who will comprise this audience one hundred years hence? When the con-gregation is dismissed on that day and the people go to their homes, how will this street and village look to them? What will be the religious sentiment of the place and day? Will the immortal soul then be estimated at its true value? We cannot answer these questions; they belong to the future, and to the future we leave them. We have performed our task; we have (as directed in the text) asked questions only of the 'days that are past,' and we have recorded the answers. And now, *farewell to the past*. We break the connection again; we busy ourselves with the present; we leave the future with God, praying that he will bless this ancient church, this loved town, with its churches, and schools, and interests, this il-lustrious commonwealth, this great nation, and trust-ing that when another century has rolled by, and we for many years have slept with our fathers, church and town and State and nation may be stronger and purer and better than now."

#### TRINITY CHURCH.†

The first church building was erected in 1733, and stood in the road nearly opposite the present brick town-house. Rev. Dr. Beardsley, in his "History of the Church in Connecticut," remarks,—

"It is said that the frame of the building in New-town, twenty-eight feet long and twenty-four feet wide, was raised on Saturday, the roof boards were put on the same evening, and the next day the hand-ful of churchmen assembled for divine service under its imperfect protection, sitting upon the timbers and kneeling upon the ground."

Previous to the erection of this first church build-ing, history informs us that, because there was no suitable place for assembling, the Rev. John Beach, rector, invited the few professors of the Church of England to meet in his own house, where for a con-siderable time he conducted the church services; and the first sermon preached by him was under an immense buttonball (or sycamore) tree that stood on the green in front of the present residence of Charles C. Warner, Esq.

In 1746 a second church building was erected, which Dr. Beardsley says—doubtless quoting the words of Rev. John Beach in his report to the Propa-gation Society—"was a strong, neat building, forty-six feet long and thirty-five wide."

Forty-four years passed away, during which time the people continued worshiping in that church, but, probably owing to its prosperity and growth, it was

† Contributed by E. L. Johnson.

found to be too small to accommodate the worshipers, and we find from the parish records that a society's meeting was held Nov. 2, 1790, when a vote was taken "to build a new church house."

We find that then, as now, there were obstacles in the way of pushing such things along, for at an adjourned meeting, held Nov. 25, 1790, an effort was made to rescind the aforesaid vote, which was defeated. At a meeting held Dec. 30, 1790, "*Voted*, That if we do build a new church, that it shall be erected where the town-house now stands."

Passing along until Oct. 3, 1791, it was "*Voted*, That we will build the church by signation, provided we can get subscribed one thousand pounds lawful money by the second Tuesday in November next." At an adjourned meeting held Nov. 8, 1791, "*Voted*, That the bigness of the church-house shall be sixty-eight feet by forty-eight."

March 5, 1792, another meeting was held, when it was voted that the price of the common timber for building the church be four pence per square foot, brought to the place of building and well dressed; and a committee was also appointed to appraise the extraordinary timber.

This church was finished in 1793, and received its name at a parish-meeting held June 17, 1793, when it was voted that the new church be called "Trinity." It stood just north of the present site of the stone edifice. No record can be found giving an account of its consecration, but it was consecrated by the venerable Bishop Seabury, the first bishop of America. It was said to have been for a long time the largest house of Episcopal worship in the State, and tradition records that it excited the wonder of the surrounding country, so that people came from all directions to visit it; and for more than three-quarters of a century it stood a noble monument of the liberality, public spirit, and piety of the men who erected it.

At the time of its erection Rev. Philo Perry was rector, on a salary of one hundred pounds per year, officiating one-fourth part of the time in Brookfield, and the salary was provided for by a tax of three per cent. on the pound on the grand list of the town. Stoves and fire in church were then unknown, and for twenty-seven years the worshipers had no tax to pay for fuel, but at a meeting held Jan. 24, 1820, it was "*Voted*, That a committee of three be appointed to erect a stove in Trinity Church." In this church were held three Diocesan Conventions, in the years 1801, 1806, and 1826.

Although missionary work had been done to some extent in Newtown as far back as 1722, and perhaps previous to that year, yet there could properly be said to be no church organization here until 1732, when the Rev. John Beach, then a young man, who had been settled for eight years among the Independents at Newtown and very popular with all classes, publicly informed his people of a change in

his views in favor of the Church of England. He was entered as a communicant at Stratford, his native place, Easter Day, April 9th of the same year, went to England for holy orders, and, returning with them in September, 1732, commenced his work, and in six months after speaks of having forty communicants. His rectorship extended over a period of fifty years,—from 1732 to 1782.

He was followed by Rev. Philo Perry, rector from 1787 to 1798. He was succeeded by Rev. Daniel Burhans, D.D., rector from Aug. 5, 1799, to Nov. 1, 1830; Rev. Samuel C. Stratton, 1831–39; Rev. S. S. Setocking, 1841–48; Rev. William Carmichael, 1850–52; Rev. Benjamin W. Stone, D.D., 1852–56; Rev. Newton E. Marble, D.D., 1857–78, when he was obliged to resign on account of physical infirmities; Rev. Thomas W. Harkins, Oct. 14, 1878, to Oct. 1, 1880.

From the report made to the Diocesan Convention by the rector in June, 1880, there were then one hundred and eighty-nine families and three hundred and thirty-one communicants in the parish. At the meeting of the Diocesan Convention in June, 1880, a new parish was formed within the limits of the present Trinity Church, Newtown, to be known as St. John's Parish, Sandy Hook.

We have no means of ascertaining who were the first officers of the church. The officers at the present time are as follows: Wardens, Beach Camp, William B. Prindle; Vestrymen, Simeon B. Peck, Charles Skidmore, Philo Clark, E. Levan Johnson, Hobert B. Camp, Albert W. Peck, Homer A. Hawley; Clerk, Daniel G. Beers; Treasurer, Frederick Sanford.

The first movements towards building the present beautiful stone edifice, that stands just south of the site of the old church building, were inaugurated at a parish-meeting held Sept. 12, 1866, but the building was not completed until January, 1870. The first sermon delivered in the new church was by the rector, Rev. Newton E. Marble, D.D., on Feb. 6, 1870, from 2 Cor. v. 17: "Old things are passed away, behold all things are become new."

Heretofore the churches erected by the parish had been temporary structures, as all wood buildings are, and could last but a comparatively short time, but the noble edifice of which we now write will stand sound and solid when centuries have rolled away and the many generations that have worshiped within its sacred walls shall have mouldered to dust,—unless it shall be destroyed by some unforeseen catastrophe or convulsion of nature,—a noble monument to the memory of those men and women who contributed of their time and means to accomplish so desirable an end.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SANDY HOOK.

As nearly as we can ascertain, about the year 1800 a class was formed and Methodist preaching was given.



by two local preachers, Levi Bunson and Joseph Pierce, in a house that stood upon the ground where Trinity church now stands, in Newtown Street. The first preaching by an itinerant minister was by Samuel M. Erwin, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, about the year 1804.

In 1805 a class was formed as a nucleus to forming a church organization. Here follow the names of the original class-paper: Isaac Sanford, Ann Sanford, Benjamin Curtiss, Polly Curtiss, Sally Curtiss, Amea Summers, Hannah Gamley, Sarah Lyon, Jacob Raymond, Hannah Platt, Nemiah Sanford, Sabia Booth, Polly Nap, Betsey Hand, Beach Bennett, Sarah Anderson.

The circuit over which the itinerants traveled was from Milford to New Milford, and from Dantown to the Housatonic River, about forty by fifty miles. At this time there was but one Methodist Episcopal church building, and situated at Easton.

A class was formed at Flat Swamp (western part of Newtown) as early as 1828. Circuit preaching was had, once in about four weeks at school-house or at private dwelling. There was circuit preaching in Newtown once in two weeks on a week-day. In 1831 John Lovejoy held a love-feast at the town-hall. It was on this occasion that the speaking of a certain female produced such an impression that some of the citizens said the Methodists shall have a church.

About this time trustees were appointed, viz.: Uriah Hays, of Brookfield, Isaac Scudder, Alanson Gilbert, Ebenezer Blackman, Zera Blackman, and Benjamin Curtiss, Jr. They entered at once upon the work of building a church edifice, which was dedicated by William Dykiman in 1831, situated on Newtown Street, south of Dick's Hotel.

Here follow a list of preachers who have labored in the circuit from 1805 to 1850: Peter Monarty, Samuel Mervine, 1805; Nathan Felch, Oliver Sykes, 1806; J. M. Smith, Zalman Lyon, 1807; N. W. Thomas, Jonathan Lyon, 1808; Billy Hubbard, Isaac Candor, 1809; Nathan Emery, John Russell, 1810; A. Hunt, O. Sykes, J. Reynolds, 1811; Seth Orville, G. Lyon, S. Beach, 1812; A. Hunt, H. Eames, 1813; E. Washburn, R. Harris, 1814; Elijah Robbins, Benjamin English, 1815; R. Harris, 1816; R. Harris, E. Canfield, 1817; Samuel Bushnell, A. Pierce, 1818; Beardsley Northrup, David Miller, 1819; Bela Smith, David Miller, 1820; Bela Smith, James Coleman, 1821; Labem Clark, Eli Bennett, 1822; Labem Clark, John Nixon, 1823; E. Denniston, John S. Pierce, 1824; E. Denniston, Julius Field, 1825; S. O. Ferguson, W. V. Buck, and ——— Lucky (supply), 1826; Eli Bennett, W. V. Buck, 1827; John Lovejoy, J. H. Romer, O. Sykes (supply), 1828; John Lovejoy, J. H. Romer, 1829; Horace Bartlet, Charles Shuman, 1830; John Lovejoy, 1831; Luther Meade, O. Sykes (supply), 1832; J. Hunt, J. B. Beach, 1833; J. Bower, J. B. Beach, 1834; H. Humphrey, John Davis, 1835; John Dykiman, 1836; C. Silliman, 1837; John D.

Bangs (died here), 1838; N. Meade, 1839-40; S. J. Stebbins, 1841-42; L. Clark, G. L. Fuller, 1843; A. S. Hill and G. L. Fuller, in 1844-45; S. W. Smith, 1846-47; L. D. Nickerson, 1848; N. C. Lewis, 1849-50.

During the year 1850 the church edifice at Newtown was sold and a more commodious one built at Sandy Hook, a small village one mile and three-quarters east of Newtown, at a cost of three thousand three hundred dollars. The Rev. Dr. Kennedy preached the dedication sermon, and the following have filled the pulpit to the year 1880: W. H. Bangs, 1851-52; F. Lovejoy, 1853-54; A. McAlister, 1855-56; ——— Gidman, 1857; Benjamin Redford, 1858; R. K. Reynolds, 1859\*-60; Edward Oldine, 1861-62; S. H. Platt, 1863-64; S. C. Lamb, 1865; B. A. Gilman, 1866-67; F. W. Lockwood, 1868-69; A. M. Sherman, 1870; Sylvester Smith, 1871-72; without supply, 1873; Joseph W. Pattisson, 1874-75; James Taylor, 1876-78; Cornell S. Dykiman, 1879-80.

This church recommended Luman Sanford for admission into the Conference about 1830; Isaac Sanford, 1840; G. A. Hubbell, 1845 (now presiding elder in New Haven District); S. H. Platt, 1853; William T. Hill, 1855 (now presiding elder in Bridgeport District).

This church has Deman Blackman and Edgar Butt as local preachers; local deacons, Thomas Clinger, H. L. Wheeler.

The present officers are Ezra Patch, Henry L. Wheeler, Silas E. Fairchild, Elias S. Sanford, B. B. Curtiss, Trustees.

#### OTHER CHURCHES, Etc.

The disintegration (as we may term it) of the Congregational Church must have encouraged the Methodist brethren to form a separate church organization, for we are informed that their first class met in 1800, the first preaching services being held in the house of Mrs. Phoebe Peck, just above the village, and afterwards in the old town-house. Their first meeting-house stood near Mrs. Briscoe's residence. Since that time there have been eighty-six ministers of that denomination who have supplied the pulpit, either in the old Methodist church at Newtown (which was dedicated in 1831) or in the present church edifice in Sandy Hook, which was built in 1850.

A Universalist Society, organized early in the century, built a commodious house of worship in the central part of the village, but afterwards sold it to the Catholic Society, and now hold no separate services. This church edifice, with the small Baptist church in Zoar and the Union chapel in Taunton, erected by the generosity of Mrs. Polly Beers in 1878, completes the list of churches, St. James' chapel, which once crowned Zoar Hill, having years ago been abandoned.

\* During the year 1859 the society built a parsonage at a cost of eighteen hundred dollars.

The Catholic Church is now so strong that a change to the plain near the depot and the erection of a larger building and series of buildings is in contemplation.

#### MASONIC.

For history of Hiram Lodge, No. 18, F. and A. M., and Hiram Chapter, see Appendix.

#### GRANITE LODGE, NO. 122, I. O. G. T.

This lodge was instituted May 5, 1869, with fifty-seven members, as follows: Rev. F. W. Lockwood, Mrs. O. P. Gately, Mrs. M. A. Tomlinson, W. W. Perkins, Silas N. Beers, Martha A. Akley, Sarah N. Beers, George R. Couch, Charles M. Parsons, Ezra J. Hall, Cornelia M. Tucker, Sarah Woffenden, Mary C. Tenant, Ella C. Gateley, M. Ella Couch, Julia S. Gibson, Annie White, Mary C. Woffenden, Mary E. Beers, Mary F. Peck, Grace Nichols, Emily Sanford, Augustus Allen, Eliza Crofut, Mrs. N. R. Couch, Sarah E. Northup, Eva E. May, Ann E. Sanford, Arthur D. Allen, Ann Gillett, Mrs. Sarah Wheeler, Abel F. Gillett, Mrs. Z. S. Peck, N. R. Couch, Annie B. Northup, Mrs. M. C. Perkins, Fannie E. Hurlbut, Julia H. Towle, Charles E. Jones, Frederick Beehler, Chester Hard, Emily A. Bennett, Robert M. Prindle, Charles Hurlbut, Mary E. Hough, Annie E. Booth, John J. Haight, William Brewer, James E. Parsons, Sarah E. Haight, P. H. Skidmore, H. B. Smith, John D. Bolan, Annie M. Sherman, Reba J. Lockwood, Bella Judson, Sylvester Beers.

The first regular meeting was held May 14, 1869, with the following officers: W. W. Perkins, W. C. T.; Julia H. Towle, W. V. T.; Rev. F. W. Lockwood, W. Chap.; Charles M. Parsons, W. Sec.; Mrs. O. P. Gately, W. A. S.; Silas N. Beers, W. T. S.; Sarah N. Beers, W. T.; Ezra J. Hall, W. M.; Julia S. Gibson, W. D. M.; Eva E. May, W. I. G.; George R. Couch, W. O. G.; Emily A. Sanford, W. R. H. S.; Cornelia M. Tucker, W. L. H. S.; Charles E. Jones, P. W. C. T. Since the lodge was instituted two hundred and fifty members have been enrolled. Among the fruits of its efforts are three lodges of juvenile Temples,—Alpha, No. 1, being the first lodge of juvenile templars instituted in the State, and located at Sandy Hook; Olive Branch, No. 14, at Newtown, South Centre District, and Myrtle, No. 26, at Newtown, North Centre District.

*Alpha Juvenile Temple, No. 1*, was instituted March 6, 1871. The charter members were Curtis P. Gately, Ada J. Leland, William H. Perkins, Julia H. Gibson, Olive P. Gately, Sadie D. Gately.

*Olive Branch Temple, No. 14*, was instituted May, 1874, with following charter members: Chas. Johnson, Lee Johnson, Annie Henderson, Susie Beers, Willie Partridge, Willie Johnson, Freddie Johnson, Julia Henderson, Robert Tomlinson, John Tomlinson, Clarence Minor, Susie I. and Edith J. Wason.

*Myrtle Temple, No. 26*, was instituted Jan. 1, 1879. Charter members: Wallace Hoyt, Willie Hoyt,

George Pearce, Samuel Pearce, Emma Hoyt, Lillie Cook, Harry Cook, George Hoyt, Bertha Cook, Maggie Rininsland, Julia Rininsland.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first reference in the old records to schools appears under date "Sept. 13, 1727," when it was

"Agreed and Voted, That there shall be School-house erected between y<sup>e</sup> Date above s<sup>d</sup> and December next ensuing y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Date, and y<sup>e</sup> Changes rising in building s<sup>d</sup> school-house Shall be Defrayed by y<sup>e</sup> town Rates of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of s<sup>d</sup> town.

"Test: JOS. PECK,  
"Clerk."

For present condition of schools, see General History.

#### THE BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN.

The borough of Newtown was incorporated in May, 1824, and on the 2d of the following month the first officers were chosen. These were: Clerk, Charles Chapman; Warden, Asa Chapman; Senior Burgess, Benjamin F. Shelton; Junior Burgesses, Eli Bennett, Oscar Glover, Thomas Blackman, Squire Dibble, and David B. Botsford; Treasurer, Henry Beers; Bailiff, Theophilus Nichols; Haywards, Thomas Seely, John Rogers, and Harry Sherman; Pound-keeper, Squire Dibble; Street Inspectors, McPherson Sherman and Elijah Botsford; Fire Inspectors, Arcillus Hamlin, Philo Whitney, and Oscar Keeler; Collector of Taxes, John Johnson.

There has been no meeting held in the borough to elect officers for some time.

#### NEWTOWN SAVINGS BANK.

This institution was organized July 1, 1855. The first board of trustees were Walter Clarke, Henry Beers Glover, David B. Beers, Theophilus Nichols, Jerome Judson, Henry Baldwin, Alva B. Beecher, Henry Sanford, Moses Parsons, Zerah Fairman, Samuel Curtis, James B. Blakslee, Saller P. Barnum, Monroe Judson, Charles F. Blakslee, William Beard, Henry Baldwin. The first officers were: President, Henry Beers; Vice-Presidents, David H. Johnson, Edward Starr, Samuel B. Peck; Secretary and Treasurer, Henry Beers Glover.

The present board of trustees is as follows: Charles C. Warner, Simeon B. Peck, Hezekiah Peck, Philo Clarke, Henry Sanford, William L. Terrill, Aaron Sanford, Monroe Judson, John Judson, William N. Northrop, Abel Stilson, E. M. Peck, C. B. Sherman, H. B. Northrop, D. G. Beers, William Botsford.

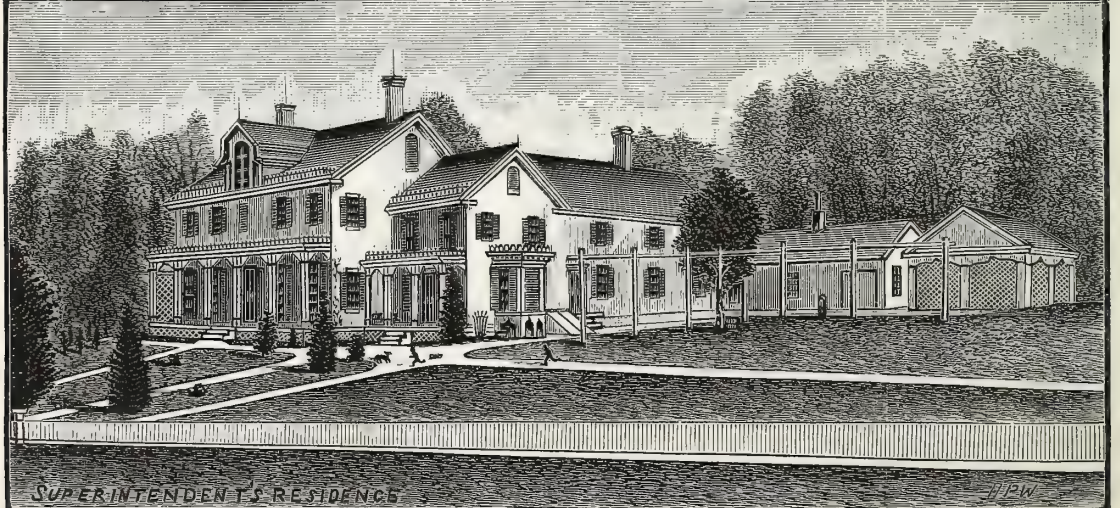
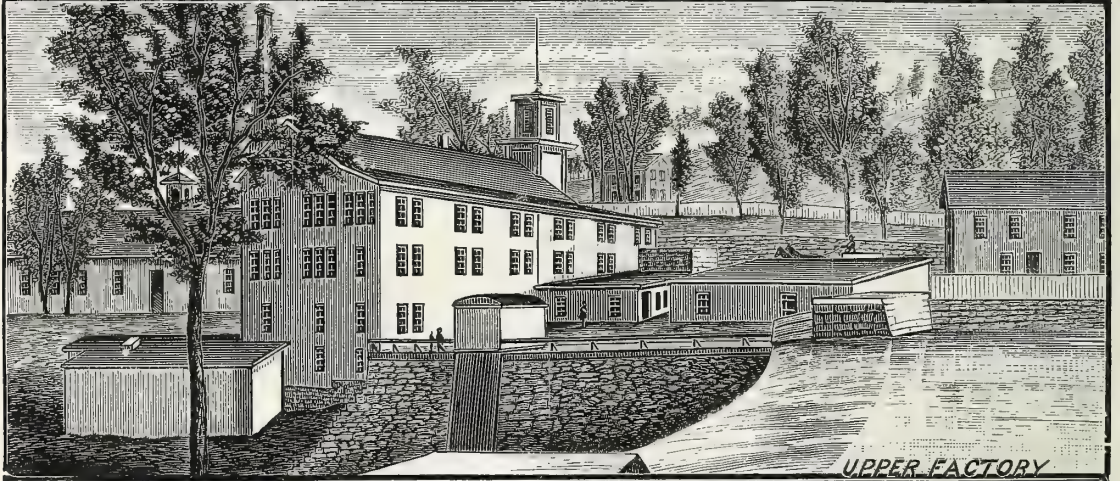
The first deposit in this bank was made by Henry Beers Glover, in trust for Mary Gover; amount, \$2.00. Present amount of deposits, \$344,121.57.

#### NEWSPAPERS.

*The Newtown Bee* was established by A. A. Bensel, June 27, 1877, with John T. Pearce as editor and manager. It was continued by Mr. Bensel until April, 1878, when Mr. Pearce became sole owner. In September, 1879, it was purchased by A. H. Hawkins,







THE NEW YORK BELTING AND PACKING COMPANY'S WORKS, NEWTOWN, CONN.



who conducted it until February, 1880, when Mr. Pearce resumed its ownership and editorial management. March 15, 1880, it was purchased by H. A. Van Dalsem, who published it a few months, when Mr. Pearce again assumed control, and is its present editor and proprietor.

*The Bee* is a lively local journal, and is in a prosperous condition, having a good circulation and advertising patronage.

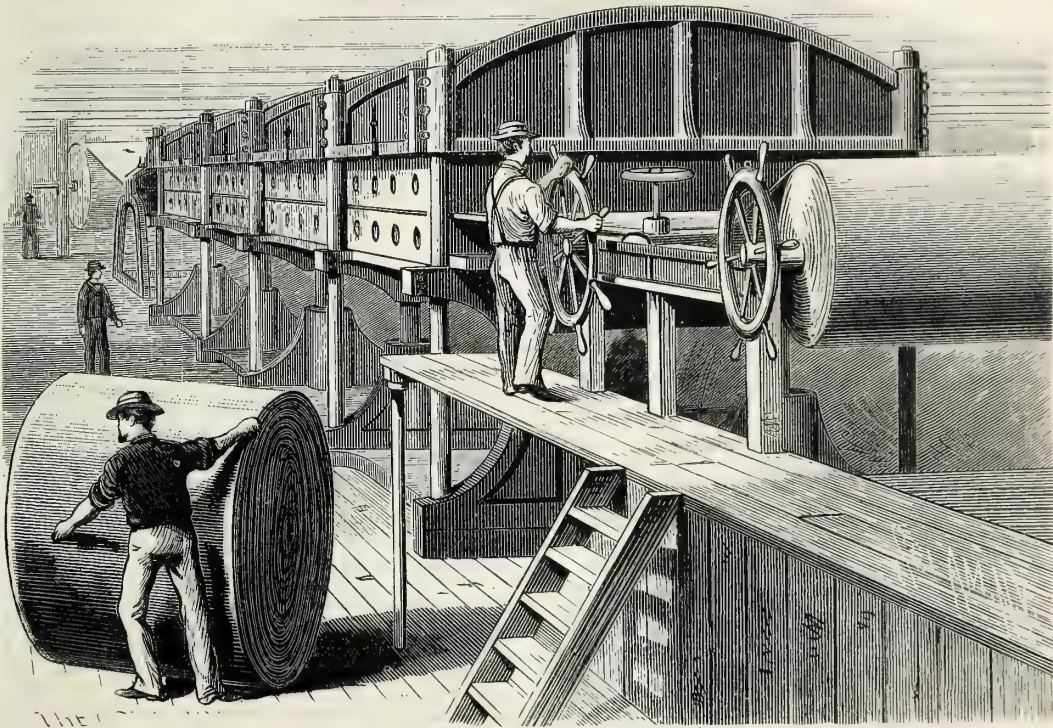
*The Newtown Chronicle* was established March 27, 1880, by J. A. Maddigan, and is now conducted by him.

THE NEW YORK BELTING AND PACKING COMPANY.

This is the largest institution of its kind in the world. "The making of vulcanized rubber fabrics adapted to mechanical purposes," says the *Scientific American*, "is here carried on in a way which indi-

is in either water, steam, or compressed air, together with a variety of valves, gaskets, and rings for similar use; hose for fire-engines and watering gardens, besides heavy steam and brewers' hose; wagon- and car-springs, gas-tubing, solid vulcanite emery-wheels, corrugated matting and mats, cushions for billiard-tables, etc. A full list of their productions would, indeed, make a formidable catalogue, but the interest therein to the general reader would be enhanced by the reflection that in so few years a comparatively unknown substance had come to play so important a part in our industries."

We illustrate one of the most wonderful machines for manufacturing vulcanized rubber belting, etc., whereby perfectly smooth surfaces and great solidity are insured. This press will take a belt six feet wide and fifteen feet of its length at once; it weighs eighty-five thousand pounds; the steam is let into the bed and platen so that the temperature can be readily



THE NEW YORK BELTING AND PACKING COMPANY.

cates the full fruition of Charles Goodyear's anticipations, whether we consider the quantity and variety of goods made or the highly important relations which these productions hold to all industrial pursuits, for in many cases they meet wants never before satisfied and fit needs for which no equally good substitute could be devised. The articles regularly manufactured at this factory include bands or belting for running machinery, from the largest belts ever made down to the smallest sizes in use; packing, to make tight joints in pumps, engines, etc., where the work

regulated; the platen is stationary, and the bed is lifted by hydraulic pressure. The most novel feature of this great press, however, is that it is arranged with appliances at each end for stretching the belts, so that, while the belt is under the full tension of the heaviest strain it may be desired to put upon it, it may at the same time be compressed between the hot plates, and thus set its fibres as firmly as a bar of steel.

They manufactured the immense driving and elevator belts for the Buckingham elevators at Chicago, which have been running perfectly for more than



twelve years; also those for Armour, Dole & Co., Chicago, and Vanderbilt's great elevators of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroads, New York, being the largest belts in the world. They have just manufactured (1880) an elevator belt thirty-six inches wide and two thousand five hundred feet in length, which will weigh over eighteen thousand pounds. The company own the patent for this stretcher in combination with the press, as they do many other patents of great importance in the business. The principal Goodyear patent on vulcanizing expired in 1865, but this company had then been many years manufacturing, and had obtained subsequent patents for improvements, some of which are of great value in their present manufactory.

The offices, salesroom, and warehouse of the company are at 37 and 38 Park Row, New York. John H. Cheever is the treasurer of the company and general manager of the business. Mr. D. C. Gately is superintendent of the works, which are located at Sandy Hook.

In addition to the numerous establishments mentioned above are the following manufactories: Blanket factory, owned by Sturtevant & Son, of New York; combs and buttons, Samuel Curtis & Sons; button-factory, John Griffen; and the establishment of S. A. Blackman & Co.

#### RAILROADS.

The town is well supplied with railroads. The Housatonic extends northwest through the centre of the town, with stations at Botsford, Newtown, and Hawleyville, intersecting at the latter place with the Shepaug Railroad, which crosses the northern part of the town. This road extends from Litchfield, in Litchfield County, to Bethel in this county. The New York and New England Railroad, now in process of construction, will also intersect with the above roads at at Hawleyville.

#### CIVIL AND MILITARY HISTORY.

##### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1747 TO 1880.

The following is a list of the representatives to the General Court from Newtown from 1747 to 1880:

1747, Capt. Thomas Tousey, John Northrop; 1748, Capt. Thomas Tousey, Henry Glover, Heath Peck; 1749, Henry Glover, John Northrup, John Leavensworth, Capt. John Glover; 1750, Capt. John Glover, Caleb Baldwin, Capt. Ephraim Peck; 1751, Capt. Thomas Tousey, Nathaniel Nickols, Daniel Booth, John Botsford; 1752, Daniel Booth, Capt. Henry Glover; 1753, Lemuel Camp, Heath Peck, Daniel Booth, Capt. Henry Glover; 1754, Daniel Booth, Capt. Henry Glover; 1755, Daniel Booth, Capt. Henry Glover, Caleb Baldwin, Capt. John Glover; 1756, Daniel Booth, Capt. Henry Glover, Caleb Baldwin, Abel Booth; 1757, David Booth, John Botchford, Daniel Booth, John Glover; 1758, Daniel Booth, Benjamin Curtis, Capt. Henry Glover; 1759, Daniel Booth, Richard Fairman, Capt. Henry Glover; 1760, Daniel Booth, Capt. Henry Glover, Jonathan Booth; 1761, Daniel Booth, Capt. John Glover, Caleb Baldwin, Richard Fairman; 1762, Daniel Booth, Richard Fairman, Caleb Baldwin; 1763, Daniel Booth, Capt. Amos Botsford, Abel Booth, Capt. Henry Glover; 1764, Oliver Tousey, Capt. Henry Glover, Daniel Booth; 1765, Richard Fairman, Capt. Henry Glover, Oliver Tousey; 1766, Richard Fairman, Capt. Henry Glover, Oliver Tousey; 1767, Capt. Henry Glover, Oliver Tousey, Heath Peck; 1768, Capt. Henry Glover, Heath Peck, Richard Fairman; 1769, Richard Fairman, Capt. Henry Glover; 1770, Capt.

Henry Glover, Daniel Booth, Abel Booth; 1771, Capt. Henry Glover, Richard Fairman, John Chandler; 1772, Oliver Tousey, Maj. John Chandler, Capt. Henry Glover; 1773, Maj. John Chandler, Peter Nichols, Capt. Henry Glover; 1774, Capt. Henry Glover, Oliver Tousey, Capt. Peter Nichols; 1775, John Beach, Jr.; 1776, no record; 1777, Capt. Caleb Baldwin, Henry Peck; 1778, Maj. Caleb Baldwin, Capt. Joseph Smith, Henry Peck; 1779, Maj. Caleb Baldwin, Col. John Chandler, Henry Peck; 1780, Richard Fairman, Henry Peck, Maj. Caleb Baldwin; 1781, Col. John Chandler; 1782, Col. John Chandler, Henry Peck, Maj. Caleb Baldwin, Amos Northrop; 1783, Col. John Chandler, Henry Peck, Maj. Caleb Baldwin, Capt. Jabez Botsford; 1784, Nehemiah Strong, Gen. John Chandler, John Beach, Henry Glover; 1785, Gen. John Chandler, Capt. Peter Nichols; 1786, Gen. John Chandler, John Beach, Maj. Caleb Baldwin; 1787, John Beach, Abijah Curtis; 1788, Gen. John Chandler, John Beach, Capt. Peter Nichols; 1789, Abijah Curtis, Jotham Sherman, John Beach; 1790, John Beach, Wm. Edmond; 1791, Wm. Edmond, Peter Nichols; 1792, Wm. Edmond, David Baldwin, John Beach; 1793, John Beach, Wm. Edmond; 1794, William Edmond, John Beach, David Baldwin; 1795, William Edmond, David Baldwin; 1796, Wm. Edmond, David Baldwin, Zach. Ferris, Gideon Botsford; 1797, Wm. Edmond, David Baldwin, Zachariah Ferris; 1798, David Baldwin, John Beach; 1799, Gideon Botsford, David Baldwin, Zach. Ferris; 1800, Gideon Botsford, Zach. Ferris; 1801, Asa Chapman, John Sanford, William Edmond; 1802, Zach. Ferris, Wm. Edmonds, David Baldwin, Gideon Botsford; 1803, Asa Chapman, Samuel C. Blackman, John Sanford, David Meeker; 1804, Isaiah Fairchild, Gideon Botsford, John Sanford; 1805, Simeon Beers, Gideon Botsford, Jabez Bennett; 1806, Gideon Botsford, Amos Skidmore, John Sanford, David Baldwin; 1807, John Sanford, David Baldwin, Samuel C. Blackman; 1808, David Baldwin, Asa Chapman, John Sanford, Simeon Beers; 1809, David Baldwin, William M. Betts, Silas Fairchild; 1810, John Sanford, Samuel C. Blackman, David Baldwin; 1811, Gideon Botsford, Simeon Beers, John Sanford, Timothy Shepard; 1812, Joseph Nickols, Timothy Shepard; 1813, John Sanford, Timothy Shepard, Asa Chapman; 1814, Asa Chapman, John Sanford, Joseph B. Wheeler; 1815, Asa Chapman, John Sanford, David Meeker; 1816, Josiah Fairchild, Marcus Botsford, John Sanford, Samuel Beers; 1817, Marcus Botsford, James Bennett, Lamson Burch; 1818, Gideon Botsford, Joseph B. Wheeler, Bennett Perry, Jacob Beers; 1819, Joseph B. Wheeler, Jeremiah Beers; 1820, Timothy Shepard, Jacob Beers; 1821, Timothy Shepard, Zachariah Clark, Jr.; 1822, Philo Botsford, Timothy Shepard; 1823, Isaac Scudder, Jacob Beers; 1824, Jacob Beers, Jonathan S. Fairchild; 1825, Benjamin Hurd, Jonathan S. Fairchild; 1826, Jacob Beers, Benjamin Hurd; 1827, Jacob Beers, John Northrop; 1828, Benjamin Hurd, Henry Dutton; 1829, Jacob Beers, David H. Belden; 1830, Jacob Beers, Abel Beers; 1831, James B. Fairman, J. B. Botsford; 1832, Moses Parsons, Joseph Booth; 1833, Henry Bass, Lemuel Beers; 1834, Henry Dutton, George Bradley; 1835, Daniel Botsford, Lemuel Beers; 1836, Oliver Northrop, Daniel Skidmore; 1837, John Judson, Charles Johnson; 1838, Lemuel Beers, Botsford Terrell; 1839, Austin N. Botsford, Samuel B. Peck; 1840, Alvah B. Beecher, John B. Beers; 1841, Josiah S. Tomlinson, Abel B. Terrell; 1842, Henry Nichols, Ezra Morgan; 1843, Oliver Somers, Charles C. Warner; 1844, Levi Peck, Ezra Patch; 1845, Charles Peck, David Sanford; 1846, Isaac M. Sturgis, David I. Northrop; 1847, Charles Dikeman, Alonzo Sherman; 1848, Russell Wheeler, Thomas O. Chambers; 1849, John B. Peck, Monroe Judson; 1850, Aaron Sanford, Charles W. Warner; 1851, George Benedict, Carlos B. Booth; 1852, Oliver Somers, Zerah Fairman; 1853, James Blackman, Alonzo Taylor; 1854, Elliott M. Peck, William Platt; 1855, D. H. Johnson, Walter Clarke; 1856, Stephen W. Blackman, Botsford Terrell; 1857, Abel T. Peck, Hiram Camp; 1858, David Sanford, Oliver S. Botsford; 1859, Charles C. Warner, Eli J. Morris; 1860, George W. Bradley, David B. Northrup; 1861, Alonzo Sherman, Herman Fairchild; 1862, Ezra Morgan, Zerah Fairman; 1863, Charles H. Peck, Edwin Clarke; 1864, Zerah Fairman, John M. Beardsley; 1865, Samuel C. Glover, Chester F. Tolles; 1866, B. D. Briscoe, William A. Bradley; 1867, John M. Beardsley, Theron B. Appell; 1868, Ezra Morgan, Robert A. Clark; 1869, P. H. Skidmore, Cyrus D. Fairchild; 1870, Silas B. Wheeler, Charles C. Warner; 1871, Harrison Twitchell, William H. Glover; 1872, Lawrence Mitchell, R. S. Blackman; 1873, Wheeler Drew, Edward Taylor; 1874, Abel B. Prindle, William I. Terrell; 1875, Simeon B. Peck, James A. Wilson; 1876, Bennett Blackman, John O. Dolohery; 1877, Samuel Barnum, George Winton; 1878, John Mooney, George W. Bradley; 1879, Jerry Carey, John H. Blackman; 1880, John Griffin, Griffin P. Lillis.



## SELECTMEN FROM 1712 TO 1880.

1712, Ebenezer Prindle, John Glover, Abraham Kimberly, Jeremiah Turner, John Griffin; 1713, Joseph Peck, Ebenezer Smith, Freegrace Adams, Joseph Gray, James Hard; 1714, Ebenezer Prindle, Joseph Peck, Ebenezer Booth, Moses Johnson, Freegrace Adams; 1715, Joseph Peck, Ebenezer Booth, Thomas Bennitt, James Hard, Peter Hubbell; 1716, Thomas Bennitt, Peter Hubbell, Joseph Gray, Job Sherman, Benjamin Dunning; 1717, Thomas Bennitt, John Glover, Joseph Peck, Benjamin Dunning, James Turner; 1718, Thomas Bennitt, John Glover, Joseph Peck, Benjamin Dunning; 1719, Thomas Bennitt, Joseph Peck, Peter Hubbell, Jotham Booth, John J. Gillet; 1720, Thomas Bennitt, Joseph Peck, Jotham Booth, Peter Hubbell, Benjamin Dunning; 1721, Thomas Bennitt, Joseph Peck, Jotham Booth, Ephraim Peck; 1722, Thomas Bennitt, Samuel Beers, Ephraim Peck, John Northrop, John Leavenworth; 1723, Ebenezer Booth, Ephraim Peck, Samuel Booth, Thomas Skidmore, Abraham Baldwin; 1724, Peter Hubbell, John Northrop, Ephraim Peck, Samuel Beers, John Leavenworth; 1725, John Northrop, John Botsford, Benjamin Dunning, Jotham Booth, Ephraim Peck; 1726, John Botsford, John Northrop, Benjamin Dunning, John Booth, Ephraim Peck; 1727, John Botsford, John Northrop, Ephraim Peck, John Booth; 1728, John Botsford, Ephraim Peck, Nathan Baldwin, Thomas Skidmore, Ephraim Hawley; 1729, Joseph Peck, Job Sherman, Nathan Baldwin, Ephraim Hubbell, Ephraim Peck, James Northrop; 1730, Thomas Bennitt, Daniel Sherman, Joseph Botsford, Moses Stilson, John Gillet; 1731, Joseph Botsford, Capt. Bennett, Nathan Baldwin, John Northrop, Benjamin Dunning; 1732, Joseph Peck, John Northrop, John Botsford, John Leavenworth, Thomas Tousey; 1733-34, John Northrop, Nathan Baldwin, Joseph Botsford, John Glover, Obadiah Wheeler; 1735, Obadiah Wheeler, John Glover, Caleb Baldwin, Stephen Burwell, Ephraim Peck; 1736, Caleb Baldwin, Stephen Burwell, John Northrop, Daniel Booth, John Botsford; 1737, Job Sherman, Thomas Skidmore, Benoni Sherman, Obadiah Wheeler, Benjamin Northrop; 1738, Thomas Skidmore, Job Sherman, John Northrop, Ephraim Peck, Benoni Sherman; 1739, Ephraim Peck, Henry Glover, John Lake, Lemuel Camp, John Northrop; 1740, John Lake, Joseph Botsford, Nathan Baldwin, John Glover, Thomas Skidmore; 1741, Joseph Bristol, John Blackman, Abraham Bennett, Heth Peck, John Beers; 1742, Joseph Bristol, John Glover, Samuel Griffin, Abraham Kimberly, Nathaniel Nichols; 1743, Samuel Griffin, Abraham Kimberly, Joseph Smith, John Gillett, Henry Glover, Thomas Leavenworth; 1744, Thomas Skidmore, Caleb Baldwin, Lemuel Camp, Abraham Bennett, Nathaniel Briscoe; 1745, Ephraim Peck, John Lake, Joseph Botsford, John Botsford, Heth Peck; 1746, Nathan Baldwin, John Northrop, Abel Booth, Nathaniel Briscoe, Thomas Ford; 1747, Daniel Booth, Nathaniel Briscoe, Nathaniel Nichols, Heth Peck, Benjamin Dunning; 1748, James Kean, John Shepard, Joseph Bristol, Henry Glover, Gideon Botsford; 1749, Capt. Obadiah Wheeler, Lem'l Camp, Jno. Glover, Dan'l Booth, Moses Stilson; 1750, Heth Peck, J. Lake, N. Nichols, Donald Grant, Amos Botsford; 1751, Heth Peck, Amos Botsford, John Lake, Abel Booth, Henry Glover; 1752, John Botsford, Abel Booth, Thomas Leavenworth, Joseph Botsford, Benjamin Mallory; 1753, Benjamin Mallory, Thomas Skidmore, Mathew Curtis, Nathaniel Nichols; 1754, Ephraim Peck, Richard Fairman, James Hurd, Nathaniel Briscoe, Abel Botsford; 1755, Nathaniel Briscoe, Abel Botsford, Thomas Skidmore, Jonathan Northrop, Gideon Botsford; 1756, Jonathan Northrop, Amos Botsford, James Hurd, Abel Judson, John Blackman; 1757, Richard Fairman, Abel Judson, James Hurd, John Botsford, Heth Peck; 1758, Richard Fairman, Abel Booth, Abraham Kimberly, Amos Merchant, John Shepard; 1759, Abel Booth, Abraham Kimberly, Amos Merchant, Heth Peck, Jonathan Booth; 1760, Abraham Kimberly, Heth Peck, Abel Booth, Jonathan Booth, Nathaniel Briscoe; 1761, Nathaniel Briscoe, Jonathan Booth, James Hurd, Ephraim Bennett, Caleb Baldwin, Jabez Hurd; 1762, Nathaniel Briscoe, Ephraim Bennett, Jabez Hurd, Amos Botsford, Caleb Baldwin, Henry Glover, John Sterling; 1763, Jabez Hurd, Nathaniel Nichols, Jonathan Booth, Caleb Baldwin, John Sterling, Ebenezer Ford, Theodore Nettleton; 1764, Benjamin Curtis, Daniel Booth, Joseph Peck, John Beers, Benjamin Dunning, Ebenezer Ford, Caleb Baldwin; 1765, Ephraim Sherman, Jotham Sherman, Peter Ferris, Josiah Beardslee, Benjamin Dunning, Caleb Baldwin, Oliver Tousey; 1766, Daniel Booth, Benjamin Curtis, Joseph Gunn, John Beers, Jabez Baldwin, Gideon Botsford, Richard Fairman; 1767, Peter Nichols, George Terrill, Joshua Northrop, John Beach, Samuel Beers, Ebenezer Ford, Oliver

Tousey; 1768, Ebenezer Ford, Abner Hard, Daniel Baldwin, Abel Booth, Amos Northrop, Ebenezer Bristol; 1769, Daniel Baldwin, John Chandler, John Blackman, Gideon Botsford; 1770, Lemuel Sherman, John Beers, John Chandler, John Beach, P. Nichols; 1771, J. Beers, L. Sherman, P. Nichols, A. Hard, E. Sherman, J. Fairchild; 1772, Amos Hard, Ephraim Sherman, Caleb Baldwin, William Burwell, Jonathan Fairchild; 1773, Waite Northrop, Peter Nichols, Daniel Baldwin, Daniel Booth, Abel Botsford; 1774, James Blackman, Zadok Sherman, Richard Smith, Thomas Skidmore, Jabez Baldwin; 1775, Benjamin Curtis, Zadok Sherman, Thomas Skidmore, Jotham Sherman, Jabez Baldwin; 1776, John Beach, Henry Peck, Daniel Booth, Abel Botsford, Daniel Baldwin; 1777, Henry Peck, Abel Botsford, Richard Fairman, Ephraim Sherman, William Burwell, Nathaniel Briscoe, Abijah Curtis; 1778, Richard Fairman, Gideon Botsford, Joseph Wheeler, Henry Fairman, Jabez Botsford, Eli Dunning, Henry Peck; 1779, Caleb Baldwin, John Chandler, Jabez Botsford, Nathan Burritt, Mathew Curtis, Josh. Northrop, Eli Dunning; 1780, Capt. Elijah Botsford, Mathew Curtis, Abel Botsford, Asa Cogswell, Richard Fairman, Richard Smith, Eli Dunning; 1781, Joseph Wheeler, Joshua Northrop, Josiah Beardslee, Abel Baldwin, Richard Fairman, Abraham Bennett, George Smith; 1782, Richard Fairman, Caleb Baldwin, George Terrell, Amos Northrop, Gideon Botsford, Henry Peck; 1783, George Terrell, Jonathan Northrop, Jabez Botsford, Abraham Bennitt, Richard Smith; 1784, Jabez Botsford, Jotham Sherman, Caleb Baldwin, Peter Nichols, Benjamin Curtis, Nehemiah Strong, Abel Hurd; 1785, John Beach, John Glover, Jabez Botsford, Caleb Baldwin, William Edmonds, Henry Peck, Nehemiah Strong; 1786, Abijah Curtis, John Smith, Samuel Ferris, Abel Botsford, David Baldwin, Ebenezer Smith; 1787, David Baldwin, Joshua Northrop, William Edmonds; 1788, Abijah Curtis, David Baldwin, Cyrenus Hard, Jabez Botsford, Henry Peck; 1789, Solomon Glover, Abijah Curtis, Andrew Beers; 1790, Josiah Curtis, Joel Camp, Jotham Sherman; 1791, Jotham Sherman, J. Beach, Gideon Botsford; 1792, John Sanford, Ezra Booth, Gideon Botsford; 1793, Ezra Booth, Zachariah Ferris, Dr. Bennett Perry; 1794, Zachariah Ferris, Moses Shepard, David Meeker; 1795, Moses Shepard, Solomon Glover, Jabez Botsford; 1796, Simeon Beers, Luther Harris, Moses Shepard; 1797, Luther Harris, Amos Sherman, Simeon Beers; 1798, Capt. Joseph Wheeler, Josiah Fairchild, Abel Botsford; 1799, Asa Chapman, Abijah Curtis, Joseph Ferris; 1800, Capt. Luther Harris, Joseph Ferris, Moses Botsford; 1801, Jotham Sherman, Gideon Botsford, Philo Curtis; 1802, Philo Curtis, Jotham Sherman, Gideon Botsford; 1803, Philo Tousey, Gideon Botsford, David Meeker; 1804, John Sanford, Capt. David Meeker, Ebenezer Beers; 1805, Simeon Beers, David Meeker, Peter Lake; 1806-7, Amos Skidmore, Gideon Botsford, Philo Curtis; 1808, Gideon Botsford, Philo Curtis, Silas Fairchild; 1809, David Meeker, Silas Fairchild, Birdsey Glover; 1810-11, Birdsey Glover, David Meeker, Samuel Beers; 1812, David Meeker, Samuel Beers, Luther Harris; 1813, David Meeker, Samuel Beers, Lamson Birch; 1814, David Meeker, Lamson Birch, Zachariah Clark; 1815, Marcus Botsford, Zachariah Clark, Lamson Birch; 1816, Abijah Curtis, Marcus Botsford, David Meeker; 1817, Marcus Botsford, Amos Skidmore, Abijah Curtis; 1818, David Tousey, Adoniram Fairchild, Amos Skidmore; 1819, Amos Skidmore, Joseph Wheeler, Adoniram Fairchild; 1820, Abijah Merritt, Clement Fairchild, Amos Skidmore; 1821-23, Clement Fairchild, James Fairman, Abijah Merritt; 1824, James Fairman, Abijah Merritt, Isaac Scudder; 1825, Isaac Scudder, Abner Nettleton, Austin Booth; 1826, James Fairman, Isaac Scudder, Abijah Merritt; 1827, James Fairman, Benjamin Hard, John Northrop; 1828, Wheeler Fairchild, Daniel Blackman, Abel Beers; 1829, Abel Beers, Asa B. Beardslee, Benjamin C. Glover; 1830, Abel Beers, Asa B. Beardslee, Jabez B. Botsford; 1831-32, Abel Beers, John Northrop, Abner A. Nettleton; 1833, John Northrop, Lamson Birch, Abijah Merritt, James Nichols; 1834, Abijah Merritt, John Northrop, Philo Curtis; 1835, Oliver Northrop, Daniel Botsford, Thomas Blackman; 1836, James B. Fairman, Israel A. Beardslee, Abijah Merritt; 1837, James B. Fairman, Israel Beardslee, Abijah Merritt; 1838, James B. Fairman, Abijah Merritt, Henry Beers, Israel A. Beardslee; 1839, James B. Fairman, John B. Beers, William Beard; 1840, John B. Beers, William Beard, James B. Fairman; 1841, William Beard, Josiah S. Tomlinson, James B. Fairman; 1842, William Beard, Jas. B. Fairman, Josiah B. Tomlinson; 1843, Philo Curtis, William Beard, Oliver Northrop; 1844, Wm. Beard, James B. Fairman, Moses Parsons; 1845, Zar Winton, Oliver Northrop, Chas. Peck; 1846, Oliver Northrop, Isaac Blackman, Sam. B. Peck; 1847, Chas. Clark, Oliver Northrop, Chas. C. Warner; 1848, Oliver Northrop, Chas. Clark, Thos. O. Chambers; 1849, Chas. C. Warner, Levi Peck, Chas. Skidmore;

1850, Charles Dikeman, Charles C. Warner, Levi Peck; 1851, Charles C. Warner, Oliver Somers, Charles Dikeman; 1852, Charles C. Warner, Hart Shepard, Oliver Somers; 1853, Charles C. Warner, John B. Peck, Joseph Blackman; 1854, John B. Peck, Joseph Blackman, Hart Shepard; 1855, Hart Shepard, Glover Hawley, Lewis S. Briscoe; 1856-57, Eli J. Morris, Joseph Blackman, Botsford Terrill; 1858, Botsford Terrill, Oliver Somers, Eli J. Morris; 1859-61, Oliver Somers, David Sanford, James Blackman; 1862, David Sanford, Zerah Fairman, James Blackman; 1863-65, David Sanford, Zerah Fairman, Hiram Camp; 1866, David Sanford, Zerah Fairman, David Somers; 1867-68, Zerah Fairman, William L. Terrill, Bradley D. Briscoe; 1869, Zerah Fairman, Eli J. Morris, Oliver Somers; 1870, Zerah Fairman, Eli J. Morris, Samuel C. Glover; 1871-72, Zerah Fairman, Samuel C. Glover, Wheeler Drew; 1873, Abel B. Prindle, Stephen W. Blackman, Charles E. Beers; 1874, Zerah Fairman, Lawrence Mitchell, Stephen Blackman; 1875, Ezra L. Johnson, Charles C. Twitchell, Robert N. Hawley; 1876, William N. Northrop, Charles C. Twitchell, George H. Botsford; 1877, William N. Northrop, Robert N. Hawley, Lawrence Mitchell; 1878, William N. Northrop, William I. Sanford, William Hoy; 1879, William N. Northrop, John L. Hughes, William I. Sanford; 1880, William N. Northrop, William I. Sanford, Edson W. Wilson.

#### TOWN CLERKS.

1711, Peter Hubbell; 1712-13, John Glover; 1714-38, Joseph Peck; 1739-64, John Northrop; 1765-99, Caleb Baldwin; 1800-43, Caleb Baldwin, Jr.; 1844-46, Isaac Biers; 1847-50, Henry Sanford; 1850-53, Monroe Judson; 1854, Sailer P. Barnum; 1855, Isaac Biers; 1856-59, David B. Biers; 1860-62, Alfred D. Tynill; 1863-70, Charles C. Warner; 1871, Reuben Belden; 1872, Henry T. Nichols; 1873-80, Charles H. Peck.

#### MILITARY RECORD.

From records in the Adjutant-General's office.

##### FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company A.*

George A. Bradley, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Feb. 25, 1863.

##### FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company D.*

William Weible, enl. Sept. 13, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

##### SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company C.*

William Curtis, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; died Dec. 3, 1863.  
C. G. Curtis, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
A. B. Fairchild, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Ira Sherman, enl. July 22, 1862; must. out Oct. 24, 1864.  
Charles Wooster, enl. July 22, 1862; disch. July 31, 1863.

###### *Company D.*

O. C. Milton, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 14, 1865.

###### *Company E.*

J. Gordon, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; killed July 1, 1863.  
M. V. B. Glover, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; died May 1, 1863.  
H. B. Bigelow, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1863.  
C. C. Chipman, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1863.  
M. Colgan, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; wounded; must. out July 19, 1863.  
Oliver Downs, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. June 23, 1863.  
James Eagan, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; disch. Jan. 22, 1863.  
W. A. Gordon, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; wounded; transferred.  
Dennis Hayes, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
J. Hickey, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; died May 9, 1863.  
M. McMahon, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. July 17, 1863.  
A. Northrup, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; wounded; must. out July 19, 1865.  
M. V. O'Halloran, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Sept. 15, 1863.  
H. A. S. Peet, enl. Aug. 14, 1862.  
P. Smith, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Dec. 15, 1862.  
A. Schriver, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
G. H. Spencer, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
L. Shaughriess, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
J. Welch, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; missing.

##### TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

###### *Company C.*

Julius Sanford, captain; com. Sept. 10, 1862; captured June 24, 1863.  
J. F. Peck, second lieutenant; com. Aug. 25, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant; captured June 24, 1863.

S. Edgett, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; captured Aug. 31, 1864.  
C. N. Squiers, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
J. Griffin, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
E. F. Sanford, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
A. L. Peck, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
B. Nichols, enl. Sept. 12, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
R. Fairchild, enl. Sept. 12, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
C. Booth, Jr., enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
S. L. Booth, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
J. M. Beers, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
G. Briscoe, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
Charles Briscoe, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
N. Clark, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
H. B. Cogger, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
G. B. Camp, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
M. Corbit, enl. Sept. 8, 1862.  
A. Dimon, enl. Sept. 8, 1862.  
D. R. French, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
T. B. Fairchild, enl. Sept. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
D. A. Gillett, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; died Feb. 26, 1863.  
T. Guernsey, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
F. N. Hawley, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
Henry Johnson, enl. Sept. 14, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
M. Keenan, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
John Lillis, enl. Sept. 13, 1862; died July 6, 1863.  
M. Lillis, enl. Nov. 5, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
P. McDaniels, enl. Sept. 11, 1862.  
P. Moakley, enl. Oct. 27, 1862.  
D. M. Peck, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
N. J. Peck, enl. Aug. 24, 1862; drowned June 6, 1863.  
B. H. Peet, enl. Sept. 5, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
A. Taylor, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
D. B. Wood, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

###### *Company G.*

Edwin Benedict, enl. Sept. 7, 1862; must. out Aug. 31, 1863.  
H. Beers, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; died July 5, 1863.  
H. A. Gilbert, enl. Dec. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
G. R. Gage, enl. Nov. 12, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
J. McGrath, enl. Nov. 10, 1862.  
P. D. Olmsted, enl. Dec. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
S. B. Wood, enl. Nov. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

##### TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company F.*

John Jones, enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out June 28, 1865.

###### *Company I.*

James Evans, enl. Dec. 31, 1863; died Nov. 19, 1864.  
James Adams, enl. Jan. 4, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

###### *Company K.*

James Hawley, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; died Feb. 20, 1864.

###### *Company D.*

Thomas O'Brien, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

##### FIRST REGIMENT.

O. Conklin, enl. Nov. 10, 1864.

##### SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

M. Lillis, enl. Feb. 19, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
James Nichols, enl. Feb. 16, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.

##### FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

###### *Company F.*

C. S. Shepherd, enl. May 23, 1861; disch. July 26, 1861.  
John Hubbell, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; died Sept. 23, 1864.

###### *Company M.*

H. E. Nichols, enl. March 6, 1862; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
M. Farrell, enl. Feb. 10, 1864.  
A. Flannagan, enl. Feb. 10, 1864.  
C. E. Gilbert, enl. Feb. 13, 1864; must. out June 1, 1865.  
M. Shepherd, enl. Jan. 5, 1864.

##### FIFTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company F.*

William Conley, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. Jan. 5, 1863.  
J. H. Falkner, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. April 24, 1862.







Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*W. Sanford*  
H.



SIXTH REGIMENT.

*Company F.*

B. W. Matthews, enl. Aug. 29, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

*Company K.*

James Sullivan, enl. Jan. 5, 1865; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

SEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company G.*

J. Brown, enl. Sept. 7, 1861; must. out June 26, 1865.

L. H. Edwards, enl. Sept. 7, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.

*Company H.*

Carl Ackerman, enl. Nov. 11, 1863; wounded; died Sept. 14, 1864.

EIGHTH REGIMENT.

*Company F.*

A. B. Clark, enl. Dec. 17, 1863; must. out Dec. 2, 1865.

William Davis, enl. Dec. 17, 1863; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

C. R. Sherwood, enl. Dec. 17, 1863; must. out July 5, 1865.

F. E. Smith, enl. Dec. 17, 1863; disch. Nov. 7, 1865.

Frederick Wensle, enl. Feb. 11, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

*Company H.*

C. H. Payne, enl. Dec. 17, 1863; killed June 2, 1864.

*Company I.*

H. C. Hall, enl. Sept. 21, 1861; pro. to capt. Co. F; killed July 11, 1864.

J. D. Seeley, enl. Sept. 21, 1861; disch. July 22, 1865.

S. W. Brown, enl. Sept. 27, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

S. A. Evarts, enl. Sept. 21, 1861; rejected.

H. Gilbert, enl. Sept. 30, 1861; must. out Sept. 12, 1865.

George Hawley, enl. Sept. 27, 1861; disch. May 11, 1862.

J. Riley, enl. Sept. 27, 1861; disch. July 18, 1865.

Robert Tappan, enl. Sept. 21, 1861; must. out May 10, 1865.

H. Tongue, enl. Sept. 21, 1861; must. out Sept. 21, 1864.

J. B. Weed, enl. Sept. 21, 1861; disch. July 15, 1865.

NINTH REGIMENT.

*Company I.*

James Hawley, enl. Oct. 1, 1861.

TENTH REGIMENT.

*Company G.*

Thomas Johnson, enl. Jan. 10, 1863; must. out May 29, 1865.

ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

David Andrews, enl. Oct. 24, 1861; killed April 24, 1863.

*Company C.*

Fritz Meyer, enl. Jan. 27, 1865.

*Company G.*

L. H. Fairchild, enl. Dec. 12, 1861; disch. June 7, 1862.

J. W. Green, enl. Dec. 1, 1861; disch. Dec. 21, 1865.

G. S. Hubbell, enl. Dec. 1, 1861; wounded Sept. 17, 1862.

B. E. Lewis, enl. Dec. 1, 1861; wounded; disch. Dec. 20, 1862.

George McLean, enl. Dec. 12, 1861.

H. L. Nichols, enl. Dec. 1, 1861; died Aug. 24, 1862.

F. E. Smith, enl. Dec. 1, 1861; wounded; disch. Feb. 3, 1863.

TWELFTH REGIMENT.

*Company E.*

John Tappan, enl. Nov. 19, 1861; captured Oct. 19, 1864.

G. B. Botsford, enl. Nov. 19, 1861; disch. June 27, 1862.

H. Newman, enl. Jan. 12, 1865.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

W. G. Hawley, enl. Dec. 22, 1861; disch. June 27, 1862.

C. L. Briscoe, enl. Feb. 5, 1861.

John Kane, enl. Jan. 6, 1862; captured Sept. 19, 1864.

C. D. Peck, enl. Feb. 1, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 8, 1864; must. out April 25, 1866.

Roswell Taylor, enl. Jan. 22, 1862; disch. Jan. 6, 1865.

*Company D.*

E. M. Hull, enl. Dec. 17, 1861.

George Dimelow, enl. Dec. 17, 1861.

Charles Munson, enl. Dec. 22, 1861; died Aug. 29, 1863.

S. Tyrell, enl. Dec. 17, 1861; must. out Sept. 13, 1865.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

HENRY SANFORD.

This worthy descendant of Josiah Sanford was born in Newtown, June 2, 1822.

He remained with his parents until he attained his fourteenth year, in the mean time enjoying the benefits of the neighborhood school and the wholesome practical lessons daily taught by his father's precepts and example. It was a part of his father's religious belief, to which he tenaciously held, that children should be made to form habits of industry, to be applied not only to books but to business pursuits. The father was jovial, and encouraged his children in their legitimate sports, yet the main object of his training was to prepare them for life in its reality, and with Henry, no less than with his brothers and sisters, was this parental treatment made available in the near threescore years that he has battled with the world.

At fourteen years of age he was placed by his father at Baldwin & Beers', who kept a general store in the village of Newtown. He remained with this firm seven years at fifty dollars per annum, and from this scanty allowance he was expected to purchase clothing, keep in pocket change, and lay by for a rainy day.

Reaching his majority, his employers engaged his services for two years at one hundred and fifty dollars per annum.

Just here it is proper to remark that Henry's deportment had been such that at eighteen he virtually did the whole business of the establishment. He did all the buying, and at regular intervals would make out his bills, visit New York, make his purchases and payments. Once a year a statement of the business and the transactions for the twelve months was rendered to his employers.

At twenty-three, with assistance (by indorsement) from his father, he purchased a one-half interest, and continued the general management as before. Proud day for the young merchant, who was now a partner in one of the oldest mercantile establishments in the town of his nativity.

The lessons of promptness and general application of that old father were strictly adhered to, and the reward followed. For fifteen years the youth Henry did not lose from any cause exceeding fifteen days from his business. Will the youth aspiring to fortune and honorable station pin this fact upon his memory and emulate the example?

In the natural course of time other purchases,—the remaining half-interest in stock, then again the building and grounds; another period, the old storehouse torn down, and new and more extensive ones erected. A gradual, legitimate, and certain increase,—the result of those habits of economy, application, industry, and constancy of purpose that made up

the characteristics of the man whom we are sketching. Was it from selfish motives that Henry Sanford was so aspiring in his youth? Then notice his walk when a mature man.

Property after property was bought, improved, and resold at a small advance upon original purchase. Why? That the town might present a more attractive appearance to its citizens, its visitors.

Together with Aaron Sanford and M. C. Hawley he erected the beautiful Grand Central Hotel, and hundreds of summer boarders annually thank them for their enterprise.

But the crowning, the grandest effort of his life is the handsome monument to his nerve and constancy of purpose that attracts every passer-by. We allude to that solid, beautiful, grand old structure, the Holy Episcopal church, which stands within the centre of the village.

For four years he unfalteringly prosecuted the work. Through favor and disfavor, obstacles and difficulties at times absolutely appalling were finally triumphantly overridden. Imagine a town of eight hundred voters; a church to be built that cost fifty thousand dollars; invitations extended to all; the greatest official of the sect expected; a fair day, and only five single individuals, including the rector and officers who were to officiate, being present at the solemn and ancient custom of laying the corner-stone, and you have some conception of the encouragement, rather the discouragement, Henry Sanford encountered while prosecuting this his grandest achievement.

For years he had been a vestryman and the church treasurer. The old building was tottering. It was suggested to repair it.

But by persistent appeals Mr. Sanford got his brethren to agree to put up a new structure, and as treasurer and financial agent he carried the project through to successful consummation, with but one prominent and efficient ally with whom to divide any of the labor attending details of the construction. This coadjutor was Mr. Silas N. Beers, whose brain and pencil first put upon paper what was so accurately followed by the mechanics, under the joint surveillance and superintendence of the two Christian friends.

#### JULIUS SANFORD.

This son of Josiah Sanford was subjected to the same vigorous, wholesome training of his brothers. Having a fondness for machinery he was longer retained in his father's factory than were his brothers. When about eighteen years of age, however, he repaired to Naugatuck to learn the machinist's trade in the shops of Warner & Isbel. Having served his apprenticeship, he returned to Sandy Hook and engaged with Moses Parsons to learn the hatter's trade. He remained with Mr. Parsons several years, be-

coming in the meanwhile thoroughly acquainted with the process of hat manufacture.

On leaving Mr. Parsons, Julius obtained from him his daughter Mary in marriage and his good-will in business, and immediately began in the same village manufacturing on his own account.



*Julius Sanford*

For a time he made nap-, fur-, and silk-hats complete, and in abundance; but owing to reverses occasioned by the failure of contracting parties in New York, and at the suggestion and with the co-operation of his father, he changed his business to the special and more profitable branch of manufacture,—“forming” wool-felts for soft hats. He was applying himself with ardor to this industry at the time of the great crisis that was pending just prior to the breaking out of the Rebellion of 1861.

When it absolutely became apparent that the Southern States were seriously meditating on the dissolution and destruction of the nation and cradle of liberty, that they were positively bereft of patriotism, reason, and justice,—when this news, wafted as it were by the wings of the wind, came to his ears he answered with alacrity in response to the nation's call, and enlisted upon the side of liberty and the perpetuity of the Union, and the preservation of American institutions. He was complimented by his fellows-in-arms in a unanimous vote that he should accept the captaincy.



It is also worthy of note that his sword contained the following inscription: "Presented to Captain Julius Sanford by many citizens of Newtown, Conn." The Twenty-third Connecticut Infantry had no braver or more popular officer than the captain of Company "C" of Newtown.

The fortunes of war, however, were disastrous; for, while guarding a large amount of stores at Brazier City, La., Capt. Sanford and all of the guard with him were compelled to capitulate to a superior force of the enemy. The surrender did not take place, however, until the stores were destroyed by fire. Capt. Sanford was incarcerated at the military prison of Camp Ford, near Tyler, Texas, and suffered all the rigors of a prison life for fourteen months. His existence during this period was only made tolerable by indirect benefits that were secured through Masonic influence. Fortunately, friends and fellow-prisoners of Capt. Sanford were the recipients of favors that were obtained through the above-named fraternity. Upon his return home Capt. Sanford took early steps to gain membership with an order that would not suffer sectional animosity in time of war to deter its brotherhood from practically illustrating the beautiful features of its mission.

He applied himself with assiduity in familiarizing himself with the principles and work of the fraternity, and prosecuted his work with such success as to early become a master spirit and Master Mason in the society. He was a charter member and a Worshipful Master of Hiram Lodge of Newtown.

After the war Capt. Sanford was more domestic in his taste. Always fond of his family and attentive to their wants, and to gratify the wishes of his wife, he removed to New Haven, Conn., and, with other business, assumed charge of a music store, where he remained until his death, Nov. 1, 1879. In politics and religion, Capt. Sanford was in full sympathy with his father and brothers. He died from disease contracted while in prison.

#### FREDERICK SANFORD.

This representative of an old New England name is the fourth son of Josiah Sanford, and was born in Newtown, Sept. 18, 1825. A full account of Mr. Sanford's varied business and traveling experience would make quite a little volume in itself, and one of no mean interest. Complete data can be had for this did the limits of this sketch admit, for, by nature, by education, and long habit, he is methodical, and his day-book is a complete history of his life, his business, his travels, what he has seen, and whom he has met. Like thousands of others of New England, he left its crowded walks to seek elsewhere his fortune; returning, however, content and satisfied to remain under its old roof-tree. So the year 1880 finds him at the old homestead, where for five generations his family have lived. His education was received at the pub-

lic and private schools and the academy of his town. At eighteen he was placed with John H. Tweedy & Co., of Danbury, to learn the mercantile business. These gentlemen manufactured clothing for their wholesale and jobbing houses at New York City and Charleston, S. C., and in conjunction carried on a general store. In 1845, John H. Tweedy withdrew and was succeeded by Edgar S. Tweedy, from which time Frederick was in charge of the business until his majority, when he went with Alvah Merriam, who carried on a general country store at Woodbury, remaining with Mr. Merriam two years. In September, 1849, he went South, and engaged in book-keeping for the hat-jobbing house of D. A. Ambler, at Charleston, S. C. Receiving a very excellent offer from Haviland, Harral & Co., he went to live with this firm. These gentlemen were wholesale druggists, with branch houses in Atlanta and Augusta, Ga., and a house in New York under the firm-name of Haviland, Keese & Co., and a fine retail store, in addition to their wholesale house, in Charleston. By reason of their having been long established and well and favorably known, Haviland, Harral & Co. had an exceptionally fine class of customers, and Mr. Sanford looks upon this period of his life as a very pleasant one, indeed. The South at this time was at a high degree of prosperity, and he had many opportunities of becoming familiar with the habits and customs of the people, and seeing the different phases of slavery and the manners and customs of the slaves, and especially their quaint religious doings and their jollifications on Christmas and other holidays.

At different times of life, and during different trips South and West, Mr. Sanford has visited nearly every section of the American Union, and witnessed some of the most imposing of our political and national pageantries and "receptions," and has heard Webster, Clay, and Calhoun on the floor of the Senate.

His first initiation South was an attack of yellow fever, from which, by the skill of his physician, the celebrated Dr. Robertson, and good nursing, he recovered. The following season he had the "break-bone" fever, after which he was considered pretty well acclimated. His father's health failing, he returned home just in time to see him die, July 26, 1851.

At the solicitation of his family, and to assist in winding up his father's estate, he remained in Newtown, engaging in the manufacture of hatting-felts,—first with his brother Henry, then Henry and Julius, and then alone from 1859 to 1865, when he leased his factory to Horr & Mitchell, wool-hat manufacturers, of Boston, Mass. These gentlemen operated his factory till January, 1867, when it was destroyed by fire. Since this time Mr. Sanford has retired from active business-life.

Reared as a Whig, he votes and acts with the Republican party, but his acquaintance with and knowledge of the people of different sections of our common country prevent his taking an active part in the sec-

tional politics of the day. He has filled many town offices and other positions of trust. He is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, being the present treasurer of that society.

The peculiar management and training of his children by Josiah Sanford is elsewhere remarked, and perhaps its effect is not more marked upon any of them than the subject of this sketch. He has kept a cash account and diary since his fourteenth year, and has not been of one dollar expense to his father since. As before remarked, this diary is a complete kaleidoscope, as it were, of the events of his life.

#### JOSIAH SANFORD.

Samuel Sanford, the father of Josiah Sanford, had a shop opposite the old Sanford homestead, where Frederick Sanford now lives, and was engaged in the manufacture of spinning-wheels, reels, and looms for spinning thread and weaving cloth, carpets, etc. He was succeeded by his son Josiah, who followed the same business till the year 1830, when he entered into the manufacture of broadcloth, cassimeres, and satinets, in the village of Sandy Hook. He remained in this business, extending it from time to time, till 1842. Between the years 1830 and 1842 he did a very heavy business, building and causing the erection of a large part of the village of Sandy Hook. In addition to his factory he ran a large general store, and bought a considerable tract of land and ran an extensive farm.

Mr. Sanford was married to Polly, daughter of Capt. Enos Johnson, Aug. 7, 1816. Mr. Sanford was a man of great force of character and originality, a leading member of Trinity Episcopal Church, and one of the founders of Newtown Academy. His management of his children was especially noticeable. If the boys wanted spending-money he gave them a job of work and paid them for it, thus making them earn the money, and letting them estimate its value by the labor it cost them. He would give them opportunities of earning money and then borrow it of them, giving them his note, drawing interest in regular form. In settlements they produced the note and he had them to reckon up the interest themselves, refusing to settle until it was done properly. Thus he instilled into them correct ideas of value and the necessity of strict business habits that in after life has served them well. He died July 26, 1851. His children were eight in number,—viz., Edwin (deceased), Julius (deceased), Henry, Frederick, Charlotte (Mrs. George B. Wheeler), Margarette (Mrs. Albert Northrop), Josiah, Augusta.

Josiah Sanford (6) was the son of Samuel Sanford (5) by his second wife, Charity (Foote) Bristol. Samuel Sanford (5) was born in 1743. His children were, by his first wife, (Abiah Dunning),—viz., Annit (1), Isaac (2), Josiah (3), Betsey (4), Sarah (5), Joel (6),

Ruah (7), Azubah (8), Artemesia (9), Abigail (10). By his second wife: Abiah, Ann, Josiah, and Philo.

Samuel (5) was the son of Samuel (4), who was born April 1, 1704. His children by his wife, Hannah Gilbert, were Thomas, Amos, Mary, James, Hannah, Sarah, Samuel, and Louis.

Samuel Sanford (4) was the son of Samuel Sanford (3), who was born March 12, 1680, who married Esther Baldwin, and whose children were Nathaniel, Samuel (4), Ebenezer, Esther, John, David, Stephen, Job, Hannah, Rachel (Mrs. Eben Booth).

Samuel Sanford (3) was son of Samuel Sanford (2), who was born April 3, 1643, and who married Mary Brinson. His children were Hannah, Thomas, Samuel (3), Sarah, Mary, and Thomas.

Samuel Sanford (2) was son of Thomas Sanford (1), who married Sarah —, and whose children were Ezekiel, Sarah, Mary, and Samuel (3). Thomas Sanford died October, 1681. The date of his birth is unknown.

To Julius, son of Josiah, were born Ellen Louisa (Mrs. Sherwood S. Thompson), Katie, and Gertrude. Henry Sanford married Mary E., daughter of Dr. Cyrenius H. Booth, Nov. 9, 1845, to whom were born Annie E. and Sarah E.

#### GENEALOGY OF THE SANDFORDS.\*

Sandford Manor of England is one of those very few Shropshire estates which can be said to be held by the lineal descendants of its earliest feoffee.

Thomas de Sandford, a Norman follower of William Duke of Normandy, is mentioned on the roll of Battle Abbey, Oct. 14, 1066. His son, Sir Thomas de Sandford, held under King Henry I. the manors of Sandford and Rothal, and the former is still held by his descendants. The armorial bearings of this family are quarterly 1 and 4 per chevron sa and erm, in chief two boars' heads coupé close, or 2 and 3 quarterly per fesse indented azure and ermine. Crest, a falcon with wings endorsed preying on a partridge ppr. Motto, *Nec temere Nec timide*.

Another family of almost equal antiquity, but who, unlike the preceding, usually dispense with first letter "d" in their name, are derived from John de Sanford, Lord of Great Homede, county Hertz, whose name is met with in 1199 and 1220 in ancient records. He was father of Gilbert de Sanford, Lord of Great Homede, and chamberlain of Queen Eleanor, the wife of King Henry III., and daughter of Raimond Berenger, the last Count of Provence.

The former of these families are undoubtedly the ancestors of the Connecticut Sanfords. Thomas Sanford, sometimes spelt Sampford or Samford in the records, came to Boston about 1631. He first appears in Dorchester, Mass., in 1634, and went to Milford, Conn., in 1639, and died there in 1681. His name

\* Contributed by H. G. Sanford.





*Fred M. Sanford*

*Josiah Sanford*



(OLD HOMESTEAD)  
RES. OF **F. SANFORD**, NEWTOWN CONN.





appears among those who first organized the town. His eldest son, Ezekiel, and daughter, Sarah, were born in Massachusetts.

Record as follows:

Thomas Sanford, born —; died October, 1681. Sarah (maiden-name unknown to writer), born —; died 1681. Children: Ezekiel Sanford, born about 1635; married Rebecca Wickla, April 25, 1665; died 1683. Sarah Sanford, born 1637; married Richard Shute. Mary Sanford, born Jan. 16, 1641; unmarried. Samuel Sanford, born April 30, 1643; married Hannah Brinson. Thomas Sanford, born December, 1644; married Elizabeth Payne. Ephraim Sanford, born May 17, 1646; married Mary Powell. Elizabeth Sanford, born Aug. 27, 1648; married Obadiah Allyn.

Ezekiel Sanford,\* born 1635; died 1683. Rebecca Wickla, born —; married April 25, 1665. Children: Sarah Sanford, born March 5, 1666; married Cornelius Hull. Ezekiel Sanford, Jr., born March 6, 1668; married Rebecca —. Mary Sanford, born April 3, 1670; married Theophilus Hull. Rebecca Sanford, born Dec. 13, 1672; married John Seeley. Thomas Sanford, born May 2, 1675. Martha Sanford, born June 29, 1677. Elizabeth Sanford, born Sept. 6, 1679.

Cornelius Hull, born —. Sarah Sanford, born March 5, 1666.

Ezekiel Sanford, Jr., born March 6, 1668; died March, 1729; married Rebecca (name not known to writer), born —. Children: Joseph Sanford, born about 1697; married Catharine Fairchild. Lemuel Sanford, born Dec. 16, 1699; married Rebecca Squires. Zachariah Sanford, born Nov. 24, 1701; married Ann Hull. Ezekiel Sanford (3), born July 27, 1704. Samuel Sanford, born Feb. 20, 1707; married Sarah Meaker. Ephraim Sanford, born Feb. 12, 1708; married Elizabeth Mix. Rebecca Sanford, born Nov. 21, 1710. Abigail Sanford, born Aug. 29, 1714. Elnathan Sanford, born Sept 1, 1717.

Joseph Sanford, born about 1697. Catharine Fairchild, born —; married Feb. 11, 1725. Children: Nehemiah Sanford, born March 10, 1726. Elnathan Sanford, born Oct. 11, 1727. Phebe Sanford, born Nov. 11, 1729. Ann Sanford, born Feb. 15, 1732. Timothy Sanford, born Feb. 8, 1734. Joseph Sanford, born June 20, 1736. Nathan Sanford, born Aug. 15, 1738. James Sanford, born Dec. 14, 1740. Stephen Sanford, born July 16, 1743.

Nehemiah Sanford, born March 10, 1726; aged ninety; died November, 1815. Elizabeth Morehouse, born —; married March 5, 1747; died July 31, 1810. Children: Gershom Sanford, born Aug. 26, 1748; died early. Liffe Sanford, born Aug. 30, 1750; died Dec. 3, 1815. Phebe Sanford, born Aug. 20, 1752; single; died early. Ann Sanford, born Oct. 2, 1755; died Jan. 8, 1846. Catharine Sanford, born

Oct. 31, 1759; died Nov. 17, 1843. Nehemiah Sanford, born October, 1762; died Dec. 26, 1844.

Liffe Sanford, born Aug. 30, 1750; died Dec. 3, 1815. Huldah Blackman, born —; married 1785. Children: John B. Sanford, born January, 1788; died 1856. Jerusha Sanford, born January, 1790; died 1825. Joseph Sanford, born April 12, 1792; died 1864. Laura Sanford, born April, 1794; died 1857. Glover Sanford, born March, 1797; died 1878.

John B. Sanford, born January, 1788; died 1856. Rebecca Clark, born —; married 1812. Children: George Sanford, born 1814. Harriet R. Sanford, born —; died early. Julia E. Sanford, born —; died early.

Joseph Sanford, born April 12, 1792; married Maria Young 1830; died 1864. Children: Jane E. Sanford, born Sept. 22, 1832. Martha Ann Sanford, born June 11, 1835. Rebecca M. Sanford, born Feb. 18, 1844.

Bushnell Bostwick, born —; married, 1821, Laura Sanford, born April, 1794. Child: Julia E. Bostwick, born July 20, 1823.

Glover Sanford, born March, 1797. Betsey Lake, born —. Children: Charles H. Sanford, born March 24, 1823. Homer B. Sanford, born June, 1824. Frederick S. Sanford, born February, 1826. Edwin G. Sanford, born May, 1832. Charlotte E. Sanford, born May, 1838.

Lemuel Sanford, born Dec. 16, 1699, son of Ezekiel Sanford, Jr.; married Rebecca Squires, May 12, 1730. Children: Hezekiah Sanford, born March 1, 1731. Rebecca Sanford, born Oct. 29, 1732. Sarah Sanford, born Sept. 11, 1734. Anna Sanford, born Oct. 19, 1736; died Dec. 4, 1743. Lydia Sanford, born May 19, 1738. Lemuel Sanford, born April 18, 1740. Ezekiel Sanford, born June 30, 1742. Anna Sanford, born Oct. 7, 1744. Eunice Sanford, born Sept. 10, 1746. Rhoda Sanford, born Feb. 20, 1749.

Samuel Sanford, born Feb. 20, 1707, son of Ezekiel Sanford (3); died Nov. 6, 1768; married Sarah Meaker, Jan. 11, 1733. Children: Daniel Sanford, born Feb. 25, 1734; married Esther Hull. Seth Sanford, born Aug. 18, 1735; married Rebecca Burr. Mary Sanford, born Feb. 16, 1738; married Timothy Sanford. David Sanford, born Nov. 16, 1739. Abigail Sanford, born Jan. 16, 1743; married John Hawley. Samuel Sanford, Jr., born April 24, 1745; married Sarah Olmstead. Sarah Sanford, born May 6, 1747. Esther Sanford, born April 9, 1749. Ezra Sanford, born Feb. 26, 1751. Rachel Sanford, born Feb. 2, 1753. Peter Sanford, born May 18, 1756; married Abigail Keeler.

Ephraim Sanford, born Feb. 12, 1708; married Elizabeth Mix, Oct. 7, 1730. Children: Elizabeth Sanford, born July 1, 1731. Rachel Sanford, born July 23, 1733; married Stephen Mead. Abigail Sanford, born May 10, 1735; married Daniel Jackson. Hannah Sanford, born March 3, 1737; married David Lyon. John Sanford, born April 26, 1739. Oliver

\* Ezekiel settled in Fairfield, Conn., and died there.

Sanford, born Sept. 17, 1741; married Rachel Coley. Lois Sanford, born Sept. 14, 1743; married Joseph Lyon. Tabitha Sanford, born Feb. 28, 1746. Huldah Sanford, born April 25, 1748. Ephraim Sanford, Jr., born May 25, 1750. Augustus Sanford, born July 12, 1753; died 1788. Esther Sanford, born April 24, 1755; died early.

The following are the Newtown Sanfords, most of them descended from Samuel Sanford, second son of Thomas and Sarah Sanford, of Milford, Conn.:

Samuel Sanford, born April 30, 1643; died 1691. Hannah Brinson, born —; married April 16, 1674. Children: Hannah Sanford, born Feb. 2, 1675; married James Right (as spelled in the record). Thomas Sanford, born Sept. 29, 1678; died March 3, 1679. Samuel Sanford, born March 12, 1680; married Esther Baldwin, daughter of Nathaniel Baldwin, and sister to Ester Baldwin, who married his cousin, Samuel Sanford, of Milford. Sarah Sanford, born July 10, 1682. Mary Sanford, born April 16, 1685; died Feb. 2, 1703. Thomas Sanford, born May 4, 1687; married Rebecca Barry, of Farmington; died 1730. (See will in New Haven, probated Nov. 4, 1730.)

Samuel Sanford, born March 12, 1680; married Easther Baldwin, 1683; went to Newtown in 1711. Children: Nathaniel Sanford, born Dec. 3, 1702; married Elizabeth Seeley; died April 14, 1768. Samuel Sanford, born April 1, 1704; died May 7, 1750. Ebonorer Sanford, born Feb. 22, 1705; died Aug. 2, 1713. Esther Sanford, born Feb. 10, 1707. John Sanford, born Oct. 17, 1709; died April 14, 1785. Daniel Sanford, born Nov. 1, 1711. Stephen and Moses Sanford, born 1713. Job Sanford, born Jan. 10, 1715. Hannah Sanford, born Jan. 6, 1717. Rachel Sanford, born June 13, 1720; married Eben Booth.

Nathaniel Sanford, born Dec. 3, 1702; married Elizabeth Seeley, Oct. 16, 1728; died April 14, 1768. Children: Nathan Sanford, born Sept. 8, 1729. Abel H. Sanford, baptized March 25, 1733. Ruth Sanford, baptized May 12, 1737. Esther Sanford, baptized May 27, 1744.

Samuel Sanford, born April 1, 1704; married Hannah Gilbert, June 16, 1731; died March 7, 1758. Children: Thomas Sanford, born March 3, 1732. Amos Sanford, born Oct. 18, 1733. Mary Sanford, born 1735. James Sanford, born 1736. Hannah Sanford, born 1740; died March 4, 1758. Sarah Sanford, born 1738; married Jonah Platt. Samuel Sanford, born 1743; married Abiah Dunning, and second wife, Charity Bristol. Lois Sanford, born 1750; married Samuel Stevens.

Amos Sanford, born Oct. 18, 1733. Mary Clagston, born —; married Jan. 13, 1757. Children: David Sanford, born Nov. 9, 1757. Betsey Sanford, born March 23, 1759. Caleb Sanford, born Aug. 22, 1761. Ezra Sanford, born May 8, 1763. John Sanford.

Samuel Sanford, born 1743; died Nov. 26, 1817; married, Aug. 19, 1765, Abiah Dunning, born —.

Children: Annett Sanford, born March 12, 1766. Isaac Sanford, born Feb. 2, 1768; married Anna Bristol. Josiah Sanford, born Sept. 6, 1769; died 1780. Betsey Sanford, born Sept. 26, 1771; married — Downs. Sarah Sanford, born July 23, 1773; married Thomas Lyon. Joel Sanford, born March 23, 1775. Ruah Sanford, born 1777; died 1779. Ruah Sanford, born Dec. 1, 1779; married James Bennett. Azubah Sanford, born June 3, 1781; married Andrew Winton. Artimisia Sanford, born 1783; married Eli Winton. Abigail Sanford, born 1785; died 1792.

Second marriage: Samuel Sanford, born 1743; married widow Charity (Foot) Bristol. Children: Abiah Ann Sanford, born Feb. 10, 1790; died March 13, 1861. Josiah Sanford, born June 9, 1793; died July 26, 1851. Philo Sanford, born July 11, 1796; died Feb. 23, 1873.

Jonathan Sanford settled on Walnut Hill, in Newtown or Sand Hook; he was grandson of Ephraim Sanford, son of Thomas and Sarah Sanford, of Milford. The following is the record.

Ephraim Sanford, born May 17, 1646; married Mary Powell, daughter of Thomas Powell, New Haven, Nov. 18, 1669. Children: Mary Sanford, born Sept. 28, 1670. Samuel Sanford, born Jan. 26, 1672; died early. Samuel Sanford, born May 9, 1674. Ephraim Sanford, Jr., born May 11, 1677; died April 17, 1728. Thomas Sanford, born Jan. 29, 1679; died April, 1713. Nathaniel Sanford, born Oct. 10, 1682; died 1747. Zachariah Sanford, born March 14, 1686; died 1713.

Samuel Sanford, born May 9, 1674; married Ester Baldwin, born Nov. 14, 1676, eldest daughter of Nathaniel Baldwin. Children: Hannah Sanford, born June 28, 1696; married Joseph Gunn. Samuel Sanford, born May 29, 1698; married Abigail Holbrook. Joseph Sanford, born July 5, 1701; married Mary Clark; settled in Litchfield. Mary Sanford, born July 5, 1702; married Jonah Northup. Jonathan Sanford, born July 13, 1704; married Hannah Platt; settled in Newtown. Stephen Sanford, born Nov. 20, 1706. David Sanford, born May, 1708; died 1708. David Sanford, born Sept. 8, 1709; married Rachel Strong; died Jan. 16, 1751. Esther Sanford, born Nov. 9, 1711; married Samuel Bristol. Abigail Sanford, born Oct. 14, 1714; married — Pierson. Elizabeth Sanford, born Dec. 13, 1716.

Jonathan Sanford, born July 13, 1704, settled in Walnut Hill, Sandy Hook, Newtown; married Phebe Platt, July 8, 1725. Children: Phebe Sanford, born Aug. 1, 1726. Hannah Sanford, born Aug. 27, 1827.

Second marriage; Jonathan Sanford, born July 13, 1704; married Hannah Platt, born 1705, died July 8, 1775. Children: Jonah Sanford, born —; died Sept. 8, 1788. Solomon Sanford, born —; died Feb. 23, 1784. Jonathan Sanford Jr., born March 20, 1737; died May 1, 1807.

Jonathan Sanford, Jr., born March 20, 1737. Children: Salmon Sanford, Huldah Sanford.





*L. C. Gately*









*Lemuel F. Camp*



Solomon Sanford; married Mehitable Northup. Children: Amos Northup Sanford. Olive Ann Sanford. Josiah Sanford. Jerusha Sanford.

D. C. GATELY.

Dennis C. Gately, superintendent of the New York Belting and Packing Company, situated at Newtown, Conn., was born in Roxbury, Mass. (now a part of Boston), Aug. 12, 1816, in the same house where Gen. Joseph Warren, who was killed at Bunker Hill, was born. Dennis was about twelve years of age when his father died, and the mother being left with a large family Dennis was taken into the family of Supply C. Twing, a commission merchant of Boston, with whom he remained three years, attending school and doing errands, and was commended for his faithfulness, which in later years was testified to by his early benefactor, whom he always revered. At the age of fifteen he was apprenticed to Louis A. Lauriat, a noted French chemist, but, preferring a more active life, a year later he chose the trade of housewright. He served till he was twenty-one with the firm of James Sinclair & Co. Being slight of physique he often labored beyond his strength, but persevered and learned the trade in all its details, finishing up all the nice work, and often retained till after the family moved in. As he was careful and painstaking he made many friends among the owners of fine estates about the city of Boston. "Brookline," the fine house of Gen. Lyman, he helped to build, and was the last man to leave the premises.

In April, 1846, a gentleman by the name of John Haskins (an early inventor in rubber), knowing Dennis from his having worked on his house eight years previous, recommended him to the superintendency of a small rubber factory in Roxbury. After a few months this company failed, and he was placed as keeper till a new company was formed, called the "Boston Belting Company," under the firm of Tappan, McBarney & Cheever, as principal agents. From a beginning with fifteen men he continued with them till they employed one hundred and forty men. During this time, by careful savings, he built himself a house, where he placed his mother, who cared for him till he married. At the age of thirty-five he was married to Oline F. Perkins, daughter of William Curtis Perkins, of Maine. His mother lived to be nearly ninety-two years of age, and was tenderly cared for by Dennis, who was the only surviving child but one of nine children. April, 1856, ten years after the "Boston Belting Company" was organized, Mr. Cheever retired from the firm and went to New York. Mr. Gately received and accepted a liberal offer from the "New York Belting and Packing Company." It was with reluctance that he left Roxbury, where he had been identified so long, to begin anew among those who looked with suspicion upon all he did.

The intention of the New York Company was to retain Mr. Gately in New York City, where a special

part of the business was to be carried forward in the manufacture of the lighter articles of rubber goods, but difficulties arising at Newtown among the workmen and between the former superintendent and the senior member of the company, made it necessary for Mr. Gately to take the factory at Newtown in charge, and the old factory burning down the first season, the business, after rebuilding, was transacted wholly at Newtown.

As the years passed on Mr. Gately made several valuable inventions, which have contributed largely to the advantage of the company in the manufacture of their goods. The company now employ nearly three hundred operatives, doing the largest business of the kind in the United States.

Mr. Gately's business career and his present business and social standing are eminently worthy of contemplation, showing, as they do, what persistent attention to details will do. His entire success is due to this characteristic. What he did was well done, finished, and properly finished. Genial, kind, and unassuming, this same considerate and painstaking phase of Mr. Gately's character, during twenty-five years' residence in his adopted town, has secured to him the esteem of its citizens, and has conspired in all the degrees and relations of life, whether as son, father, husband, friend, or citizen, to secure to him respect and affection.

His children are six,—viz.: Caroline Ryder, Ella Catherine, Curtis Perkins, Sarah Dennis, Charles Lincoln, and Harry Grant.

LEMUEL FAIRCHILD CAMP.

Lemuel Camp (1), the great-great-grandfather of Lemuel H. Camp, came to Newtown; it is supposed, from old Milford about the time of the first settlement (1807). He had nine children,—viz.: Joel (2), John, Samuel (who died in the French war), Silas, Julius, Phebe (Mrs. Sirenas Hard), Heppie (Mrs. Amile Peck), Allie, or Alice (Mrs. Sims), and Clarisa (Mrs. Josiah Blackman).

Joel Camp (2) was born Oct. 20, 1734, and died October, 1779. He married Ellen Jackson, by whom he had eight children,—viz.: Deborah (Mrs. Mathew Sherman), Lemuel (3), John, Susan (Mrs. Joseph Wheeler), Jacob, Phebe, Silas, and Samuel.

Lemuel Camp (3), in addition to his occupation as a farmer, was a school teacher and surveyor. A man of probity and intelligence, he won the confidence of his neighbors, and was a general peacemaker as well as arbiter of disputes in the neighborhood. He married Sarah, daughter of Samuel Dibble, by whom he had ten children,—Joel Trowbridge (4), Cyrus, Dibble, Polly (Mrs. Samuel Fairchild), Adah (second wife of Beers Fairchild), Maria (Mrs. John Smith), Beach, Hiram, Sarah Ann (Mrs. Zacharia Clark), and Mary Ann.

Joel Trowbridge Camp (4) was born March 1, 1794, and was married to Polly, daughter of Zadoc Fairchild, April 13, 1819. His children are Lemuel Fairchild (5), Lucia (Mrs. John R. Smith), Edwin, and Samuel Burtis.

Mr. Camp is now living with his son Lemuel F., at the advanced age of eighty-seven. He has been a man of great industry, following farming and making upon his own farm the implements required. Very fond of the retirement of his home he has never been on a railroad car and never farther from home than Hartford.

Lemuel Fairchild Camp, the subject of this sketch, was born Dec. 8, 1820. His youth was that usual to the New England farmers' boy, working upon the farm and attending the district school. When twenty-one years of age he was quite desirous of going West, but, his father strongly opposing the step, he decided to content himself among the rocky hills of his native town. His father purchasing the place of his present residence about this time, Lemuel was put in charge. April 4, 1855 he was united in marriage to Sarah Jane, daughter of Amos and Mary Ann Lake. Since this time, by the safe and sure way of industry and good management, affairs have prospered with Mr. Camp. The old house on the place at the time of purchase has been torn down and a new one erected, comfortable barns have been built and orchards planted. Fond of home, like the most of the old New Englanders, Mr. Camp is happy in the society of his family. Possessed of a taste for stock, of which he is a fine judge, he gives considerable attention to buying and grazing cattle for the markets, and it is not often that superior stock cannot be found upon his premises. In politics Mr. Camp is a Republican, is a member of the Episcopal Church, and, as might be expected, is a director of and stockholder in the Danbury Agricultural and Manufacturers' Fair Association,—the only stockholder, by-the-bye, in Newtown.

His children are Carrie Amelia (deceased), Alma Medora, Mary Alice, Amos Trowbridge, and Sarah Annie.

#### WILLIAM PLATT.

Among the original thinkers and progressive fruit-growers of Newtown none outrank William Platt, Esq., a view of whose residence appears upon another page. Mr. Platt is a native of Litchfield County, but for thirty years he has been a resident of Newtown, and in the several capacities of manufacturer, farmer, and fruit-grower he has been decidedly successful.

Inasmuch as Mr. Platt entertains peculiar religious views, and employs the local press as a medium to impress others with his belief in well-written and forcible paragraphs, he is termed the "Newtown Philosopher." It is a practice of Mr. Platt to prepare at frequent intervals short articles,—sometimes appeals, sometimes protests; these he posts in manu-

script at the public places in the village. It will perhaps be interesting in the town's history to insert at least one of these characteristic paragraphs, which we clip from the *Danbury News*:

"Nothing is right that is not fair." "Platform lectures are never fair, and they are in direct opposition to Christ's plain teaching." "Go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone. A person will receive a reproof with thankfulness from another when the two are alone, which if administered in the presence of a third person or a crowd would excite anger; and further, the party reproofed may have consciousness that his actions were not subject to censure, and he justly deems himself mistreated when reprimanded by a hireling, before whom he can make no explanation or vindication without being an offender of the common law. If platform preaching or lectures were ever allowable, they are not needed now, for the printer has placed the lectures of Him 'who spake as never man spake' in the hands of all." "No toll-gates on the way to Heaven." Mr. Platt is an industrious, cultivated, and useful citizen, frank and courteous in his manner.

## CHAPTER XLVIII.

### NORWALK.

Geographical—Topographical—The First Purchase—First Indian Deed to Roger Ludlow—Indian Deed to Capt. Patrick—The Ludlow Agreement—Confirmation of Patrick's Purchase—Assignment by Ludlow—Deed from Runckingeage—The Patent—The Pioneers—Original Grants of Home-Lots—Plan of Ancient Settlement.

NORWALK is a coast town, and is bounded as follows: On the north by New Canaan and Wilton; on the east by Westport; on the south by Long Island Sound; and on the west by Darien and New Canaan. The surface of the town is uneven and its soil fertile.

To the intrepid and talented Roger Ludlow, whose history is interwoven with the pioneer events in this section of the State, is due the honor of having made the first purchase of lands of the Indians within the bounds of the present town of Norwalk. This purchase was made on the 26th of February, 1640, and embraced that portion of the town lying between the Saugatuck and Norwalk Rivers. On the 20th of the following April a subsequent purchase was made of the central portion of the town by Capt. Daniel Patrick. The western portion of the town was not purchased until 1651.

#### FIRST INDIAN DEED.

The following is a copy of the first deed from the Norwalk Indians to Roger Ludlow:

#### INDIAN DEED TO CAPT. PATRICK.

"An agreement betwixt Daniell Patrick and Mahackem, and Naramake and Pemenate Hewnompom indians of Norwake and Makentouh, the said Daniell Patrick hath bought of the sayed three indians, the ground called Sacunyte napucke, also Meeanworth, thirdly Asumsowis, fourthly all the land adjoininge to the aforementioned, as farr up in the



cuntry as an indian can goe in a day, from sun risinge to sun settinge; and twoe Islands nere adjoininge to the sayed carantenayneck, all bounded on the west side with noewanton on the east side to the middle of the River of Norwake, and all trees, meadows, waters and naturell adjuncts thereunto belonginge, for him and his forever; for whitte Lands the sayed indians are to receive of the sayed Daniell Patricke, of wampum, tenn fathoms, hatchets three, howes three, when ships come; sixe glasses, twelve tobaccoe pipes, three knives, tenn drills, tenn needles; this as full satisfaction, for the aforementioned laude, and for the peaceable possession of which the aforementioned mahachemill doth promise and undertake to silence all opposers of this purchase, if any should in his time act, to witness which, on both sides, hands are interchangeably hereunto sett, this 20th of Aprill, 1640.



"mamechom

"marke naromake.

"witnesses,  
"Tobi fleap  
"John How

FH

"marke.

"pomenate  
his

ma

"marke."

### THE LUDLOW AGREEMENT.

The following is a copy of the agreement of Mr. Ludlow with the planters of Norwalk:

"A copie of the agreement and articles made between Roger Ludlow, of Fairfield, and Nathaniel Eli, and Rithard Olmsted, with the rest, for the settlinge and plantinge of Norwalke.

"Articles of agreement made between Roger Ludlowe, of Fairfield, esquiro of the one parte, and Nathaniel Eli, of Hartford, in the River of Connecticut, Rithard Olmsted of the same in the behalfe of themselves and Rithard Webb, Nathaniel Rithards, Mathew Marvin, Rithard Seamer, Thomas Spencer, Thomas Hales, Nathaniel Ruskoe, Isacke Graves, Ralph Keeler, John Holloway, Edward Church, John Ruskoe, and some others about plantinge Norwalke, over the 19th day of June, 1650.

"Inprimis, the sayed Nathaniel Eli and Rithard Olmsted, doe covenant, and premise, and agree, that they will set upon the plantinge of the sayed Norwalke, with all convenient speed; will mowe and stacke some hay upon the sayed Norwalke this winter, to the end that they may, in the spring next at the farthest, breake up some ground to plante the next season followinge; and that then they will begin to build and inhabite therewith some considerable companie, and to invite an orthodoxe and approved minister with all convenient speede that they may be; and that the plantation shall not be taken up under thirtie approved families, in a short time to be settled their, and so to continue; and that, or the like considerable companie; and that they will not receive in any that they be obnoxious to the publique good of the Commonwealth of Connecticut. And upon that consideration the sayed Roger Ludlowe is willinge and doe agree to surrender the purchase of the sayed Norwalke, whith he bought of the Indians, of the sayed Norwalke, some years since; which cost the sayed Roger Ludlowe fifteen pounds, some years since, as by the purchase will appeare; whith sayed fifteen pounds is promised to be payed to the sayed Roger Ludlowe or his assignes by the sayed Eli and Olmsted their assignes, shortly after the first plantinge thereof, with consideration for the sayed fifteen pounds from the disbursinge thereof unto that time; as also that the sayed Roger shall have a convenient Lott laid out for his sonnes, accordinge to the vauue of 200lb. in the proportion of Rates as they goe by themselves; and that it

shall be one of the first, the publique charges beinge borne by the sayed Lott, and proportionably by themselves; and that it shall be one of the first Lotts that shall be Laid out. Witness our hands,

"ROGER LUDLOWE."

The following is a copy of the confirmation of Capt. Patrick's purchase:

"A true and perfect Copy of the confirmation of the purchase of the meadows and lands adjoininge lyinge upon the other side of Norwake River.

"Memoranda. Whereas Aashowshack and Chachoamer, Indians are the survivinge propriators of the Land lyinge on the other side of Norwake River, whith sayed Land was fullie bargained for, and sold unto Captaine Patricke, of Greenwich, and whereas the sayed Aashowshake and Chachoamer, doe testifie and affirme, with other Indians, that their was left unpaid by the sayed Captain Patricke twoe Indian coates, and fowre fathom of wampum, now these are to certifie, that I, Annanupp, Alias Parrott, so named and knowne to the English, have by order and Appoyntment of the Aashowshake and Chachoamer, received of Mstr. Stephen Goodier, of new Haven, marchant, the sayed two coates, and fowre fathom of wampum; and doe by their order and in their names, hereby acquitt and discharge the sayed Mstr. Stephen Goodier, of all dues or demands or any claims to be made by us, or any Indians whatsoever, unto any farther thinge or things in or about the sayed purchase of Lande made firmly by Captaine Patricke, and now hereby confirmed unto the sayed Mstr. Goodier, and his heirs and assignes: In witness whereof I the sayed Annanupp, Alias Parrott doe hereby sett my hand the first day of July, 1650.

"Witnesse

JOSHUA ATTWATER. the marke  of Annanupp.  
THOMAS KIMBERLIE.

the marke  of Anthitunn.

"Memorandum. Their is a counterpart of the aforesayed written articles and agreement and subscribed, by Nath'n Eli and Rithd Olmsted."

### ASSIGNMENT BY LUDLOW.

"A copy of the assignment of Norwalke, purchased by Mstr Ludlowe, unto Norwalke inhabitants, April the 13th, 1654.

"Memorandum. That the sayed Roger Ludlowe, doth by these presents, assign and sett over unto Nathaniell Eli and the rest of the Inhabitants of Norwalke, all my title, interest, claime and demands whatsoever to the plantation of Norwalke and every part thereof, and doe acknowledge my selfe satisfied for the same. Witness my hand the day and year above.

"R<sup>d</sup> LUDLOWE."

### DEED FROM RUNCKINGHEAGE.

The following is the deed from Runckinheage:

"This Indenture made the 15th of February, 1651, Between Runckinheage, Piamikin, and Magise, and Towntom, and Winnapucke, and Magushetowes, and Concuskenow, and Wampasum, and Sasseakun, and Runckenunnett, and Pokessake, and Shoackeenm, and Soannamatum, and Prodax, and Matumpun, and Cockenoe-de-Long-Island, Indians, of the one Partie, and Richard Web, Nathaniel Eli, Matthew Marven, senr., Nathaniel Richards, Isacke More, Thomas Fitch, Thomas Hales, Richard Holmsted, Richard Seamer, Ralph Keeler, Matthew Marven, Junior, Nathaniel Haies, Edward Church, Joseph Fitch, Planters of Norwake, for the use and behalfe of said Town, WITNESSETH, that the said Runckinheage, and Piamikih (etc., etc.) . . . HAVE, and in and for the consideration of Thirtie Fathum of Wampum, Tenn Kettles, Fifteen Coates Tenn payr of Stockings, Tenn Knives, Tenn Hookes, Twenty Pipes, Tenn Muckes, Tenn needles, to them in hand paid, HAVE, and Every of them, for themselves and their heyers, Granted, Bargained, Sold, assigned, Enfeoffed, and confirmed; and by these Presents doth Bargain, grant, sell, enfeoffe, assigne, sett over, and confirme, unto the said Richard Web, (etc., etc.) . . . all their lands called and known by the name of Runck-





authority for these statements, and certain it is that no reference is made in the town records to the settlement of the town until 1651.

The agreement of the settlers with Mr. Ludlow bears date June 19, 1650, but the permanent settlement did not take place until 1651. As early as February 15th of that year the sturdy pioneers were all in their wilderness home, as appears in the deed from Runckinheage and the other Indians.

There is a tradition that a portion of the planters spent the winter of 1650 here, which is doubtless true.

The only names extant of the original settlers are those mentioned in the agreement with Mr. Ludlow, as follows: "Nathaniel Eli, Rithard Olmstead, Rithard Webb, Nathaniel Rithards, Mathew Marvin, Rithard Seamer, Thomas Spencer, Thomas Hales, Nathaniel Ruskoe, Isacke Graves, Ralph Keeler, John Holloway, Edward Church, John Ruskoe." This, of course, is not a complete list, as the article states that the agreement is entered into between Mr. Ludlow and those mentioned above, and "some others."

The following is the most perfect list of the early settlers that is known to be in existence, being a table of "Estates of Lands and Accommodations," made in 1655:

George Abbott, Robert Beacham, Stephen Beckwith, John Bowton, Matthew Campfield, Nathaniel Eli, Thomas Fitch, John Griggorie, Samuel Hales, Thomas Hales, Walter Haite, Nathaniel Haies, Rev. Thomas Hanford, Richard Homes, Ralph Keeler, Walter Keeler, Daniel Kellogge, Thomas Lupton, Matthew Marvin, Sr., Matthew Marvin, Jr., Isacke More, Jonathan Marsh, Widow Morgan, Richard Olmstead, Nathaniel Richards, John Ruskoe, Matthias Sention, Sr., Matthias Sention, Jr., Matthew Sention, Thomas Seamer, Richard Webb.

In a list of accounts in 1654 are the following names, which do not appear in the preceding list of estates, viz.: — Bryant, Edward Church, Joseph Fitch, Edward Nash, Richard Raiment, Richard Seamer, Giles Whitinge.

In 1656 the following names also appear: Owen Morgan, William Reid.

In the table of home-lots, the following names also appear: Thomas Benedict, Sr., Thomas Benedict, Jr., John Benedict, Thomas Betts, Richard Bushnell, Samuel Campfield, Christopher Comstock, John Crampton, Thomas Fitch, Jr., Joseph Fenn, John Gregory, Jr., Jakin Greggore, Samuel Haies, Ephraim Lockwood, Joseph Ketchum, John Keeler, James Pickett, Joseph Platt, Mark Sention, Robert Stewart, Samuel Smith, Thomas Taylor, Thomas Ward.

The following notices of the first settlers of Norwalk are from Hinman's "Catalogue of the Names of the First Puritan Settlers of the Colony of Connecticut:"

"Abbott, George, 1648\*"

"Beckwith, Stephen, 1649.

"Belding, John (son of John, of Wetherfield, who died 1677).

"Benedict, Thomas, 1662.

"Betts, Thomas, Guilford, 1650.†

"Camfield (or Campfield), Matthew, a magistrate and judge; not only a leading man there, but in the colony. One of the signers of the petition to King Charles II, for the colony; in 1662 appointed with Gold and Sherman to hold courts at Fairfield.

"Ely, Nathaniel, Hartford, 1645; constable, 1639; one of the settlers of Norwalk, but afterwards removed to Springfield, Mass.

"Fitch, Thomas, a brother of Rev. James, at Saybrook, and of Joseph, of Windsor.

"Gregory, John, a deputy, 1662-63.

"Hoyt, Walter, Windsor, 1640.

"Keeler, Ralph, Hartford, 1639, viewer of chimneys in 1645.

"Marvin, Matthew, surveyor of highways in 1639 and 1647; an original proprietor and settler in Hartford before 1639; removed to Norwalk; deputy to the General Court from Norwalk in 1654.

"Olmsted, Richard, Hartford, 1640, constable 1646, fence-viewer 1649, deputy in 1662-63; moved to Norwalk and was made a military officer. In 1661 was appointed with John Banks and Joseph Judson, who were appointed by the General Court to run the lines between Fairfield and Stratford.

"Richards, Nathaniel, of Hartford, in the colony in 1639; constable in 1641 and 1649; orderer of the town in 1644, deputy in 1643.

"Sention, or St. John, Matthias, 1640.

"Seymour, Richard, Hartford, 1639, chimney-viewer in 1646.

"Webb, Richard, Hartford, 1539, on the first grand jury at the General Court in the colony in 1643. Also a juror in 1643-44, selectman in 1648, surveyor of highways in 1649. He soon after removed to Stamford; was made free there in 1662."

The following list of first settlers is taken from the first book of grants and deeds:

"Elizabeth Webb, relicke of Richard Webb, in 1677, employed her 'Beloved brother John Gregory to make an agreement with Thomas Butler of Hartford, and his wife,' they 'laying claime to the estate of my deere husband, Richard Webb, deceased.' (Fol. 51.)

"Richard Homes, of Stratford, Oct. 12, 1657, bought of Alexander Bryan, of Milford, the home-lot which was Thomas Smith's, and March, 1663, the lands of Stephen Beckwith, planter, of Norwalk.

"Matthew Campfield, late of Norwake, now resident in Newarke, in the colony of New Jersey, (gave a deed) to his son Samuel, April 1, 1669.

"Samuel Hales, now of Weathersfield, late of Norwake, sold to John Platt, May 14, 1669.

"Thomas Barnam, of Fairfield, had a grant before 1663.

"Joseph Smith, late of Long Island, bought of Samuel Campfield the north part of his home-lot in 1675.

"Samuel Smith, in 1672, a parcel of land in Indianfield.

"Samuel Belding, Feb. 28, 1673, bought two parcels of land in the Neck planting-field.

"James Pickett, in 1674.

"Thomas Betts, Jr. (fol. 55), in 1677, bought of Benjamin Fenn, of Milford, the house and home-lot formerly belonging to his brother, Joseph Fenn.

"Richard Raymond removed to Saybrooke, gave a deed to his son John; in 1677 empowered his 'well-beloved brother Thomas Betts, of Norwalk,' to record all his divisions, etc.; and in 1676 gave by will all his lands in Norwalk 'unto those children which my son John Raymond allready have or may have by Mary Raymond, his present wife.'

"John Reede, 'of Rie,' bought of Richard Homes.

"James Miller and Martha his wife, of Ry, in the county of Fairfield,' Dec. 26, 1681.

"Andrew Messenger, June 28, 1686 (fol. 85), bought land of Walter Hoyt.

"Samuel Camfield's house and four acres, between Thomas Betts and Ephraim Lockwood, Dec. 17, 1681.

"Thomas Hyatt, in 1679, bought land of James Miller (James Miller and Martha his wife, of Rye, Dec. 26, 1681).

"Jonathan Perkins bought of Nathaniel Richards, Feb. 23, 1677."

\* Date of the first mention in the colony records.

† Mr. Hinman refers to Widow Betts, 1639, and John Betts, 1648.

inheage, Rocaton, or by whatsoever name or names the same is called or known, Lying and bounded on the East upon y<sup>e</sup> land purchased of Captain Patriarke, so called, on the West bounded with the Brook called Pampaskeshanke, which said Brook and passage, the Bounds West, Extendeth up into the Country by marked Trees; and so far as the said Runckinheage, and the rest above mentioned, hath any Right and propiety; and the aforesaid Land bounded with the Brook called as aforesaid Pampaskeshanke, from the aforesaid passage and path down along to the Sea. And the aforesaid Land bounded on the South with the Sea; and on the North the Moehakes Country; with all the Islands, Trees, pastures, meadinge, water, water courses, Rights, members, and Appurtenances whatsoever, To HAVE and To HOLD, and quietly and peaceably enjoy, all the aforesaid lands, etc. . . . unto the aforesaid Richard Web, etc. . . . and to their heyers forever. And the aforesaid Runckinheage and Pianikin, and Magise, and Towneton, Winnepucke, Magushetowes, Conkuskenow, Wampasum, Sasseakun, Runckenunnutt, Pokessake, Shoackecum, Soanamatum, Prodax, Matumpun, Cockenoe-de-Longe-Island, Do by these presents, acknowledge to have received the aforesaid Thirtieth fathum of Wampum, etc. . . . in full satisfaction. In witness whereof the above said parties have for themselves, and every of them, sett to their hands, the day and year above written to this present Indenture.

"Signed and delivered in the presence of

"STEPHEN BECKWITH,  
"SAMUEL LUMES,  
"SAMUEL ELY.

Runckin	his	heage,	Magi	his	se,
mark.	his		Magi	his	
Pianikin,	his		Winna	his	pucke,
mark.	his		mark.	his	
Conkus	his	kenoe,	mark.	his	
mark.	his		Towne	his	Tom,
Sasse	his	a kum,	mark.	his	
mark.	his		Pro	his	dax,
Wam	his	passum,	mark.	his	
mark.	his		mark.	his	
Sassa	his	kun,	Pokassake.	his	
mark.	his			his	
Runc	his	kemunutt.		his	

"Recorded February y<sup>e</sup> 24th, 1708-9.

Pr. JOHN COPP, Recorder."

#### THE PATENT.

Thirty-six years elapsed after the settlement of the town, before the General Court granted the patent. It bears date March 30, 1686, and was as follows :

"Whereas the Generall Court of Connecticut have formerly granted unto y<sup>e</sup> proprietors inhabitants of Norwalk, all those lands both meadow and upland, within these abutments, upon the Sea on the South, and to runn from the sea towards the north, full Twelve miles, and abut on the Wilderness on the North, and on Fairfield bounds on the East, and on Stamford bounds on the West, the said land having been by purchase or otherwise lawfully obtained by the Indian native proprietors; and whereas the proprietors Inhabitants of Norwalk have made application to the Governor and Company of the Colony of Connecticut assembled in Court May the 14, 1685, that they may have a pattent for confirmation of the aforesaid lands to them so purchased and granted to them as aforesaid, and which they have stood seized and quietly possessed of for more than twenty years last past, without interruption; now, for a more full confirmation of the aforesaid Tracts of land, as it is butted and bounded aforesaid, unto the present proprietors of the Township of Norwalk,—Know YE that the said Governor and Company, assembled in Generall Court, according to the commission, and by virtue of the power granted to them, by our late Sovereigne LORD KING CHARLES the Second of Blessed memory, in his late patent bearing date the three and twentieth day of April in the fourteenth year of his said majestie's Reigne, Have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant, Ratifie and Confirme, unto Mr. Thomas Fitch, Mr. Thomas Hanford, Capt. Richard Olmstead, Mr. Thomas Bennedick, Mr. Walter Hoyt, Mr. Matthew Marven, Mr. John Ruscoe, Mr. Nathaniel Hayes, Mr. Daniel Kellog, and Mr. Thomas Seamore, and the rest of the present proprietors of the Township of Norwalk, and their heirs and assigns forever, and to each of them, in such proportion as they have already agreed upon for the division of the same, all that aforesaid tract and parcell of land as it is butted and bounded; together with all the woods, upland, arable lands, meadows, pastures, ponds, havens, ports, waters, rivers, adjoining Islands, fishings, huntings, fowlings, mines, mineralls, quarries, and precious stones, upon or within the said tract of land, and all other profits and commodities thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining; AND do also grant unto the afore named Mr. Thomas Fitch, and Mr. Thomas Hanford, . . . &c., that the aforesaid tract of land shall be forever hereafter deemed, and reputed, and be, an entire township of itself—To HAVE and To HOLD the said tract of land, &c., . . . according to the tenour of his majestie's manor of East Greenwich in the county of Kent in y<sup>e</sup> Kingdom of England, in free and common soccage, and not in cappitee nor by Knight service; yielding and paying therefore to our Sovereigne Lord the King, his heirs and successors, only the fifth part of all the Oar of Gold and Silver which from time to time, and at all times hereafter shall be gotten, had, or otherwise obtained; in lieu of all rents, services, duties, and demands whatsoever according to CHARTER.

"IN WITNESS whereof, we have caused the seal of the Colony to be hereunto affixed, this eighth day of July, 1686, in the second year of the Reign of our Sovereigne Lord JAMES the Second, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

"ROBERT TREAT,  
Governor.

"March 30th, 1686, pr. order of the Governor and Company of the Colony of Connecticut, signed

"Pr. me JOHN ALLYN,  
Secretary.

"The above written is a true coppie of y<sup>e</sup> original, being examined and compared therewith, July 8th, 1686.

"A true copie of y<sup>e</sup> Record,

"ELEAZAR KIMBERLY,  
Secretary.

"Recorded Dec. 21st, 1708,

"Pr. me JOHN COPP,  
Recorder."

#### THE PIONEERS.

Although the purchase of the Indians was made in 1640, the permanent settlement of the town was not effected until 1651. Trumbull, in his history of Connecticut, says, "A few families seem to have planted themselves in the town, about the time (1640) of these purchases." Hollister states that "the better evidence appears to be that a few bold planters had taken possession soon after these grants were made, and had continued to hold it until the arrival of the company," in 1651. Both of those authors have failed to cite any



authority for these statements, and certain it is that no reference is made in the town records to the settlement of the town until 1651.

The agreement of the settlers with Mr. Ludlow bears date June 19, 1650, but the permanent settlement did not take place until 1651. As early as February 15th of that year the sturdy pioneers were all in their wilderness home, as appears in the deed from Runckinheage and the other Indians.

There is a tradition that a portion of the planters spent the winter of 1650 here, which is doubtless true.

The only names extant of the original settlers are those mentioned in the agreement with Mr. Ludlow, as follows: "Nathaniel Eli, Rithard Olmstead, Rithard Webb, Nathaniel Rithards, Mathew Marvin, Rithard Seamer, Thomas Spencer, Thomas Hales, Nathaniel Ruskoe, Isacke Graves, Ralph Keeler, John Holloway, Edward Church, John Ruskoe." This, of course, is not a complete list, as the article states that the agreement is entered into between Mr. Ludlow and those mentioned above, and "some others."

The following is the most perfect list of the early settlers that is known to be in existence, being a table of "Estates of Lands and Accommodations," made in 1655:

George Abbitt, Robert Beacham, Stephen Beckwith, John Bowton, Matthew Campfield, Nathaniel Eli, Thomas Fitch, John Griggorie, Samuel Hales, Thomas Hales, Walter Haite, Nathaniel Haies, Rev. Thomas Hanford, Richard Homes, Ralph Keeler, Walter Keeiler, Daniel Kellogge, Thomas Lupton, Matthew Marvin, Sr., Matthew Marvin, Jr., Isacke More, Jonathan Marsh, Widow Morgan, Richard Olmstead, Nathaniel Richards, John Ruskoe, Matthias Sention, Sr., Matthias Sention, Jr., Matthew Sention, Thomas Seamer, Richard Webb.

In a list of accounts in 1654 are the following names, which do not appear in the preceding list of estates, viz.: — Bryant, Edward Church, Joseph Fitch, Edward Nash, Richard Raiment, Richard Seamer, Giles Whitinge.

In 1656 the following names also appear: Owen Morgan, William Reid.

In the table of home-lots, the following names also appear: Thomas Benedict, Sr., Thomas Benedict, Jr., John Benedict, Thomas Betts, Richard Bushnell, Samuel Campfield, Christopher Comstock, John Crampton, Thomas Fitch, Jr., Joseph Fenn, John Gregory, Jr., Jakin Greggorie, Samuel Haies, Ephraim Lockwood, Joseph Ketchum, John Keeler, James Pickett, Joseph Platt, Mark Sention, Robert Stewart, Samuel Smith, Thomas Taylor, Thomas Ward.

The following notices of the first settlers of Norwalk are from Hinman's "Catalogue of the Names of the First Puritan Settlers of the Colony of Connecticut:"

"Abbott, George, 1648.\*

"Beckwith, Stephen, 1649.

"Belding, John (son of John, of Wethersfield, who died 1677).

"Benedict, Thomas, 1662.

"Betts, Thomas, Guilford, 1650.†

"Campfield (or Campfield), Matthew, a magistrate and judge; not only a leading man there, but in the colony. One of the signers of the petition to King Charles II. for the colony; in 1662 appointed with Gold and Sherman to hold courts at Fairfield.

"Ely, Nathaniel, Hartford, 1645; constable, 1639; one of the settlers of Norwalk, but afterwards removed to Springfield, Mass.

"Fitch, Thomas, a brother of Rev. James, at Saybrook, and of Joseph, of Windsor.

"Gregory, John, a deputy, 1662-63.

"Hoyt, Walter, Windsor, 1640.

"Keeler, Ralph, Hartford, 1639, viewer of chimneys in 1645.

"Marvin, Matthew, surveyor of highways in 1639 and 1647; an original proprietor and settler in Hartford before 1639; removed to Norwalk; deputy to the General Court from Norwalk in 1654.

"Olmsted, Richard, Hartford, 1640, constable 1646, fence-viewer 1649, deputy in 1662-63; moved to Norwalk and was made a military officer. In 1661 was appointed with John Banks and Joseph Judson, who were appointed by the General Court to run the lines between Fairfield and Stratford.

"Richards, Nathaniel, of Hartford, in the colony in 1639; constable in 1641 and 1649; orderer of the town in 1644, deputy in 1643.

"Senchion, or St. John, Matthias, 1640.

"Seymour, Richard, Hartford, 1649, chimney-viewer in 1646.

"Webb, Richard, Hartford, 1539, on the first grand jury at the General Court in the colony in 1641. Also a juror in 1643-44, selectman in 1648, surveyor of highways in 1649. He soon after removed to Stamford; was made free there in 1662."

The following list of first settlers is taken from the first book of grants and deeds:

"Elizabeth Webb, relicke of Richard Webb, in 1677, employed her 'Beloved brother John Gregory to make an agreement with Thomas Butler of Hartford, and his wife,' they 'laying claime to the estate of my deere husband, Richard Webb, deceased.' (Fol. 51.)

"Richard Homes, of Stratford, Oct. 12, 1657, bought of Alexander Bryan, of Milford, the home-lot which was Thomas Smith's, and March, 1663, the lands of Stephen Beckwith, planter, of Norwalk.

"Matthew Campfield, late of Norwake, now resident in Newarke, in the colony of New Jersey, (gave a deed) to his son Samuel, April 1, 1669.

"Samuel Hales, now of Weathersfield, late of Norwake, sold to John Platt, May 14, 1669.

"Thomas Barnam, of Fairfield, had a grant before 1663.

"Joseph Smith, late of Long Island, bought of Samuel Campfield the north part of his home-lot in 1675.

"Samuel Smith, in 1672, a parcel of land in Indianfield.

"Samuel Belding, Feb. 28, 1673, bought two parcels of land in the Neck planting-field.

"James Pickit, in 1674.

"Thomas Betts, Jr. (fol. 55), in 1677, bought of Benjamin Fenn, of Milford, the house and home-lot formerly belonging to his brother, Joseph Fenn.

"Richard Raymond removed to Saybrooke, gave a deed to his son John; in 1677 empowered his 'well-beloved brother Thomas Betts, of Norwalk,' to record all his divisions, etc.; and in 1676 gave by will all his lands in Norwalk 'unto those children which my son John Raymond already have or may have by Mary Raymond, his present wife.'

"John Reede, 'of Ric,' bought of Richard Homes.

"James Miller and Martha his wife, of Ry, in the county of Fairfield," Dec. 26, 1681.

"Andrew Messenger, June 28, 1686 (fol. 85), bought land of Walter Hoyt.

"Samuel Camfield's house and four acres, between Thomas Betts and Ephraim Lockwood, Dec. 17, 1681.

"Thomas Hyatt, in 1679, bought land of James Miller (James Miller and Martha his wife, of Rye, Dec. 26, 1681).

"Jonathan Perkins bought of Nathaniel Richards, Feb. 23, 1677."

\* Date of the first mention in the colony records.

† Mr. Hinman refers to Widow Betts, 1639, and John Betts, 1648.

## FORT POINT.

"In 1689, John Gregory gave a deed to his son Thomas of a piece of land 'Lying on the West side of Norwalke Towne plott, 2 acres, bounded East by the common land banck; West, Norwalk river; South by the poynt of common land where the Indian Fort formerly stood; North by Thomas Betts' Marsh Meadow.'"

## ORIGINAL GRANTS OF HOME-LOTS.

The following is a record of the original grants to the pioneers:

"Richard Olmstead, four acres one rood. Bounded east by common land, west by town's highway, north by Thomas Hale's home-lot, south by Nathaniel Eli's home-lot.

"Thomas Fitch (purchased the lot laid out to Edward Church in 1655), four acres. Bounded east by town highway, west by Daniel Kellogg's home-lot, north by Nathaniel Richards' home-lot, south by Matthew Marvin, Sr.'s, home-lot.

"Nathaniel Eli (sold to Thomas Betts), four acres two roods. Bounded east by the common, west by town highway, north by Richard Olmsted's home-lot, south by the other highway.

"Samuel Hales (sold to Robert Stewart, of Milford, in 1660), four acres. Bounded east by the 'Commoninge,' west by highway, north by 'the Commoninge,' south by Mathias Sention's home-lot.

"John Platt (in 1663), four acres two roods. Bounded east by highway and common land, west by Ephraim Lockwood's home-lot, north by Samuel Camfield's lot, south by Thomas Fitch, Jr.'s, home-lot.

"Isacke More (sold to Mark Sention in 1660), four acres. Bounded east by town highway, west by 'the coafe [cove] bancke,' north by George Abbott's home-lot.

"Richard Seamer (afterwards his son's, Thomas Seamer, by exchange) 1 Bounded east by the common, west by town's highway, north by town's highway, south by Richard Webb's home-lot.

"John Bowten, four acres. Bounded east by Mr. Hanford's and John Ruscoe's home-lot, west by highway, north by highway, south by Thomas Lupton's home-lot.

"Matthew Marvin, Sr., four acres. Bounded east by town's highway, west by Daniel Kellogg's home-lot, north by Thomas Fitch's home-lot, south by meeting-house yard and Matthew Marvin, Jr.'s, home-lot.

"Thomas Lupton, four acres. Bounded east by Richard Homes and Mark Sention's home-lot, west by Mathias Sention's home-lot and common, north by John Bowten's home-lot, south by George Abbott's lot.

"Jonathan Marsh, two parcels, four acres. The greater bounded east by highway, 'the coafe bancke' of Norwalk River, north by the commoninge, south by Thomas Ward's home-lot; the less bounded east by commonage, west by the aforesaid highway, north by commonage, south by commonage.

"Walter Haite, four acres. Bounded east by town highway, west by 'the common by the bancke coafe,' north by Mathias Sention's home-lot, south by George Abbott's home-lot.

"Nathaniel Richards, four acres one rood. Bounded east by town highway, west by Norwalk River 'coafe bancke,' north by Isacke More's home-lot, south by Thomas Fitch's home-lot.

"Mathias Sention, Sr., bought of Mr. Steile, of Farmington, who married the widow of Richard Seamer, four acres; granted in addition 1, April 6, 1661, five acres. Bounded east by common land, west by town's highway, north by Samuel Hale's home-lot, now Robert Stewart's, south by Matthew Camfield's home-lot.

"Ralph Keeler, four acres one rood. Bounded east by common and neck fence, west by town highway and Edward Nash's home-lot, north by Richard Webb's home-lot, south by town highway and Edward Nash's home-lot.

"Mr. Thomas Hanford, four acres. Bounded east by town's highway, west by John Bowten's home-lot, north by town's highway, south by John Ruscoe's home-lot.

"Nathaniel Campfield, five acres. Bounded east by common, west by town's highway, north by Mathias Sention's home-lot, south by Richard Olmsted's, that was Thomas Hale's home-lot.

"Samuel Campfield (apparently in 1670), four acres. Bounded east by Brooke swamp of common ground, west by common highway, north by Ralph Keeler's home-lot, now Thomas Betts', south by John Platt's home-lot.

"Thomas Benedick, Sr. (recorded March 1, 1669-70, having possessed it some years before), purchased of Mr. Hanford one acre one rood, of John Ruscoe two roods, of John Bowten one rood,—four acres. Bounded east by Mr. Hanford's and John Ruscoe's, west by John Bowten, north by town highway, south by Richard Homes.

"Samuel Haies (two parcels, the last a piece of salt meadow in the rear of the first), five acres. Bounded east (first) by common highway, west by 'the bancke,' north by common land, south by Ralph Keeler's home-lot, that was Thomas Ward's salt meadow; bounded east by bank of said home-lot, west by 'Norwalk River coafe,' north by 'coafe of said river up to the bancke,' south by 'the creeke.'

"John Gregorie, Sr. (four acres granted, bought four acres of Stephen Beckwith), eight acres. Bounded east by town highway, west by John Raimond's, north by Mr. Haies' lot and John Benedict's lot that was George Abbott's, south by highway running by 'the coafe bancke,' and John Gregorie, Jr.'s.

"John Gregorie, Jr., received from John Gregorie, Sr., of the above, one acre two roods.

"Richard Web, four acres. Bounded east by common land adjoining the neck, west by town highway, north by Thomas Seamer's home-lot, south by John Raymond's home-lot, that was Ralph Keeler's.

"Daniel Kellogg, four acres. Bounded east by Matthew Marvin, Jr.'s, Matthew Marvin, Sr.'s, and Thomas Fitch, Sr.'s, home-lots, west by Joseph Fenn's home-lot and a bank of common land, north partly by Nathaniel Richards' home-lot, and by the 'coafe-bancke,' south by town highway.

"Matthew Marvin, Jr., three acres two roods. Bounded east by 'meeting-house greene,' west by Daniel Kellogg's home-lot, north by Matthew Marvin, Sr.'s, home-lot, south by town highway.

"Christopher Comstock, Jan. 27, 1661 (then of Fairfield), bought of Thomas Betts, 'being then a planter inhabiting in Norwalke,' his 'house, home-lot, etc., with halfe the land lying to the said house, laid out to said Betts, or belonging to the accommodation of Nathaniel Eli' (folio 13), four acres. See 'Nathaniel Eli,' who sold this lot to Thomas Betts, which Thomas Betts, in 1661, sold to Christopher Comstock.

"Ephraim Lockwood, Dec. 30, 1664 (folio 13), bought the home-lot of Jonathan Marsha, 'For and in consideration of one mare and sucking colt,' 'his howse with the shelves, dress boards, etc.,' also 'the yards, hovells, and tenn fruit-trees growing upon the orchard; and also the home-lot containing one acre more or less.' For boundaries see Jonathan Marsha.

"Thomas Betts (bought Nathaniel Eli's home-lot; sold half to Christopher Comstock; also bought house and home-lot of Ralph Keeler; recorded about 1660), four acres. Bounded east by common upland, west by common highway, north by John Keeler's home-lot, south by Samuel Campfield's home-lot.

"Thomas Ward, of Norwalk (Sept. 1, 1665, sold to Ralph Keeler his 'dwelling howse and howses, etc.,' reserving 'the workshop for the abode of his wife, if she shall have occasion, till the 27th of September, 1666,' said Ward reserving to himself 'to take away at his pleasure, the locks upon the dwelling howse doares, and the younger-nursery trees, and two boards lying upon the collar beames.' Folio 2). Boundaries not given save on the north, which is bounded by Jonathan Marsha.

"Thomas Benedict, Jr. (bought of Joseph Fenn, 1671, 'now home-lot, lying by the side of the creeke or river called the Coafe'), four acres. Bounded east by highway, leading to the point, west by 'Bancke of the coafe,' north by Joseph Fenn's land adjoining to his home-lot, south by cartway leading out of Daniel Kellogg's meadow.

"Richard Raimond (inhabitant of Salem, in the jurisdiction of Massachusetts Bay, bought of Ralph Keeler, Oct. 20, 1662, 'My howseing, contained at present in my home-lot, or cow yard,' etc., 'the howse, flores, doares, glasse windows, shelves, or ought else necessarily fastened together'), four acres. Bounded east by John Gregorie's lot that was George Abbott's, west by common land, north of John Benedict's, that was George Abbott's, south by 'A highway running to the sea bancke.'

"Jakin Greggore (in 1666, grant of home-lot upland and lowland), four acres. Bounded east by common upland, west by common highway, north by common upland, south by Thomas Taylor's home-lot.

"John Platt, of Norwalk (bought of Thomas Lupton, March, 9, 1665, sold in 1674, to John Bowten), four acres. Bounded east by 'Reere of Thomas Lupton's house-lot and Richard Homes,' west by Mathias Sention's land, north by John Bowten's land, south by George Abbott's land.

"John Crampton ('because he was a souldier in the late Indian war,' 1679), three acres. Bounded east by highway, west by Samuel Benedict's home-lot, north by Thomas Betts, Sr.'s, home-lot, south by James Miller's home-lot.





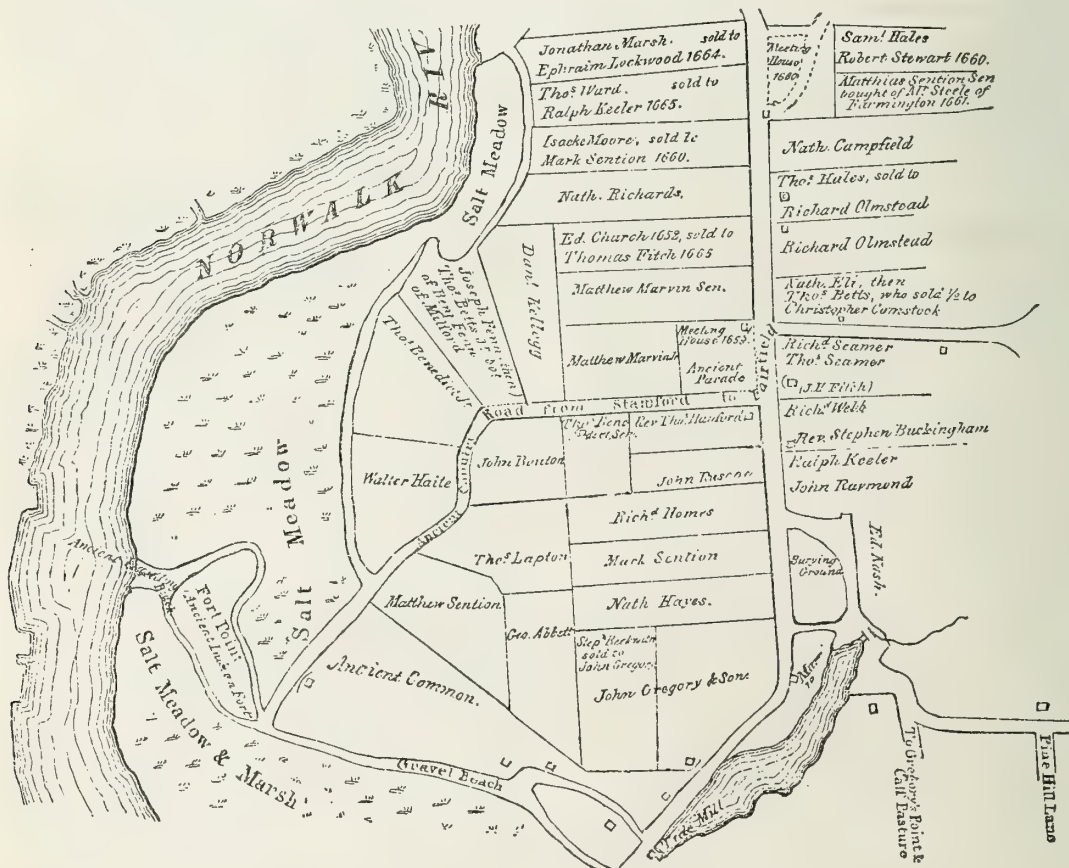
## CHAPTER XLIX.

## NORWALK (Continued).

## SKETCHES OF THE ORIGINAL INHABITANTS.\*

GEORGE ABBOTT, whose name heads the list of the first white settlers of Norwalk, probably emigrated from Dorchester, England, with his master. Doubtless he was a French refugee and a relative of the Abbots of Andover, Mass. He was one of the first Puritan settlers of Hartford. His name is not in the catalogue of emigrants to America. It first appears in the colonial records of Connecticut, 1640, as a ser-

restrictions imposed by the British government upon those who had been in rebellion against kingly authority. In 1648 he was at Ipswich, Mass.; in 1651 he was an inhabitant of Norwalk. Here he resided ten years, and removed to Fairfield; and the court gave the inhabitants of that place liberty "to take in a cohabitant with them, Robert Beacham, who lately lived in Norwalk." March 29, 1655, he was appointed by the people of this town field-gate keeper for the year ensuing. Feb. 5, 1657, the town voted that he should enjoy that parcel of land lying between his home-lot and "Coafe Bancke" as his own, under a



MAP OF ANCIENT NORWALK.

vant residing in Windsor. There he was fined for selling a "pystoll and powder to the Indians, and bound to his good behavior." Eleven years later he was an inhabitant of Norwalk. In 1672 he was the father of seven children. He never held office. In 1690 he had an estate of one hundred and twenty pounds. As his name disappeared from the town records after 1644, he probably died about that date, aged about seventy-four.

Robert Beacham, or Beauchamp, was in Ipswich, Mass., 1648. Probably he left England, as many others did, under an assumed name, to avoid the

condition. In the first property list he was taxed on one hundred and seventy-three pounds. He was not made an elector in Fairfield until 1664.

Stephen Beckett, or Beckett, as Hutton has it,—aged eleven, was the youth pointed out as S. B. in the records, who was brought to the colony of Massachusetts in the ship "Francis," Cutting, master, 1634. His name appears in the colonial records in 1649, at which date he was twenty-six years of age, and a resident of Hartford, from whence he emigrated to Norwalk. The town records do not show that he owned a home-lot. His estate in 1673 was set in the tax-list at five pounds; in 1690 he had in-

\* Contributed by W. S. Bouton, Esq.



creased the same to fifty pounds. It is believed that a portion of his estate was situated in the town of Fairfield. Probably he removed there with Beacham.

John Bouton, or Bowton, was one of the first original inhabitants of Norwalk. His name is found in Hutton's "History of Emigrants from 1600 to 1700." He, with about nine or ten others of the first settlers of the town, though they came from England, were French refugees. April, 1635, at the age of twenty, he embarked from Gravesend for the Massachusetts colony, in the ship "Assurance," and landed in Boston the following December. He resided in Newtown and Watertown nearly sixteen years, and then went to Hartford; thence to Norwalk. His ancestors are authentically traced back to the latter part of the twelfth century. He was a lineal descendant of the Boutons of Chantilly, France, and a brother of Noel, born 1636, who was the son of Nicholas, born 1598, who was a descendant of Jean Bouton, whose name often appears in the French annals.\*

John Bouton was married when he came to Norwalk, and was the father of Richard and Bridget Bouton. His wife died soon after his arrival here. His second wife was Abigail Marvin, daughter of Mathew, by whom he had at least five children,—viz.: John, Mathew, Rachel, Abigail, and Mary. His third wife was the Widow Stevens, whose first husband was killed in the "direful swamp-fight." By her he had two sons,—Richard and Thomas, Richard by the second wife being dead.

John Bouton was made freeman in 1664. He was selectman in 1671, 1674, 1675, and 1679, and surveyor also in 1669. In 1686 he was elected one of a committee to settle all differences between Fairfield and Norwalk about the "head-lynes," and elected to represent the town in the General Assembly from 1671 to 1683, and also in 1685. He was living in 1703 or 1704. He died at the age of about ninety.

Thomas Betts' name first appears in the records of Norwalk in 1656. Probably he arrived here about 1651 or 1652. He was living in Guilford in 1650. Without doubt he was a brother of John, whose name is also in the records of Guilford in 1648. At the date of settlement in this town the brothers had been in the colonies about twenty years, having arrived about 1636 or 1637. There is a family tradition that they came from Buckingham, England. The late G. W. Betts had a Bible said to have been owned by the family in England, brought here by Thomas or John. Thomas Betts was a representative from Norwalk to the General Assembly in 1692, 1694, 1704, 1705, and 1707. He was an efficient member of the First Church, and his descendants have always been noted for their puritanical proclivities. His estate was set in the list of 1687 at one hundred and ninety-six pounds.

Benedict,—the order of the Benedicts, or benediction, a blessing. Thomas Benedict, Sr., was a lineal descendant of William Benedict, who resided in Nottingham, England, in the year 1500. Thomas Benedict, of Norwalk, of the fourth generation, from William, was also born in Nottingham in 1617. He emigrated to New England at the age of twenty-one, and settled in Massachusetts. From thence he removed to Southhold, L. I. In 1665, Thomas Benedict and family crossed Long Island Sound and settled in Norwalk. He was thrice chosen town clerk, and for several years selectman. He represented his adopted town in the colonial Legislature in 1670 and 1675. He was elected deacon of "ye Prime Society" of Norwalk. Thomas Benedict, Sr., of Norwalk, is the progenitor of the numerous family of that name in this country. He died in 1690, aged seventy-three; his widow lived to the age of one hundred and six.

Francis Bushnell was a carpenter. At the age of twenty-six he left England in the ship "Planter," for New England with his wife, aged twenty-six, and one child, aged one year, April 4, 1635. He carried with him to the port from whence he sailed a certificate that he was no "subsedy man." In 1653 he arrived in Norwalk. Oct. 12, 1675, he married Hannah Leyman, daughter of Thomas, for his second wife, by whom he had at least two children,—viz., Hannah and Mary. His estate in 1693 was nominal. He seems not to have been a member of the church, and never held office.

Matthew Canfield, or Campfield, was in New Haven in 1646. His name is not in the history of emigrants, nor is it known at what date he came to North America. Probably he did not arrive until 1643 or 1644. He was a magistrate and judge in Hartford, and a prominent man in all official business. He was one of the signers of a petition to King Charles II. of England for the colony. In 1662 he was appointed one of three to hold courts in Fairfield. He was made a citizen of Norwalk in 1654, and elected a deputy in 1654-56, assistant in 1658-63, deputy in 1664, and deputy commissioner. He removed from Norwalk to New Jersey in 1669.

Christopher Comstock was a resident of Fairfield, about ten years after the settlement of Norwalk. Probably he came from Hartford to Fairfield, though it is evident that he was not one of the colony who founded that settlement. It is not now known when he arrived in America, or where he resided in old England. He probably, on his way from Boston or its vicinity, tarried a short time in the Hartford colony to prospect. From thence he proceeded to Fairfield, and after spending a few years in that town removed to Norwalk, for on Jan. 27, 1661, Christopher Comstock, then living in the former place, bought of "Thomas Betts land laid out to said Betts or belonging to the accommodation of Nathaniel Ely." Later, in 1663, he married Hannah, daughter of Richard Platt, of the town of Milford, by whom he had six

\* He advanced the honors of his house, and was created Marquis of Chamilly and, 1703, marshal of France. See *Dictionnaire des Généreaux Français*, in the Astor Library, city of New York.

children. In 1673 his estate was rated at one hundred and forty-six pounds and in 1690 at two hundred and one pounds. He was approved of to "kepe an ordinary for the entertaining of strangers." He was a sergeant of the town militia, was of puritanic stock, and his descendants have ever been noted for their attachment to the religious principles of their ancestors. He died Dec. 28, 1702.

John Crompton was also one of those who came to Norwalk after the settlement of the town. He came to America from England between 1623 and 1638. He came here about 1655 or 1656, and married Sarah Rockwell, of Stamford, Oct. 8, 1676, by whom he had three children, viz., Sarah, Abigail, and John, born Jan. 7, 1682. In 1679 he was voted three acres of land "because he was a souldier in the late Indian war." He was the owner of but a small property. He never held office in the town.

Joseph Fenn came to Norwalk probably in 1654 or 1655. March 27, 1665, in "town-meeting it was voted unto Mstr Ffenn that home-lot lyine by Will Rascoe's home-lot, which Thomas Betts hath resigned up." Joseph probably was a brother of Richard, who was living "over the river at ye Plantacion ag't James Cittie," Virginia.

Several emigrants named Ely came to the British colonies as early as 1622. In the parish record of "St. Michael's, Barbadoes," appear the names of James Ely and wife, with three children and thirteen slaves. February, 1623, Walter Ely was living in Virginia. The parish muster shows that he and wife settled there in 1622. One Eelie, aged fourteen, came to Virginia, which then included New England, in the "Primrose," having been examined as to his "conformitie to the Church of England." The name in the records is also spelt Ella, Eeles. All of them embarked at Gravesend, England, and were doubtless all branches of the same family. It has been thought that Nathaniel Ely was an offspring of one of the families named, and that he was born in America. But this is a mistake, for Nathaniel did not emigrate to this country until 1635, while the other persons of the name arrived in the colonies from ten to fifteen years prior to the latter date.

Nathaniel Ely's name first appears in the colonial records of New England as a resident of Hartford in 1635. He landed in Boston, probably late in the fall of that year, and went directly to Hartford, where he remained about sixteen years, and was constable in 1639. From thence he removed to Norwalk in 1650, having been one of the fourteen persons who agreed with Rodger Ludlow for the "settlement and planting" of the town, the agreement being dated June 19, 1650. He removed from Norwalk to Springfield, Mass., about 1660. His estate was set in the tax-list at two hundred and ninety-three pounds,—no mean sum for those times.

Thomas Fitch probably came to America with his brothers Joseph and James, who crossed the ocean in

the ship "Defense," which sailed from the port of London, England, in July, 1635. Although his name does not appear in the list of emigrants with those of Joseph and James, it is conjectured that he came to the colonies, as others did, under an assumed name. He was a follower of Cromwell in the civil war against Charles I., and after the accession of Charles II. was proscribed for his disloyalty towards his government. Dr. Nathaniel Bouton says Thomas was a younger brother of Joseph and James, but it is a mistake. Joseph was the youngest of the three brothers. His name is set in the register as being only fourteen when he embarked for North America. Joseph settled in Widson, and James (the minister) was pastor of the church in Saybrook, and afterwards was settled over the church in Norwich.

There were a numerous family of the Fitches, or Fittz, in Buching and vicinity, Essex Co., England. Five or six of the name emigrated to James City, Va., as early as 1618 or 1620.

Thomas Fitch was not among the first settlers of Norwalk. He was made freeman in 1657, in 1659 selectman, and town-clerk or recorder of lands in 1656. He represented the town in the General Assembly but once before he was seventy, after which age he served in 1726, 1727, 1729, and 1730. He was the largest tax-payer in the town in 1673. His estate was assessed at three hundred and fourteen pounds.

Three brothers by the name of Gregory, or Gregorie, sailed from London for Virginia,—viz., Benjamin, Alexander, and Thomas. The latter two are recorded as being respectively twenty-four years of age. They may have been cousins, but it is more probable that they were twin-brothers. Benjamin was but fifteen when he left Gravesend, England, in the ship "Globe," in August, 1635. Alexander embarked from the same port in October, 1631, and Benjamin in 1635. Others of the name are found in the colonial records. John was a brother, if I am not mistaken, of the above named. It is not known when he left the mother-country. His name first appears in the annals of this town as one of the original inhabitants. He represented Norwalk nine times in the Legislature at its May sessions, and eight times at its October sessions.

Nathaniel Haise, of Norwalk, of whom the records are almost silent, was among the original settlers of the town. His origin, or from whence he came to this country heretofore, was unknown to the historians of Norwalk. The record of emigrants shows that "Anto" Haies, aged twenty-four, embarked from England, August, 1635, in the ship "Safety," for the British colonies in North America. James, aged twenty-eight, left the same place, October, 1635, in the "Constance." John, aged thirty, sailed in the "Hopewell," June, 1634; and Robert, aged nineteen, March, 1635. William Haise, aged twenty-four, who left Gravesend in April, 1635, in the ship "Paul," of London, probably was a cousin of the above named,



all of whom were inhabitants of St. Katherine and vicinity.

Nathaniel Haise was a man of good estate. In 1687 he was taxed on two hundred and fifteen pounds. He held no public office, but Samuel, his oldest son, represented the town in the General Assembly from 1686 to 1703,—in all fifteen times.

Walter Hoyt, or Hait, was descended from a not very numerous family of that name in "Ilminster or Curry-Rivel, county of Somerset, England." The family history claims that he was a son of Simon, whose name first appeared in this country in 1629, as being in Salem, Mass. It is also found in the records of Dorchester of 1630, in those of Scituate of 1634, and in those of Windsor of 1639, where it is recorded as deacon of the church in that place. Walter could not have been the son of Simon; he must have been his younger brother. It cannot be shown that Walter came to America before 1639 or 1640, at which date Simon had been in the Massachusetts colony ten years or more. Walter was living in Windsor with his wife and three children in 1640, at which date he could not have been more than twenty-two years of age. Simon came here quite young; so it is concluded that he could not have had a son at that date old enough to be the father of three children.

Walter Hoyt removed from Windsor to Hartford, thence to Fairfield, and settled in this town in 1652 or 1653. He was deputy from Norwalk to the General Assembly of Connecticut twelve times, and held various offices in the gift of the people of the town. He was, in 1690, the possessor of an estate taxed at two hundred and forty pounds. He died in Norwalk, aged about seventy-seven.

Samuel and Thomas Hales, brothers, left England for this country in 1633. Samuel, before he removed to Norwalk, resided for a period in Roxbury, Mass. He went thence to Hartford, Conn., thence to Norwalk. He represented the town in the General Assembly in 1650, 1657, and 1660. Thomas left no official record whatever. The brothers were owners of considerable real estate in 1655. In 1673 they are not mentioned as having any estate. Probably they removed from the town some time before the assessment of 1673 was laid.

Between 1623 and 1635 eighteen of the name of Homes, or Holmes, emigrated from England to the British colonies in America. Of this number was Richard Holmes, who left the port of London in February, 1734, in the ship "Hopewell," Thomas Wood, master, and in the year 1657 settled in Norwalk. October 12th of this year Holmes came from Stratford to this town, and bought of Alexander Bryan, of Milford, the home-lot formerly owned by Thomas Smith. In March, 1663, Holmes bought all the property of Stephen Beckwith in Norwalk. His estate was taxed in 1673 at one hundred and fifty pounds. In 1676 he was the father of two children. In 1678 the town granted him liberty to erect a saw-mill upon Five-

Mile River. He never held any official position in the town.

Heretofore it has been uncertain from what part of England the Rev. Mr. Hanford emigrated. In April, 1635, a person named Eglin Hanford, aged forty-six, with two daughters, embarked on the ship "Planter" for New England. He carried with him to the port of departure a "certificate of the minister of Ludburie, in Suffolk County, of his conformitie to the orders and disciplin of the Church of England, and that he is no subseedy man, and that he hath taken the oath of Allegance supreme." It is very probable that Rev. Mr. Hanford was the son of Eglin. As there were no educational institutions of learning of a higher order in this country at the date of his emigration, may he not have left his son Thomas in Old England to finish his education, or until they were provided here? Cotton Mather says Rev. Mr. Hanford was one of the class of ministers who, not having finished their education at home, came over here to perfect it before our college was come to maturity to bestow its laurels. Probably he did not arrive in America until 1638-39.

Mr. Hanford completed his course under Rev. Mr. Charles Chauncey, of Scituate, second president of Harvard College, about 1643. The same year his name stands in the list of all those persons able to bear arms in the Plymouth colony, and this year also he witnessed the will of Edward Foster, of Scituate. He was made freeman in Massachusetts, May 22, 1650. Two years later he commenced to preach in this town. In 1653 the selectmen contracted for the building of his house, and in 1656 the inhabitants voted to pay him as their minister "threescore pounds,—viz., thirty pounds in wheat, peas, and barley, at four shillings per bushel, eight pounds in —, and the other twenty-two pounds in beefe and pork." In 1670 the town voted to "hire a man to make a comely cover for Mr. Hanford's desk in the meeting-house at the town's expense." In his advanced age (1686) the people voted that they "desire Mr. Hanford to proceed, though grown old in the work of the ministry, until the Lord shall dispose of him." "Winnepauk, an Indian, of Norwalk, in 1697 deeded to his friend Thomas Hanford, minister, his island against Rower-ton." The name of his wife is now unknown. He married the second time in New Haven, Oct. 22, 1661. Mr. Hanford had the largest estate of any of the inhabitants of the town. He died in Norwalk in 1693, aged about seventy-three or seventy-four.

Daniel Kellogg was one of the first inhabitants of this town, though he may not have arrived until the spring of 1651. His home-lot adjoined Matthew Marvin's, Thomas Fitch's, and Joseph Fenn's. In 1655, he "took to wiffe Bridget Bouton," daughter of John Bouton, Sr., by his first wife, by whom he had four daughters and two sons at least, David and Samuel. He was chosen townsman several times, and represented Norwalk eight years in the General

Assembly, between 1670 and 1683. His estate in 1673 was listed at one hundred and twenty-five pounds. It is more than probable that Daniel Kellogg was a brother of Nathaniel Kellock and Joseph Keldy, both of whom were living in Farmington in 1649 and 1654.

Thomas Lupton was assigned a home-lot with the first emigrants of Norwalk, but did not arrive until a year later. It is not known whom he married. He was the father of two children, and probably had others. He was selected in 1668 to "look after the young people in the meeting-house" on the Sabbath. Doubtless he was a brother of Davie, who left England, October, 1635, and Joseph, who sailed July, 1635. His estate was listed in 1687 at one hundred and fifty pounds.

Ephraim Lockwood was without doubt a brother or other relative of Capt. Nicholas, who made several trips to Virginia. It is not impossible that Ephraim came to America as a hand on the ship commanded by the captain. He married, June 8, 1665, Mercie Sention, daughter of Mathias Sr., of Norwalk, by whom he had five sons, viz., John, Daniel, Ephraim, Joseph, and Eliphalet. His estate was set in the list of 1687 at one hundred and twenty pounds.

Ralph Keeler and his brother Walter came from the port of London, England, to the colonies in 1635 or 1636. Ralph was in Hartford in 1639, and a viewer of chimneys there in 1645. In September, 1665, Thomas Hand sold him his "dwelling-house and houses, reserving the workshop for the abode of his wife till the 27th of September, 1666, also reserving the locks upon the dwelling-house doares, and the younger nursery trees, and two boards lying upon the collar beams." Dec. 18, 1653, he was one of the contractors to build Rev. Mr. Hanford's house. He was to "fell all the timber and hewe what is to be hewe." His estate in 1673 was set in the list at fifty-three pounds.

Mr. Savage doubts if there was such a person as Walter, but the name occurs in the list of the first emigrants to Norwalk. If Mr. Savage had been the possessor of the records of this and other towns, he would not have had so many doubts about those whom it was his business to have known.

Mathew Marvin, Marvyn, or Marvynn, came to New England with his family in the fall of 1635, having left Gravesend in April of that year. The record of his family is given by Hutton, viz., Mathew, aged thirty-five, Elizabeth, aged thirty-one, husband and wife; children, Elizabeth, aged thirteen; Mathew, eight; Maria, six; Sarah, three; Hannah, six months. All of them came in the ship "Increase," Lea, master, the husband having taken the oath of "Allgeanse and Supremacie" "conformable to the government and disciplin of the Church of England." Mathew Marvin was in Hartford in 1639, and seems to have been one of the early proprietors. He had other children born in Hartford,—viz., Abigail, Samuel,

Rachel. While a resident of that place he was plaintiff in a case against Mathew Beckwith for defamation of character, and recovered damages in the sum of fifty pounds. The same was remitted by the court and plaintiff on Beckwith's making a public retraction of the slander.

Marvin and family, it seems, came to Norwalk in 1651, having followed the first emigrants, and may be said to have been of the original number. His home-lot joined the meeting-house yard and Daniel Kellogg's and Thomas Fitch's. He was deputy from Norwalk in 1654, and assistant magistrate in 1659. He was the possessor of a large estate in 1673, which had doubled in 1687.

Isaac More sailed from Gravesend, England, at the age of thirteen, in the "Increase," Lea, master, under the guardianship of Mathew Marvin, with whom he went to Hartford, and from thence removed to Norwalk. In 1660 he sold his home-lot to Mark Sention. April, 1654, Goodman More was chosen townsman for the ensuing year. In 1657, Isaac More, with three others, provided a good and sufficient "wolfe-pit." Whom he married and when he died are not now known. He owned and resided on property on what is known as Marshall Street, in this city, and was a lineal descendant of Danver, who settled in this town in 1651.

Isaac More was living in Farmington in 1649, and was presented to the court "for sergeant by the souldgers," and was approved. In 1665 the court "frees More from training, he having been formerly chief-officer of the Train Band" of that place.

Widow Morgan's name is in the list of the first emigrants, and this is all that is known of her, if the statements of others are to be taken. Savage, in his history of emigrants, says she was a myth. She may have been to him, for he doubts if her name is to be found anywhere in the records of Norwalk. But it is there, and Mr. Savage or anybody else may read, if he be disposed to. Widow Morgan probably married after her settlement here, but whom is not known, as the old church records were destroyed in the Revolutionary war. Or she may have died in the town soon after its settlement.

Jonathan Marsh,—or as it is in list of emigrants, Jno.—aged twenty-six, embarked in the "Plain Joan," Bucham master, for Virginia in May, 1635. He was probably from the parish of Benendon, county of Kent. He brought "Attestacon of his conformitie to the order and disciplin of the Church of England." No trace of him is to be found after his arrival here until he appears in Norwalk. In 1657 he owned real estate here, situated and bounded by the river; and engaged to build a corn-mill; and he was to have upland adjoining the mill. In 1658, Goodman Marsh "agreed to attend the town 3 days in the week. These days he is to attend that he may fetch and carry corn to the mill." This is all that is known of his history in England and America at present.



Richard and John Olmstedd were the brother and nephew of James. James came to New England "Plantacon there p Cert: from Capten Mason, have tendred and taken the oath of allegiance according to the Statute." Both emigrated from Braintree, county of Essex, England, June, 1632. Richard and his brother John probably came to the colonies under assumed names, as the name of neither is found in the catalogue of emigrants in which that of James appears. After the death of James his executors, desirous to carry out that which they conceived to be his wish, gave to his "kynsman," Richard and John Olmstedd, five pounds each.

Richard was one of the petitioners for the planting of Norwalk. He was prominent in all the public affairs, and was the first representative of the town in the General Assembly, having been fourteen times elected to that position. He was a sergeant of the militia in 1653, and lieutenant of the company in 1659. He was in Hartford in 1640, constable in 1646, and deputy in 1662 and 1663. He removed to this plantation in 1650, and was one of three appointed by the court to run the lines between Stamford and Stratford. His home-lot was bounded by land of Thomas Hale and Nathaniel Ely. He was appointed, Feb. 21, 1670, selectman of the town. In 1673 he was the possessor of a moderate estate taxed one hundred and nineteen pounds.

Joseph Platt was a French refugee. He did not settle in Norwalk until about 1699, at which date he received a grant of sixteen acres lying at West Rocks. Feb. 21, 1698, the town "Granted unto Joseph Platt, as he was a souldier out in the service against the common enemie, the town, as a gratification for his good service, do give and grant unto him ten acres of land, to take it up a mile from the town, and wheare it lyes free nor yet pitcht upon by any other persons." Dec. 16, 1713, "Capt. Joseph Platt was one of a committee to make a settlement of a highway or road to Ridgefield. He had only one son,—viz., John.

Joseph Platt represented Norwalk in the General Assembly a period of sixty-five years, or from 1705 to 1790. He has no list of property, either in 1673 or 1687. As he was styled the "Worshipful," the inference might be drawn that he was exempt from taxation, in view of services rendered to his constituents.

Nathaniel Richards sailed from the mother-country for New England in the same ship in which James and Richard Olmstead crossed the Atlantic, June, 1632, he also having a certificate from "Capten Mason" that he had taken the oath according to the statute. He was of Mr. Hooker's company at Newtown, Cambridge, 1632. He was one of the proprietors of the Hartford company, as his name appears in the records of that town in 1635. He was juryman there in 1643, 1644, and 1646, and constable in 1641 and 1649, orderer of the town in 1644, and a deputy to the General Assembly in 1643. He probably came to the Norwalk colony some time during 1651. In 1664,

Mr. Richards bought Jonathan Marsh's mill and all the land adjoining it. He was elected selectman Feb. 21, 1670. He never represented this town in the colonial Legislature. He had an estate in 1673 of two hundred and sixty-eight pounds. In 1687 his name is not in the table of estates; hence it is concluded that he died between 1673 and 1687, aged about sixty-two years. His descendants have always been noted for their steady and industrious habits.

John Rusco, son of William and Rebecca Rusco, husband and wife and four children—viz., Sara, Maria, Samuel, and William (aged one year)—"imbarked in ye 'Increase' from London, April, 1635, for New England. They were certificated as from Billerway, county of Essex, by the Minister of ye first that William Rusco, husbandman, was no Subsedey man." After due investigation it is concluded that John Rusco was a son of William, born in this country within a year or two after their arrival in Boston, early in the fall of 1635. Although John's name stands in the catalogue of the first emigrants, he could not have been over thirteen or fourteen years of age. Probably he came to this town with the older settlers. As his home-lot was not set off to him, but had transferred to him that which was formerly set off to another, his grant was not one of the original few,—it was not recorded until 1683, while the other original grants were recorded about 1665 or 1670.

William Rusco, at this date, lived in Norwalk, as Mr. Fenn's home-lot was next William Rusco's.\* From 1673 to 1687 his estate had increased from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty pounds.

Richard Raymond's name first appears in the records of Norwalk in 1654. He was, no doubt, a French refugee, and may have come to North America under an assumed name, as there is no record of his departure from England. August, 1635, one Arthur Raymond, aged twenty, sailed from London in the "Lofty," Graunt, master, for Virginia. It is conjectured that Arthur was a brother of Richard, whose name appears in the records as an inhabitant of this town. He removed to Norwalk from Salem, Mass., and from here to Saybrook. In 1662 he was living at Massachusetts Bay, at which date he "bought of Ralph Keeler his housings, home-lott, or barnyard, and the house, flores, doars, glasse windows, shelves, everything fastened together,—four acres." It seems he returned to Norwalk, as in 1677 he empowered Thomas Betts to record all his lands to the children of his son John by Mary Raymond, his present wife, the year before this transaction. John, his son, seems to have borne all the family honors. His estate was taxed (1690) at two hundred pounds. He "tooke to wiffe," Dec. 10, 1664, Mary, daughter of Thomas Betts, by whom he had two sons,—John, who died when a child, and John (2d), born nine years later.

\* See Hull, page 29.

St. John, Matthias, and Matthew Sension probably emigrated from Huntingdon, England. It seems that Matthias came to Norwalk a short time previous to the arrival of Matthew. It is conjectured that the St. Johns of Norwalk were descendants of Attorney-General St. John, who married a relative of Oliver Cromwell and followed his fortunes during his reign. The only ground for the conjecture is the fact that the attorney was of the same name. When the brothers settled in America is not known, though it is believed they preceded Nicholas Sension, aged thirteen, who sailed from London, April, 1635, in the "Elizabeth and Ann Roger," Cooper, master, under the protection of Jo. Whitney, who came in the same ship with his five children, aged respectively eleven, nine, eight, six, and one, all of whom brought with them a certificate that they were "no subsidy" men.

Matthias' name is among the original settlers of the town, and March 5, 1657, he was one of them "to make a sufficient wolf-pett." Matthias, Savage thinks, was a myth; but he was in Dorchester in 1639 and a juryman at Hartford in 1643 and 1644. Otherwise the brothers were not prominent in public affairs.

Several of the Webb family emigrated to this country in the early part of the sixteenth century. Richard embarked for Virginia from Gravesend, England, in the "Primrose," July, 1635. He was of the number of more than one hundred who took the oaths of "Allegiance and Supremacie," and "fetch off by Mr. Secretary Windebanks' warrant." Probably the men were political rebels, and were obliged to take a special oath to the home government. He is reputed to have been living at Cambridge in 1632. The date of his departure from England disproves that he was in the country in that year. His name appears in the records as juryman at Hartford in 1643 and 1644, and selectman in 1643 and 1644. About this time he was fined for not appearing at the appointed hour for the sitting of the court. In 1640 he was one of the executors of the will of James Olmstead, and was deputy from Norwalk fourteen times, from 1653 to 1679.

When or how Thomas Seamer, or Seymore, came to the colonies, or his origin in the old country, is not now known. There is a good reason for the prevalent opinion that he was a French refugee who escaped into England, and soon thereafter emigrated to North America and was a member of the Hartford colony, as it appears that Richard, a brother, was located there in 1639 to 1646 at least. In 1690 he possessed an estate set in the list at one hundred and eighty-four pounds. He was never honored by his fellow-townsmen with responsible official positions.

## CHAPTER L.

### NORWALK (Continued).

#### UNPUBLISHED TRADITIONAL FACTS IN THE HISTORY OF NORWALK.\*

Traditions—Reminiscences—One Hundred Years Ago—The Burning of Norwalk—The Indian City of Naramake and its Founders—Pampas-keshank—Incidents of the Revolution—The Norwalk Indians—Indian Cemeteries—The Cannibals of Norwalk.

THE first white emigrants to New England, though educated under despotic laws in the Old World, in the New adopted a system of town organizations, simple, pure, and natural, relative to property, education, and equal rights. Those town republics sowed the seed which brought forth republican government on this continent. Their codes of laws are the votes found upon the records of those ancient towns, and framed to maintain the peace and union of those local republics, and to preserve the "liberty of civil affairs." The first ancestors of Norwalk established one of those republics in this town in 1651.

The tourist, to fully appreciate the scenery of this locality, should sail down Long Island Sound and traverse the range of hills stretching from the Rocks, north, to the country "budded on the sea" south. These outlooks are the most picturesque in Connecticut.

The first emigrants to Norwalk, in their journeyings hither, passed through the interior of the country, to avoid crossing the numerous deep rivers which empty into the Sound. From the rocks north of France Street they first beheld the land of their adoption, and were delighted with its hills and vales and running brooks. On the night of their arrival the company ate and slept beneath their shadows. At early morn they proceeded southward to take possession of the rude log houses built by the few pioneers who had preceded them. The early emigrants were not without some culture. The old town records show that every man of them could write well, and they had legislative, executive, and judicial capacity, and the ability to organize the town's finances and to marshal the people into "training-bands" for the common defense.

Three classes of emigrants from England settled in this town. The first were nonconformists; the second, "subsidy men;" the third, those who were distasteful to the ruling powers, and who were transported as rebels or left England under assumed names. Half the first colonists of the town were of the first; the remainder—excepting Richard Webb, who was carried on shipboard, "fetch'd off by Secretary Windebank's warrants"—were of the second.

Though nearly all the early settlers of Norwalk embarked from England, yet they were not all of Anglo-Saxon blood. After the revocation of the Edict of Nantes thousands of the best people of France fled to

\* Contributed by W. S. Bouton, Esq.



England, and the government received them with open arms and encouraged their emigration to her colonies in North America. Our first ancestors were about equally divided between the Gaul and Saxon, all of whom were imbued with the Saxon ideas of civil and religious liberty and an enlightened view of justice.

The ancient records of the town do not show a single instance of special or class legislation. Their every act was based upon the broadest principles of a government by and for the people. If the common land was to be apportioned, or the cattle to roam in the common fields, or the wheat-fields to be guarded or fenced, the rights of the poorest persons were as sacredly protected as those of Governor Fitch or the wealthiest man in the plantation. Our ancestors, in their difficulties with Fairfield and Stamford, instead of an armed defense, instructed their deputies to the General Court to come to a "loving and neighborly issue and agreement," and, if not accepted, then the cases were to be taken into the court. There may be powers that object to this sort of diplomacy because of its puritanical or scriptural origin.

#### REMINISCENCES.

The first white settlers of Norwalk located on the plain east of the river, near Old Fort Point, upon which they reared log houses and a block-house, or fort, for common defense. Our ancestors were often summoned from their labors in the fields to disperse the Indians, whose only object, apparently, was to purloin the Indian puddings which the women were making.

The savages found within the purchases made in 1640 and 1650 were only remnants of tribes which once inhabited the country around and east of the Connecticut River, and probably other localities. They had been overpowered and driven from the graves of their ancestors by other more numerous and more warlike tribes, portions of whom had taken up their abode about Norwalk River, and whom the first settlers named the Norwalk Indians. On this point we are not left entirely to tradition. That the Indians, probably less than a hundred, who lived here were from various tribes is evident from the facts that many of their implements found in the Old Indian Field were made of various kinds of stone, none of which are to be found within the limits of the town, that the rude earthen bowls found in some of their graves were made of red clay, and that their modes of burial were diverse.

The early colonists had not been very successful in bringing the aborigines into their views of government previous to the settlement of the town. But the members of the Norwalk colony, many of whom had been in the country from sixteen to thirty years, had learned much of the Indian character. As time passed they more fully comprehended the principle of liberty which they had manfully battled for in the Old World,

and this made them more successful than others had been in their efforts to civilize the Indians.

Our ancestors partook of the uneasiness rife among the colonists in 1660, and appealed to the General Court to settle their "differences." They also disciplined the militia and appointed Thomas Fitch to watch the Indians; and that is about all there was of it, for the Norwalk Indians, though at times troublesome, were never warlike. We have searched the ancient records, and have not found an instance of a Norwalk Indian's injuring any of the white inhabitants. Nor is there any evidence that they were in the direful swamp-fight in 1677 as enemies, though there is indirect testimony that some of them accompanied those who enlisted for that service from this town.

The early fathers brought with them all the Anglo-Saxon traits of energy, perseverance, industry, patriotism, and indomitable will, controlled by the fear of God. Their mission was peace and good-will to all men; they warred only when necessity required. Their policy towards the red man was the same as that pursued by William Penn. They first taught them to plow and plant and reap the fruits of their labor, and made it an offense even to trespass upon their grounds. Then they taught them who that Great Spirit was whom their fathers had ignorantly worshipped.

Until this time our ancestors had generally enjoyed peace. But they were now called upon to face King Philip, a personal foe of the English, who had excited his own tribe and his neighbors to a general rising against the whites. The town now contained less than fifty white men, five of whom volunteered towards filling the quota pledged by the Connecticut colony to chastise the Narragansetts, who, in violation of their treaty obligations, were secretly assisting Philip to lay waste with fire and tomahawk all the settlements of the colonists. Only the suddenness of the blow saved the settlements from extermination.

In 1774 the Indians had nearly disappeared from the town; only nine remained. In 1790 there were none. Probably a few of them removed to other localities, but that nearly all the tribe died here is evident from the numerous shell-graves found in the Old Field.

Fifty years ago a descendant of the tribe came to view the graves of his ancestors. As he stood on Flax Hill his great height, broad shoulders, and Indian costume, in the absence of the men, frightened the women and children of the neighborhood. It was just before the close of day. He turned to the north, to the east, to the south, then towards the setting sun, as if to converse with the Great Spirit. Then he departed. Whence he came and whither he went no one could tell.

The charge, oft repeated, that our fathers were cruel and exacting in their dealings with the Indians of Norwalk is without foundation. All the facts in their

history show that they were governed by Christian and patriotic principles in their intercourse with them. To be sure, they resented every encroachment upon their civil rights with patriotic fervor. And their mantles have fallen upon their descendants, as more than a hundred battle-fields in the history of the town during the past two hundred years bear witness.

In the French war there was no lack of patriotism on the part of the people of the town. Upon receiving information that a battalion of regulars was to be quartered here, the people in town-meeting voted to tax themselves for their support. Many of them joined the army and were at the reduction of Louisburg, July 25, 1758.

In the Revolutionary war the inhabitants also met in town-meeting and called upon all the able-bodied men to exert themselves to fill up the battalions ordered by the Continental Congress; they provided for the support of the families of those who should enlist. They closed their appeal in the following quaint language: "That the virtuous sons of liberty cheerfully and readily engage in said service, so that peace and rest may once more be restored to the United States of America, by means whereof this meeting have reason, by the blessing of God, to expect the same may be effected."

The aged people are familiar with the name of Capt. Ketcham, who in the last war with England, at the battle of Niagara, captured Gens. Drummond and Rial, officers of the British troops, and their suites, and conducted them to the rear of the American lines, which event, more than any other, contributed to the success of our arms on that day. Who is not also familiar with the name of Frank Gregory, who Headley erroneously says was a native of New Haven, but who was born in Norwalk, where he resided until he entered the naval service in 1800? Here are the tombs of his ancestors. In the last war with the English he was taken prisoner and impressed into their service, but soon escaped. In the great Rebellion Com. Gregory hastened to Washington at seventy years of age and offered his services to his government; which fact alone is sufficient to immortalize his name.

When Tryon crossed from Long Island to destroy the town the patriotic, old and young, shouldered their muskets and met his forces with a determination unsurpassed in the annals of the Revolutionary war. From the moment the enemy landed they were assaulted with so much spirit at every step of their progress, by the town militia and the Continentals then quartered here, that he left, according to his official report, one hundred and ten killed, wounded, and missing behind him in his retreat.

The engagement at Norwalk may be said to have been a series of battles. The British were repulsed on Flax Hill, at Pudding Lane, and at France Street; they were beaten at every point of attack. The burning of the town was a great disaster to the people.

Historians have made this fact prominent, and have lost sight of the patriotism, zeal, and courage displayed by the few regulars and the town militia, and the successes gained by them on that memorable day over Gen. Tryon's soldiers and the Tories who led them through the town. We call it the battle of Norwalk, for such it really was. Ere this the event should have been commemorated by the erection of a monument to perpetuate the names of those who fell on that day in defense of the town and the cause of liberty. Who found fault in the Revolutionary war with the patriotism and the institutions founded by the first white ancestors of Norwalk? They were the "nullifiers," who opposed all taxation and paying any interest on obligations for raising funds to arm and equip Continental soldiers and for the support of their families. The Revolutionary fathers said they were "inimical persons, and riotous, and dangerous to the liberties and independence of the United States of America."

Norwalk in 1677 sent five men to the front; in the Rebellion six companies, being about a twenty-fourth part of its entire population.

#### ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

July 10, 1779, Gen. Tryon's fleet, which had been moored in Huntington Bay, L. I., was discovered by the coast-guard stationed at the cove headed, with all sail set, for the west shore. The guard sounded the alarm by firing three muskets, the signal being repeated from hill-top to hill-top until the inhabitants of the town were thoroughly aroused. After the women, children, and household goods had been placed in carts and started for the forest miles away, the men shouldered their muskets and proceeded to the parade-ground, where they were detailed by companies to various localities to watch the movements of the British.

On this date, at nine o'clock in the evening, Gen. Tryon landed at Cow Pasture with two thousand five hundred British troops. July 11, 1779, one hundred years ago, the battle or series of battles of Norwalk were fought and the town devastated by the British. There were in the town less than four hundred patriot troops to oppose the advance of the enemy, one hundred and fifty of whom were Continentals, commanded by Gen. Parsons, and the town militia and volunteers commanded by Cpts. Betts and Richards.

All the particulars of Gen. Tryon's advance from Cow Pasture to Grammon's Hill and of his retreat have been fully given by the historian, but the incidents along the line of the advance of Garth's regiment of Tories, after landing at Old Well, have never become published facts in the history of the town.

Historians disagree as to the date of the battle of Norwalk. Barber erroneously asserts that it occurred on July 17, 1779, and he makes Capt. Betts, in his deposition before Justice Betts, say that it was on July 12th. Gen. Tryon's official report gives the cor-



rect date: he says July 10th. They crossed the Sound with a fleet of twenty-six sail and anchored near the mouth of Norwalk Harbor. The troops landed about nine o'clock in the evening, slept upon their arms at Cow Pasture that night, and early next morning, Sunday, the 11th, moved across to Fitch's Point, on the east side of Norwalk Harbor, where they were joined by the King's American Regiment, Tories, who were ordered to cross over in flat-boats to Old Well. They landed south of Washington Street, and Tryon ordered a house near the shore burned as a signal that he had disembarked and was ready to carry out the orders of his superior.

Gen. Garth, upon landing and seeing the people on the heights above the plain, seems to have entertained the idea that the patriots were intrenched upon Flax Hill, and that it would be necessary to dislodge them before attempting to join Gen. Tryon at the bridge. So he divided his regiment, and its left wing, as a feint, charged through the fields, and the right filed into the shore road to Marshall and Ann Streets, thence to West Street, forming a junction with the left at the intersection of Spring with West Street, near the stone church. Here there was severe fighting, and the enemy became disconcerted, but succeeded in gaining the summit of the first hill. But at the foot of the second they became panic-stricken, so sharp and rapid was the fire of the patriots, commanded by Capt. Richards, secreted behind the stone walls on the eastern slope of the hill stretching from the main road to Round Hill. In this encounter the enemy lost three men, and several more were wounded. Here Garth massed his troops, as if expecting another attack from the volunteers, then filed his men into the field formerly the homestead of the late Deacon Nash, and repeated the manœuvre, probably to conceal the place of burial of his dead. Their remains were disinterred when excavating for the foundation of the house now owned by L. H. Moor, Esq.

At this juncture of affairs a British officer appeared on the brow of Flax Hill. After surveying the situation a few moments he commenced to flourish his sword, as if giving orders to the enemy to advance. This he repeated several times, to the amusement of the patriots, who with deliberate aim fired their muskets, when he stretched himself upon his steed's neck and galloped out of sight, his cocked hat and tall plume appearing as if transferred from the head of the rider to that of the horse.

Having interred their dead, Garth resumed his line of advance through the field to Sound Hill, and on its summit placed a field-gun. Here he remained inactive about an hour, then filed his men into Cedar Street, thence down the hill by the old malt-house to Main Street, though some of the eye-witnesses claimed that the enemy passed through Garner Street. Probably both versions are correct, as in all his previous movements Garth divided his force.

From Main Street to the residence of Thomas Bene-

dict, situated near the intersection of the turnpike road with West Street, the British paid no attention to the assaults of the patriots upon their rear and left flank, so intent were they upon crossing the ford north of the bridge in advance of the volunteers. But at the residence of Deacon Benedict a large number of Garth's men partook freely of the wine and cider placed on the front porch of his house for the patriots who had been on guard all night, as the story goes. The deacon never related the incident without smiling and remarking that a drunken person, bereft of the use of his limbs, was as harmless as a corpse. While the Tories were regaling themselves the volunteers, who had all the morning clung to the rear and flanks of Garth's troops, at double quick crossed the ford north of the present bridge and joined their comrades, who had held their own against Tryon's force for five hours, at the business centre of the town.

Gen. Tryon moved from Cow Pasture to Fitch's Point at three o'clock in the morning. Following the shore, about four o'clock he reached the down town road, where he met the Continental troops and militia, who slowly and in good order retreated to Grummon's Hill, thence to the business part of the town, still pursued by the enemy. Nor were they dislodged until the junction of Garth's and Tryon's divisions north of the bridge, when the patriots retreated in excellent order to the rocks, where some hasty preparations had been made for the final battle.

At ten o'clock in the forenoon the battle of the rocks on France Street commenced, lasting till twelve noon, at which hour Tryon ordered his army to retreat. As it did so it was pursued by the Continentals and a portion of the volunteers and town militia, who clung to his rear until he was in sight of the place of disembarkation the previous evening. With the order to retreat came also the order to complete the devastation by fire of the remainder of the dwellings of the people, which order was mercilessly executed. Six houses only were left standing on their line of advance and retreat,—four on the east and two on the west side of the harbor. These were spared through the interposition of women who claimed the protection of the British on account of the loyalty of their husbands to King George. The enemy destroyed all the salt-pans of the people along the shore, and towed to their fleet every whale-boat in the harbor, with the magazine and stores gathered in the town for the army. All the whaling and other vessels moored at the docks or in the river were burned.

Tryon's official report of the battle of Norwalk says he retired his men in two columns to the place of his first debarkation unassailed. This is not the fact. The patriots who participated in the battle ever claimed that the British were harassed from the moment of their advance until they left our shores, and that Gen. Garth's force was beaten on Flax Hill, and the combined forces of the enemy at France Street after two hours' severe fighting. This was the verdict of the

old people of fifty years ago, who were eye-witnesses of all that transpired on that memorable day. Barber is again in error when he says six houses only were left undestroyed by the British: there was only that number spared on the line of their advance and retreat. Tryon's official report says the greater part of the dwelling-houses were set in flames. There were more than thirty houses which were not burned, having been situated principally off the roads over which the enemy passed on the day of battle. The British and Tories burned, all told, on July 11, 1779, eighty dwellings, two churches, eighty-seven barns, seventeen shops, and four mills, in addition to the property heretofore enumerated.

At the date of the battle of Norwalk the town had been settled about one hundred and twenty-five years, and its taxable property had increased from a few hundred pounds to three hundred thousand dollars in 1779. The damage done by the sacking of the town was estimated, by a committee appointed by the General Assembly of the State, at about one hundred and sixteen thousand dollars, in consideration of which the general government awarded to Connecticut a large tract of land in Northern Ohio, which was partly settled by emigrants from Norwalk.

Historians tell but half the truth when they designate July 11, 1779, as the date of the burning and not of the battle of Norwalk. The enemy were repelled or held in check at every point of attack. It took, according to Tryon's report, five hours for his troops to dislodge the patriots at the business centre. So far as we know, but two men were killed and but one wounded or captured on our side, while the British, according to Tryon's official report, lost twenty killed, ninety-six wounded, and thirty-two missing or unaccounted for.

Gen. Washington, at the date of the invasion of Norwalk by the British, was encamped with his army on the banks of the Hudson River. On or about July 9th he dispatched Gen. Parsons to Norwalk to assume command of and "give confidence to the militia and guide their movements." One day's ride brought Gen. Parsons here, giving him a day or two to marshal his troops for the defense of the town. But, finding the force present inadequate in numbers and discipline to cope with Gen. Tryon's experienced troops and Hessians, he placed in position, on the hill near the rocks, the battery of six cannon brought from Salisbury by Thaddeus Betts two years previous.

Gen. Parsons, with the few troops at his command, determined to meet the enemy in ambuscades, the objective point being the rocks; the line of retreat of all the patriot troops engaged was in that direction. There nearly all the volunteers, militia, and Continental troops united for the final conflict. The result of the fight with Tryon's troops on France Street, sent to dislodge Gen. Parsons's and Walcott's command, shows that the plan of battle was skillfully laid, and that it was no ordinary affair, considering

that there were less than four hundred patriot soldiers opposed to at least three-quarters of Tryon's force of two thousand five hundred trained troops landed at Cow Pasture and Fitch's Point the night of the 10th of July.

The late Dr. N. Bouton was good authority in our local historical matters. He was personally acquainted with all the Revolutionary sires of his time, and was very particular to note all the authenticated facts and incidents communicated by them. In his two hundredth anniversary discourse of the settlement of Norwalk he says that the militia and Continental troops, headed by Gens. Parsons and Walcott, were on the hill near the rocks, whence they fired on the enemy at Grummon's Hill. To drive the former from their position Tryon dispatched a large body of troops, who were met by our soldiers in France Street, and greeted them with so warm a reception that their progress was checked, and ere noon they were on the retreat.

Gen. Walcott came to Norwalk in advance of his command. Gen. Parsons came here to direct the movements of the militia. Probably the former came to assume the supervision of the Continental troops of Gen. Butler's brigade stationed in the town. It is very doubtful if Gen. Walcott's command arrived in Norwalk after the battle. The greater probability is that as soon as the British were on ship-board Gen. Walcott retraced his steps with a view of intercepting his command. If any troops arrived, they were the remainder of Gen. Butler's brigade. If there are any well-authenticated facts as to the arrival of patriot troops the day following the battle, we have to the present time been unable to find them.

The following quotation from Gen. Parsons' letter to Governor Trumbull, dated at Stamford, July 17, 1779, is conclusive on the point. The general says, "The depredations of the enemy upon the sea-coast of the State Gen. Walcott has doubtless particularly informed you of;" then adds, "The destruction of Norwalk is what I have been a witness of."

Those historians who have given July 12th as the date of the destruction of Norwalk were probably misled by Barber, from the fact that he makes Tryon say that he landed on the 12th.

Dr. Hall and nearly all the modern historians of Connecticut have given the same date as being that of the burning of the town. Even the *Norwalk Gazette*, Aunt Phebe, and the omnipresent Onesimus, who was always in the wood-pile when anything was about to transpire, and upon whose assertions much of the history of the event is based, also say that it occurred on the 12th. If Aunt Phebe and Onesimus in this instance failed to be correct, it is not impossible that other portions of their statements are also incorrect, —at least somewhat colored, as both had the name of having been rather visionary and superstitious withal.

The date of the burning of the town was settled by Dr. Nathaniel Bouton in his historical discourse deliv-



ered in Norwalk in 1851, in which he says, "On Saturday, the 10th, the British fleet appeared in our harbor," and "as the morning of the Sabbath dawned the British troops were seen concentrating from both sides of our harbor at Grummon's Hill, and the roar of cannon and fire of muskets, in strange contrast with the usual stillness of the Sabbath, deepened the terror of the scene." The doctor fixed the date of the event with no dispute in view.

Whatever we have or may say in relating the reminiscences of Norwalk which have gained credence and been incorporated into its local history will be in no spirit of unjust criticism, but with a view to arrive at the truth and to show the improbability of some of the stories which for more than a quarter of a century have been supposed to be facts. Every statement in the history of the town not sustained by at least a probability should at once be discarded from it, the mystical features of which have obtained credit since the death of those who participated in the engagement of July 11, 1779, and sanctioned by Dr. Hall's history, made up in part by interviewing the very aged people of the town. Some of these reminiscences were incredible, as were some of the incidents related of Gen. Washington and of Dr. Franklin when they were said to be journeying through Norwalk.

Gen. Washington may or may not have passed through the town on or about June 26, 1775, soon after his appointment by Congress commander-in-chief of the Continental army. He made the tour of the Northern States very soon after the adjournment of the first session of the first Congress, with the view of harmonizing the discordant elements rife in the country, and of observing the material growth and condition of the people since the close of the Revolutionary war. James Seymour, Sr., related that Gen. Washington passed through the town soon after he was inaugurated President of the new republic, and when opposite his residence he saw an improved plow by the roadside and alighted from his carriage, seized its handles, and examined it closely, making many inquiries as to its efficiency.

It is important to know on which of these occasions Miss Phebe Comstock saw Gen. Washington, in order to prove her reminiscences of him correct and worthy a place in the annals of the town.

It will be necessary to examine one of Miss Phebe's stories of an earlier date in order to test her memory relating to those given by her concerning the burning of the town in 1779.

At the age of sixteen she and her slave O'ne, it is said, rode into town on horseback to see Dr. Franklin, the philosopher and sage. In the summer of 1773, Dr. Franklin was in the northern counties of England, and while at the Lake of Derwent, it is said, for the gratification of the persons with him, he smoothed its ruffled surface with oil, which he carried in the head of his cane. Perhaps this story preceded his

return to America, and as he passed through the country the children were eager to see the man who had performed so wonderful a feat in the old country. Hence the story of his smoothing the rippled waters in Norwalk.

October, 1723, Benjamin Franklin left Boston to seek his fortune. He visited it three times from that date, making the journey each time by water. During 1763 he planned a tour of the northern colonies to examine the post-offices. This is the only time that he was in Norwalk. So there should be no credence given to her story as to her seeing Dr. Franklin quieting the rippled waters on the church green in the town with spirits of turpentine. The story was a creation of her childish dreams. She or O'ne never saw him, for the very good reason that they were both born about 1763, the year Dr. Franklin inspected the post-offices.

The true accounts of the events of the battle of Norwalk were corroborated by all those engaged. When Thomas Benedict, Nathaniel Raymond, Thomas Walter, and Daniel Hoyt, Joseph and Major Warren, Samuel Richards, and many others, related incidents of the Revolution and the burning of Norwalk, each confirmed the story of the others as to time, place, and the nature of the occurrences, thus establishing the facts beyond controversy.

This is not the case when Miss Comstock and Onesimus related their adventures during the same period. Their words stand upon their naked assertions. They never had the credit among their contemporaries of seeing a tithe of what they claimed they saw, particularly during the 10th and 11th of July, 1779. It is not to be presumed even that Dr. Hall, when questioning Miss Phebe Comstock, did not understand what she said. He gave her statements just as he received them from her lips, and was well aware that the lady was giving an account of her own acts, not those of her mother. So Dr. Hall did not get the affair of raking salt-hay mixed or muddled, for he was remarkable in comprehending the ideas of others in conversation, and noted for exactness of statement.

When it is said that Miss Comstock and her slave were on the meadows raking salt-hay when the British fleet anchored in the harbor in 1779, the critical reader knows that it was not the fact,—first, for the good reason that when Norwalk was laid in ashes the inhabitants were in the midst of their grain harvest; second, our people were never in the practice of cutting salt-hay until the grain was stored. August and September have from time immemorial been the months for cutting and stacking salt-grass. The statement, then, that Onesimus and his mistress gave the first alarm when the British were about to invade the town is simply a *canard*.

The British shipping was seen by the coast-guard, early on the morning of the 10th of July, advancing towards the north shore, and they gave the usual alarm. Can there be a probability even that the twain,

after the commotion caused by the morning alarm, went down to the meadow to gather grass and stayed there all day? Who believes that this colored oracle looked up about sundown and beheld the British fleet in the harbor?

Neither were they on the meadows after the town was burnt. If they were, and the people rallied and captured two "red-coats," where is the history of the event recorded? Who ever heard the account except from the lips of these persons? The whole story is an improbability. The statement of Onesimus that he saw the harbor full of British vessels manned by red-coats gives a positive denial to the assertion of the colored oracle, for the enemy were never in the harbor in force after July 10, 1779. No doubt but he had a great scare, and mounted his horse and rode home, but it was long after the war. But, as the statement appears, Onesimus, when he reached his home, tells the elder Phebe that the British had come. Here Miss Phebe is lost sight of, and the slave and Mrs. Phebe proceed to the hill, and she climbs into an apple-tree,—sweet, of course,—and from her lookout sees the red-coats carrying their dead and wounded to their boats; which supposes they may have been moored on Grummon's Hill. But it so happened that they were anchored at Cow Pasture and Fitch's Point. Who is so simple as to believe that Mrs. Comstock from her perch saw the river, or Grummon's Hill even? It is about six miles from the hill where she sat to Cow Pasture; even with a powerful eye-glass she could not see either. Which are we to believe? Miss Phebe says she got into the apple-tree and saw the enemy; Onesimus says that it was the elder Phebe who climbed the tree the red-coats to see. Doubtless the statements are the result of impressions derived from conversation of older people heard at so early an age that the listeners were finally led to believe that they had really seen all which they related of the events of 1779.

With these facts before us, their reminiscences of the British landing and burning of the town should no longer have a place in the history of Norwalk.

REMINISCENCES OF THE INDIAN CITY OF NARAMAKE AND ITS FOUNDERS, AND OF THE PAMPASKESHAUK.—INCIDENTS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR IN THEIR LOCALITIES.

One mile south of the city of South Norwalk, and midway between it and Five-Mile River landing is an inlet or arm of the Sound, now known as "The Cove," which from the commencement of commerce between New Amsterdam and the New England colonies has been a safe anchorage for vessels in the carrying trade from the northeasters which at certain seasons of the year sweep across it. This inlet, or the stream which empties into it, was known by the Indians as the Pampaskeshauk. Later the inhabitants called it Hoof and Horn Creek, from the fact that cattle often per-

ished in the brook at the crossing of the highway. The Pampaskeshauk was the west bound of the purchase by Richard Webb, Nathaniel Ely, and others, of the Indians, Feb. 15, 1651, which said, "Brook and passage the bounds west extendeth up into the country by marked trees; and the aforesaid land bounded on the south with the sea, and on the north with the Mohawks' Country." As the Mohegan Indians possessed the country bordering on the Hudson River, probably the purchase from the Norwalk Indians by Webb and Ely extended to Byram River.

The first white settlers of Norwalk named this stream Rooton Brook, Rooton being the name of the territory bordering upon it on the west. Its course from the cove is due north through Ely's Neck, and it forms the west bound of this city from Springwood to the west corner of Bouton Lane and the old Boston Turnpike. This country, "butted on the sea," is the territory over which the "Cow-Boys" and Tories raided in 1778 and 1779, and is one of the most picturesque localities in Norwalk. It is surrounded on the north and west by promontories covered with oak, chestnut, walnut, maple, and the North American cedar, the slopes of which and the plain west and south in olden times yielded good crops of the cereals and pasture of large herds of cattle, which were exchanged for merchandise with masters of vessels coasting between "Manhattan Island" and the settlements on the Connecticut River. One mile west of this locality is situated the "Cove in the Rocks," though now partially obliterated. In 1781 it was in the parish of Middlesex, and in the town of Stamford, over which the Rev. Dr. Mather presided as its pastor.

I never visit the "country butted on the sea" without reviving the thoughts and emotions experienced on my first visit to it in boyhood, when from cliff and tree came audible sounds, making the hairs to stand on end, questioning, "From whence and whither going?" And as the sun sank behind the hills the shadows of objects animate and inanimate would lengthen into fantastic forms. If I ran or walked the phantoms were present whispering, "This is sacred ground. Here are the graves of the sachems and the tribe over whom they ruled, whose spirits for two hundred years have made this place their abode. Tread lightly on their graves. If the tomahawks, arrows, mortars, pestles, wampum, or bones are disturbed, rebury them so deep that they shall never be molested again by sacrilegious hands. The avarice of the white race robbed us of the right to life, liberty, and country. For a few valueless trinkets it took from us our heritage. By war and the introduction of fire-water it depopulated our village as with the besom of destruction. The implements and the human bones buried here are the seals that the title of the red man to the soil is still unrevoked."

Upon the point of land lying between the Pampaskeshauk and Norwalk Rivers are the remains of the ruins of an Indian city of no mean dimensions of the



Naramakes, a clan of the once-powerful Mohegan nation, a remnant of which were in existence after the settlement of Norwalk in 1651. Winnepaque, who sold to Rev. Mr. Hanford, in 1690, his island "Lying against Rooton,"—Cachenoes, and Naramake were sachems of independent clans of the Mohegans, after whom their respective villages and the territory possessed by them were named. Mahackems, Matouwacks, Swanoy's, and other clans who held sway over the country between Norwalk and Manhattan Island were also independent clans of the same nation. The "Mahackems," or "Makentons," sold their lands to Capt. Patrick, as did Maramake a portion of his, all of which was conveyed in the same deed. The first named lay west of the Pampaskeshank, and the latter east of it. These various clans, though independent, seem to have been under a sort of federal government, similar to that of the United States of America, for the common defense. Bancroft the historian says that the "country between the banks of the Connecticut and the Hudson was possessed by independent villages of the Mohegans." The Indian city referred to, without the least doubt, was one of those independent villages, and was named after Naramake, its founder, a descendant of whom was one of the signers of the deed to Patrick. Hence, may not Norruck, Northwalk, and Norwalk—names by which the river and adjacent country were known by our ancestors—have been a perversion of Naramake? It is an error which those unacquainted with the Indian dialect might naturally have fallen into. Tradition says that Naramake, whose name stands second in the deed conveying to "Daniell Patrick" certain lands in 1640, was a descendant of a chief of the same name, whose possessions had been reduced by conquest to the small territory purchased by Patrick.

There is a reasonable certainty that the Indian name of the land "butted on the sea," at the date of the settlement of the town by the whites, was Naramake. Trumbull says that the Indians often named places after their principal men. But De Forrest denies that they did so. Nevertheless it was a fact as to certain localities in this town. For instance, Mamachimon's and Chashenoe's Islands still retain the names of those sachems who sold them to the "Inhabitants of Norwalk." No historian has ever intimated that the Norwalk River derived its name from any peculiarity in the color or in the ebb and flow of its waters into Long Island Sound, or the beautiful islands which guard its mouth, or the natural scenery of the country bordering upon it, has any significance from which it could have derived its name. Hence we conclude that the Indian name of this town was Naramake, and that it was named after the ancestor of one of the sachems who deeded to Capt. Patrick "the ground called Sacuntyenapucke, Meeanworth, Asumsowis, and all the land adjoining to the aforementioned, as far up in the country as an Indian can go in a day;" probably to the south bound of the land possessed by the Ram-

poos at Ridgefield, lying west of the Naramake River. Naramake, after disposing of his lands to Capt. Patrick, removed to Ridgefield and joined the tribe known in history as the Rampoos. When this tribe, in 1708, sold its possessions to a company of settlers from Norwalk and Milford, he went to the far West and was lost sight of.

The Indian city of Naramake was situated upon Belden's or Wilson's Point. Its boundaries can now be more easily traced than many of the landmarks of the first settlers of the town. East of the residence of the late Mrs. Wilson is a plot of land of several acres known as Platt's Meadow, upon which were located the wigwams of the tribe, beneath the soil of which are found fragments of earthenware, shells, stone hatchets, mortars, pestles, arrow-heads, and stones laid by human hands. South of this is another plot of land, which must have been used by the tribe as a feasting-ground, beneath the surface of which are the bones of animals and birds and oyster-shells from two to six feet deep. To the left of this is a piece of arable land used by them as a garden, in which they cultivated every species of herbs for medical purposes. The elder Dr. McLane's attention having been called to this field, he said that there was no disease to which the human race was subject but a remedy could there be found. Grasses and weeds cannot thrive in the soil, as it is thoroughly impregnated with shell-lime.

The remainder of the land in this locality has the appearance of having been a common field for the sepulchre of their dead. Probably each head of a family had apportioned to him a certain quantity of land for cultivation, which was also used as a family burying-ground. Numerous skeletons of the Naramakes have been exhumed, all of which were found in the same position, with the head elevated and facing to the east. That this tribe was distinct from those buried in the Old Indian Field is evident from the fact that in the latter the skeletons are found in various positions and facing north, south, east, and west. From this fact the inference is that previous to the time when our ancestors settled here Naramake was a sort of city of refuge for the disaffected of the tribes in the surrounding country. The bones discovered in the vicinity of this ancient city indicate that they were of large stature, and their skulls that they were of larger brain than the average of savages.

There were indeed giants in the land. The bones of an Indian taken from a shell-grave on this field a few years since, when set up, measured seven feet five inches. Though it may seem incredible, we have for it the word of C. E. Wilson, who says that Dr. McLane also saw the skeleton. It may be asked, From whence came this people? No doubt they descended from the Five Nations, as both buried their dead facing the east. Further, the implements found in the shell-graves of Naramake are more elaborately wrought than those found in the graves on the Indian

Field. As the Five Nations were superior to other tribes in artistic skill, in government, war, and the knowledge of the geography of the country, so it may be implied that the inhabitants of this Indian city, who showed equal skill particularly in the finish of their implements, were of the same blood. Mr. C. E. Wilson presented to the writer several Indian relics found at Naramake. The arrows and spear-heads formed from basalt are superior to anything of the kind yet discovered in the Old Indian Field or any other locality in this town.

Upon the heights above the west bank of the Pampaskeshank are also the ruins of two lesser villages of the same clan. As there is no feasting- or burial-place in the vicinity, it may be inferred that they were places of defense or outposts of the main city. These promontories still indicate that they have been at some period fortified, from which is an outlook towards the east, south, and west of unsurpassed grandeur, from which also is seen the entrance into Norwalk Harbor, around which stand as sentinels Cackenoos', Mamachimons', Chackanenoes', and numerous other islands. Further to the east is "Cackenoos de Long Island Sea," over which the Indians passed in their frail canoes, but which is now studded with every species of vessel in the carrying trade between centres of commerce. Still farther on is seen "Cackenoos or Long Island," which may also be seen on a cloudless day with the naked eye, its banks of pure white sand in contrast with its verdure of forest and cultivated fields, together with the church-spires of the town of Huntington and Eden's Neck Lighthouse, the headquarters of Governor Tryon in 1779, at which date a personage of large frame and energetic will resided at the base of the outlook described, who, though a professed religious character, rode several miles just to say to a relative, "Ask your wife if you may be rich." Indeed, he was literally lord of about all he surveyed. His possessions were bounded east by the Pampaskeshank, south and west by Long Island Sound and Rooton River. In the year 1769 he reared a new domicile on a rise of ground sloping towards the river, the chimney of which for more than a hundred years has been one of the ranges to designate "Great Rocks," and not unknown in these days to persons who angle in the deep waters of the Sound, and to the harbor-masters who pilot vessels through the "Middle Passage." This house was well protected from the cold winds of winter by the hills and forests on the north and west, and fanned by the gentle breezes of midsummer from the "Cackenoos de Long Island Sea." Its locality is one of the pleasantest and most desirable places for a residence within the purchase made by Daniel Patrick of the chiefs of the country in 1640. It will be necessary to describe that new house. It was a two-story frame building, with a long steep roof in its rear. The main timbers were oak, fourteen inches square and covered with chestnut shingles, with the butts four-

teen inches to the weather. The chimney was situated in the centre of the building and constructed of rough stone, with cross-sticks of oak. Its inside was plastered with lime made of clam- and oyster-shells found in the Indian graves in the vicinity of the city of Naramake. The windows were few and small. The main fireplace faced one of the front windows, from which its owner could see Long Island and the waters intervening, and the movements of any friendly or piratical vessels sailing up or down the coast. We have thus particularized this house and its owner, as both have a history in connection with the Revolutionary war. Ten years later Tryon's headquarters were in the vicinity of Huntington, L. I., from whence his army raided upon the defenseless inhabitants on the west shore from Greenwich to Fairfield, destroying their dwellings and carrying away their produce and running off their cattle to replenish his commissariat.

Though the dweller of Pampaskeshank had frequently been in communication with Tryon's commissary, yet he had not had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with the British commander. His introduction to him was as follows: He was the owner of a trading-vessel. When returning from Boston with a cargo of general merchandise, he was met by Tryon's fleet midway of the Sound and his vessel captured and himself made a prisoner, whereupon he commanded his captors to take him before Tryon, the result, it is said, being he was soon released, but not till the enemy had unloaded his cargo. Tradition says that he received therefor in British gold more than it was worth. This incident brought the dweller of Pampaskeshank and Tryon's commissary into more intimate business relations, which the former used to his pecuniary advantage. When foraging upon the inhabitants of Long Island failed to furnish subsistence to the British army, Tryon sent to the main land trading-parties who usually landed at midnight at Wilson's or Belden's Point, and the house at Pampaskeshank became their rendezvous. But they were exceedingly cautious when approaching the shore. Unless the signal indicated that the coast-guard were at a respectful distance they remained in the offing. But if a light from the fireplace reflected through the window, they ventured to land and entered the house, when its owner proceeded to drive sharp and profitable bargains for produce and cattle from his domain, which could only be designated by his mark, that of a "crop of the left ear." Tryon found in his new-made friend a loyal subject of the British crown. So he instructed his commissary not to molest his friend's property or run off cattle upon which his mark was found. It may be inferred from what has been said that the dweller of Pampaskeshank was no friend of the patriots of the Revolution. He stood in the same attitude towards them and the government that many stood in the late Rebellion, neutral or indifferent, but used every device to pro-



cure contracts, or became blockade-runners, by which means they became suddenly wealthy at the expense of the blood of the patriots of the government. The personage referred to was not really an enemy of the country, as his eldest son served in the Continental army.

The following is a copy of an order, in Tryon's own handwriting, found by workmen, when repairing his house in 1798, between the roof-boards and rafters, and decides his status in the Revolutionary war:

"Deliver the beef, grain, and vegetables, previously ordered, to my commissary. Send them to the usual place of shipment.

"GEN. TRYON."

Upon the territory lying between the Pampaske-shank River and "Rooton Point" resided in the Revolution certain persons whose sympathies were with the British government, and whose residences were the rendezvous of the Tories, Cow-Boys, and the foraging-parties from Tryon's army. Here congregated the Tories and the disaffected towards the patriots for several miles south and west of it. This was the centre from which radiated the parties which plundered the inhabitants of the main land. Here originated the frequent false alarms that excited the fears of the patriots. Here also congregated after nightfall disloyal men from Cranberry Plain and from the thickly-settled part of the town and from the parish of Middlesex, whose plottings made the patriots feel that their lives and property were insecure. This state of affairs led the inhabitants of the town, at a special meeting, February, 1782, to devise measures to meet the exigency. The meeting voted to raise ninety men to serve six months, who were distributed as follows: Eighteen east of Norwalk River, eighteen at the going on of Stephens Island, eighteen at Old Well, eighteen at Flax Hill, and eighteen at Middlesex, the allotment of which shows that the objective point was not only to guard the coast, but to keep in subjection the disaffected persons residing within the territory purchased by Capt. Patrick of the Indians. The men for this special duty were enrolled in their respective localities by men appointed for that particular duty. But said rolls were never put upon the town records, but were left in the hands of the commanders of the companies and were lost. The writer, when a lad, saw in the garret of the house in which he resided a roll of the guard stationed on Flax Hill,—viz.: Walter, Thomas, Daniel, and John Hoyt, Eliahim, George, Hezekiah, John, and Nathaniel Raymond, Eliahim Smith and Eliahim, Jr., Hopkins and Moses Byxbee, Joseph, Joshua, and William Bouton, Nathan Knapp, and Stephen Wood. The following are the names of the guard of Middlesex, as rehearsed to the writer by old people who died fifty years ago: Daniel, Eli, and Moses M. Warren, John and William Reed, Nathan, Nathaniel, and Josiah Hoyt, Eliahim, Joseph, Nathan, Joseph, Jr., Warren, David, Gershom, and Samuel Richards, Nathaniel Street, and Paul Raymond. The occupation of the

coast between the Pampaske-shank and Rooton Point by the British army from Long Island was for strategic reasons, as they were not only able to gather supplies for their army, but to communicate with their main force on the line of the Hudson River by relays.

Fifty years ago, Thomas, Daniel, and Walter Hoyt, William Bouton, and Stephen Wood, aged residents of Flax Hill, used to rehearse to the children of the neighborhood their exploits with the red-coats and Tories of the Revolution. They having on one occasion received reliable information that the British and Tories had arranged to meet at midnight at a certain house between the Pampaske-shank and Rooton Point to organize a raid to capture some of the patriots, the guard of Flax Hill and Middlesex rallied and proceeded to capture the would-be captors. They surrounded the house in which the Tories had congregated. They watched for the enemy till morning without avail. When at a respectful distance towards their homes, the enemy emerged from their concealment and ran for their boats; but those left in charge of them, having become alarmed at the prolonged absence of their comrades, recrossed the Sound, upon which the enemy fled into the forest and the guard gave up the pursuit. On another occasion the guards started in the night to arrest several persons near the coast who were charged with the crime of piloting Tryon's raiding-parties through the country, but upon their approach they fled, as usual, and could not be found. One of the Tories whom the guard was very desirous to capture did not return to his family until the close of the war. He was reported as having fled to Canada. But very soon after the surrender of the British army at Yorktown he returned to his family. A short time previous to the burning of Norwalk was heard in quick succession the report of three muskets, the signal that the enemy were landing, which brought every patriot in the town to the coast. The affair, however, was but a ruse of the Tories for the purpose of seeing what would be the effect upon the people, that Tryon might judge if it would be practicable to cope with the rebels when he was prepared to land his army. Finding that they had been deceived, they pursued the Tories, and were about making them prisoners when they passed from view.

Sunday morning, July 22, 1781, a company of British troops landed on the west shore of the Pampaske-shank, and, with a few disaffected persons, proceeded to the parish church of Middlesex for the purpose of making prisoners of the congregation. But those members most obnoxious to the troops and Tories being absent from the morning service, the enemy hid behind the fences until the afternoon services began, when they emerged from their concealment, environed the church, and doubly guarded the door with bayonets crossed to prevent egress, over which, it is said, Dr. Marther leaped into the arms of the enemy. The

men were all taken out of the church and tied in couples, with their pastor at the head of the column, and marched down to the coast and conveyed to Long Island, thence to New York, where they were confined in the old Provost prison for several weeks. As soon as the information of the capture of Dr. Marther and his people was known, the inhabitants and the coast-guard rallied, and pursued and exchanged several shots with the enemy, some of whom were seen to fall.

For several years after this transaction it was supposed that the enemy carried away their dead. Nor were they undeceived until about 1790. A party while in pursuit of game found a cave in the rocks in the southern part of the parish of Middlesex, the exploration of which satisfied them that it had been the hiding-place of the British and Tories in the Revolution. The party were surprised to find in it the remains of several human beings, probably the skeletons of the enemy who were seen to fall when retreating from Middlesex church, whom their comrades secreted until a favorable opportunity should offer for their removal to Long Island, but which the vigilance of the patriots prevented them from doing. So this cave became their sepulchre. Among the articles found by the explorers of the cave were an axe, a toot-horn, several heads of spears, parts of one or two old king's arms, pieces of iron hoop, and stones placed for a fireplace beneath crevices in the rocks, through which the smoke escaped. Also were found large quantities of bones of fowls, cattle, sheep, and pigs. The Indians were not unfamiliar with the location of this cave, as many of the implements used by them were discovered within and about it.

The Revolutionary war was now near its end, leaving the people in extreme poverty and in unpleasant relations towards those of their neighbors who had been the instruments of despoiling them of their hard earnings to enrich themselves and keep the British army from starving. There should, though, be some distinction made between the Tories and Cow-Boys who infested Norwalk in the Revolution. The former usually were men of property,—substantial men. They were charged with the crime of giving “aid and comfort to the enemy” by disposing of the products of their farms for British gold. It was indeed a crime. The Cow-Boys were men of little or no means,—adventurers, thieves,—who raided through the country to plunder the inhabitants of their cattle, grain, and other products, which were taken to the country “buted on the sea,” shipped in flat-boats, and towed by the enemy to Long Island. They were not only guilty of theft, but they were guilty of murder also.

During and for several years after the Revolution there resided in the country “buted on the sea” persons who sympathized with the English. They were deeply imbued with the principles of a constitutional monarchy for the United Colonies, to be presided over by some member of the royal household of

King George. They were members of a secret society organized in the colony, the object of which was to establish a monarchy, not only for the United Colonies, but for all the British provinces of North America. Of this class of persons was the resident of Pampaskeshank, who was a firm friend and patron of the Church of England, to which he gave of his means to extend the gospel into new settlements, and was one of the chief supporters of that church in Norwalk and a warm friend of Rev. Mr. Leaming, its pastor. He reasoned, “I have sworn allegiance to the King of England. That oath is as binding upon my conscience as the vow to serve my Maker.” The house in which he died was demolished twenty-five years ago, the chimney of which was suffered to remain standing for the purposes heretofore stated, a drawing of which was taken in 1845 for *Graham's Magazine*, and at the time excited a lively interest in the minds of those who were familiar with its history and its surroundings. The drawing exhibited its two fireplaces, the flues of which, it has been asserted, are united into one above the cross-sticks, leaving a jog or set-off, upon which two persons can stand unperceived, and that there was a trap-door leading to a recess in the cellar of ample dimensions to accommodate several persons, used as a hiding-place by the Tories and Cow-Boys in the Revolution. It is said that one Miles Capstie, who resided in this old house, whom the sheriff of the county wanted, evaded him for several months by concealment in the places described. There is not the least truth in these statements. An examination of the old chimney stamps the whole as a creation of the imagination. Though the lone dweller of Pampaskeshank was no friend of the patriots, yet it would perhaps be far from the truth to assert that he was not a good man in other respects. He contributed to sustain the cause of morality and the church, and was ever kind to the poor. He departed this life in 1821, aged ninety, and his remains were buried in the northeast corner of his farm, near the road leading to Middlesex, over which the British marched when proceeding to capture Dr. Mathers and his people, in a locality selected by himself in vigorous manhood. The plat of ground, triangular in shape, was a fit representative of his character, and its surroundings in harmony with its rough points. His grave is protected by ledges of rock in the midst of a forest of cedars, through which the winds sing a perpetual requiem over the remains of the departed.

#### THE NORWALK INDIANS.

The Norwalk Indians, when selecting sites for settlement, invariably had an eye to the beautiful in nature. They sought for some promontory from which they might have an extended outlook over the surrounding country. On the southern exposure, near its base, contiguous to a bountiful supply of wood and water, they arranged their villages. This gave them good drainage and protection from the



north winds, leaving the plains beneath for cultivation and burial-purposes.

The form and extent of those villages may be easily determined whenever the fields on which they were situated are plowed. By following the line and extent of their shell-heaps south of and parallel with the wigwams or streets, we arrive at their length and may reckon the number of their houses upon each line.

Most all the villages of the Mohawks in this town were built upon straight and parallel lines, each line containing an even number of wigwams, excepting the first, on which appears to have been an odd number, which probably was the residence of the chief of the tribe or the council-chamber in which they discussed measures of war or peace. Though their tombs were several yards south of their tenements, they showed a due regard for the line upon which they were established, and in almost every instance they are found to have been parallel with the streets of their villages.

Upon the settlement of the town by the whites, the Indian trails were fenced by the owners of the land which they bounded, and they became the "king's highways." On the lines of the principal Mohawk village west of Meadow Street, on the land owned by the writer, is a ledge of loose and solid granite, upon which, probably, in the time of the tribe, was situated a factory for mortar-pestles and stone hatchets. The writer, when quarrying stone for the foundation of the house on the premises, found several pestles, some in an unfinished state, and three hatchets. Within a few rods of this workshop the writer in 1867 unearthed a cubical dish or tray formed of red clay. A survey of the Indian village at Ely's Neck shows that the rules were observed in the arrangement of their graves, shell-heaps, excepting that the village was situated upon a half-circle, the ends of which rested upon a straight line running north and south.

Several years ago the present owner of Ely's Neck plowed up a curious specimen of the handiwork of the Indians, which was taken away by some person. Probably it now adorns some relic-hunter's cabinet. Its length was thrice its width, and it was two inches thick, and appeared to have been composed of some sort of cement. Its face was divided by grooves into squares upon which were inscriptions. The proportions of their manufactured articles show that they may have been familiar with numbers on quantity.

#### INDIAN CEMETERIES.

West of Norwalk River and south of Perie Island Creek are three old Indian cemeteries, all within natural boundaries. The first is situated between Pine and Judy's Creeks; the second, between Judy's and Village Creeks; the third, between Village Creek and the Pampaskeshank Brook, each plat being bounded east by Norwalk River and west by

the range of hills encompassing the city of South Norwalk and extending to the cove. Each tract was probably the patrimony of a sachem of the Mohawk Nation.

The skeletons of the aborigines exhumed in the centre and south cemeteries are invariably found beneath clam- and oyster-shells, with their war-implements, and facing towards the morning sun, the shells having been deposited there for the same purpose that their implements were. Probably it was in part an honorary custom, and for the men only. It appears that at the death of a male of the tribe the living held a sort of a wake over his remains around his grave by feasting upon clams and oysters, the shells of which, and those uneaten, they tossed into the pit, with the idea that the occupant would not only need his bow and arrow to bring down game in the other world, but to remind him to hunt for shell-fish along the shores beyond. Not all the Indian graves are filled with shells. Those found to be so held the remains of a sachem or chief, or other honored members of the tribe, the death and burial of whom attracted larger numbers than usual to the feast. Hence it is concluded that the quantity of shells in any particular grave denotes the man's standing in his tribe.

#### THE CANNIBALS OF NORWALK.

Within the limits of the old Indian cemetery, lying between Washington and Concord Streets, in this city, graves have been uncovered, of which over thirty were found to contain mutilated human bones. The writer has carefully examined more than twenty of the number. The shells in these graves are of unusual pearly whiteness, which cannot now be accounted for. Every one of these graves is filled to the surface with shells and mutilated bones. Doubtless at the feast of human flesh large numbers were in attendance, and, as these graves also are filled to the surface, they were occasions of especial interest and numerously attended by those who enjoyed a chowder of human flesh and shell-fish, the refuse of which they threw promiscuously into the place prepared for its reception. In this class of graves no Indian implements have ever been found.

This is indeed a mysterious subject, and can be solved only upon the hypothesis that Norwalk, before the advent of our ancestors, in 1650, was inhabited at some time in the past by a race of cannibals, probably the ancestors of the class whom they found in possession of the country at that date. We are not ready to believe that they ate their kith and kin, though there is one fact which might be construed that they did so, which we will notice hereafter.

The great Mohawk Nation in the height of their glory were cruel and oppressive, particularly towards those against whom they warred. They exacted tribute from those whom they had conquered, and when they entered the country of their enemies to

demand its payment they sent out runners in advance who cried aloud, "We have come to suck your blood!" The historian gives an instance when those of the same nation ate their fellow-beings. After the burning of Schenectady by the French and Indians, in the winter of 1693, they were pursued and overtaken by the English and Mohawks, and after the engagement the Indians, under Col. Schuyler, burned about thirty corpses of the enemy which they scalped and roasted and ate.

A critical examination of this kind of tombs has not brought to light the remains of a single Indian woman or child. This fact seems to indicate that they were either eaten or that they were cremated. The writer inclines to the belief that it was their custom to burn them. Most of Chestnut Street was a large flat rock, but now removed, which bore the appearance of having been cracked and scaled by excessive heat. It is now thought that it was an altar upon which the savages roasted their victims or cremated their women and children.

## CHAPTER LI.

### NORWALK (Continued).

#### THE REVOLUTION.

THE first reference to the war of the Revolution which appears in the town records is under date Dec. 5, 1774, and is as follows:

"Dec. 5, 1774. *Whereas*, This meeting have taken into consideration the matters contained in the association come into by the Continental Congress held at Philadelphia the 5th day of September, 1774, and approved of by the lower house of assembly, and recommended by them to the several towns in this colony, to appoint committees for the purposes in the eleventh article in sd association contained. Do approve of the same, and in pursuance thereof do appoint Eliakim Raymond, John Cannon, Thaddeus Betts, Stephen St. John 2d, Lemuel Brooks, Eliphalet Lockwood, Nathl. Benedict, Samuel Gruman, Gould Hoyt, Thos. Betts, Ozias Merwine, Phinehas Hanford, Daniel Betts, jr., Blackleach Jesup, Ezra Gregory, John Carter, James Richards, Samuel Richards, Gershom Raymond, Asa Hoyt, a committee for the purpose in sd Eleventh Article contained, during the pleasure of the town."

Feb. 6, 1775, it was voted, "That those persons which have been warned by the committee of inspection, to bring in their arms, shall not vote in choosing a committee of inspection at this meeting."

At the same meeting were chosen Messrs. Phinehas Hanford, Stephen St. John (2), Thaddeus Betts, Nathaniel Benedict, Ozias Merwine, Lemuel Brooks, Thomas Fitch, Uriah Rogers, Jabez Gregory, Seth Seymore, Timothy Fitch, Daniel St. John, Blackleach Jesup, Daniel Betts, Jr., Clap Raymond, Ezra Gregory, James Richards, Moses Comstock, Samuel Cook Silliman, Samuel Richards, and Jesse Raymond, a committee of inspection during the pleasure of the town.

At the same meeting it was voted, that they disapprove of ye unnecessary use of Gun-powder, and rec-

ommend it to the committee of inspection to take care of the matter.

Oct. 14, 1776, it was

"*Voted*, That the select men give a proper reward, to the persons appointed and ordered by the authority to set the watches, for their service, and draw an order on the town treasurer for the payment thereof.

"*Also voted*, That the select men make such provision for the watches as they shall think proper in regard to housing."

Dec. 2, same year:

"The select men are directed to transport six cannon such as they shall judge best for the defense of this town, from Salisbury; and provide carriages for the same, and also, a sufficient quantity of ball for the security of the town."

During this period the oppressions of those who had the control of the sale of breadstuffs and other necessities of life, became too tyrannical to be borne with patience by the citizens, and under date of March 12, 1777, the town voted that,

"The inhabitants by vote agree that they will assist the officers of this town in carrying into execution one certain law of this State, entitled an act to prevent monopolies and oppressions, by excessive and unreasonable prices for many of ye necessities and conveniences of life."

At the same meeting

"The inhabitants by major vote approve of what the authority and select men have done, in regard to hiring seventy-five men as a watch or guard to this town."

#### RECRUITING FOR THE CONTINENTAL ARMY.

Under this date the following record also appears concerning the enlistment of men for the Continental service:

"*Whereas*, The slow progress made in filling up the continental Battalions to be raised by this State, and the vast importance of their being immediately completed, etc., was on the 18th day of March, 1777, taken into consideration by his Honor the Governor and the Council of Safety; and thereon voted and resolved by said board, to ascertain the quota or proportion of each town to complete sd battalions and to promote and encourage said enlistment. Lest any should be embarrassed by a prospect of leaving their families without a security of their being properly provided for, it is by said board earnestly recommended to the several towns in this State to engage and promise such soldiers as shall undertake in sd service, and have not time and opportunity to lay out their money and make provision for their families (such as have any), that their said families on their reasonable request, shall be supplied in their absence with necessities at the prices stated by law; and that each town severally appoint a committee for that purpose, to see them provided for and supplied accordingly, on such soldiers lodging, or from time to time remitting money to said committee for that purpose, and without any additional expense; and the necessary expense attending the same, to be borne by the town respectively, etc.; It is therefore recommended by this meeting that all the inhabitants, of every rank and condition, vigorously exert themselves in encouraging, promoting, and forwarding the filling up the quota or proportion ascertained by said board for this town, in order to complete said Battalions; and also voted, that Messrs. Stephen St. John 2d, Thomas Benedict, Phinehas Hanford, Jesse Raymond, Thaddeus Hubbell, Oliver Whitlock, James Richards, and Nehemiah Benedict be a committee for the purposes contained in said resolves, with full power and authority to engage and promise to such soldiers as shall enlist in sd service that all matters and things contained in sd resolve respecting them shall be punctually performed agreeably thereto, and it is recommended by this meeting that the virtuous sons of liberty cheerfully and readily engage in sd service at this critical time, so that peace and rest may once more be restored to the United States of America; by means whereof this meeting have reason, by the blessing of God, to expect the same may be effected.

"Messrs. Eli Reed, Asa Hoyt, John Gregory, Jr., Levi Taylor, Nathan Hubbell, and Moses Comstock are appointed a committee to endeavor to find the number of soldiers enlisted in the continental army in this town, and report to this meeting.



"This meeting is adjourned to meet Tuesday, at 2 o'clock."

"Met according to the foregoing adjournment. Doct. Thaddeus Betts, Moderator, present."

"Voted, That it is the desire of this meeting that the recruiting officers in the Continental service request the several Captains of the military companies in this place to warn their respective companies and Householdors to muster as soon as may be, to beat up for volunteers; and the inhabitants are desired to encourage the enlistment by their liberality. The companies and inhabitants of the first society are desired to muster together on the parade of the first company."

#### At the same meeting,

"Hezekiah Hanford, John Lockwood, Jr., Hooker St. John, Levi Taylor, Thaddeus Hubbell, Abijah Betts, James Olmsted, Samuel Gates, Abijah Comstock, Timothy Reed, Levi Hanford, James Lockwood, and Gershom Richards were appointed a committee to procure and collect such articles of clothing as is requested by a resolve of the Governor and Council of Safety for the use of the soldiers in the Continental army, and deliver the same to the select men in order that the same may be forwarded according to said resolve."

#### At the same meeting,

"Voted that the Committee formerly appointed to procure provisions for the families of those soldiers which are gone into the army from this town go on and procure the same for such families, at the rate set by law; and in case they are obliged to give more, the select men to order the treasurer to pay the overplus."

"Dec. 1, 1777. Matthew Marvin added to the Committee for providing for the families of those that are in the army."

#### The following action was taken in regard to the Articles of Confederation:

"Voted, Messrs. Thomas Fitch, Thaddeus Betts, Stephen St. John, David Comstock, Joseph Chapman, Nehemiah Mead, and Samuel Gruman are appointed a committee to revise the articles of Confederation published by Congress, and make report to this meeting, which is to be adjourned."

"Jan. 13, 1778, at one of the clock, Met according to the foregoing adjournment."

"Blackleach Jesup was chosen to supply the families of ye soldiers of the Continental army, in addition to the former committee."

"Whereas, His Excellency the Governor, on receipt of the articles of the confederation published by Congress, for the approbation of the several assemblies of the United States, sent a copy of the same to this town, in order for the town to show their sense relative thereto,

"It is voted by this town that they are sensible of the great difficulty of concerting any plan of union with so many different States, under so many different circumstances, free from objection, and without being liable to exceptions; yet the articles contained in said confederation generally appear to this town to be well framed, and calculated to form a union for the general benefit of the whole; yet, notwithstanding, this town beg leave to submit to ye consideration of the General Assembly whether the method of supplying the common treasury, contained in the eighth article, and the mode of raising a continental army, in the ninth article, is so just and equitable as may be devised."

"Voted, also, that a copy of this be sent forthwith to the General Assembly to show the sense of the town in the premises."

"Aug. 10, 1778.—Voted, That the committee heretofore appointed to procure clothing for the officers and soldiers in the Continental army are desired to procure money on interest, to purchase said clothing as soon as may be; and the select men are ordered to pay the interest and cost of procuring the said money, out of the town treasury."

"Aug. 10, 1778.—Whereas, On a division of salt belonging to the town, there is yet a small part remains on hand, and the inhabitants agree and vote that the select men shall pay the expense that has arisen on said salt out of the said remainder; and if there is still any remains, to deliver the same to ye families of such soldiers belonging to this town as are in the army."

"2d Monday in March, 1779.—Dr. Betts not being present, Capt. James Richards chosen Moderator."

"Voted and agreed, That all fines and forfeitures that shall be collected out of the alarm list, and militia companies, and light horse, in this town, for neglecting to turn out at the time the enemy landed at Tarry Town last Decr., and at the time the enemy came to Horseneck last Feb., and shall hereafter neglect to turn out, shall be delivered by the town treas-

urer to the Captain of the company from which the same shall be collected, and this vote to continue in force during the pleasure of the town."

"3d Monday in June, 1779, at 4 o'clock, Col. Thomas Fitch, Capt. Eliphalet Lockwood, and Samuel C. Silliman, Esq., were chosen committee to meet a County Convention at Fairfield, to consult the address from the Continental Congress respecting the depreciation of the Continental currency, etc."

#### At the same meeting,

"Voted, That the inhabitants of this town shall be put into as many classes as their cota of soldiers in the Continental Army, and each class to provide clothing for one soldier."

#### TOWN-HOUSE.

#### At the same meeting (1st Monday of August, 1779),

"Voted, To have a town-house built as soon as conveniently may be."

"The dimensions to be forty-five feet by thirty, posts sixteen feet; lower story twelve feet in height, a convenient chimney at each end and to be set on the Westerly part of the Town House Hill."

#### Aug. 16, 1779,

"Voted, That we will strictly and punctually adhere to the recommendation of s<sup>d</sup> convention (of the County) with respect to putting a stop to the depreciation of the Continental Currency; and also abide by any such measure as s<sup>d</sup> convention shall hereafter adopt for such purpose."

"27th Day of June, 1780. Doct. Thaddeus Betts chosen moderator."

"Voted, That we will tax ourselves to raise money to hire the number of Soldiers to compleat the quota of this town for the Continental Army."

"Voted, That Col. Matthew Mead, Capt. Nathan Gilbert, Capt. Samuel Keeler, Lt. James Betts, Capt. Solomon Morehouse, Lt. Jer. B. Ellis, and Capt. Danl. Richards be a committee with full power to enlist such a number of able-bodied men as shall be sufficient to compleat the quota of this town for the Continental Service during the war, or three years resolved by the General Assembly last May; and that they engage such sums, and in such a way as their discretion and judgment shall direct, to such as shall appear to engage in said service; and that the same be done forthwith, and a report thereof be made to this meeting at their adjournment."

#### At the same meeting,

"Voted, That we will take the late emission of paper money emitted by this state, equal to silver and gold in all payments whatever."

"Nov. 13th, 1780. The inhabitants grant a tax of sixpence lawful money on the pound,\* in silver and gold equivalent, upon the polls and ratable estate of the inhabitants of this town, on the list for the year 1779 to be paid in beef, pork, wheatflour, or money; the beef to be delivered before the 16th day of December next, and the pork and flour before the 15th of January next, to the person or persons that may be appointed to receive the same or the money; the beef, pork, and flour at the prices mentioned in one certain statute law of this State, intituled an Act for Collecting and Storing a quantity of Provisions for the use of the Continental army, and the forces for the defense of this State."

"4th day of Dec., 1781. The select men are directed to deliver the sum of ninety pounds in State money, which they have now in their hands to the collectors and receivers of provisions, for them to lay out in purchasing casks and beef."

"The Select men are desired to hire money to procure this town's quota of Soldiers for the Continental Army; and the town engages to indemnify them in doing the same."

"The inhabitants grant a tax of one penny on the pound, on the list of 1779, to be paid in wheat & rye flour and Indian corn, agreeable to one certain statute, &c."

#### The following action was taken concerning inimical persons:

"The authority and select men are directed to send for the committee respecting inimical persons, at the expense of this town."

#### The committee reported as follows:

\* On Aug. 25, 1779, they had levied a tax of two shillings and sixpence on the pound to defray the charges arisen and arising on the town.

On the 13th of March, 1780, they had laid a tax of twopence on the pound to hire soldiers for the continental army.—HALL.

"We the subscribers, agreeable to an act and appointment of the Honorable Gen'l Assembly, having been called upon and requested by the Civil authority and select men of the Town of Norwalk, to enquire into the character and conduct of a number of persons whose names are contained in a list or roll by them presented to us as Inimical and Dangerous to the Liberties and Independence of the United States of America, and we, having duly examined into the premises, are of opinion that the following persons whose names are hereafter expressed are inimical and dangerous as aforesaid, and therefore give judgment and order that their names be enrolled in the town clerk's office in s<sup>d</sup> town of Norwalk as dangerous and inimical as aforesaid for the purposes mentioned in an act of the Gen'l Assembly of this State, entitled, An Act more effectually to prevent robberies and plunders from our open and secret enemies, vizt.: Obadiah Wright, Nathan Burwell, Jr., Thomas Hanford, Nathan Jarvis, Thomas Fairweather, David Bolt, Peter White, Hezekiah Whitney (2d), Nathan Gregory, Philip Scribner, Hezekiah Belden, John Beldin, Edward Nash, Gershom Raymond, James Filio, William Bolt, Ebenezer Church, David Lambert, Gould Hoyt, Abraham Whitney, John Saunders, Jr., Garner Olmsted, Richard Patrick, Nathan Fitch, all of Norwalk aforesaid; each of the above named persons having first been duly notified and cited to appear before us at time and place by us appointed for that purpose,—to shew reason if any they had, why their names should not be enrolled as aforesaid.

"Done at Norwalk, this 20th Day of April, A.D. 1771,

"By us,

"DANIEL SHERMAN,

"BENJA. HENMAN,

"ANDW. ADAMS,

"INCREASE MOSELY."

"To the Town Clerk  
of Norwalk."

"Dec. 4, 1781. James Selleck, Thos. Benedict, Eli Reed, Ezra Benedict, David St. John, Aaron C. Comstock, & Matthew Merwine, are chosen a committee to purchase cloathing for the soldiers belonging to this town in the Continental Army; ——— and directed to hire money on interest to purchase the same; and the town engages that the same shall be made good to them with interest, as the same was at the time of hiring."

"At the same meeting the select men and military officers are to look into the affair of the Continental Soldiers; and the select men are to class the inhabitants for such a number as they shall find wanted for the quota of this town; and also to class the inhabitants for such a number of soldiers as shall be wanted in a State regiment at Horseneck for one year."

#### THE BURNING OF NORWALK.

Norwalk, together with Fairfield, Danbury, and other towns, suffered severely during the war of the Revolution. Its proximity to New York, then in the possession of Governor Tryon, rendered its situation hazardous in the extreme. On the evening of the 11th of July, 1779, Governor Tryon appeared with his fleet before Norwalk, and immediately ordered the British torch to be applied to the town; and not much time elapsed ere the dwellings of the colonists, the public stores and magazines, vessels in the harbor, and other combustible property were a mass of smouldering ruins. Various opinions have been advanced as to the real animus which prompted this wholesale destruction by Governor Tyron of an unguarded\* town, but the most reasonable would seem to be that it was in retaliation for the plunders committed on Long Island—which was then in possession of the British—by Long Island refugees then in Connecticut and the Americans. These refugees would pilot the whale-boats of the Americans to the Long Island shore for plunder, and the people of Connecticut, it is said, were repeatedly warned by the English Governor that this unlawful plundering and robbing must cease or he would burn its coast-towns.

\*The principal male portion of the town was serving in the Continental army in other sections of the country.

The inhabitants in whose minds was still fresh the ravages of that July night when the torch of the invaders reduced these defenseless towns to ashes, were slow to open their doors to the return of their Tory neighbors, as the following vote, under date Feb. 24, 1783, shows:

"Put to vote whether these persons which have gone off and joined themselves with the enemy should return back and inhabit in this town.  
"Past in the Negative."

At an adjourned meeting, a fortnight from the above date,

"Eli Reed, Danl. Betts, Jr., James Benedict, Justus Hayt, Saml. Seymore, Lt. Joseph Rockwell, Thomas Betts, Jr., & Enoch Scribner, were appointed a committee to assist the civil authority and select men, in keeping out of this town any suspected or transient persons who shall attempt to reside within the limits thereof; and make information of such persons to the authority and select men; & take their direction in all proceedings with them."

"Dec. 1, 1783. Hezekiah Rogers, Job Bartram, Isaac Keeler, Saml. Deforest, Justus Hayt, Matthew Gregory, Saml. Comstock, Stephen Betts, Eli Reed, were appointed a committee to take directions from the select men of this town, and deal with those persons who have been to the enemy and returned, according to their directions."

"Last Monday in December, 1783. Voted, That the select men and Committee are to act their discretion respecting those persons which have joyined the enemy, notwithstanding any former votes."

#### DEFENSE OF NORWALK.

The people, alarmed lest at any time their town might be invaded and again plundered by the British, under date Feb. 18, 1782, voted as follows:

"That a sufficient number of men be raised, by inlistment, for a sufficient guard in this town.

"Col. Thos. Fitch, Col. Matthew Mead, Capt. James Richards, Capt. Eliph. Lockwood, & Mr. Hooker St. John are chosen a committee to ascertain the number of men wanted for a guard, and lay a plan for raising the same.

"To the inhabitants of the town of Norwalk now assembled in town meeting: We the subscribers being appointed to lay a plan for raising a number of guards sufficient to defend this town, with a sum of twelve hundred and forty pounds lawful money granted to this town by the General Assembly for that purpose, beg leave to Report: That there be forthwith raised by inlistment for the town, of six months unless sooner discharged, ninety men including corporals; and that there be appointed one Captain, and one Ensign for the purpose of defending this town; and that a Captain have £6 lawful money per month; an Ensign £3 5 0 per month, a Corporal £2 4 0, and a Private £2 0 0 per month; and that we find that the said sum will amount, for six months, to the sum of Eleven Hundred and fifty-three pounds Ten Shillings: and that 18 be stationed at the lower end of the town on the East side of the river; and 18 at Ketchum's, one-half thereof to keep centry at the going on at Stephens Island; and 18 at the Old Well, and 18 at Flax Hill, and 18 at Middlesex; and that officers or privates, at their election, have one-half of their wages in provisions at the following prices, viz.: fresh beef, 3½d; salt beef, 4d; flour, at 2½d per pound; and that there be a Corporal to each class; and that the officers be appointed by the authority and select men; all of which is submitted by your most obed't humble serv'ts."

"Aug. 1, 1782. Whereas the wages given by this town to the Guard to serve for the defense of this town for the term of five months unless sooner discharged, are found insufficient to induce a sufficient number to engage in s<sup>d</sup> service, it is therefore voted and agreed by this town, that the officers already engaged in said service receive, in addition to the wages given, the usual rations for such officers hereafter; and that the soldiers already engaged, receive from this time, in addition, rations as usual, and that those who shall hereafter enlist into s<sup>d</sup> service to the 20th of August next, shall receive 40s per month to that time, unless sooner discharged, and rations; and that such a number of s<sup>d</sup> guard to duty, in the day time, as the Captain shall judge proper; and at all times when he shall judge it necessary for the safety and defense of the town.



"The authority and select men to maintain a Lieutenant to serve in the guard & in this town; and to have his pay and rations in proportion to the other officers."

At the same meeting,

"Voted, That on a complaint being made to the authority and select men of this town, against any officer or soldier in the guard, of his or their not being faithful in doing their duty, the said authority and select men shall cause the said officer or soldier to be called before them and examine into their conduct, and on proof of their misconduct, may dismiss them from service."

May 6, 1782,

"Voted, That there shall be a committee appointed to hire three soldiers to serve in the continental army for the term of one year."

The following application for relief in consequence of the burning of the town was made under date Aug. 11, 1783:

"This town taking into consideration the many and great distresses, difficulties, and losses a number of the inhabitants have sustained, met with, and are reduced to, by means of the enemy's burning up, destroying and plundering them of their most necessary property during the late war with Great Britain; and the very great injury and damage done to the town by means thereof; and that the same was brought on the town during the course of war undertaken by the direction and order of the inhabitants of this State united with the other States, and the common consent of the inhabitants of this State, for the defense and security of the common liberties, privileges, and freedom of this State; in which war it was then understood and fully expected the misfortunes accidentally thrown on any particular part during the course of the war, as it was undertaken for the defense and security of the whole, and considering that it is altogether just, equitable, and righteous so to be, have thereupon agreed and voted that Col. Stephen St. John, Esq., be agent for the town make use of such measures as he shall judge proper, by memorial in conjunction with other suffering towns, or separately, to the General Assembly, or otherwise, in order to obtain redress of the town's grievances sustained and met with during the course of the war, and for a repair of the damages done by the enemy, to be made to the individual sufferers, excepting to those sufferers who are known to be inimical to the liberties and independence of the United States of America."

In 1792 the Legislature allowed these sufferers the sum of £26,066 0s. 1d. in lands in the present State of Ohio, known as the "Connecticut Reserve."

#### REMINISCENCES.

The following reminiscences of the burning of Norwalk are taken from Hall's "Norwalk:"

"Thomas Benedict, who was aged eighty-two, March 14, 1847, says, 'After the burning of Fairfield the enemy was expected here. They came Saturday, while the people were harvesting. While he was driving the team, John Saunders, one of the Tories, came along and said, 'Oh, boys, you are too late to harvest.' Saunders had finished his harvest. The sun was about two hours high, and Saunders was in high spirits at the coming of the enemy, as one of his sons was with the enemy, and he expected his property would be spared. But it was all burnt; and the other son with his negro went off with the enemy.

"Our soldiers were collecting fast, and stopped at his father's house, which stood where Mrs. Phillips now lives. A tub of wine and a bowl stood on the stoop; as they came along they stopped and drank, and were very merry. His father's family hastily packed up what goods they could, put them on the cart, which he drove that night up to Belden's Hill,

to Thomas St. John's. He and the oxen had worked hard that day, and were very tired. At Mr. St. John's a party of light-horse came in the night. He fell asleep; some of them took out his silver brooch and carried it off. Saw the first smoke of the burning of Norwalk in the morning. Heard the guns "pop, pop, pop, a good while." The first house burned was where George Day now lives. The house where Mr. Benedict now lives was occupied by the British as a hospital for the wounded, and therefore was not burnt at first. When the British retreated they set it on fire, but our people rallied soon enough to put it out. The house was built by Mr. Benedict's grandfather. On his return to Norwalk saw a British soldier that had been killed; Seth Abbott shot him as he was getting over a wall. "Now," says Abbott before he fired, "if I kill him, it will go right through his heart." He fired, and the soldier fell backward, dead. The British, when they landed on the west side, marched up to near where Capt. Daniel K. Nash now lives. A tall British soldier was shot there.

"Mr. Leaming used to preach on the wickedness of resisting the king, and most of the Tories were of his congregation. According to his creed and preaching, we "were only a parcel of rebels." There would not have been so many Tories but for his preaching up such doctrine. He went off with the British."

"Mrs. Benedict, wife of Thomas, aged eighty-one, November, 1846, daughter of Phineas Waterbury, lived at Rooton River, at the head of the pond; saw the British fleet when they came from Long Island to the burning of Norwalk. There were twenty-six sail, —sloops. The enemy used to come every little while to the place where she lived to drive off cattle. One night she heard the cows low and the dogs bark and some one hallooing, 'The Tories are after the cattle;' 'The Tories have got all our cows.' Her mother raised the window and called out, 'Turn out the guard! Turn out the Guard!' so loud that people a mile distant heard her in two places. One of the Tories called to her to be still, or he would shoot her. 'I am not afraid of you,' she answered; and called out again, 'Turn out the guard! Turn out the guard!' The man fired, and Mrs. Benedict heard the ball whistle; but the Tories ran for their lives, frightened off by her mother's call for the guard.

"A month after this, one night while her brother, aged twenty years, was on guard with others, she heard the dogs bark, and then a challenge of 'Who comes there?' The answer was, with an oath, 'A friend to King George;' and immediately guns were fired and there was a trampling of steps down the road. One came and said that her brother was wounded, and presently he was brought in dead, shot through the head. Three were killed, who were all in their twentieth year, two wounded.

"One night the enemy entered her father's house when they were in bed, seized her father, and carried him a prisoner to New York; they would not

stop to let him dress. They came into her room; she told them they were only children there. 'D—n her!' said one; 'lift up the bed.' They thrust their bayonets under the bed and went off.

"Daniel Nash, aged seventy-seven, son of Daniel, son of Micajah, was told by his grandfather that *his* grandfather was the first male child born in the town. What his name was he does not know. (It is among the genealogical records, John Nash.) His sons' names were John and Nathan. From the last John proceeded all the Nash families in this region. Nathan had no children. He was the first churchman in the family. This account Daniel Nash had from his grandfather, who was brought up by said Nathan. The reason of his change was this: he had been brought up in great abhorrence of religious forms, and when at a meeting of ministers one of them read a portion of the Bible, Nathan much disliked it, and so resented it that he went occasionally to church, saying that they might just as well read prayers as read the Bible, and so turned churchman.

"When the Revolution broke out Daniel Nash was a boy, about four years old, at Patchogue, L. I. Remembers the time when the tea was thrown overboard at Boston. Remembers hearing, before Norwalk was burnt and afterwards, what was the reason why Governor Tryon burned it. Some of the Long Island people were refugees on the Connecticut shore (Long Island was in possession of the British). These refugees used to pilot the Americans when they went in whale-boats to Long Island for plunder. Governor Tryon said if the people on this side did not stop that, he would come over and burn the town; and he did burn it.

"Nathaniel Raymond, aged ninety-four, May 1, 1847. Has lived near the Old Well wharf all his days; was a corporal in the guard; a Revolutionary pensioner; lay often on the rocks at Belden's Point; was at New York among the Connecticut troops when the British landed at Flatbush, and in the lines across the island after the British crossed into New York. When the British came to burn the town they landed at Fitch's Point Saturday night. He carried such of his household effects as he could down near the pottery called the village and hid them in a swamp, then carried his father and mother and some of their effects back some three miles in a cart; returned, and with fourteen others, volunteers, under their own command, took arms, and went up to the hill where John Raymond lived. In the night the British fired a ball at them at random. It struck the ground near them. Sunday morning the harbor was full of boats. They landed at the Old Well; chased the fifteen volunteers over John Raymond's hill, by where Capt. D. K. Nash now lives, and so over to Round Hill, dragging a field-piece, which they fired at the volunteers from the top of Round Hill. When the British landed, the volunteers fired at them from John Raymond's hill. Saw Grum-

mon's Hill 'all red' with the British; there was 'old Tryon and all his tribe.' The two parties of the enemy met near Grummon's Hill and went up to France Street, where was a skirmish. There were about thirty American regular soldiers in town. Jacob Nash (the grandfather of Capt. Daniel K. Nash) was killed there. He was a regular soldier, at home on a furlough. Our men had an old iron four-pounder at the rocks, which the British took and spiked. The Rev. Mr. Leaming was 'as big a Tory as ever there could be on earth.' He continued praying for the king in public worship till the inhabitants forbade him. Very many of his congregation were Tories, but the people never molested such as did not commit any hostile act. The violent Tories were seized and shut up in Pudding Lane, some carried to jail. The Tories were the informers and pilots of the enemy, and those who went off often came back with parties, plundering, driving off cattle, and carrying away such men as they were able to lay their hands on.

"Mrs. Mary Esther St. John (widow of William), aged ninety-four in November, 1846. When Fairfield was burnt her father was harvesting down in the Neck. Expecting the British to come here immediately, they left the harvest; but when the British crossed to Long Island her father rallied hands and went down to his harvesting. Saturday, near night, the alarm-guns fired. Her husband rode down to the Neck and returned; his horse was wet with sweat, as though he had been in the water. She was about putting some bread in the oven. A woman who lived with Mr. Belden came running in and asked, 'Are you going to stay?' 'No, I am going out of the way.' 'Well,' said the woman, 'I shall stay; I will go to Governor Tryon and plead for the house. When he was governor he stayed with us one night, with his attendants and horses. I will tell him of that, and we are friends to the government.' Mrs. St. John said, 'If you are going to stay, take my dough.' She took it, and presently came running for the oven-wood. Mrs. St. John and her husband and family, with what effects they could carry, went up into the woods at the East Rocks. They had a bedstead, which they set up; milked the cows which they drove with them, drank the milk, and stayed there that night. In the morning the guns were firing; the smoke of the burning houses rose. Her husband said, 'The work is begun; they are burning the town.' The woman succeeded in saving Mr. Belden's house. She told Mrs. St. John that she went up to Grummon's Hill, where Governor Tryon sat, with chairs and a table, writing his orders. She begged for the house; he wrote her a protection, and sent with her a file of soldiers. When she reached the house it had already been set on fire in two places, but the soldiers put it out.

"The town-house, which stood where the present one stands, was in the Revolution occupied as a guard-house. The troops, on their passage to New York,



used to lodge there. She saw many of them not more than fifteen or sixteen years old. Mr. Leaming she knew well. She attended his church. He continued to pray for the king as long as he dared to. He went away with the British. It was sad to live in the midst of war, but what was the most unpleasant of all was the difference of sentiments among neighbors and kindred. Mrs. St. John lived, in the Revolution, on the old St. John place, nearly opposite Governor Bissell's. Her house that was burnt in the Revolution stood between the site of the present house and the widow Buckingham St. John's, at the foot of Grummon's Hill. The latter place was then occupied by a family named Grummon."

The following from the columns of the *Norwalk Gazette* are valuable contributions to the historic literature of the town. The first article is editorial, and the latter is from the pen of Rev. Dr. T. S. Childs:

"Dr. Hall, in giving the narrative of Miss Phœbe Comstock and of her colored servant Onesimus, has mixed two different incidents, both of which were related to us many score times during our childhood by 'Miss Phœbe' and 'O-ne,' as both used to be familiarly known and called.

"On the landing of the red-coats, as the British troops were always called, O-ne was raking salt hay on what for more than a century has been known as the Comstock Salt-Hay plat, near the present Keyser Island. He saw the British fleet make its way up past Smith's Island and come to anchor between Keyser's and Calf Pasture. A yawl-boat filled with soldiers was rowed up to near where he was, when, seeing the decks of all the vessels, or 'sloops,' as O-ne termed them, covered with soldiers, he ran for his horse, which stood saddled under a tree, and, mounting, put the animal to his fastest paces till he reached Old Well, where he gave the alarm, then ran his horse to the bridge, where the general alarm was sounded by firing guns, etc. He then rode as hastily as possible to his home, then with the elder Miss Phœbe on the crest of the hill northeast from the present residence of William L. Waring, Esq., of New Canaan. On reaching home, all the cattle, including the horses, oxen, and cows, were hastily driven off and into the Whortleberry Hills woods, where the modern Miss Phœbe, whom Dr. Hall interviewed, and her elder sister stayed out all night watching them so they should neither fall into the hands of their Tory neighbors (who used to steal cattle for the British, and who were their greatest dread) nor stray away. Next forenoon the younger Miss Phœbe returned home for food, leaving her sister still in the woods with the cattle, where they had watched all night.

"On gaining the crest of the hill at her home she saw the smoke from the burning of Norwalk. She climbed an apple-tree and could plainly see the soldiers—red-coats—moving about and houses burning. She watched the meeting-house, then standing at or near the present home of Charles S. Lockwood, on

East Avenue, and saw the steeple fall in. It was the 'dreadfullest day' she ever experienced, she oft repeated. Her father and four brothers and O-ne had gone down and taken their guns to assist in the defense, and the women were left all alone at home. The men-folks were all enrolled in what was called the 'guard.' Miss Phœbe and O-ne never varied in their story to us that the larger portion of the British forces landed on Calf Pasture Beach and marched up past the late William Marvin's residence. This body was joined by a smaller force, which had rowed to Fitch's Point before landing, and formed a junction with the main body just below the present railroad bridge on lower East Avenue. A third smaller detachment rowed up in their small boats and landed at Old Well (South Norwalk), on the flats just below and very near the present Raymond Brothers' coal-docks. This body, whose progress was resolutely resisted, marched around by Flax Hill to West Avenue, and ultimately formed a junction with Tryon, who had established his headquarters on the crest of Grummon's Hill. Rev. C. M. Sellick now has the chair which the Phœbe Comstock traditions say Tryon sat in on that occasion. All testimony agrees in that he sat there coolly viewing and enjoying the devastation of the town, in full sight of the terror-stricken women and children, whose male guardians were all engaged in harassing the enemy from every possible place of concealment and safety. The only regular fight of the day amounting even to the dignity of a skirmish was, according to Aunt Phœbe and O-ne, in the rear of the present house of William B. E. Lockwood, Esq. The main body of the little band of our town's defenders were retreating towards the Rocks, heavily pressed by the red-coats, but contesting every rod of the way by concealing themselves behind stone fences, trees, and bushes, but on reaching the rear of the Lockwood place they made a stand, and quite a lively engagement ensued. But, overwhelmed with the opposing numbers, they continued their retreat up the Rocks road. The bullets and splintering done by the musket-fire may yet be seen in some of the rear portions of Mr. Lockwood's house, which is still preserved.

"Many of the British soldiers got wine and cider and were very drunk. The houses were robbed before being set fire to, but 'up town' the people had moved their valuables to Silver Mine, Belden's Hill, or the Rocks, and buried all their silver and small things. Some few had delayed, or having sympathized with their Tory minister, Rev. Mr. Leaming, supposed they would be safe from molestation; but, finding the red-coats as alert to rob them as the colonists, had to throw their silverware and small valuables into the well and flee. Six houses only were saved in the town. One stood where the Rev. S. B. S. Bissell now resides. One was the old Horace Taylor house, on West Avenue, and where George Washington subsequently stopped and stayed all night on his trip to Boston.

This house was removed from the site of James H. Knapp's residence, but is now standing on the hill west of A. J. Crofut's. Another one was the old 'Tommy Benedict' house, still standing next below Mrs. Dr. Lynes'. The Benedict family traditions say that this house was so old *then* that a new house had been built, into which the family had moved, leaving the colored servants (slaves) to occupy the old house, which is now standing. This was attempted to be burned by setting fire to a straw bed, but one of the colored men who had hid away, seeing the smoke, got back into the house, threw the burning bed back into the yard, and saved the house, and later in the day they brought two wounded red-coats there to be treated by their army surgeon, and the following winter *twelve* families were crowded into it for shelter. This property had continued in possession of the Benedict family from the first settlement of Norwalk down to within the last dozen or twenty years. When George Washington stayed at the old Taylor house all night the news spread rapidly around, and Miss Phebe heard of it and rode down on a pillion behind O-ne to get a sight of him. She told us that he had just started to continue his coach-ride to Boston. He had four horses with outriders. When he got opposite Tommy Benedict's cider-mill he had his carriage stopped and asked for a drink of the new cider they were then making. A pail was brought him, and, as no dipper was handy, he stood up in his coach and drank the cider out of the pail. So she had a real good look at him, and felt well paid for her horseback-ride down from the country to see the great George Washington. Another house that escaped the conflagration was on the northeast side of Pudding Lane, now Main Street, and formerly known as the old Whitney place. A great many houses belonging to the Tories were also burned, which so filled them with indignation that many afterwards joined the colonists in resistance to the British rule. Another was the ancient homestead of the earliest Mott family, and which came into the possession of the writer some thirty years ago and was our residence down to the period of the late war. This house was quite a pretentious structure for those days, and the red-coats set fire to it—as the family legends run—on the broad shelves of the unfloored milk pantry. These burned into and dropped to the ground, and the fire went out. The colonists from near this house poured a lively musket-fire on the red-coats coming up West Avenue, and this led to several shots being fired from the field-piece the artillery had in position close by Tryon on top of Grummon's Hill. One of these English solid shot was subsequently dug up nearly ten feet below the surface adjoining this house, and is now in our possession. It is an English 9-pound solid shot. From the Mott house they crossed the river at the ford (now Brady's Bridge) on their way to Grummon's Hill. Several sloops and small sailing-craft in the harbor were also captured and burned before the

enemy reshipped and set sail for their rendezvous again for Huntington Harbor.

"From Long Island the enemy made frequent incursions all along our Connecticut shore, being furnished with information by Tory residents as to where cattle, stores, and supplies might be stolen. It was one of these small raids that surprised Aunt Phoebe and O-ne, as related by Dr. Hall, and an account of which we have repeatedly heard both relate. The writer has in his possession the veritable side-saddle upon which Aunt Phoebe rode that famous race from the salt meadow to town. It was a gift from her to his mother. Aunt Phoebe's father always kept good horses, and she could mount and ride a horse either with or without a saddle as good as any of her brothers.

"The first notice of the landing of the British forces, at the time of the town's destruction, was undoubtedly given, as related, by O-ne. It was on *Saturday*, July 11, 1779. The fleet, as it lazily sailed into the outer mouth of our harbor from Long Island, must have been observed by many, but it was always conceded by our old people that O-ne was entitled to the credit of running his horse to the bridge and giving the first information to the people and guard that a large force of the enemy were disembarking. O-ne was also a servant to the Rev. Mr. Burnett, pastor of the Congregational Church, and who also acted as chaplain to the Continental troops during various periods of the Revolutionary war, and used to accompany the 'fighting parson' whenever he went away with the troops. O-ne was a slave owned by the Comstocks, and they *loaned* him to their minister for this service. He was purchased by the father of Aunt Phoebe when he was four years old, and one English pound was paid for every pound avoirdupois of his physical weight. Mr. William L. Waring, of New Canaan, who has recently administered on the Comstock estate, has this curious document now in his keeping. Parson Burnett resided on East Avenue, in the first place north of the present home of Town Treasurer E. B. Burnett, and set out the stately and venerable elms which at this late period constitute the chief attraction of the old homestead.

"An interesting and instructive lesson is afforded by the attitude and positions taken by the two leading clergymen of the town at that period, and the potent influence exerted by either upon the minds of the people. The Episcopal clergyman remained loyal to the king's cause, and was accused of having been the cause of so many of his parishioners joining the Tories, so great and active was his personal influence among his people. The Congregational, on the other hand, in season and out of season, preached, prayed, talked, walked, and fought against what he believed to be unwarranted British usurpations, and his people unitedly followed his teachings and practices. The Norwalk minister, Rev. Mr. Burnett, the Darien minister (then Middlesex), Rev. Dr. Moses Maher, and



the Stamford minister, Rev. Dr. Noah Wells, had especially angered the Tories, and through information furnished by them provoked the maledictions of the British authorities, and there is no doubt that these military raids were made even more in the spirit of retaliatory punishments for the teachings of these rebellious ministers than for the gratification of their natural thirst for plunder.

"To these patriotic ministers in great measure must be due the historic meed of praise bestowed upon Norwalk by that eminent historian Bancroft, who once emphasized the fact to us personally that our town sent more men into the Revolutionary war in proportion to our population than any other town in the old thirteen States. Our men rushed to the front, musket in hand, on the first note of alarm, as boys now run to a fire. There was no waiting then for equipment, draft, or bounty, but every man and boy old enough to hold a musket hurried to the point of danger with an intense eagerness born of those days of high-born patriotism."

#### BURNING OF NORWALK.\*

"The war had been in progress over four years. The brunt of it had been transferred to the South. Provost and Campbell were scouring the Carolinas and Georgia. At the North, Sir Henry Clinton was sending out his marauding-parties on expeditions of plunder and destruction. Governor and Gen. Tryon was a fit leader in this work. He was familiar with this region; two years before he had led his troops to Danbury, and from Ridgefield had beaten his retreat to the Sound. He now undertook to sweep the Connecticut coast.

"The Fourth of July came that year (1779) on Sunday. The people of New Haven had made their arrangements to celebrate the day on the following Monday, the 5th. On that day, however, Tryon landed his forces at West Haven and made his attack, with considerable difficulty, on New Haven. The injury here was not great, and Tryon withdrew and made preparations to strike Fairfield. This he did on Thursday, the 8th. The place was plundered, and over one hundred and fifty buildings, dwellings, barns, etc., were burned. They afterwards attacked Green's Farms and then sailed across the Sound to Huntington, whence they recrossed and landed at Norwalk. There is a curious discrepancy as to time here. President Stiles, Hollister, and the modern histories generally, we believe, make the landing to have been on Sunday evening, the 11th, and the burning of the town on Monday, the 12th. Yet Stiles in another entry, under 'July 11, 1779, Lord's Day,' says 'he was interrupted in middle of the sermon with news of burning of Norwalk.' In Dr. Hall's 'History of Norwalk' the witnesses agree that the enemy 'came Saturday, while the people were harvesting.' 'They landed at Fitch's Point Saturday night,' and the

town was burnt on Sunday. But the decisive evidence seems found in the *memorials* sent up by the inhabitants to the General Assembly soon after the disaster. These all fix the date of the destruction of the place on the 11th of July; this was on Sunday. This reconciles another difficulty. If, as is stated, Gen. Parsons and his Continentals did not arrive on the ground until Monday, it shows why no more effectual resistance was made.† At all events, it seems clear that the landing was made on Saturday night. 'Sunday morning the harbor at Lower Norwalk was full of boats.' Tryon and his forces took possession of Grummon's Hill, where, 'with chairs and a table, he sat writing his orders' and overseeing the destruction of the place.

"That remarkable historian, Samuel Peters, in his 'History of Connecticut,' says, 'Gen. Tryon repaired to Norwalk, where, having by proclamation enjoined the inhabitants to keep within their houses, he ordered sentinels to be stationed at every door to prevent disorders,—a tenderness, however, they insulted by firing upon the very men thus appointed to guard them. The consequence was destruction to themselves and the whole town, which was laid in ashes.'

"The falsity of this explanation is evident,—1. Because the burning, according to the testimony here, was in execution of previous threats for some of the acts of the 'rebels' of the place, as he called them; 2. There is no evidence of any such firing from the houses; 3. The whole raid was one of burning and plunder.

"Six houses only were spared; one hundred and thirty-five were destroyed, besides eighty-nine barns, twenty-five shops, five vessels, and four mills. The people fled to the hills and woods north of the town. Capt. Stephen Betts with a handful of men made an ineffectual resistance, four men being killed. The Congregational and Episcopal churches were both destroyed, although the Episcopal clergyman, Mr. Leaming, was a strong friend of the royal government, and, with others who sympathized with him, withdrew with Tryon when he left Norwalk, or, as his friends put it, he 'was removed by Gen. Tryon.'

† We have some question on this point, but we have not had time to make the necessary investigation. Tryon had written to Gen. Parsons, and, referring to British successes, had said, "Surely it is time for rational Americans to wish for a reunion with the parent State, and to adopt such measures as will speedily effect it." Parsons at a later date answered, "Sir, I should have paid an earlier attention to your polite letter had I not entertained some hope of a personal interview with you in your descents upon the defenseless towns of Connecticut, to execute your master's vengeance upon the rebellious women and formidable hosts of boys and girls who were induced by your proclamations to remain in those helpless places, and who, if they had been suffered to continue in the enjoyment of that peace which their age and sex entitled them to escape from civilized nations, you undoubtedly supposed would prove the scourge of Britain's veteran troops, and pluck from you those laurels with which that *fiery* expedition so plentifully crowned you. But your sudden departure from Norwalk and the particular attention you paid to your personal safety when at that place, and the prudent resolution you took to suffer the town of Stamford to escape the conflagration to which you had devoted Fairfield and Norwalk, prevented my wishes on this head. This, I hope, will sufficiently apologize for my delay in answering your last letter."

\* By Rev. Dr. T. S. Childs.

"The memorials before alluded to represent 'that many of the inhabitants of Norwalk went over to the enemy' during the war. Their estates were confiscated. Some trouble arose about these afterwards, necessitating the interference of the General Assembly. The disposition made of a part of one of them will be seen in the action of the Assembly on the petition of Abraham Benedict, given below.

"The destruction of the town seems to have been finished by noon of Sunday. Tryon withdrew his forces and recrossed the Sound. The character of this raid may be judged from the following testimony and memorials copied from the originals in the State Library.

"The first is that of Capt. Betts himself:

"FAIRFIELD COUNTY, } ss.  
"Norwalk, July 26, 1779. }

"Capt. Stephen Betts, of Col. Z. Butler's Regt., in ye Continental service, personally appeared and made solemn oath 'that on the 11th inst., while ye enemy invaded Norwalk, he with about fifty Continental troops and some militia engaged a superior number of ye enemy, which obliged them to give way to unequal force. As they retreated, John Waters, a Continental soldier, fell into ye enemy's hands, delivered up his arms, and begged for life. But ye enemy, notwithstanding, assaulted him with a bayonet, with which they stabbed him in sundry places, and then one of them presented his Piece and aimed (as ye Captains supposed) at his Body, but missing that ye ball shattered his arm. Whereupon finding no Quarter he made a strong effort to escape, which he happily effected. Soon after ye above accident John Lick (Rich?), another Continental soldier, was shot so as to fall, and, as ye enemy were nigh and crowded fast on our People, he desired Capt. Betts to leave him, as they could not take him off without ye greatest Hazard. Capt. Betts saw Lick no more, but says Capt. Eels, of Col. Wyly's (?) Regt., told him he saw Lick after ye enemy had retreated, about two hours after Capt. Betts saw him. He was then dead and ye top of his skull torn off, supposed to be blown off by a musquet to dispatch him, and further saith not.'"

"Before me, Thaddeus Betts, Justice of Peace."

"Abraham Benedict made a personal memorial that 'he had his dwelling-house burnt down and consumed by the cruel and barbarous enemy on the 11th day of July last past. That before that time he could but just support himself and his wife and a numerous family of small children, by reason of a slender constitution that he has labored under for many years past, and that . . . by means of having his house burnt up, and the loss of considerable part of his household furniture and all his provisions, has reduced him so low that he is altogether at present unable to build him a home, and that he finds it almost next to impossible (by means of so many dwelling-houses being burnt by the enemy in said Norwalk) to get a covering or shelter to screen himself and family from the

inclemency of the approaching season. . . . That on the 11th day of July last past one Ebenezer Street, then in said Norwalk, joined the said enemy and went with them over to Long Island, and that on the said Ebenezer Street's homestead, in said Norwalk, there stands a small barn which your Honor's Distressed Memorialist is extremely desirous to obtain for the purpose of making a dwelling-house of it, to cover himself and family, and that said barn and the other estate of the said Ebenezer Street has lately been adjudged and declared forfeit to his State by a special County Court held at Fairfield,' etc.

"The memorialist goes on to say that he thinks he can so join the barn 'to his chimney,' which has been left standing, 'as to take advantage of it and of his cellar, and that he can so fix up said barn that he imagines he can tolerably well live through the approaching winter in it.' So he wants the barn appraised as confiscated property and sold to him, which the Assembly ordered to be done.

"Oct. 18, 1779, a memorial signed by one hundred and twenty-one persons was sent to the General Assembly asking relief, by exemption from taxes and in such other way as the Assembly should see meet, on account of the destruction of their property, etc. The names of the signers connect us with a large number of Norwalk's present families. They are such as Betts, Butler, Raymond, Mallory, Fitch, Hanford, Smith, Gregory, Gruman, Seymour, Marvin, Benedict, St. John, Lockwood, Hoyt, Jarvis, Hyatt, Whitney, Comstock, Beers, Jennings, Quintard, 'Heirs Rev. Mr. Dickenson,' and many others.

"In answer to the memorial the Assembly appointed Col. Benjamin Hinman, Col. Nehemiah Beardslee, and Mr. William Heron to inquire into and estimate the losses of every individual in said town of Norwalk, in consequence of the late hostile invasion of the British troops.

"Later, in 1792, the Assembly voted to the sufferers by Tryon's raid half a million acres of land, owned by the State and lying south of Lake Erie,—the tract afterwards known as New Connecticut. The valuation allotted to Norwalk, as the greatest sufferer, was over twenty-six thousand pounds. There are families here, we believe, who are still enjoying the benefit of that apportionment.

"It is difficult to estimate the influence of Tryon's incursion during that memorable week, from the 5th to the 12th of July, on the future history of the war and of the country. Like the Indian barbarities, it tended to intensify and consolidate the hostility to England, and to strengthen the patriotism that had so little to expect from the success of its enemies. And so in the long outworking it is sure that the bitter losses of that day, so hard for us now to realize, were not a waste and the lives that went out were not lost. But those lives deserve a memorial that they have not received. Is there anything nobler in the history of war than the act of that Continental soldier



whose very name is obscure,—John Lick or John Rich,—who, wounded and pressed by the enemy, 'desired Capt. Betts to leave him' and save his own life, and who was found by Capt. Eels, 'after the enemy had retreated,' with his skull blown off by a musket to dispatch him? Noble fellow! He deserves a monument. Let him have it."

#### ORIGIN OF "YANKEE DOODLE" IN AMERICA.

It is a sober fact in history that the now world-wide famous song of "Yankee Doodle" was composed in derision of the Connecticut troops which served the English army at Albany in 1758, in the war against the French and Indians. All the colonial troops were under the command of Col. Thomas Fitch, son of Governor Thomas Fitch, of Norwalk.

The dress, marching, accoutrements, and general appearance of the Connecticut troops greatly amused the officers of the English army, as well as the citizens of Albany. An Albany newspaper wrote of the newcomers that "some wore long coats, some wore short coats, and others were with no coats at all. Their dresses were as varied in color as the rainbow. Some of the men had their hair cropped like Cromwell's Roundheads, others were in wigs or wore curls in the style of the cavaliers."

Dr. Shackburg, attached to the English army, in derision of these motley-arrayed Connecticut regiments, composed the first four verses of the now famous song and called it "Yankee Doodle." The music was not original with Shackburg, but was an adaptation from a song composed upon a noted lady in the reign of Charles I. in England, preserved in nursery rhyme:

"Lucy Locket lost her pocket;  
Kittie Fisher found it;  
Nothing in it, nothing in it;  
But the binding round it."

It is supposed to have been written to satirize Cromwell, and first appeared in his time beginning:

"Yankee Doodle came to town  
Upon a Kentish pony;  
He stuck a feather in his hat,  
And called him Maccaroni!"

## CHAPTER LII.

### NORWALK (Continued).

#### DOCUMENTARY AND CIVIL HISTORY.

##### DOCUMENTARY HISTORY.\*

THE following are extracts from the ancient records of the town, and refer to a variety of interesting subjects. From these records the reader may learn the amount paid by the ancient dwellers in the town

for "fetching the cows;" the sum paid as wolf-bounties; the attention given to "keeping young people still in meeting;" the amount allowed for "beating ye drum" on Sunday, etc.

#### SWINE IN THE PLANTING-FIELD.

"At a meeting 9th of May, 1653, it is agreed and ordered, that if there shall be found any swine in the —† and planting field without youkes on, such —† have been agreed upon formerly, that it shall —† lawful for any inhabitant to kill any of such aforesaid swine being found in the above said woods, after the date hereof, provided the person killinge any such swine shall immediately endeavor to informe the owners of such swine, that they may take them and make meate of them; and this order to continue untill the companie shall repeale it."

#### MR. HANFORD'S HOUSE.

"Desember the 18th, 1653, agreeede by the Townsmen about Mstr. Hanford's house with Ralph Keeiler and Waltar Haite as followeth,—viz., Ralph Keeiler is to fell all the Timber, and hewe what is to hewe, and frame all. The timber to be laied by and shinckles to be laied by in —,† and he to raise the house, and to hange the shinckles with pinnes, and —† them —† in clay and to make the mortar, and —† house is to be in lenth 26 feete, and bredth 16 — and for the saied worke, he is to have — in wheate at the marchants price, — rest in current pay, and he is to finish the — by the 10th of Aprill next; and the said —† is to do all the — worke belonging to the — Frame, in such convenient time as may sute — Keeiler, for which worke he is to have ye — for which worke he is to put it in his rates, — provide 800 of board, at 7s a hundred for it in — Upon further consideration the aforesaid frame is to be 31 foote in lenth, and 18 foote in bredthe, and Ralph Keeiler is to have 20 more; and Math. Marvin, Jr. now hath undertaken to lay in 2000 of good suff — shinckles at Ralph Keeilers ready to have at —."

#### THE POUND.

"It was ordered and voted allso at the foresaied meetinge, that there shall be a good and sufficient pound or pinnefold erected and sett up, as soon as the season will permitt; at the place where the Townsmen shall appoynt, the saied pound to be thirtie foote square, six foote in height, six rayles in every lenth; the sayed rayles to be 11 foote in lenth, and the postes to be about 10 inches square; and for the saied pound the Towne are contented, and doe promise to pay, to any that shall undertake to finish, sayed pound, the some of Twoe pounds.

"Memorandum: that in regard there is a convenience to have the saied pound made and that with expedition,—Nath. and Math. Camfield, Nath. Richards,

\* For a large portion of the following compilation the editor is indebted to Rev. Edwin Hall's Ancient Historical Records of Norwalk.

† Obliterated.

and Thos. Fitch have undertaken to have the saied pound maid according to the agreement."

#### FELLING TIMBER.

"Agreede and voted at the aforesayed meetinge, that if there shall be any timber felled in any of the commonage belonging to the TOWN of NORWAKE — or uncorded beyond the space of three mounthes, from the date hereof, that is to say Desember 29th 1653, then it shall be lawfull for any planter to use and carry away the said timber as their proper owne.

"Agreed and voted also that if any timber shall be found in the commonage aforesayed, lyinge and continuing above three mounthes after it is hewen and corded, that then also it shall be lawful and free for any inhabitant or planter to take it and carry away, as their proper owne.

"Agreed and voted at the aforesayed meetinge that if any inhabitant shall fall or cause to be fallen any tree into any common cart way, and not cause said tree to be removed within the space of — howres, so as it to be noe annoyance to the saide cart way, that then it shall be lawful for any of the inhabitants to remove the saied tree, and — planter that did fall the saied tree — to the — that removed the tree the some of — in good current pay."

#### BURNING THE WOODS.

"And that the Townsmen shall see the woods burned in the fitting season; and of the time of burning to give convenient notice to the inhabitants that they may secure their fences."

#### TOWN OFFICERS IN 1654.

"At a meten helde by the inhabitants of Norwake on the 13 April, 1654, when they maid choyce of Mr. Fitch, and Goodman Moore to be townsmen for the insuen yere; at the same time they chose — Ely as constable for the ensuing yere."

#### MAKING DRAINS.

"At a meetinge holden the 24th of April, 1654, it was ordered and agreed and voted that there shall be a drain made through every man's lott in the meadows — and of the lottes in the meadows on the other side — that whenever those men that are chosen to appoynt the same, and also the breadth and depth of the same to be made as such indifferent men chosen — appoynt; provided also that whenever the saied draines are to be made, there shall be allowance afforded to every man, in meadow, for the losse of the ground by reason of the said drains; also that the same drains are also to be kept and sustained by the owners thereof, for perpetual as they were appoynted; and those men that are to vewe and appoynt the saied drains Mr. Camfield, Nath. Eli, Tho. Fitch."

#### ALLOTMENTS OF LAND.

"Ordered also that the allotments to beginne to be layed out as following: Videlicett to beginne —

at the end of the hither plaine where John Gregory mowed the last year, &c."

#### THE MILL.

"At a meetinge held the 6th of January, 1654, it was voted and agreed, that the —\* mill shall desist —\* and not to be caryed on, and Richard Web, Tho. Fitch, Nath. Richards, shall send upon the first opportunitie to Leeiftenant Swaine, and acquaint him with the minds of the Towne concerning saied mill.

"Voted, ordered, agreed, and concluded at the aforesayed meetinge, that the three undertakers of the mill in the behalfe of the Towne, with Leeiftenant Swaine, should with all convenient speed agree with the said Leeiftenant Swaine for the desystinge and leavinge of the said mill, as well as they could; and what charges the saied agreement amounted to, the said Towne would satisfy & pay."

#### TOWNSMEN IN 1655.

"At a meetinge held the 29th of March 1655, voted and agreed that Richd. Web, and Richd. Seamer, are chosen Townsmen for the ensuinge yeere.

"Agreed and voted also at the saied meetinge that Walter Haite and Ralph Keeiler are to worke the fence for the yeere ensuinge.

"Agreed and voted that Robt. Beacham is Gate Keeper for the yeere ensuinge."

#### THE TOWN HERD.

"At a meeting held y<sup>e</sup> 30 of May 1655, agreed and voted that all dry cattle excepting 2 year ould heffers shall be herded together on the other side of Norwake river; and ther keep by the owners of the cattle; every man keeping according to his proportion of cattle ther herded. It is also agreed at y<sup>e</sup> same meeting that for the lodging and wonting of y<sup>e</sup> sayed herd in the place fore named there shall be a pound erected by the first Wednesday in June, every man sending in help for y<sup>e</sup> efecting of the pound according to his proportion of cattle ther herded. It is also agreed that there is —\* to be employed in keeping the herd —\* but suficient able man. It is also agreed that whosoever, after lawfully warned, shall neglect his day in keeping, shall forfeit five shillings to y<sup>e</sup> use of the towne, and for every our that a man is defective after sun halfe an our hye, by not going forth of the towne to the keeping of his herd, he shall forfeit six pence for the town's use."

#### FETCHING THE SMITH'S TOOLS FROM HARTFORD.

"At the same meeting agreed and voted by the towne of Norwake to give Matthew Camfield and Nathaniell Hayes six and twenty shillings for the fetching of the tools pertaining to the Smith from Hartford, and is to be payd the next rate."

#### LANDS AND ACCOMMODATIONS.

"The estate of lands and accommodations — in the hands of as followeth [in 1665]:

\* Obliterated.



£ s.	£ s.
Mstr. Hanford..... 300 00	Matt. Marvin, jr..... 139 10
Nath. Eli..... 293 00	Thos. Hales..... 118 00
Math. Campfield..... 283 10	Walter Haite..... obliterated.
Nathl. Richards..... 282 00	Dan. Kellogge..... "
Rich. Web..... 255 10	Nath. Hales..... "
Isacke More..... 252 00	Jonath. Marsh..... "
Math. Marvin, sen..... 279 00	Ralph Keeiler..... "
Sam. Hales..... 250 00	John Bowton..... "
Tho. Fitch..... 314 00	Richd. Homes..... "
Richd. Olmsted..... 219 10	Mathew Sention..... "
Mathias Sention, sen..... 189 00	Steph. Beckwith..... "
John Griggorie..... 188 10	Thos. Seamer..... "
Robt. Beacham..... 173 00	Thos. Lupton..... "
John Ruskoe..... 150 00	Wid. Morgan..... "
Math. Sention, jr..... 150 00	To dispose of..... 200 00
Ralph Keeiler..... 150 00	
Geo. Abbott..... 75 00	Summ total is..... 5475 00

LADDERS PROVIDED.

"At a meeting holden the 21st of January, 1655, by the inhabitants of Norwake, voted and agreed that every householder shall provide, erect, and sett up a good and sufficient ladder reaching up to the chimney above the house, the said ladder to be made and sett up within one mounthe after the date hereof, and that if any householder shall be defective herein, the said householder shall — of five shillings to the use of the town.

"At the same meetinge, it was fullie agreed, voted and concluded, between the inhabitants of Norwake of the one syde, and Waltar Haite of the other syde, that the said Waltar Haite is to erect and sett up a good and sufficient gate leading into the meadows of the other side, &c. . . .

"Feb. 5, 1657. Voted and agreed that Robt. Beacham shall enjoy and possess that parcell of lande lyinge betweene his home lott and the Coafe Bancke, as his owne; being given and granted by the Towne at the saied meetinge; and the saied Robt. Beacham has promised and ingaged to keepe and maintaine the gate leadinge into the necke for the yere ensuinge.

"March 5, 1657. At the saied meetinge, Isacke More, Matth. Sention, Mark Sention, Ed. Nash, with consent of the Towne, have undertaken to make and provide a good and sufficient wolfe-pitt upon the other side in some convenient place, &c.

"(1657.) Memorandum. That Jonathan Marsh does ingage to build a corne-mill — and sufficeint —

"Memorandum. That Jonathan Marsh is to have — upland to be laied out adjoininge to the mill —

"At a Towne meetinge held the first day of March, —58, agreed with Goodman Marsh about grinding our corne, and he hath agreed to attend the towne 3 dayes in the week, that is to say, the 2d, the 4th, and the 6th day of the week, and these days he is to attend, that we may have — to fetch and carry corne to the mill."

THE INDIANS.

"At a Towne meetinge the 18th of April, 1655, voted and ordered Leeiftenant Olmsted and Thos. Fitch are to take care and look after the Indians — are permitted to plant butt such as properly belongs to the towne; that those that doe plant doe

speedily make up the fence, and so also keep it up sufficient, and also that noe Indian — within a quarter of a mile of the towne.

NAILS FOR THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"At a Towne meetinge held the 22d of May, '55, voted and instructed — the Townsmen to procuer nayles, with all speed, for the meeting-house, and at as reasonable rate as they can — Towne's account. Also, Thos. Fitch, sen. and Leeiftenant Olmsted are desired to be helpful unto Nath Richards in—the procuringe helpe for the making up the mill Damne."

THE COWS TO PASTURE.

"Memorandum. The cowe keeper began to herd the coves the second Monday in May, being the 8th or 9th day; and the dry herde began to be driven out by 3 men — to Rooton, that was Marke Sention, Math. Sention, and Walter Haite — to be allowed 6d. a turne."

ADMITTING MR. REED.

"At the aforesayed meeting, voted and agreed that Math. Reed is admitted to come into the towne as an inhabitant."

MUST COME TO TOWN-MEETINGS.

"Anno 1656, April 1st. At the same meeting agreed and voted, that all the inhabitants of Norwake shall all be present at the town meetings lawfully warned, and answer to their names, upon the forfeit of 12 pence a man, on such default; and there remayn till the townsmen or townsman shall — the meeting, upon the same forfeit."

MR. HANFORD'S SALARY.

"At a meeting held by the inhabitants of Norwalke (1656), agreed and voted, that Mr. Hanford shall have three score pounds allowed for the yere insuing, by them for his rate, and he is to be paid as followeth: 30 pounds in wheat, and pease, and barley, at the prices — 4 shillings per bushell for wheat and barley, and for pease, 3 shilling per bushell. The other 30 pounds is to be payed, 8 pounds in — and the other 22 pounds is to be payed in beefe and pork at the common currint prise that it brings, when it is dew."

THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"At a meeting of the inhabitants of Norwake, the 3d of January (1659) agreed and voted, that there shall be a meeting-house built by the joint concurrence of the inhabitants, 30 foot in length, and 18 foot in . . . to be set upon posts in the ground, 12 foot in length, that there be 10 foot distance from the ground to the — to the effect of the building, the inhabitants — having engaged 48 days worke, which each is to performe as he may be called thereunto by — chosen and appointed by the towne — to call them forthe, provided that the said men give warning two days at least beforehand."

## WOLF-PITS.

"At a meeting held on the 16th of September, 1659, voted and agree that it shall be lawful for any person or persons to make any wolfe pitt or pitts in convenient places, and what wolfs shall be taken and killed by the sayed persons, they shall be allowed for every wolfe 10s. by the towne."

## CLAPBOARDING THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"At a meeting held the 12th of December, 1660, the towne hath agree with Mr. Fitch, and Goodman Richards, and John Rusco, to clapboard the meeting-house with inside so hy as the window; to find the bords, and to have 3*l*. 6s. for the doing of itt; this worke to be don by the last of January next."

## DIFFICULTY WITH FAIRFIELD.

"At a meeting held the 6th of May, 1664, voted and agreed, that the deputies made choice of to attend the General Court — are authorized by the said vote, that if they have an opportunity to issue the difference between the Towne of Fairfield and ourselves concerning the bounds, they are impowered to issue the same, either by agreement with them according to former propositions propounded unto them, if accepted, and if not accepted, then to issue it in the court if it may be; and Thomas Fitch is voted to be assisting in the business, etc.

"At the same meeting, voted that the Townsmen are hereby empowered to hier a man, or man and horses, at the towne charge, for the sending for Mstr. B——, and bring him again to Fairfield, for so many times as he may be procured, while Mstr. Hanford is absent."

## ADDITION TO THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"At the same meetinge (1664), voted and agreed, that there shall be an addition made and sett up to the meeting-house, and that — ende sett up and joined unto the fore part of the meetinge house, the sayed building to be in breadth 20 or 22 foote, and in lenth 16 foote at least; and the towne engages, and every person to worke twoe days a man, if need be; and there being appoynted Thomas Fitch, sen., and Mathew Marvin, sen., to call out so many men as they think fitt — to fell and cutt the timber, and also to summon each to drawe the saied timber."

## NATH. RICHARDS BUYS THE MILL.

"At the same meetinge, the Towne doth approve and consent unto Nath. Richards of his purchasing and buyinge of the mill and land, both upland and meadow of Jonathan Marsh; the saied Nath. Richards being to give and pay unto Jonathan Marsh for the sayed mill and all that belongs unto the sayed mill, with the upland and meadow, being 6 akers and 2 roodes of upland lying upon the mill hill, and 3 parcells of meadow, and called Cranbury swamp, &c."

## HENRY WHITNEY'S MILL.

"At the sayed Meetinge (July 24, 1665), Henry Whitney hath agreed and Ingaged with the Towne,

to make, build, and erect a good and sufficient ground corne mill, and that at the mouth of Norwake River by the falles; and that upon certain conditions, which conditions are to be fullie drawn up, by Thomas Fitch, Leeiftenant Olmsted, Mstr. Fenn, Mr. Whitinge, to confirme . . . signed by the Towne or those they shall depute their . . . which conditions were fully agreed upon at the sayde . . . between the Towne and Henry Whitney. . .

"Also at the sayed meetinge the Towne voted and granted unto the said Henry Whitney a Homelott, consistinge of twoe akers, the sayed lott to be layed out upon the mill plaine upon the right hand of the path leading down to the old mill, being over the Runlett 2 or three rodd from the sayed Runlett and also from the cart way; and so the grant of the other Lott is relinquished."

## BEATING THE DRUM.

"Also (1665), Walter Haite has undertaken to beate the drumm for meetings when all occasions required, for which he is to have 10s. Also Tho. Bennidict has undertaken to have the meeting house swept for the yeere ensuing; he is to have 20s."

## HOW TO DEAL WITH THE STAMFORD MEN.

"It was also voted and agreed, August 26, '66, that such men of our inhabitants as doe goe to cutt hay on the other side five mile river, the towne will stand by them in the action to defend them, and to beare an equall proportion of the damage they shall sustaine upon that account; and if they shall be afronted by Stamford men, the towne will take as speedy a course as they can to prosecute them by law, to recover their just rights touching the lands in controversy; and also they have chosen and deputed Mr. Thomas Fitch to goe with the sayed men when they goe to cutt or fetch away, to make answer for and in behalfe of the towne, and the rest to be silent."

## MENDING THE FENCES.

"At a towne meeting in Norwalk, March the 20th, 1667, it was voted and ordered that it shall be left to the townsmen from yere to yere, to appoint a time or day, at or before the 10th of March, for the securing of the fences on both sides, and that they shall give notis to all the inhabitants the night before; and the drumb to be beaten in the morning; which shall be accounted sufficient warning for every man to secure his fence, or else to beare his own damage."

## FETCHING THE COWS.

"At the same meeting (Oct. 17, 1667), voted and ordered, that after the field is cleared, the townsmen shall hier Stephen Beckwith, or some other man, to fetch the coves out of the neck; and that he that shall be hired shall give warning by sounding a horne about twelve of the clock, that he that is to accompany him may repaier to him."

## WOLVES.

"Also at the same meeting in Norwalk, Oct. 28, '67, it was voted and ordered, that the townsmen,



for every wolfe that shall be killed in this town, eyther in pits or otherwise, the head or eares being brought and shewed, after this present day till the town rates are made for the defraying such charges, shall have twenty shillings for every such wolfe."

## TRAINING.

"At a meeting of the inhabitants of Norwalke, May the 7th, 1668; being met together upon an occasion of trayning, and having some other business to transact touching towne officers, did unanimously agree, that what orders should be made and concluded of at the aforesayd meeting, should stand in as full forse as if it had bin legally warned."

## KEEPING THE YOUNG PEOPLE STILL IN MEETING.

"At a meeting of the inhabitants of Norwalk, July the 13: '68, Tho. Lupton was chosen to look after the young people in the meeting-house on the Lord's day, and to doe his best indevor to kepe them from playing and unsivill behavior in time of publik worship."

## THE HERDSMEN.

"At a towne meeting in Norwalk, March the 16, 1668, it was voted and agreed, that there shall be two herdsmen hired, one to keep the dry heard and the other to keep the milch heard for this whole somer.

"At the same meeting it was voted and agreed that Steven Beckwith is to keep the milch heard this somer, and is to have twelve shillings a week for his paynes; and half a pound of butter for every cow as part of his pay, and the rest in wheat, pease, indian corn, at 4s. 6d.; 3s. 6d., and eight groats per bushell."

## DIFFICULTY WITH STAMFORD.

"Sept. 30, 1668. Voted and ordered, that the deputies that ar chosen to goe to the court in October next, shall doe their best indevor that the difrance between Stamford and Norwalk may be brought to an issue.

"At the same meeting it was voted and ordered that it shall be left to the towns men to send a letter to Stamford to signifie the towns intension about the difference of Bounds."

## MAKING A FENCE FOR A WINTER WHEAT-FIELD.

"Dec. 4, 1668. It was agreed and concluded that a fence shall be made and sett up for y<sup>e</sup> taking in of a winter wheat field, which sayd fence is to begin at the gate by goodman Nash his house, and to Run along by the highway that goes to stony hill, and to end at the creek that comes in between Matthue Camfield his Island, and Nathaniell Richards out meddow, which fence is to be made good sufittient fence; eyther postes and Rayls, or stones or logs; but not hegg; and this to be finished by the last of September next ensuing, and to be layed out and divided by Mr. Fitch, Daniell Kellogg, and Christopher Comstock; and also it was concluded that the first lott should begin at the gate; which first lott was drawn by

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Matthew Marvin, Sr. | 16. Christopher Comstock. |
| 2. Samuel Sension.     | 17. Mr. Fitch.            |
| 3. Robert Stewart.     | 18. Nathaniel Hayes.      |
| 4. Samuel Camfield.    | 19. John Gregory, Sr.     |
| 5. Thomas Lupton.      | 20. Mark Sension.         |
| 6. Thomas Fitch.       | 21. John Raymond.         |
| 7. Thomas Seamer.      | 22. Widdow Webb.          |
| 8. Edward Nash.        | 23. Matthew Marvin, Jr.   |
| 9. Mr. Hanford.        | 24. Nathaniel Richards.   |
| 10. Matthias Sension.  | 25. Richard Olmstead.     |
| 11. Thomas Bennydict.  | 26. John Bouton.          |
| 12. George Abbet.      | 27. John Gregory, Jr.     |
| 13. Walter Hayte.      | 28. John Platt.           |
| 14. Thomas Betts.      | 29. John Ruscoe.          |
| 15. Daniell Kellog.    | 30. Richard Wholms.       |
|                        | 31. Matthias Sension, Jr. |

"Ralph Keeler did promise and ingage to fence forty Rodd of the aforesayd fence provided that he may sett it up against his own land."

## ASH-HOUSE.

"At a towne meeting in Norwalk, January the 22d, '69, it was voted and granted that Thomas Oviot of Milford shall have liberty to set a house by the water side before John Gregory's senr., to put ashes in."

## THE INDIANS.

"At the same meeting it was voted that Mr. Fitch, and Matthew Marvin, junior, are desired and appointed, and it is left to their discretion, to treat with the Indians touching the lands between the West branch of the Norwalk river and Saketuk river; to git it to be marked out and bounded twelve miles up the contery at the least, and that it may be dun and finished according to law, and being so bounded and marked, the Indians are to have their 4 coates."

## FOUR COATS TO MAMACHIMON.

"Dec. 25, 1669. Voted and concluded that Mamachimon shall have fowre cotes paid to him by the towne, when he shall have settled the bounds of the land up the country, 12 miles at the leaste, against all claims whatsoever."

## UNDIVIDED LANDS.

"At the same meeting voted and agreed that all the lands within the bounds of Norwalk that are at present undivided, shall for futer be divided onley to such as are the present proper Inhabitants of this towne, according to estate given in, only excepting y<sup>e</sup> division of six acors the 100 to home lots already granted.

"At the same town meeting voted and ordained that until such time as y<sup>e</sup> Indian fence be made up so as to serve the feild, their shall not any of our inhabitants let any Indian have any parte of his property neither less or more to plant upon, eyther on this side or the other, upon the penalty of 20<sup>s</sup> an acre so sett; and so proporsionally for every greter or lesser quantity; and the same order to stand in force against any person that shall either hier or exchange any land of the Indians for the futer; and this to stand in force from yere to yere until it be repealed.

"At the same meeting it was voted and ordered that the corne feilds, on both sides ar to be layd in by the

next thirsday com senit, and the fences to be made up sufficient."

#### INDIAN LAND.

"At the same meeting it was voted and ordered that no person or persons whatsoever inhabiting in this towne shall for futor improve any land of the Indians within the indian feild eyther by hiring, or exchanging gifts, or any other way, under the penalty of twenty shillings an acor yerly, for every acor so improved, and so for every greater or lesser quantity.

"At a towne-meeting in Norwalk, April the 12th, 1670, it was voted and agreed that the order yt was made March 15th, '69, to prohibit exchanging of lands with the Indians, shall be suspended for the next somer, & that any that have a mind to exchange with them may soe do; but not to hold it any longer than the next Indian harvest, and then the aforesaid order to stand in as full forse as before."

#### BOUNDARIES.

"At a towne-meeting in Norwalk, June the first, 1670, it was voted and ordered that Lieutent Olmsted and John Gregory, senr. ar to be joyned with Mr. Mr. Fitch and Mathu Marvin Jun. to git the bounds marked out between Norwalk river and Saketuk river as is expressed in a former order; and being so done to such satisfaction as their is exprest in that former order, the Indians are to receive six cotes at the town's charg."

#### TREATING WITH STAMFORD.

"At the same meeting voted and agreed that Mr. Fitch and leutent Olmsted and Daniel Kellogg are chosen a committee to goe to Stanford to treat with the inhabitants their, to se if they and we can come to a loving and neighborly issue and agreement, about the division of bounds betwixt them and us; and the said committee is to make these propositions to the men of Stanford, eyther to divide betwixt five mile river and pine brook; that is to say in the middle betwin both; or else to divide in the middle betwin Saketuk River and the bounds betwin Stanford and Greenwig."

#### JOHN GREGORY.

"At the same meeting it was voted and concluded that their shall be two men chosen to prosecute the case against John Gregorie, senior, as touching the lands he howlds from the right of James the Indian, eyther by law or otherwise, as that they may howld and maintaine the rights which the town ——— or any other land which he claims in the like natuer, as the island called Cokkanus Island."

#### TOWN OFFICERS IN 1670.

"At the same meeting [Feb. the 21, 1670] Matthu Marvin, Junior, chosen to swepe the meating house, and to have 20s. for his pains, and Walter Hayte chosen to beate the drume, and to have 10s. for the sayd imployment; Tho. Bennydyck senr. chosen towne clerk, and to have 20s. for his pains; Mr. Fitch & John Bouton chosen survaiors, Leuten<sup>t</sup> Olmsted, Ensign Tho. Fitch, Nathaniell Richards, Daniell

Kellogg & Tho. Bennydyck, senr. chosen elect men."

#### THE GUARD.

"At the aforesayed meting it was voted and ordered that it shall be left to the five men, to procure a handsome and convenient seate made and sett up in the meting house, for a garde to sitt in, in the most suitable place, with all such conveniences for their Arms as they shall jug necessary, and the charg to be borne by the towne."

#### BURNING THE WOODS.

"At the same meeting voted and agreed, that the townsmen shall hier a man to burn the woods, onely they shall not give above 12s. for that service."

#### COVER OVER MR. HANFORD'S DESK.

"At a town meeting in Norwalk, November 17th, 1670, it is voted and agreed that there shall be a man or men hired to make a comely and convenient cover over Mr. Hanford's desk, in the meeting house, at the town's charge."

#### THE BRIDGE.

"At the aforesayed meeting [Jan. the 1st, 1671] it was voted and agreed on that there shall be a bridg made over Norwalk river; the charg shall be born according to the list of estates then in being of every inhabitant in the town of Norwalk.

"At the same meeting voted that it shall be left to the select men in this town, to improve their best skill to see what will be contributed by the several towns adjacent towards the building of a bridg over Norwalk river; it was further voted that the select men shall send to serjent Andrues of Newhaven, to git him to come over to give us advise about the bridg, & the town will bear the charg of his coming and going."

#### RECOMPENSE FOR BAD COATS FOR MAMACHIMON.

"Feb. 9, 1671. Voted and agreed that inasmuch as Mr. Fitch have given a rate to Mamachimon to make him a recompense for the badness of the former coats he received, that the prise of it shall be put into this town rate that now is to be made."

#### DIVISION OF LAND, AND LAYING OUT HOME-LOTS.

"At the same meeting voted and agreed that Nath. Hays & Tho. Fitch, Junr, shall fall in with the rest of the inhabitants in the last devision that was agreed on to be layed out, notwithstanding their former gratuety; onely they are to take it up in the woods, because they have received already in the neck.

"(John Platt & Thomas Bennydyck, senr. were to lay out the last division, according to the grant; and also to lay out the home-lots.)

"It was voted and agreed that only the proper inhabitants that are now in being shall have a home lott, and all such shall Injoy one according to a former order.

"Agreed on that all those men that now draw lots with their neighbors, shall stand to their lotts that now they draw.



"Agreed on that the first lot shall begin at the hether end of Drye Hill, as soon as the hill shall be found capable of lotting, by those that are to laye out the lotts, and on this side the hill by the path that goes to Cramberry plain, and so back again on the other side of the hill homward, & so all the rest of the land in that order.

"Agreed that those that do not draw lots with the rest of their neighbors shall take them up with their devision of six acors to the hundred; if it be their to be had; if not, then they shall fall in with their neighbors whear they shall end, or at the side of them whear it shall be most convenient.

"Further agreed that it shall be left to the 3 men that are to lay out the lotts, that they shall size them so as they may be made most equall, according to their best discession."

## ESTATE FOR THE CHILDREN.

"At the aforesaid meeting voted and agreed on, that every one of our inhabitants that have not as yet had any estate for their childring, shall have five pounds for every childe now in being; to be added to their father's estate, & this is to take place in the land that is now to be layed out in y<sup>e</sup> Indian feild, and not before."

## THE ESTATES OF LANDS AND ACCOMMODATIONS OF YE TOWN OF NORWALK.

IMPRIS.	£	s.	d.
John Gregory, Sr.....	253	10	0
Nathaniel Hayes.....	115	0	0
Thomas Lupton.....	70	0	0
Richard Holmes.....	150	0	0
John Ruscoe.....	150	0	0
Mr. Hanford.....	300	0	0
Thomas Bennydick, Sr.....	150	0	0
John Bouton.....	100	0	0
John Bennydick, Jr.....	150	0	0
Daniel Kellogg.....	125	0	0
Matthew Marvin, Jr.....	139	10	0
Mr. Thomas Fitch, Sr.....	314	0	0
Nathaniel Richards.....	268	0	0
Mark Senion.....	252	0	0
James Senion.....	175	0	0
Mathn Marvin, Sr.....	169	0	0
Thomas Gregory.....	50	0	0
John Olmsted.....	50	0	0
Andrew Messenger.....	25	0	0
Samuel Camfield.....	233	0	0
Richard Olmsted.....	119	10	0
Christopher Comstock.....	146	10	0
Thomas Seamer.....	100	0	0
Widdow Webb.....	255	0	0
John Raymond.....	150	0	0
Edward Nash.....	166	10	0
John Keiler.....	50	0	0
John Gregory, Jr.....	50	0	0
Judah Gregory.....	50	0	0
Jakin Gregory.....	50	0	0
Thomas Tayler.....	55	0	0
Samuell Smith.....	70	0	0
George Abbet.....	75	0	0
Walter Hayte.....	192	0	0
Mathias Senion.....	145	0	0
Ralph Keiler.....	53	10	0
Samuel Hayes.....	100	0	0
John Hayte.....	160	0	0
Thomas Betts.....	146	10	0
Samuel Bennydick.....	50	0	0
Ephraim Lockwood.....	70	0	0
Thomas Fitch, Jr.....	150	0	0
John Platt.....	168	13	4
Samuel Senion.....	100	0	0
Robbart Steward.....	200	0	0
Jonathan Pirkins.....	10	0	0
James Picket.....	10	0	0
Samuel Keiler.....	53	10	0
Peter Lupton.....	50	0	0
Frances Bushnell.....	10	0	0
James Olmsted.....	50	0	0
James Bennydick.....	37	0	0
Daniel Bennydick.....	36	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Joseph Gregory.....	50	0	0
John Nash.....	50	0	0
Thomas Hiet.....	5	0	0
Steven Beckwith.....	5	0	0
John Crampton.....	3	6	8
James Miller.....	80	0	0
Thomas Barnum.....	40	0	0
Thomas Betts, Jr.....	10	0	0
John Belding.....	3	0	0
William Lees.....	3	0	0
Samuel Belding.....	3	0	0

## TAVERN-KEEPER.

"At the same meeting Christopher Comstock was chosen and approved of to keep an ordinary for the entertayning of strangers."

## CHESTNUT HILL.

"At the aforesayed meeting, March 19th, 1671, it was voted and agreed on that Chestnut Hill is to be resarved for a feild for the Indians, if need be, and if they shall except of it."

## COCKENOGS ISLAND.

"Allsoe at the same meeting [Feb. 20, 1672], it was voted and agreed on that the sayd Island called Cockenoe, is to lye common for the use of the towne as the other Islands doe."

## THE CHILDREN OF THE TOWN.

John Gregory, Jr., have chil- dring, 3.	Thomas Bennydick, Jr., 2.
John Gregory, Sr., 1.	Daniel Kellogg, 6.
Nathaniel Hayes, 7.	Mathew Marvin, Jr., 6.
Thomas Lupton, 2.	George Abbot, 7.
Richard Holms, 2.	Matthias Senion, 7.
John Ruscoe, 5.	Keilers, 3.
Mr. Hanford, 6.	Samuel Hayes, 1.
Thomas Bennydick, Sr., 6.	Jachin Gregory, 2.
John Bouton, 5.	Thomas Tayler, 2.
John Hayte, 1.	Judah Gregory, 3.
Thomas Betts, 8.	Samuel Camfield, 1.
Ephraim Lockwood, 3.	Thomas Fitch, Jr., 4.
John Platt, 3.	Thomas Seamer, 7.
Samuell Senion, 2.	John Raymond, 1.
	Edward Nash, 2.
	Robbart Steward, 5.

## THE SOLDIERS IN THE INDIAN WAR.

"At a Town meetinge January the 12th, 1676, the Towne in consideration of the good service that the souldiers sent out of the towne ingaged and performed by them in the Indian warr, out of respect and thankfulnessse to the sayed souldiers, doe with one consent and freely, give and grant unto so many souldiers as were in the service at the direful swamp-fight, twelve acors of land; and eight acors of land to so many souldiers as were in the next considerable service; and fowre acors to those souldiers as were in the next considerable service; the sayed souldiers having lib-ertie to take up the sayed granted lands within the bounds of the town, provided that it be not upon those lands that are prohibited, and also such lands as are pitched upon before the date hereof by the proprietors or~proprietor; provided also the sayd grant is only to such souldiers as shall within one yeere, and possess and improve the sayd lands."

## JOHN ROACH, A SOLDIER IN THE "DIREFUL SWAMP-FIGHT."

"Whereas the towne of Norwalke having given and granted unto John Roach as a gratuity being a

souldier in the late Indian war, the parcell of land, consistinge of twelve acres more or less, layed out upon the West side of the West Rocks so called, &c."

DANIEL BENEDICT, A SOLDIER IN THE SWAMP-FIGHT.

"Granted by the plantation unto Daniel Benedict as a gratuity, being a souldier in the Indian warr, twelfe acres of land and lyeth in three parcels; whereof one parcell lyeth upon the hill and plaine of the other side of Norwalke River, not far distant from the West side of the cart path leading to the meadow field &c. Feb. 16, 1677."

THOS. GREGORY, A SOLDIER IN THE INDIAN WAR.

"Granted by the plantation unto Thos. Gregory as a gratuetty, being a souldier in the Indian warr, eight acres of land, and lyeth in two parcells, the first parcell lying upon the West Rocks, containing six acres, &c. Feb. 25, 1677."

THOMAS HYATT, A SOLDIER IN THE INDIAN WAR.

"Feb. 19, 1682. The Towne granted unto Thomas Hyatt, libertie to resign seven acres of land which the town hath formerly granted him respecting as he was a souldier in the Indian warres, and he had taken up the same upon Clapboard Hill, soe called; namely to resign the same up to the towne, so as to take it up elsewhere."

JOSEPH PLATT, A SOLDIER.

"Feb. 21, 1698. Granted unto Joseph Platt, as he was a souldier out in the service against the common enemy, the Town, as a gratification for his good service, do give and grant unto him ten Acres of land, to take it up a mile from the town, and wheare it lyes free not yet pitcht upon by any other persons."

JONATHAN ABBOTT, A SOLDIER.

"Allso granted unto Jonathan Abitt as he was a souldier, ten Acres of land, to be taken up whear it lyes free not yet pitched on by any persons."

FOR A MAN SENT OUT TO THE WARRES.

"Feb. 21, 1698. The town granted to James Betts, as he sent out a man into the warres, and was at charge and expense of money on account of hireing; the towne does grant unto the sayd James, five acres of land, &c."

SAML. KEELER, A SOLDIER IN THE SWAMP FIGHT.

"Granted by the plantation of Norwalke, unto Saml. Keeler, with respect to his service, as he was a souldier in the late Indian warr, one parcell of land lying upon Clapboard Hill, so called, containing twelfe acres more or less; and lyeth bounded East and West the common North Tho. Hyatt Land, South Ebenezer Sention Land. Recorded May, 1681."

JOHN CRAMPTON, A SOLDIER IN THE INDIAN WAR.

"John Crampton hath granted him by the towne as he was a Souldier in the late Indian warr, two Roodes of land more or less, and lyeth bounded in the East by the highway, West Saml. Bennydict's

home lott, North Tho. Betts' house lott, South, James Miller's house lott.

"John Crampton hath granted him by the towne, as he was a souldier in the late Indian warr, eight acres foure roodes of land, more or less, and lyeth upon the est branch of Norwak River, not far distant from that meadow called Webb's meadow, &c."

JAMES JUPP, A SOLDIER IN THE INDIAN WAR.

"James Jupp hath granted him by the towne, as he was a souldier in the late Indian warr, eight acres of land, and lying upon the hill called Clapboard Hill, &c."

JOHN BELDING, A SOULDIER.

"Dec. 12, 1676. Granted unto John Belding the remainder of the swamp that shall be left, when his Father Hales is laid out, and to be a part of the land that he is to have for his being a souldier."

JONATHAN STEVENSON, A SOULDIER IN THE DIREFUL SWAMP-FIGHT.

"Feb. 20, 1677. Granted by towne vote unto Jonathan Stevenson libberty to take up 4 acres of his twelve acres given him by the town for his being a souldier; and that against Tho. Hiet's home lot, on the East side of the aforesaid Hiet, joyning unto him; onely due care is to be taken by them that lay it out, that the towne be not deprived of the benefit of the springs for their cattel in the winter season."

THE DIREFUL SWAMP-FIGHT.

"This was in King Philip's war. After some successes of Philip there was a general rising of the Indians against the English for an extent of nearly three hundred miles. The Indians were perfectly acquainted with the situation of every English settlement. They lurked at every unguarded pass, crept by night into their barns, gardens, and out-houses, concealed themselves behind fences, laid in wait in the fields. The whole country, save some few towns, was a wilderness. Parties of Indians would plunder and burn a town, carry the inhabitants away captive, and then retire into the forests and swamps. Brookfield had been burnt; Hadley, Deerfield, and Northfield had been attacked, and numbers killed; Capt. Lathrop and ninety or a hundred men had been ambushed and slaughtered between Hadley and Deerfield; Springfield had been attacked and partly destroyed. The Narragansetts, who had made a treaty with the English, now harbored their enemies, and many of their warriors, after having been engaged in these marauding expeditions, had returned wounded. There was the clearest evidence that the Narragansetts were preparing to join openly in the war. They could muster two thousand warriors, and had a thousand muskets. Should the Indians all engage in the spring in such a warfare as they had hitherto carried on, there was scarcely any hope but that nearly all the English settlements must be cut off in detail without the possibility of successful resistance.

"It was therefore determined to attack them in the



winter, though such an enterprise was full of hazard. Should any disaster befall the troops of the colonies, it might be difficult or impossible to send them succors or supplies, on account of the deep and pathless snows and the exposures of the winter and the wilderness, besides the danger from the Indians. But dreadful necessity compelled them to make the attempt.

"Massachusetts furnished five hundred and twenty-seven men, Plymouth one hundred and fifty-eight, and Connecticut three hundred men and one hundred and fifty Mohegan and Pequot Indians. The Connecticut troops had marched from Stonington to Pettaquamscutt. Here they expected shelter, but the Indians had burned the buildings and killed the inhabitants only a day or two before. This was on December 17th. The weather was cold and stormy. The next day they marched, and formed a junction with the Massachusetts and Plymouth forces. Here again they were obliged to spend the night uncovered in the open field. The next morning, at break of day, the army marched towards the Narragansett fort, which was in a deep tangled swamp, fifteen miles distant. The snow was deep, and the weather extremely cold. At one o'clock they reached the enemy's fort. It was on rising ground, in the midst of the swamp, surrounded with palisades, and, outside of these, with a hedge of brush a rod thick. The only entrance which appeared practicable was over a log which lay five or six feet from the ground, and this entrance was defended in front by a fortress of logs 'and on the left by a flanker.' The Massachusetts troops, who were in front, mounted the log and rushed on. A few entered the fort. The fire from the log house and flanker was so hot that a sufficient number could not force their way through to support them, and those who had entered were cut down. The deep snow and the tangled thicket rendered it impossible for the whole body of troops to come up at once, and it was a considerable time before all could be brought into action. At length the Connecticut troops, who formed the rear, mounted over the log and rushed into the fort. Some others forced their way to the opposite side of the fort and succeeded in making good their entrance while the attention of the enemy was engaged in front. A long, bloody, and dubious conflict ensued, but the enemy were at length overcome, and what were not killed in the battle fled to the swamp. Three hundred Indian warriors perished on the spot. Many were wounded, and perished from their wounds and from the cold. Nearly the same number were taken prisoners. It was a dreadful day.

"The victory was dearly bought. Six captains fell in the action, and eighty men were killed or mortally wounded. One hundred and fifty were wounded, who afterwards recovered. After burning the fort and all that it contained, the little army, just at the setting of the sun, carrying about two hundred dead and

wounded, marched back to their headquarters. The night was cold and stormy. It was midnight before they got in. None could have their wounds dressed till they reached their headquarters. Many died who might otherwise have recovered; many perished with cold and fatigue. Well might the fathers of this town call it '*the direful swamp-fight.*'"

#### THE WATCH.

"At a towne meeting November y<sup>e</sup> 9, 1677, it was agreed that y<sup>e</sup> watch should be laied down, until such time as there is more danger apering; and that we will stand by y<sup>e</sup> constable if any trubble should arise upon that account."

#### THE MILLER.

"At y<sup>e</sup> aforesaid meeting, it was voted and agreed on between the towne and the miller, John Whitne, that the townsmen are to carry their corne to the mill upon the third and sixth days of the weak, comonly called tuesday & friday; which days he is to attend to grindin, & if the sayd John can clere the mill of the corne that is brought in the aforesaid two days or before, then the rest of the days of the week he may take to attend to his own occasions; but if he cannot clere the mill of the corne then seasonably brought in, he must clere it before he leaves."

#### SAW-MILL.

"Also at y<sup>e</sup> same meeting, granted unto Richard Holms liberty to erect, set up, and improve a saw-mill upon five mile river, and liberty for timber one mile on this side of y<sup>e</sup> sayd river; only the sayd Richard is not to pass over y<sup>e</sup> sayd grant to any but such as the town shall approve of; this saw-mill is to be set up & finished within two yers after this date, or else it is forfit; and the said Richard is to sell his boards and planks to the townsmen as the doe at other towns to their neighbors, and whear their are saw-mills."

#### THE SCHOOL.

"At a towne meting May the 29th, 1678, voted and agreed to hier a scole master to teach all the childring in the towne to lerne to Rede and write; & that Mr. Cornish shall be hierd for that cervice, & the townsmen are to hier him upon as reasonable terms as they can."

#### NEW MEETING-HOUSE.

"At a towne meeting Desember 17, 1678, it was voted and agreed that the towne will leave the difference about where the meting house shall stand that is now to be erected, to three honest indifferent judicious men; and they are to vew the places in controversy, and to hear all Resons & arguments on both sides, & the towne ingages to sit down satisfied with there determination, as to the place of its standing.

"And further it was voted and agreed, that the honored deputy Governor, the honored Major Goold, with the Rev. Elder Buckingham, shall be the men that the towne shall put this matter of difference too, respecting the place whear the meting house shall stand.

At the same meeting voted and agreed, that the meting house that is to be erected shall be forty foote square, & sixtene foote betwin joynts, and the Rofe of the sayed house to be built after the manner of Faierfeld meting house."

#### TAVERN-KEEPER.

"At the same meting, Mathias Sention was chosen to keep an ordinary for the entertayning strangers, &c."

#### MEETING-HOUSE COMMITTEE.

"Also voted and agreed (Jan. 31, 1678), that the six men that were formerly choosin to oversee the work aboute the meting house as a commite for that cervice, should now be named and recorded; that is to say, Mr. Fitch, senr., Thos. Bennydict, senr., Nathaniel Hayes, John Bouton, John Platt, Thos. Fitch, junr."

#### BUILDING THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"At the sayd meeting, the towne by a vote doe give and grant unto the above sayd commite full power to let out the said meting house that is to be erected according to their best discession; & the dimensions formerly agreed on; as may best advantage the sayd work; and in the same to have respect to the inhabitants for to improve them, both hands and carts, as they are capable of, so as may best advantage the work. And also to set a prise of their work by the day, eyther in the labor of a man, or carting. Also provided that what hands or carts are warned out to the work, & shall not attend to the work, having two days warning, by the committee or any one of them by appointment from the rest, the laboring man shall forfeit two shillings by the day, and a teme fower shillings; and what charges shall arise upon the sayd work, the town ingages to discharge it by way of rate.

"Also at y<sup>e</sup> said meeting it was voted and agreed that it shall be left to the commite that is to oversee the work, to take the next convenient seson to send for the Gentlemen y<sup>e</sup> is chosen to put an end to our differences about the meting house, & to take care for their comfortable and honorable entertainment; and what chargis shall be expendid aboute it shall be defrayed by the towne."

#### BEATING THE DRUM.

"At a towne meeting—February y<sup>e</sup> 18, 1678, — Robbart Stuard ingages y<sup>e</sup> his son James shall beate the drumb on the Sabbath and on other ocations; is to have it for that cervice."

#### WORKING AT THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"At a towne meeting held at Norwalk March 4th, 1678 or '79, it was voted that the Comitty Chosen By the Town, viz.: Mr. Fitch, Thomas Bennydict, senr., Nathaniell Hayes, John Bouton, John Platt, Thomas Fitch, junior, should goe on with the worke Comitted to them, in referance to the meeting house, and to goe on with the worke forthwith, according to their best Discession."

#### CEDAR SHINGLES.

"At the aforesayd meeting it was voted and agreed that the Committee shall and may gett or procure Cedar shingles for the Meeting House, if they can be procured upon Reasonable terms."

#### SITE OF THE OLD MEETING-HOUSE.

"At the afore said meeting (23 April, 1679), it was voted and agreed by the inhabitants of the town of Norwalk, that all the common land commonly known and called and improved for a meeting house yard, wheare the old meeting house now standeth, Bounded on the south by Mr. Hanford's Lott, on the North with Mathew Marvin, senior's Lott, on the east with Thomas Seamer's Lott, on the West with Mathew Marvin, Junior's Lott, shall, as at this present it is, for ever be improved for that end and use; namely of setting up a meeting house there; unless that every particular proper Inhabitant shall freely consent to any other improvement thereof.

"At the same Meeting it was also voated and agreed by the towne that all that Common Land, commonly known and called Goodman Hoyt's hill; every part and parcel of it, shall, as heartofore, forever for the future, be common, and not be improved to any other use; unless it be for the setting up of a watch house there; without the consent and approbation of every Individual proper Inhabitant."

#### MEETING-HOUSE COMMITTEE.

"At the same meeting it was voted and agreed by the towne that Daniel Kellogg shall be joynd with the comitee in the acting and transacting of the business and worke committed to them in carrying on of the worke of the meeting house, according to the former order of the towne in that case."

#### THE COMMITTEE STRENGTHENED.

"At a Towne meeting October the 4th, 1679, it was voted and agreed that there shall be suitable persons chosen to strengthen the committee to carry on the worke of the new meeting house.

"At the aforesayd meeting, October 4th, 1679, voted and agreed that — Haite and Robbart Stewart are added unto the committee — as committee men for the carrying on the worke of the new meeting house, and to have equall power with the rest of the committee that was formerly chosen for the aforesayd worke."

#### STRAY HORSES.

"At the aforesayd meeting, the town did Declare and manifest they would stand by the act of the select men in the act of selling the stray horses for the use and bennefitt of the Towne. At the aforesayd Meeting it was agreed and voted, that the Money for the stray horses souled, shall be improved for to Defray Townes Charges; and the overplus to remaine in the Treasurer's hand for the use of the Towne."

#### WARNING TO TOWN-MEETINGS.

"At the aforesayd meeting, it was voted and agreed that if the select men shall be necessitated to send to



Peter Clapum to warne him to meetings, those that are sent shall be allowed one shilling for every warning.

"At the aforesayd meeting it was voted and agreed that the Towne would stand by Samuell Smith, Towne Treasurer, in case of need, to straine any that either neglect or refuse to pay."

#### THE WATCH.

"At the sayd meeting (Feb. 20, 1679) the Towne engageth to bare the Constable harmless from any damage in forebareing the watch until such time as ye constable with ye select men shall see cause for to sett up a watch."

#### POUNDS.

"At the sayd meeting it was voted that those pounds as are now erected within the Bounds of Norwalk, shall returne to the towne.

"At the aforesayd meeting it was voted and agreed that there shall be noe pound or pounds either begun or perfected for that end, for to catch horses, within the bounds of Norwalk, on the penalty of 20s a weeke, soe long as they are soe improved, without the approbation of the towne."

#### MARKING COLTS.

"At the aforesayd meeting it was voted and agreed that Jachin Gregory, John Hayt, John Keeler, and Joseph Gregory shall be the masters or overseers of those pounds lieing by five mile river side, who are to be sworne to a faithfull performance of the trust committed to them; who are to mark all colts and yeerlings as they apprehend belong to the owners of such mares as shall be brought in, with their owners markes, and also they are to bring in all such strays, or unmarked horses, as they shall take in those pounds, unto the towne."

#### UNMARKED HORSES.

"At the afforesayd meeting it was voted and agreed that all unmarked horses, as either have been sould or shall be for the future sould, the one half of the prices for which they are sould for, shall be to those by whom they are taken; the other half of the price to the use and benefitt of the towne; and none of those horses that are taken, are to be any way marked or disposed of out of the pound without the approbation of the Master or masters of the pound, on the penalty of the forfeiture of twenty shillings."

#### DETERMINING THE PLACE FOR THE NEW MEETING-HOUSE.

"At a towne meeting held the 3d of May, 1679, there was a writing Presented by Mr. Thomas Fitch, senr., and Thomas Fitch, Junr, unto the towne to be read; and was read; which they did say and affirm was the award and determination of the Gentlemen, namely, Major Treat and Major Gold, Respecting the place for the setting up of the new meeting-house.

"At a towne meeting held at Norwalke, June the 2d, 1680, voted and agreed by the towne that they doe close in with, and accept of, the act of the Generall Court in reference to a lott for the settlement of the place of the new meeting house.

"At the afforsayed Meeting, agreed and voted that the towne will choose some honest, Judicious, Indifferent men, for to see this act of the Generall Court, in reference to a lott for the settlement of the place of the meeting house put into execution; and it is also left to the selectmen to procure those men; and the time when the matter shall be put in execution in case of need."

#### BRIDGE.

"At the afforsayd meeting (December the 28th, 1680), John Whitney, James Pickett, Thomas Bennidick, Junior, were chosen a committee to determine the place of erecting a Bridge over Norwalk River; they or any two of them concurring as to the place, whither at the great rock below the lower cart path; or Below the falls; and the abovesayed committee have power to call forth and improve hands and teames for the carrying on and finishing the sayed Bridge: viz. a sufficient horse bridge; and that with as much expedition as may be convenient."

#### BEATING THE DRUM.

"Zerubbabell Haite hath undertaken to beate the drumne for publick meetings, and also for such stray horses as are brought in to be sould, for which he is to have fourteen shillings; and ten pence a time that stray horses are brought in to be sould."

#### TOWN DRUM (1681).

"At the aforesayed meetinge, the towne by voate ordereth the select men to purchase of Francis Bushnell a drum for the townes use; and also the Traine band to have the use of the same a convenient time, untill the saide companie shall procure one; and provided the sayd drum can be procured upon Reasonable Tearmes."

#### REMOVING THE DESK AND SEATS OF THE OLD MEETING-HOUSE TO THE NEW ONE.—BEGINNING TO MEET IN THE NEW MEETING-HOUSE.

"At a Towne meeting in Norwalk, held the 8th of November, 1681, the Towne agreed and voted with a unanimous consent, that with all convenient speede, the committee for the new meeting house have power to, and are desired and ordered, with the help of such inhabitants as at the present meeting engaged one day's worke upon — to remove the deske, and seates, and planks of the old meeting house to the new meeting house, and theire to fix them as well as the same will accommodate the sayd new meeting house; and the Towne for the future to meet in the sayd new meeting house to weight upon the Lord in his divine publique worshippe as opportunitie presents."

#### KEEPING ORDER IN MEETING IN THE YEAR 1681.

"Thomas Barnum was chosen and appoynted, for to oversee and to keep good Decorum amongst the youth in times of exercise on the Sabbath and other Publique meetings; and the Towne doe empower him if he see any disorderly, for to keep a small stick to correct such with; oneley he is Desired to do it with

clemency; and if any are incorridgable in such disorder, he is to present them either to their parents or masters; and if they do not reclaim them, then to present such to authority."

#### ATTENDING TOWN MEETINGS.

"At the same meeting it was voted and agreed by the towne, that all persons that are members of Towne Meetings, that shall neglect to attend meetings when they are legally warned, within one houre after the time prefixed by those that warne them, they shall pay one shilling as a fyne, &c."

#### FINING THE MAJORITY FOR UNLAWFUL ACTS.

"At the same meeting it was voted by the towne that all that land yett lying in Common; namely a full mile out round from the corner of Richard Olmsted's common fence and a mile out round from the house of William Lees, the sayd land to ly for ever in Common; and if the Major part of the towne shall give, grant, or sell any land now soe lying in common within the said limits, they shall pay five shillings a rod, for every rod so given or sould, and so proportionably, for any other quantitie, they shall pay it to the Minor part of the towne.

"At the same meeting it was voted and agreed by the Towne, that there shall be a division of six acres to the hundred granted to all the inhabitants, without the limits of the mile excepted in the former order; to take it up where they can find it; provided they are not to prejudice any highway into the woods or to men's peculiar proprieties already taken up; only those as have a former grant of land and have yett not taken it up, they have a month's time to pitch where they can find it, beyond the limits before expressed; viz. a mile, and then this order to take place."

#### SELLING THE OLD MEETING-HOUSE.

"Feb. 19, 1683. The Towne voted to make sale of the old Meeting House; and forthwith at the sayd meeting the Towne sould the sayd house unto Josiah Gregorie for the some of fowre pounds, to be payd to them in one yeere, in currant merchantable pay, for the use of the towne."

#### NEW SEATS IN THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"At the aforesaid meeting, the towne voated to have the meeting-house seated more comfortable seates, according to the forme the seats are at the present; much as to the same manner, both for order and forme.

"At the aforesaid meeting, the town voated the former committee that were improved to finish the meeting house, as now to goe on to new seating the sayd house completly and sufficiently, according to their discretion; the forme of the same above sayed being described; giving and granting unto the said committee full power to improve the inhabitants, their persons, and Teemes to carry on the worke, and to procuer materialls where it may best be had; and to make rates for the defraying the charge."

#### SENDING A MAN TO HARTFORD.

"Desember the 16th, 1684. The Towne voted and agreed to improve Samuel Hayes with as much convenient speed as may be to travell up to Hartford — what light and guidance may be had — counsell about — lands that is in controversy between the Towne and Fairfield, &c."

#### CATALOGUE OF LANDS.

A Cattelog of a division of land agreed to be layd out at three acors to the hundred; with the severall lotts as they were drawn by the inhabitants.

#### *Imprimis:*

Robbart Steward, 1.	Mark Sension, 21.
Ralph Keiler, 2.	Samuel Hayes, 22.
John Keiler, 3.	Thomas Seamer, 23.
John Gregory, Sr., 4.	James Sension, 24.
Christopher Comstock, 5.	Nathaniel Richards, 25.
John Platt, 6.	Thomas Betts, 26.
Samuel Camfield, 7.	John Bennydict, 27.
Ephraim Lokwood, 8.	Lieutenant Olmsted, 28.
John Gregory, Jr., 9.	Edward Nash, 29.
Thomas Bennydict, Jr., 10.	Daniel Kellog, 30.
Richard Holms, 12.	Matthu Marvin, Sr., 31.
Samuell Bennydict, 13.	Matthu Marvin, Jr., 32.
Thomas Lupton, 15.	John Ruscoe, 33.
John Bouton, 16.	George Abbet, 34.
John Hayt, 17.	Mr. Hanford, 35.
Mr. Thomas Fitch, 18.	Matthias Sension, 36.
Samuel Sension, 19.	Thomas Fitch, 37.
John Raymond, 20.	Nathaniel Hayes, 38.

#### SCHOOL.

"August the 20, 1686. Voted by the towne that they would hyer a schoole master for a Quartere of a yeere; and allow him wages after the Rate of thirty pounds a yeere, which is to be payd by the inhabitants according to their lists of estate."

"At the same meeting the towne by vote did leave it with the select men or the major part of them, for to hyer a schoole master; and also to obtaine a house for that use, and to fitt it with conveniences for schooleing."

#### SEATING THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"December the 24th, 1686. Voted and agreed by the towne that the seating of the meeting house shall be for the generallyty to be seated according to the lists of estates by which the men payd in the defraying the charges about the building and finishing the said house.

"At the same meeting the towne did manifest that the seat or pew under the Pulpitt shall be sequestered for such as are orderly constituted or officiate in the place or office of a Deacon or Deacons.

"At the same meeting the towne did vote John Gregory, senr. and Mr. Fitch, and Thomas Betts, senr., for to be seated in the round seat.

"At the same meeting the town did vote that their should be five more seated in the round seat with Mr. Fitch, John Gregory, and Thomas Betts, senr., and fowre in the seat behind, and five in the long seats throughout. And also the cross seat to be reputed the third seat of the long seats, and foure to sitt in the sayd seat."



## SEATING THE KING'S COMMISSIONER.

"At a towne meeting held in Norwalk, December the 28, 1686, At the sayd meeting the towne by vote did add one more person to every seat than is expressed in a former vote, bareing date Decemb<sup>r</sup> 24, 1686. At the same meeting the towne did vote Mr. Thomas Fitch, for to be seated in the meeting house in the upper great round seat, as he is the King's Commissioner.

"At the same meeting the towne made choyse of John Bouton, senr. for to help in seating the meeting house, in the roome of Mr. Fitch, he refusing to attend the sayd work.

"Feb. 18th, 1686. Zerubbabell Hoyt did ingage to beat the Drum and maintaine it, and that on all publique occasions; and to sweep the meeting house for the yeere insuing, and is allowed for his labor two and forty shillings."

## MR. HANFORD GROWING OLD.

"March 25, 1686 or 87. The towne did by vote manifest and declare that they doe desire Mr. Hanford to proceed in the worke of the ministry, and to continue in the sayd work, untill the Lord by his providence shall dispose of him otherwise;—promising to indeavor to our ability for to give him due encouragement."

## DEPUTY TO THE GENERAL COURT.

"At a towne meeting held in Norwalk, May the 9th, 1686, voted and agreed by the town to allow Samuel Hayes, who is elected deputy for the towne for to attend the generall court, the said Samuel Hayes is allowed thirty shillings for himself to be paid as the country Rate is payd the next yeere, and tenn shillings for his horse, journey, &c."

## LINE BETWEEN NORWALK AND FAIRFIELD.

"At a towne meeting held in Norwalk, June the 17, 1687. Whereas we having received a note from Captain Samuel Eells, Captain Beard, and Mr. Judson, in order to the measuring of a seventh mile as some ungroundedly call it, and likewise a dividend lyne betweene Fairfield and Norwalk: Whearfore the towne by these presents by vote doth declare that they shall not comply nor agree with the aforesayd persons, viz., Captain Eells, Captaine Beard, Mr. Judson, as a committee, or any other persons in the measuring of any mile, or running any dividend lyne upon any land of ours lawfully purchased by us; Allso doe hereby forewarne any person or persons on any land of ours soe to do at present."

## LANDS SEQUESTERED FOR THE INDIANS.

"December 12, 1687. Voted and agreed that three acres of land shall be sequestered for the Indians on the other side of the river, lying on the left hand of the roade leading towards Stamford."

## DIVISION OF OVER RIVER LAND.

"Dec. 12, 1687. All common land Over the River, leaving sufficient for highways, to be laid out by lot, to the inhabitants, according to their estates.

"Three score acres of the same sequestered for the Indians.

"A division granted of 20 Acres to the hundred.

"Nathl. Hayes, and Sergt. John Platt, a committee to lay out the division; lots to be granted to those only who are proper inhabitants. Samuel Keeler allowed to 'come off' from the division Over the River, and to 'pitch at the foot of the hill on the right hand of the path commonly called Ponasses.' Also Jachin & Thos. Gregory, 'liberty to come off from their division, and to take on the West side of the path, 'bounded North by Ponasses path;' also Richd. Cosiar, 1 1-2 acres on the north side of the path commonly called Ponasses."

## DRAWING OF LOTS.

The number of Lots and the order as they were drawn, of that Division of Land over Norwalk River, below the path leading to the Meadow field.

William Lees, 1.	Robert Stewart, 27.
Samuell Smith, 2.	John Lockwood, 28.
William Sturdivant, 3.	Ralph Keeler, 29.
Thomas Betts, Sr., 4.	John Ruscoe, 30.
Matthias Sension, 5.	Daniell Kellogg, 31.
John Gregory, Jr., 6.	John Platt, 32.
Mark Sension, 7.	John Bennidick, 33.
James Stewart, 8.	Widow Lupton, 34.
Thomas Benidick, Jr., 9.	Samuel Betts, 35.
Samuel Hayes, 10.	Thomas Benedick, Sr., 36.
John Betts, 11.	Edward Nash, 37.
John Abitt, 12.	John Keeler, 38.
Mr. Thomas Fitch, 13.	John Whitney, 39.
John Crampton, 14.	Thomas Betts, Jr., 40.
Walter Hoyt, 15.	Christopher Comstock, 41.
John Gregory, Sr., 16.	Joseph Ketcham, 42.
John Beldin, 17.	Mr. Thomas Hanford, 43.
Matthew Marvin, 18.	Daniel Betts, 44.
Frances Bushnell, 19.	John Reed, Sr., 45.
Nathaniel Hayes, 20.	James Olmstead, 46.
John Raymond, Sr., 21.	Thomas Fitch, Jr., 47.
Thomas Hyett, 22.	Thomas Barnum, 48.
James Jupp, 23.	John Bouton, Sr., 49.
George Abbitt, 24.	Elizabeth Sension, 50.
Thomas Seamer, 25.	Andrew Messenger, 51.
Richard Holmes, 26.	John Bouton, Jr., 52.

## ESTATES.

The Estates of Commonage of the Inhabitants of Norwalk, Presented and Accepted by the towne, Jan. 3, 1687.

	£	s.	d.
John Gregory, Jr.....	100	0	0
John Gregory, Sr.....	243	0	10
Joseph Gregory.....	100	0	0
Nathaniel Hayes.....	215	0	0
Thomas Lupton.....	150	0	0
Richard Holmes.....	155	0	0
John Ruscoe.....	250	0	0
Mr. Hanford.....	300	0	0
Theophilus Hanford.....	50	0	0
Thomas Benidick, Sr.....	153	0	0
John Bouton, Sr.....	184	15	0
John Benidick.....	100	0	0
Thomas Benidick, Jr.....	100	0	0
Thomas Betts, Jr.....	99	6	2
Daniel Kellogg.....	96	0	0
Matthew Marvin, Sr.....	264	5	0
John Keeler.....	100	0	0
Jonathan Rockwell.....	50	0	0
Richard Cosiar.....	50	0	0
Daniell Betts.....	69	6	2
Ralph Keeler.....	170	10	0
Thomas Betts, Sr.....	196	10	10
Samuel Betts.....	324	6	2
James Betts.....	59	6	2
Ephraim Lockwood.....	120	0	0
John Lockwood.....	50	0	0
John Platt, Sr.....	268	13	4
Ebenezer Sension.....	130	0	0
James Jupp.....	55	0	0
John Crampton.....	33	6	8

	£	s.	d.
Thomas Hyett.....	55	0	0
Elisabeth Sension.....	150	0	0
Samuel Smith.....	204	15	0
Mr. Fitch.....	364	0	0
John Fitch.....	117	0	0
Joseph Ketcham.....	117	0	0
Mark Sension.....	302	0	0
George Abitt, Sr.....	125	0	0
John Abitt.....	50	0	0
Walter Hoyt.....	242	0	0
Zerubbabell Hoyt.....	50	0	0
Matthias Sension, Sr.....	195	0	0
Matthias Sension, Jr.....	50	0	0
Samuel Keeler.....	103	10	0
John Beldin.....	170	0	0
James Stewart.....	50	0	0
Steven Beckwith.....	54	0	0
John Whittney.....	110	0	0
William Sturdivant.....	160	0	0
Samuel Camfield.....	155	0	0
Thomas Gregory.....	100	0	0
John Reed, Sr.....	125	0	0
William Lees.....	103	0	0
Jachin Gregory.....	100	0	0
John Betts.....	69	6	2
Robert Stewart.....	225	0	0
Andrew Messenger.....	225	0	0
Thomas Fitch.....	200	0	0
John Olmsted.....	159	15	0
Christopher Comstock.....	201	10	0
Daniell Comstock.....	60	0	0
Thomas Seamer.....	184	15	0
John Raymond, Sr.....	200	0	0
John Raymond, Jr.....	50	0	0
Edward Nash.....	216	0	0
John Nash.....	100	0	0
John Bouton, Jr.....	50	0	0
James Browne.....	50	0	0
Samuell Hayes.....	150	0	0
Samuell Beldin.....	63	0	0
Peter Clappum.....	100	0	0
Thomas Murwin.....	100	0	0
Jonathan Abitt.....	50	0	0
Samuel Benidick.....	50	0	0
Thomas Barnum.....	40	0	0
Frances Bushnell.....	10	0	0
James Benidick.....	37	0	0
Daniell Benidick.....	36	0	0

## FORTIFYING THE MEETING-HOUSE.\*

"At a towne meeting held in Norwalk, April the 30, 1690, the towne voted and agreed, that the Meeting house should be the place to be fortified, and a garrison to be erected in order to the security of the towne.

"The committee for 'carrying on this work were Serjt. John Platt, Serjeant John Beldin, John Ruscoe, and Saml. Hayes.' These had power to proportion to every inhabitant his allotment of work, and to take them in 'the order of house rows,' beginning 'at John Gregorie's' and 'so along that row,' and 'the first man's proportion to begin at the south gate, and so goe along in the same order.'"

## SCHOOL-KEEPING.

"Feb. 21, 1692. Thomas Hanford, junior, was chosen to the work and employment of a school-master, for to learn children for to reade and write, and to begin present on that work, and to continue on sayd work one moneth; and then at the beginning of next somer, to enter the sayed work againe, and in

\* This was just after the destruction of Schenectady and Salmon Falls. The country was in great alarm; the frontier towns were everywhere in peril. A special Assembly had been called on the 11th of April, which determined that there was a necessity for the utmost exertions to prevent the settlement of the French at Albany. "It was ordered that a constant watch should be kept in the several towns, and that all the males in the colony, except the aged and infirm, should keep watch in their turns. If the aged and infirm were more than £50 in the list, they were to procure a man in their turns, to watch and guard in their stead."

case hee and the towne can agree, for five months more. And he to be allowed and payd one pound, ten shillings for each moneth that he shall attend to the sayd work and imployment."

## KILLING WOLVES.

"June 7, 1693. Agreed and voted that there shall be allowed and payd unto any person who shall kill any wolfe or wolves within the bounds of the towne, the sum of 12s. more than is allowed to be payed by the towne. This order to stand in full force a twelve-month."

## DEATH OF MR. HANFORD.

"At a towne meeting, Dec. 26, 1693, voted and agreed for to allow unto Mrs. Hanford, widow of Mr. Thomas Hanford, deceased, for his labor and work in the ministry the sum of sixty pounds the yeere expiring the first of March next."

## DISTRIBUTING MR. HANFORD'S ESTATE.

Distributed to Elnathan Hanford for his part and portion out of his father's estate, viz., ye Reverend Mr. Thomas Hanford, late of Norwalk, deceased, viz.:

	£	s.
To one eighth part of the Home lott or homestead.....	13	15
To pasture lott.....	18	00
To half ye Indian Brook land.....	9	00
To half the Stonny Hill lott, ye east end of it.....	10	00
To thirty acres and half at White Oak Shade.....	7	13

## LISTS OF VOTERS AT TOWN-MEETINGS.

"On the 4th of December, 1694, an order was taken 'that all persons who are members of town-meetings, who have a vote and suffrage in towne affaires,' who should not attend town meetings when legally warned, and within one hour after the time, should pay a fine of two shillings.

"The following is the roll, with the names checked according as they were present or absent at some subsequent meeting:

John Gregory, Jr.	Ebenezer Web.
Nathl. Hayes.	Thomas Hanford.
James Hayes.	Daniell Betts.
Richd. Holmes.	Ralph Keeler.
John Ruscoe.	James Betts.
Thomas Ruscoe.	Samuel Betts.
Eliezer Hanford.	Daniel Lockwood.
John Benidick, Jr.	Matthias Sension, Jr.
John Bouton.	John Platt, Sr.
James Browne.	John Platt, Jr.
Thomas Betts.	Ebenezer Sension.
Daniel Kellogg.	James Jupp.
Matthew Marvin.	John Crampton.
Mr. William Haynes.	Thomas Hyatt.
Jonathan Abitt.	John Stewart.
Samuel Smith.	Andrew Messenger.
Samuel Kellogg.	Thomas Benidick.
Mr. Thomas Fitch.	Thomas Fitch.
John Fitch, Sr.	John Olmstead.
Joseph Ketchum.	James Olmstead.
Joseph Sension.	Christopher Comstock.
John Abitt.	Samuell Beldin.
George Abitt.	Samuell Hayes.
Zerubbabell Hoyt.	Matthew Seamer.
Walter Hoyt.	Benjamin Scrivener.
Matthias Sension, Sr.	David Monroe.
Samuell Keeler.	Richard Cosiar.
John Raymond Jr.	Thomas Seamer.
John Beldin.	Joseph Gregory.



James Stewart.  
Stephen Beckwith.  
Joseph Rockwell.  
John Whitney.  
William Sturdivant.  
Andrew Lyon.  
James Sension.  
Jonathan Rockwell.  
William Lees.  
John Betts.  
Jachin Gregory.  
John Keeler.  
Thomas Rockwell.

John Raymond, Sr.  
Samuell Raymond.  
Edward Nash.  
John Nash.  
Isaac Sherwood.  
John Reed, Sr.  
John Reed, Jr.  
John Butler.  
Ebenezer Camfield.  
Richard Wood.  
Peter Clappum.  
Joseph Goldsmith."

PROCURING A MINISTER.

"At a towne meeting held in Norwalk, January the 16th, 1694; at sayed meeting, the towne made choyse of ten of their inhabitants as the Towne committee, viz., Serj't John Platt, Matthew Marvin, Serj't Christopher Comstock, Serj't John Bouton, Samuel Hayes, John Benidick, James Olmsted, Ensign John Beldin, Ralph Keeler, Samuel Smith; and commissioned they their said committee, in the behalfe of the towne (viz.) as followeth; they are to exercise their best prudence for to look out for, and endeavor what in them lyeth, in the use of all lawfull meanes, for to obtaine a faithfull Minister and Dispenser of the word of the Gospell to us in this place; and in order thereunto, they are to send forth their requests or invitations according to their best prudence and judgment to that end, either by writing or by messenger, or both, as the major part of the committee shall agree; and they their sayd committee are to order and take care for his entertainment when obtained; while the Towne doth hereby engage for to discharge and pay all necessary charges arising therefrom."

REPAIRING THE BRIDGE.

"Feb. 20, 1694-95. The towne made choyse of Matthew Marvin, John Whitney, and Thomas Betts, for to take exact view of the Bridge over Norwalk River, and to repaire the same, eyther by erecting a new bridge or by repaireing the old, according to their best judgment and prudence in that matter; desiring them to be as speedy on the sayd work as may be, and as the season will permitt; and they the above named persons are and have hereby granted them full power for to warn forth and to call to the carrying on the said work, either handes or teames, or both, as occasion shall require, and as they shall see meet for the carrying on and effecting sayed work, for the compleat repayering the sayd bridge."

MR. STONE EMPLOYED AS PREACHER.

"At a towne meeting held December the 5th, 1694, it was voted and agreed by the towne, Andrew Messenger was chosen collector for to give notice to the inhabitants for the bringing in their proportions when the rate shall be made by the townsmen, and to see that the whole of the thirty pounds due to Mr. Stone for his half yeere's preaching the word, be duly and truly payed according to the towne's engagement with the sayed Mr. Stone; and the sayed Andrew for to act according to the law directing in such cases."

OBTAINING A MINISTER.

"At a Towne meeting held in Norwalk, 2d of April, 1695; at sayed meeting it was voted and agreed, and by the towne declared as their mind, that the committee formerly chosen for to act for the towne for the obtaining a minister, have hereby full and free liberty from the towne for to move to whom or whear they shall see cause, for the obtaining of the end promised; without any restraint or limitation to any person or persons; this to stand full and good, notwithstanding any former act of the towne contrary to this present order, vote, and declaration of the mind of the town."

PURCHASING A MINISTER'S LOT.

"May 23, 1695, voted and agreed by the towne, that that lott obtained of Joseph Gregory, shall be for the accommodatig of a Gospell minister for the towne; and that it is also agreed by the towne, that at such time as God shall please to bring in unto us such a minister, then and at that day that he shall be called to office and ordayned pastor of the church in Norwalk, then the aforesaid lott shall be and remaine to him, his heires for ever.\*

"At a towne meeting, held July the 2d, 1695, at sayed meeting it was voted and agreed upon by the towne, that that land, pasture, and swamp lying in the generall field, granted to the ministry, shall be cleared and fenced, and made for improvement for pasture and meadow.

"Also at the same meeting it was voted and also granted by the town unto the minister, to him and his heirs, a parcell of salt marsh meadow lying in the bounds of Norwalk, and that over the river on the west side of the towne, &c.—the sayed parcell of meadow the towne engages for to fence and make capable of improvement, &c.

"Also, at the same meeting, the towne by vote hath given and granted to the minister ten acres of land for plowing, and that in the township of Norwalk on the east side of the brook called the north brook, and on the North East part of Mathew Marvin's Boggy Meadow, to be to him and to his heires for ever."

THE MINISTER'S FIREWOOD.

"At a towne meeting, July 17, 1695, it was voted and agreed by the towne for to allow and freely give Mr. Buckingham his firewood annually, and at all times, soe long as he shall continue to carry on the work of the ministry in Norwalk."

MINISTER'S SALARY.

"Also at the above meeting (July 17, 1695), it was voted and agreed by the towne, for to allow and pay 80*l*. per yeer, after the two first yeeres abiding with us, unto Mr. Steven Buckingham, respecting his carrying on the work of the ministry. The said 80*l*. to

\* This was the lot between Capt. Daniel Hanford's and the residence of the late Hanford Fitch. It was occupied by Rev. Stephen Buckingham. The railroad now crosses it.

be annually payed by the town by way of proportion; extraordinary cases only excepted."

#### THE MINISTER'S HOUSE.

"December 18, 1695. At the sayd meeting the Towne did manifest and by vote did agree, that they would build a house for the minister, with as much speed as might be with conveniency; and the dimensions of the sayd house are as followeth: two and fourty foot in length, and two and twenty foot in breadth, and two story high, or two lofts, and double chimneys; and a comely porch to syd house; and a seller under one end of the syd house; and stone the syd seller; the sayed house is allso to have a comly gett at each end of the same; and all to be decently finished upon the towne's cost."

#### THE MINISTER'S SALARY.\*

"At a towne meeting held in Norwalk, October the 8th, 1697. At sayd meeting it was voted and agreed by the towne that the eighty pounds sallary granted to Mr. Buckingham, the towne doth agree to pay it as followeth, both for specie and price, vizt.; winter-wheat, at five shillings per bushell, Indian corn at two shillings and six pence per bushell, Rye at foure shillings per bushell, porke at three pence farthing per pound; bief at two pence per pound; all good and merchantable, none of the inhabitants to pay above one-third part of their rate or proportion in Rye.

"Allso at the same meeting the towne by their vote did manifest their desire that the Reverend Mr. Steven Buckingham should be ordayned pastor of the church in Norwalk before winter; in case the sayd Mr. Buckingham will please to give the towne a dispensation soe long as till the last day of May next insueing for the completing and finishing the house, and allso till the next Michaelmast for the fencing and cleareing of the land engaged by the towne to be fenced and cleared for improvement."

#### CONCURRENCE OF THE TOWN WITH THE CHURCH IN SETTLING THE MINISTER.

"Allso at the same meeting the towne made choyse of Matthew Marvin and James Olmstead for to signifie unto the Reverend Elders at the time of ordination, the desire and good agreement of the towne with the church in ordaying Rev. Mr. Steven Buckingham."

\* The deed of the lands granted to Mr. Buckingham as his settlement bears date April 7, 1699:

"1. One homelot, 4 acres, bound E. by the land of Thos. Betts & the common fence partly, W. The towns highway. N. The homelot of Thos. Seamer. S. land & homelot of heirs of John Raymond, senr., Decd.—with the house which is now built.

"2. Land in the field; swamp & upland 16 acres; one half to him and his heirs forever; the other half after his decease, to return to the town.

"3. Ten acres of upland lying in the woods; lying near the Towne over the North Brook so called.

"4. Three score acres of land in the woods—bounded by marked trees, adjoining part of the land of Saml. Hayes, and Ensign John Beldin, above Chesnut Hill.

"5. Salt marsh meadow, 2 Acres, bounded E. by the cove, & N. & N. W. by the bank of upland. S. by a fence and a small creek near John Bouton's meadow.

"6. Three Hundred pounds right in commonage."

#### A GALLERY IN THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"Oct. 25, 1697. Voted and agreed to erect the foundation of a gallery in the meeting house, over the fourth part of sayd house; speedily, before the ordination if it can be accomplished. And have made choyse of Ralph Keeler, and Samuel Keeler, and John Whitney to doe the work, and to doe it soe as in their best judgment, best for the strength and conveniency of the gallery, &c."

#### ENTERTAINING THE ELDERS AND MESSENGERS AT THE ORDINATION.

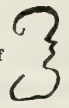
"Allso (Oct. 25, 1697). The towne made choyse of Matthew Marvin, Serjnt. John Platt, and Samuell Hayes, and John Bennidick and Thomas Betts, who are by the towne desired to take care for the providing of a comfortable entertaynment for the Reverend Elders and Messengers when heare at the time of ordination; the charge of their entertaynment to be payd by the inhabitants of the towne."

#### FLAX FOR THE DRUM-CORD.

"Allso voted and agreed for to allow to John Crampton for the yeere insueing, for beating the Drum on all publike occasions, and allso to sweep the meeting house, and to keepe the house cleane and decent; and the towne engages for to allow and to pay unto sayd Crampton two pounds ten shillings for his labour; and the towne allow the townsmen for to furnish the sayd Crampton with soe much flax as may make necessary cords for the towne's Drum; to procure the flax where they can, and the towne to pay the cost of the flax."

#### INDIAN DEED TO MR. HANFORD.

"Know all men by these presents, that I Winnipank, Indian Sagamour of Norwalk, do freely Give to my beloved friend Thomas Hanford, senior, Minister of Norwalk in y<sup>e</sup> County of Fairfield, in y<sup>e</sup> Colony of Connecticut, my Island of Land Lying against Rowerton, containing Twenty acres more or less, with all y<sup>e</sup> trees, Herbage, and other Appurtenances thereof; which s<sup>d</sup> Island is bounded on y<sup>e</sup> East with y<sup>e</sup> Island called Mamachimins, and Chachanenas, and on y<sup>e</sup> West with the point of Rowerton; I the said Winnipank Do by this my act and Deed, Alienate the s<sup>d</sup> Island from all claims of English or Indians, and as being my peculiar propriety, never by deed of gift, or sale made over to any, but now by this my deed I do give it freely to my beloved friend Thomas Hanford, senr., to possess, improve, to him and his heirs forever. In confirmation of this my act or deed, I have set to my hand & seal this second day of December Anno Domini One thousand six Hundred and Ninety.

The mark of  Winnipank.

"Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of

"JOHN GREGGORY,  
"SAMUEL HANFORD.

Winnipank Indian, y<sup>e</sup> subscriber acknowledged y<sup>e</sup> above Instrument to be his free act and deed, before me in Norwalk.

"Dec. 28th, 1698, NATHAN GOLD, Assist."



## HUNGRY SPRING.

"Feb. 23, 1699. Voted and agreed that Thomas Seamer shall be warned for to lay open to the use of the towne the Spring called Hungry Spring; for free passing of man and beasts to the sayd spring; he to remove any fence or incumbrance in the way to sayd spring, that is or was by him sett up or erected."

## THE PRICE OF FIRE WOOD.

"Feb. 23, 1699. It was voted and agreed that all persons as carry fire wood to Mr. Buckingham, shall be allowed for each load of walnut wood three shillings and six pence, and for each load of oake wood is allowed two shillings and six pence."

## BUILDING A SCHOOL-HOUSE.

"November 27, 1699. Agreed that the towne would build a schoole house as soon as may be with conveniency; and the dimensions of sayd house is agreed to be as followeth: the length 20 foote; the breadth thereof eightene foot; and at least six foot betweene joynts &c. &c."

## CERTAIN TOWN CHARGES IN 1699.\*

	s.	d.
Burning the woods, Serjt. John Platt one day.....	2	6
Saml. Belden one day burning woods—one day (and so of seven others in succession).....	2	6
Samuell Smith for towne barres.....	2	6
John Platt for a pound of butter.....	0	9
The widow Hyett a 3d part of a wolfe.....	3	4
Allowed to James Hayes for flax 2 pounds for the Towne's Drum delivered to John Crampton.....	2	0
Samuel Keeler for mending the towne barres.....	1	6

## CHARGES FOR WOLVES.

	£	s.	d.
Ensigne Belden, five wolves.....	2	10	0
Saml. Belden, one wolf.....	10	0	0
Saml. Hayes, one wolf.....	10	0	0
Josh. Rockwell, one 3d of a wolfe.....	3	4	0
Tho. Gregory, one wolfe.....	10	0	0
Saml. Smith, one wolfe.....	10	0	0
Elizar Hanford, one wolfe.....	10	0	0
Ebenezer Sension, a 3d of one wolfe.....	3	4	0

## POWDER AND LEAD.

"April 10, 1700. It was voted and agreed by the inhabitants and hearby declared as the towne's act, that there shall be a rate made and levied forthwith, for the procuering of powder and lead for the towne store or magazine; to be levied in money, a half-penny on the pound."

## CERTAIN TOWN ACCOUNTS (Dec. 30, 1701).

	£	s.	d.
Joseph Ketchum, for running the lyne between Stamford and our towne.....	0	3	6
Itm. One day burning woods.....	0	2	6
Also half one side of the pound; also some rayles carrying to the towne Barres,—all.....	0	9	0
Also, a pint of rum.....	0	1	0
Samuel Keeler, one day burning woods.....	0	2	6
His horse to the Court at New Haven.....	0	7	0
Also one day renewing the bounds of the purchase; him and his horse.....	0	4	0
Also a pint of rum.....	0	1	0
Samuel Hayes, his horse to Hartford.....	0	10	0
One third of a wolfe.....	0	3	4
Samuel Beldin, two-thirds of a wolf.....	0	6	8
Serjt. John Raymond, one-sixt part of a wolf.....	0	1	8
Zerubabell Hoyt, half one wolf.....	0	5	0
Also burning the Islands.....	0	0	18
Matthias Sension, for beating the drum.....	1	2	6
Also a drum-cord.....	0	3	0

## JOHN COPP, SCHOOLMASTER.

"Dec. 30, 1701. Voted and agreed by the towne that they would have a schoolemaster for the next

yeere insueing in case he can be obtained. Also voted and agreed that Mr. John Copp shall be the person for that work in case he can be obtained on reasonable termes.

"Also voted and agreed, that for the paying of the charge of a schoolemaster shall be as followeth: that all children from the age of five yeeres old to the age of twelve yeeres, shall all pay an equall proportion; excepting the feamale; all that doe not goe to schoole, and all youths above the age of twelve years as goe in the day, shall pay equally with the others above sayd; and all night schoolers shall pay a third part soe much as the day schoolers; and the schoolers to pay fiftene pounds; and the remaynder of the charge of schoole master's sallary shall be payd by the towne according to their list of estate in the publique list of the Collonie."

## PAYMENT OF THE TOWN RATE IN 1701.

"Voted and agreed, that the town rate shall be payd in maner as followeth, vizt, in wheat at 5s. per bushl, Indian corne at 3s. per bushell, flax at 9d per pound, oats at 1s. 8d, rye at 3s. 6d, Barley at 3s. per bushell, and not to pay to any, above a third part of their debt in flax, oats, Barley, but two thirds of all be in wheat or Indian corne."

## THE ISLANDS.

"Whereas the inhabitants of the towne of Norwalk, have had possession of severall Islands lying adjacent to their township, and also improvement of them forty yeares, and longer, without being interrupted by any persons laying claime and prosecuting their claime in due forme of law, the sayd towne having had quiett possession long before the sayd law of possession was enacted, and ever since; the select men and justice doe in the name of sayd towne and for their behoofe, enter and record unto the said towne, them their heires and assignes for ever; namely Cockenoes Island known by sayd name, and Mamachimons Island, and the Long Island, and Camfield's Island, known by sayd names, and all other Islands lying in or adjacent unto the townshipp of Norwalk; to the legallity of this record we whose names are hereunto sett and subscribed, our names and hands.

"JAMES OLMSTEAD, Justice and Recorder.

"SAMUEL SMITH,	} Townsmen.
"THOMAS BETTS,	
"SAMUELL BELDEN,	
"SAMUELL BETTS,	
"SAMUELL MARVEN.	

"Recorded this 4th day of January, 1762-3.

"From Book 2 & 3."

## SITTING IN THE DEACONS' SEAT.

"Jan. 14, 1702. The towne did by their vote, allow John Gregory, senior, liberty to sitt in the Deacon's seat before the pulpitt, for the advantage and benefit of his hearing the word preached.

"Also at the above sayd meeting the towne did by

\* The town clerk had turned over several leaves, and made this record out of its order.

vote grant and allow, unto Matthew Marvin, liberty to sitt in the Deacon's seat before the pulpitt for the benefit of his hearing the word preached."

#### HORSE SHEDS BY THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"Jan. 14, 1702. Granted liberty to those inhabitants out-dwellers, for to erect shelters for their horses for the Saboath and publique occasions, by Matthias Sension's jr. Lott in the common, not to hinder or obstruct his passage to his barne and yard, or to his shop."

#### IN CASE OF FINE BY THE SERGEANT MAJOR.

"Feb. 26, 1702, it was voted and agreed by the towne that in case the present select men shall be fyned by the Serjnt. Major, for the townes defect in not having their proportion of armes and ammunition in their towne stock according to law, the towne engages to pay the fyne, and that by way of rate."

#### THE MEETING-HOUSE BELL.

"Feb. 3, 1703. The towne voted that the Bell should be fetcht from Ralph Keeler's and forthwith hung up in the meeting house for to be wrung ther for the probation of the goodnes of the Bell.

"At the same meeting the towne made choyse of Ralph Keeler and James Stewart to hang the bell in the meeting house, and to doe all that is necessary respecting the hanging the sayd bell, and allso to put a new tongue into the bell if it shall in there judgments soe need it."

#### RINGING THE BELL AND BEATING THE DRUM.

"Dec. 1704. William Lees did engage with and unto the towne to beat the Drum or ring the bell, and that on all publique occasions. And also to sweep the meeting house every week decently; and the towne engages to allow and pay unto sayd Lees the next yeere the sum of one pound ten shillings."

#### FETCHING ARMS FROM STAMFORD.

"Allso the towne engages to pay any damage that may be done, or happen to be done, in the armes that are to be fetcht from Stamford; and allso to pay those persons as shall fetch them, reasonable satisfaction for their labor."

#### SEATING THE MEETING-HOUSE IN 1705.

"Voted, that the meeting house shall be seated with as much conveniency as may be; and that the order or method of seating the meeting house shall be in the act of the towne bareing date Feb. 21, 1698; only further agreed that noe person shall be degraded, or brought lower than they are now seated.

"Allso voted and agreed that the first long seat in the gallery of the meeting house shall be accounted and deemed as the fifth long seat below, and those as sitt below have liberty there to sitt still.

"Also that there shall be twelve men seated in the long seat of the gallery; namely, the first seat of the gallery.

"Also, there is to be two seats of the gallery seated on the woman's side of the gallery, if need be.

"Allso, the towne made choyse of Thomas Betts, senr., Samuell Smith, senr., and Ralph Keeler, senr., they to seat the meeting house according to the order of the towne."

#### SEATING THE MEETING-HOUSE IN 1706.

"The towne made choyse of a committee, vizt.; James Olmsted, John Benedick, senr., Samuel Smith, senr., Zerubabell Hoyt, Thomas Betts, senr., Ebenezer Sension, Joseph Platt, persons with whom the towne have left that affaire, vizt., the seating of the meeting house; and they the sayd committee to order and determine that matter according to their best discretion; they to have respect to age, quality, and the estates of persons in the publique list, and the towne to abide their determination."

#### ALLOWANCE TO MR. BUCKINGHAM INSTEAD OF HIS YEARLY FIREWOOD.

"Feb. 28, 1706-7. Voted and agreed by the towne, to allow Mr. Stephen Buckingham twenty pounds pr. year, to be paid in specie as his rate is to be payd in, he freeing the towne from the obligation they are under, in finding or providing his firewood."

#### MR. BUCKINGHAM'S AGREEMENT THERETO.

"The town of Norwalk, performing their above mentioned engagement, as to summ and price, are now freed from the obligation concerning fire wood to me.

"S. BUCKINGHAM."

#### CUTTING SEDGE.

"Dec. 18, 1707. The Towne by their present act, do prohibit any person or persons cutting any sedge or Crick-thatch, on any of the towne's right, before ye first day of September, annually; and if any person shall presume to act contrary to this act, he or they shall, after the first half load, forfitt twenty shillings for every half load; to be paid by the person or persons delinquent, half to ye use of ye town, the other half of said twenty shillings to the complainner who shall prosecute the same to effect."

#### SCHOOL-KEEPING IN 1707-8.

"Feb. 10th, 1707-8. Voted and agreed, that there shall be a schoolmaster hyred according to law.

"Also, voted and agreed, that ye school master Hired shall attend and keep ye schoole two months on this side of the river, and one month on ye other side.

"Also granted liberty to those our inhabitants over the river, to erect a schoole house in a convenient place, not prejudissing the highway."

#### THE TOWN KEEPING GOOD HOURS.

"Also voted (1707-8), and agreed, that there shall be no votes passed nor any grants made by the towne, nor any record made of any votes, after nine of the clock at night."\*

\* "In 1708, John Belden, Samuel Keeler, Matthew Seymour, Matthias St. John, and other inhabitants of Norwalk, to the number of twenty-five, purchased a large tract between that town and Danbury. The pur-



## KEEPING ORDER IN TOWN-MEETING.

"Dec. 16th, 1708. Voted and agreed that there shall be a moderator chosen, who shall have power to put to vote all matters or affaires that are then in adjitation, and also to endeavour to keep good order and decorum in speaking; and all who are disorderly in speaking, to be by words corrected by the moderator; and also that if any person shall, notwithstanding, be so bold as to proceed in disorderly speaking, when corrected by the moderator, he shall suffer by fyne, imposed on ye delinquent by ye moderator and the majority of the townsmen, to the sum of five shillings, to be levied by distress on the estate of the delinquent."

## OVER RIVER BURYING-GROUND.

"Dec. 16, 1708. The town grants to ye inhabitants on the west side of Norwalk River, a piece of ground for a burying place, on any convenient piece of land in commons; and John Benedick, senr., Zerubabell Hoyt, and Thomas Betts, senr., are appointed a committee to appoint the place."

## SITTING IN THE GREAT PEW.

"Feb. 10, 1708-9. The town votes Mr. Samuel Hayes into ye great pue, to sitt in upon publike days, &c."

## STRAY JADES.

"March 4, 1708-9. The town makes choyse of John Steward to claim and sell all stray jades for the town (when no better claim appears), that shall be brought out of ye woods to ye town by the Horse Hunters, and that the horse hunters shall have half of what ye horses shall fetch, when they are sold."\*

## THE TIDE-MILL.

"Dec. 15, 1709. The town grants by a major vote, to Joseph Birchard, Thomas Betts, John Betts, and John Gregory, jr., the liberty to Damm up ye crick lying before ye sd Gregory's, with also the privilege of the stream that runs into ye said crick and through the said damm: provided that they the said Joseph, &c., . . . do sett upon the said work in order to the erecting a grist-mill upon the damm that they shall so erect, within one year from this date; and do accomplish the work of the said mill within the term of three years from the day of these presents; and so long as the said undertakers do maintaine a good sufficient grist-mill, the said stream shall remain to them and to their successors that shall so maintaine ye

same: they to grind all grain into good and sufficient meal for the town, for the toal stated in ye law; and not to grind for any strainger coming with his grain to said mill, so long as any of ye inhabitants of this Towne's grain is lying in said mill unground; excepting any of said inhabitants shall allow any strainger their turn."

## A PLATFORM TO THE GALLERY.

"Dec. 15, 1709. The town by major vote grants to John Bartlet, James Lockwood, and Samuel Keeler, jr., a liberty to erect and build on ye west side of the meeting-house, a platform from ye gallery unto the north window upon the cross plates; and with others that shall present, for a sufficiency to erect upon the same four pues, which shall remain and continue for their use, to seat themselves in ye time of publike service: and that during the fall term of ye town's pleasure; so that whenever they shall see cause to make any alteration of that matter so as to deprive them of their seats, the town engages to allow such charge, that the said buildings shall be advantageous to ye town, as by indifferent persons may be adjudged; they relinquishing all other seats in the meeting-house, during ye time of their sitting."

## THE MEETING-HOUSE BELFREY.

"At the same meeting, the town granted to Samuel Keeler, jr., twenty acres of land in one place, and twenty-six acres of land more, to take up in ye woods, —upon condition that he the said Keeler do erect a Belfree upon ye top of our meeting-house, and completely finish the same; and hang the bell that is now hung upon ye meeting-house, or any other that may be obtained seasonably before ye said belfree is finished; and to cloase ye sides of the upright where now ye bell hangs; all to be completed by the last of June next insuing; the town to provide stuff for ye closing ye upright, and to cart the same, with the timber that shall by the said Keeler be prepared for ye belfree, to ye meeting-house; and also find ye nails that will be wanted for ye whole work; also the sayd Keeler to fraime in ye top of ye turret a good sufficient cedar stump to fix a weathercock on, if ye town see cause; or a pinnacle."

## GREGORY'S POINT.

"Dec. 29, 1710, the town granted some land to John Benedict, 'which grant is by way of exchange with the said John Benedict for a free passage for carts, horses and men, as they may have occasion, unto ye point of land extending itself into ye harbor, which passage is limited to ye way that is and hath been improved, along through ye said Bennedick's land unto ye said point, which privilege is to remain to the town forever; which point is known as commonly called GREGORY'S POINT.'"

## SEATING SEVERAL PERSONS IN THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"Dec. 29, 1710. The towne grants liberty to William Sturtevant, Jonathan Wood, Richard Cosier,

chase was made of Catoonah, the chief sachem, and other Indians, who were the proprietors of that part of the country. The deed bears date Sept. 30, 1708. At this session [1709] it was ordained that it should be a distinct township by the name of Ridgefield."—TRUMBULL, p. 460.

\* In Hinman's catalogue of names of Puritan settlers, under Matthew Griswold, is noticed "a severe lawsuit between said Griswold and Reinold Marvin." "The arbitrators awarded that one-half the horses should be equally divided between them, and that the other half should go to the colony, and Marvin should look them up, and appointed a committee to sell the horses and execute the award." Upon this Mr. Hinman remarks: "The arbitrators must at least have resided at *Dutch Point*, if they were not Dutch justices." This record may explain the matter without the necessity of so uncharitable a supposition.

Andrew Lyon, John Fillio, Thomas Austin, to sitt upon ye seat joining to the Little pue, in ye North East corner of the meeting House, and their wives to sit on the opposite seat, joyning to y<sup>e</sup> North West corner of y<sup>e</sup> meeting house.

"Also—to Saml Carter to sitt in ye seat before y<sup>e</sup> hinde pillar, with John Marvin, &c., and to James Hayes to sit in y<sup>e</sup> seat where Lt. William Lees formerly satt."

#### THE BELL RUNG AT NINE O'CLOCK AT NIGHT.

"Dec. 11, 1713. The town grants to Zerubbabel Hoyt twenty-six shillings in pay, or two-thirds money, for his ringing y<sup>e</sup> bell at nine a clock at night, for y<sup>e</sup> year ensuing; and the said Hoyt ingages to performe the same."

#### A HIGHWAY TO RIDGEFIELD.

"Dec. 16, 1713. The town by majority vote made choice of Capt. Joseph Platt, Capt. John Raymond, and Ensigne James Stewart, for their committee to make a settlement of a highway or road to Ridgefield, if they and the committee of Ridgefield can agree; and doth fully impower said committee to make restitution to such persons that s<sup>d</sup> highway may take land from within the limits of Norwalk township."

#### ATTENDING MEETING IN RIDGEFIELD.

"March 1, 1713-14. The town by a major vote frees Jonathan Wood, senr., from paying any rate to y<sup>e</sup> ministry in Norwalk, for y<sup>e</sup> future after this year's rate is paid, provided y<sup>e</sup> said Wood attends y<sup>e</sup> meeting in Ridgefield on y<sup>e</sup> Sabbath and so long as he continues so to do."

#### A SABBATH-DAY HOUSE FOR JOHN TAYLOR.

"March 1, 1713-14. The town by a major vote grants liberty to John Taylor to erect a small house for his family's conveniency on y<sup>e</sup> Sabbath, on such part, of y<sup>e</sup> town's land near y<sup>e</sup> meeting house, as y<sup>e</sup> select men shall allow or find convenient."

#### A NEW MEETING-HOUSE.

"Dec. 11, 1717. The town by a major vote determines to build a new meeting house, of such dimensions as shall hereafter be concluded upon; to be erected on y<sup>e</sup> north end of Ensign James Stewart's Home lot.

"At y<sup>e</sup> same meeting the town by a major vote grants a rate of one penny in a pound in money to be leaved upon the inhabitants of the town, to be collected this year, and put into y<sup>e</sup> hands of y<sup>e</sup> town treasurer, to be improved by the committee that shall be chosen and appointed for managing ye business of ye new meeting house.

"At the same meeting ye town by a major vote determined that what money is granted by the town, viz. (ye penny on ye pound) to be collected this year, shall be layed out in buying nails and other necessities for the new meeting house.

"At the same meeting the town by a major vote de-

termines that the accomplishment of ye work of s<sup>d</sup> meeting house shall be indeavored for within the term of four years.

"At the same meeting the town by a major vote determines that what is found necessary to be done in repairing the old meeting house to make it comfortable for the time being until the said meeting house be built, be out of hand done."

#### WHETHER TO REPAIR THE OLD MEETING-HOUSE.

"Jan. 9, 1718-19. It was proposed by way of vote, that those that were for repairing, and for making an addition to the old meeting house, should signifie their minds by passing out of ye house first, and be numbered; and that those who ware for erecting a new meeting house, on the place where John Keeler's barn stands, should pass out of the house afterwards & be numbered. Upon tryall of which, those that were for repairing and adding to the old house were in number twenty six that passed out, and Lt. Taylor declared himself to be of that mind though he passed not out. And those that were for the meeting house to be erected as aforesaid, were in number thirty that passed out, and Capt. Platt and myselfe declared to be of ye same mind with them, tho not passing out.

"This meeting is adjourned to ye next Monday morning come sevendnight at Eight of ye clock in ye morning.

"Test, JOHN COPP,  
"Town Clerk."

#### HOW TO SETTLE THE DIFFERENCE ABOUT THE OLD HOUSE OR A NEW ONE.

"At a town meeting convened by adjournment on the 19th day of January, 1718-19, in Norwalk, in the old school House,

"The Town by major vote determines to leave the whole affaire of ye present diffarence in the town respecting the Repairing the old meeting house and enlarging ye same by addition; or the building a new meeting house, and determining the place where the new house shall be erected, unto a wise and judicious committee of three persons hereafter nominated and chosen; all which charge of the s<sup>d</sup> committee to be defrayed by ye town.

"Upon Tryall of ye minds of ye town upon the above vote, it was proposed that those y<sup>t</sup> were of the mind to pass s<sup>d</sup> vote into their act, should move out of ye house. Upon tryall of whiche, Forty one persons went out of ye house, and eight persons y<sup>t</sup> were not in ye house when ye proposals were made, came to me and declared themselves for ye said act. The negative vote was proposed in ye same manner, and no person or persons appeared to move out; the number of ye persons y<sup>t</sup> remained in the house, as near as I could come at, were in number Twenty six.

"At ye same meeting, the town by a major vote, made choise of Major Peter Burr, Major Samuel Eals, and Mr. Jonathan Law, Esq., for their committee, with whom they would leave the whole affair of their



difference above expressed, and to make a decision thereof.

"At the same meeting the town by Major vote Determines that any two of the abovesaid committee agreeing, their determinations shall be as binding to the town to fulfil, as if they all three concurred and signed their result.

"At y<sup>e</sup> same meeting y<sup>e</sup> town by a major vote have chosen Capt. John Raymond, Capt. Joseph Platt, Lt. Matthew Seamer, Ensigne Saml. Comstock, Mr. Samll. Betts, and Mr. John Marven, a committee to represent y<sup>e</sup> town in laying before s<sup>d</sup> committee the surcomstances of y<sup>e</sup> town in their present differences.

"At the same meeting y<sup>e</sup> town by major vote makes choise of Mr. Copp to entertain the Get<sup>l</sup>men Committee afore chosen, when come to town.

"At the same meeting the town by a major vote makes choise of John Copp to go forth with y<sup>e</sup> gentlemen y<sup>e</sup> said committee in order to obtain their coming over with as much expedition as may be.

"At the same meeting the town by a major vote impowers the town's committee afore chosen to render and pay to y<sup>e</sup> Gentlemen committee, honorable reward for their service (in these affairs) for the town; for which the town treasury shall reburst y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> charges."

#### BEGINNING THE NEW MEETING-HOUSE.

"At a town meeting convened in Norwalk August 17th, 1720, The town by a major vote resolves and concludes that men shall be hired to raise the meeting house, such men and so many as Mr. Samll. Grummon, carpenter, shall think needful; in y<sup>e</sup> town, and by y<sup>e</sup> advice of the Committee.

"The town, by a major vote, resolves and obliges themselves seasonably to grant such leavies by way of rate, on y<sup>e</sup> inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> town, as shall be sufficient to discharge all such necessary charges, as the committee appointed to manage that affair of the new meeting house, as already have or shall find needful, to contract for the accomplishment of y<sup>e</sup> underpinning, raising, covering, and enclosing s<sup>d</sup> house, at or before the first day of March next ensueing the date hereof.

"The Town, at y<sup>e</sup> same meeting, by a major vote, determines that the new meeting house shall be raised fronting East, and to y<sup>e</sup> street."

#### THE SECOND SCHOOL DISTRICT.\*

"January 30, 1720-21. The town by a major vote determines to have two schools attended and kept for the year ensuing, one at y<sup>e</sup> south end of y<sup>e</sup> town, and the other at y<sup>e</sup> north end, at y<sup>e</sup> two respective school houses now in being, in y<sup>e</sup> winter time; and y<sup>e</sup> summer schoole at y<sup>e</sup> south end, and at y<sup>e</sup> school house on y<sup>e</sup> west side of y<sup>e</sup> river. And y<sup>e</sup> country money shall be divided according to lyst by y<sup>e</sup> military lyne."

\* On the 4th of January, 1719-20, the town voted that the winter school should be kept half of the time at the old school-house, and the other half the time at the new school-house at the north end of the town.

#### GATHERING OYSTERS.

"Dec. 4, 1721. The town by major vote prohibits all persons whatsoever excepting the proper inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> town, rakeing and gathering of Oysters within y<sup>e</sup> harbours, coves, or any other place, appertaining and being within the limits of our township. And any such person or persons as shall be found rakeing or gathering oysters within y<sup>e</sup> aforesayd limits, shall suffer the penaltie of three shillings per bushell."

#### RIGHT OF COMMONAGE TO YOUNG MEN OF TWENTY-ONE.

"Dec. 4, 1721. The town by a major vote resolves and determines that a copy of a certain vote passed at a town meeting convened in Norwalk Dec. 15, 1698, in the words following,—to wit: 'Also granted that all the town born children, shall, as they attain y<sup>e</sup> age of Twenty one years, all of them have a fifty pound right of commonage in the town, and also as are twenty one years of age to have it in this last division granted.' —A true copy of y<sup>e</sup> town act lost,

"Test, JAMES OLNSTEAD,  
"Town Clerk,"

—shall be put on record, and be of as good force and efficacy as the original was before it was lost; and that no female shall have benefit by this act, by their being born in y<sup>e</sup> town."

#### SELLING OYSTERS TO OYSTER-VESSELS.

"April 16, 1722. The Town Resolved, that whosoever of y<sup>e</sup> inhabitants of the town shall directly or indirectly sell any oysters, or give leave to any vessel, men, or any other person or persons to gett oysters within y<sup>e</sup> town bounds, or shall carry and put on board any oysters, shall incur a penalty of five shillings pr. hundred, and so in proportion for greater or less quantities."

#### SEATS TAKEN FROM THE OLD MEETING-HOUSE FOR THE NEW.

"March 11, 1722-23. The town gives liberty to y<sup>e</sup> committee for the new meeting house, to take from y<sup>e</sup> old meeting house such seats and boards, plank, and other things, that may be needful to use in the new meeting house."

#### THE TOWN MAGAZINE.

"At the same meeting, the town by a major vote determines that a suitable place shall be made in the new meeting house to put ye towns magazine in, and remove the same as soon as may be."

#### SEATING THE NEW MEETING-HOUSE.

"June 3, 1723. The town left the business of seating the new meeting house to a committee of seven; viz. Capt. Joseph Platt, Lieutenant Samuel Marvin, Serjent John Benedict, Samuel Kellogg, Lieutenant Matthew Seymor, Captain Samuel Hanford, Mr. John Betts, Sen."

#### MRS. HANFORD STILL ALIVE.†

"At ye same meeting, the town voted Mrs. Hanford into ye pue with Mrs. Buckingham.

† "From the first settlement of the town to 1732, a term of more than eighty years, there was no general sickness in the town. From 1715 to

"December 11, 1723. The town voted Capt. Samuel Hanford to sit in ye pue with Captain Olmsted and Captain Platt."

NO TOWN-MEETING TO BE HOLDEN IN THE NEW MEETING-HOUSE.

"At the same meeting (Dec. 11, 1723), the town by a major vote resolves, that no town meetings shall be warned to convene at the new meeting house, nor attended and held within s<sup>d</sup> house; nor that any act or acts of the town shall ever be accounted of any value that shall be passed within the walls thereof. Also determines that no other improvement shall be made there, but what is consistent with, and agreeable to the most pure and special service of God, for which end it was built and now devoted."

SELLING THE OLD MEETING-HOUSE.

"At the same meeting, the town by a major vote determines to make sale of the old meeting house. Mr. John Bartlett, Ensign Samuel Comstock, and Mr. James Lockwood a committee to sell and dispose of the same."

A SCHOOL-DAME AT SAUGATUCK.

"At the same meeting, the town grants liberty to Drye Brook and Sawkatuck inhabitants to improve a School Dame among themselves to schoole their children in ye summer season, and also grant to them their proportion of ye country's money.

"At ye same meeting ye town grants that the refuse boards left at ye new meeting-house, be used about ye school-house neerr ye Mill plain."

THE OLD BELL HUNG UPON THE NEW MEETING-HOUSE.

"At the same meeting the town by major vote determines to hang ye bell on ye new meeting house, and there to be rung upon necessary occasions until there appear a suitable opportunity to sell the same."

MR. JOHN COPP IN THE SECOND PEW FROM THE PULPIT.

"At the same meeting, the town by a major vote grants ye seating of John Copp in ye second pue from ye pulpit; and his wife in ye third pue on ye woman's side."

MR. THOMAS FITCH IN THE PEW WITH THE JUSTICES.

"Mr. Thomas Fitch, Jr., is by major vote of ye town seated in ye pue with the Justices, and the town desires that he would read ye psalme, and set ye tune in ye time of publique service."

MR. THOMAS BENEDICT TO SET THE PSALM TUNES.

"December 2, 1724. The town by major vote desires Ensign Thomas Bennedick, Jr., to sett ye tune to ye Psalme, at such times as that part of service is to be performed in ye publik worship of God; and to read ye Psalms needed, ye town also seats ye said

Bennedick in ye 3d long seat at ye end of ye middle alley.

"The town votes Mr. Benjamin Lynes into ye pue at ye S. W. corner."

THE PARISH OF WILTON BEGUN.

"December 7, 1725. The town by a major vote signifies their willingness that the inhabitants of Kent, Belden's Hill, and Chestnutt Hill, and so upwards, become a Parish or village by themselves; if the Generall Court (upon their application) shall see meet so to establish them; and in order for ye settling ye bounds of said village, a committee from each party shall take a view and present to the town where they think the bounds should be stated; that the town may consider upon it, and, upon their liking, establish the same.

"At the same meeting, ye town by a major vote made choise of ye Worshipfull Joseph Platt, Esq., Captain Raymond, and Lieutenant Seymour committee for to joyne with a committee from ye said inhabitants, in viewing where ye bounds may be best fixt for said upper village, and make a report to ye town of their opinion therein."

STONE STEPS FOR THE MEETING-HOUSE.

"February 18th, 1725-6. The town by a major vote determines that they will have stones obtained for ye making of steps at each of ye doars of ye meeting-house. Joseph Platt, Esq., Mr. John Bartlett, and Ensign Thomas Bennedick, Jr., to see to ye obtaining of s<sup>d</sup> stones, and get ye steps made, &c., at the town's cost."

DIFFICULTY WITH THE REV. MR. BUCKINGHAM.

"At the same meeting (Feb. 18, 1725-6), the town by a major vote determines that something shall be done in order to regulate ye difficulties arising in the town about ye Reverend Mr. Buckingham.

"The town by a major vote made choice of Joseph Platt, Esq., Mr. James Brown, Lieutenant Comstock, John Copp, Deacon John Benedick, Jr., Mr. John Betts, Sen., and John Betts, carpenter, Committee to present the grievances of the town to the ministers of the county."

MR. BUCKINGHAM'S SALARY STOPPED.

"A bill was brought into ye meeting of ye following tenure,—viz.:

"Att a town meeting regularly warned by the select men of ye town of Norwalk and convened at the new school-house at the north end of said town, Feb. 18, 1725-26, the town by their major vote agrees and resolves, that for the future no colector in the town of Norwalk shall be obliged to colect Mr. Buckingham's rate in the specie as has been usual; and that the inhabitants of the town shall not be under any obligation, by force of any vote, to pay any provision for the answering of their severall proportions of s<sup>d</sup> Mr. Bucking's sallary; and do hereby determine and fully agree, that all votes and grants of that kind shall be wholly null and void.

1719, there died in this large town twelve persons only. Out of the trainband, consisting of one hundred men, there died not one person from 1716 to 1730, during the term of fourteen years.

"Mrs. Hanford, relict of the first minister of the town, died Sept. 12, 1730, aged one hundred years."—*Manuscripts of Rev. Moses Dickinson, in Trumbull's History.*



"Read off to ye town, put to vote, and passed in the affirmative."

THE ASSOCIATION OF MINISTERS CALLED.

"Feb. 28, 1725-26. The town accepts what Mr. Copp & Mr. James Brown (with concurrence of ye rest of ye committee) have done, in obtaining from ye Reverend Mr. Davenport, Moderator of ye Association (ye Reverend Mr. Webb and Mr. Chapman advising and consenting therewith), letters of notification to ye ministers of ye county, for an Association of s<sup>d</sup> ministers at Norwalk, on ye eighth day of March next; and resolves to have ye said letters of notification sent to the Reverend persons to whom they are directed; and make provision for ye entertainment of s<sup>d</sup> ministers when they come, which charge shall be defrayed by the town."

THE OLD PULPIT.

"At ye same meeting, the town by a major vote, grants to the inhabitants of ye upper society the old pulpit upon free gift."

A MINISTER ALLOWED TO SAUGATUCK.

"At the same meeting, the town by a major vote grants to ye inhabitants about Sawkatuck, liberty to improve some meet person or minister of ye gospel to preach among them, &c., they paying their full dues to ye support of ye ministers of ye town."

MR. BUCKINGHAM'S LETTER TO THE TOWN.

"At a town Meeting convened in Norwalk, March 22d, 1725-26,—

"To the Town of Norwalk now conven'd together, I being heartily concerned for ye difficult state of the town, and thinking sincerely within myself, that a loving accommodation of ye difficulties and differences at present between ye town and myself, will be everyway most conducive to ye peace and union of the town, and the satisfaction of every member therein; and so, in the whole, most declarative of the glory of God, and most for the interest of religion, more especially in this place, I thereupon, with Christian concern, move to ye town for an accommodation of ye s<sup>d</sup> difficulties.

"S. BUCKINGHAM.

"The Town most gladly receiving Mr. Buckingham's desire, do heartily fall in with his motion for an accommodation of ye difficulties; provided the Rev. Mr. Davenport, Mr. Cook, and Mr. Chapman, do propose any meathod for such an accommodation, which they do think to be equivalent to, or may answer, the advice of the late association of Norwalk.

"Read off to ye town and by a major vote past in ye affirmative."

THE COUNCIL FOR ADVICE.

"March 30th, 1726. The town mett, and by a major vote requests the Reverend Mr. Sacket to joyne with ye Reverend Mr. Davenport, Mr. Cook, & Mr. Chapman, in that affair refer'd to them ye last meeting before ye adjournment."

A SUPPLY FOR THE PULPIT.

"The town by a major vote grants to Mr. Thomas Fitch, jur., Thirty shillings pr. day for two days and a half preaching with us in times past; and also for what days he may be so improved by us for the future."

THE COUNCIL.

"March the 31st, 1726. The Town mett, and by a major vote made choice of Mr. James Brown to offer in ye town's behalf in ye present affair now before the Reverend Gentlemen, viz., ye Rev'd. Mr. Davenport, Mr. Cook, Mr. Chapman, and Mr. Sacket being present."

THE TOWN CLOSES WITH THE ADVICE OF COUNCIL.

"At the same meeting, the town having had read off to them the advice of ye late association of ye ministers of ye County at Norwalk, for ye Calling of a council of the elders and also of the messengers of the churches in the County; and also the further advice of ye above Reverend Gentlemen, to pursue s<sup>d</sup> advice, as most agreeable to rule and order, and most conducive to an orderly and decisive determination of our difficulties, — the town closes with ye advice afores<sup>d</sup> & by a major vote determines that a council of ye elders, & also of the messengers of the Churches in this County shall be called."

CALLING THE CONSOCIATION.

"The town by a major vote determined that a suitable person shall be sent to ye Rev'd Mr. Stodard of Woodbury, Moderator of ye last council in this county, to obtain letters of notification to ye elders and messengers of the churches in this county, to convene at Norwalk on the first Monday evening in May next, according to ye advice and discretion of ye late association at Norwalk; and that due provision be made for the entertainment of ye said council when convened; the whole charge to be defray'd by the town."

THE COMMITTEE TO REPRESENT THE TOWN BEFORE CONSOCIATION.

"April 27, Annoque Domini, 1726. The town appointed Mr. James Brown, Joseph Platt, Esq., & John Copp, their committee to appear in behalf of the town before the Consociation, and to manage the whole affair relating to the difference between ye Rev. Mr. Buckingham & the town."

THE TOWN DISSATISFIED WITH MR. BUCKINGHAM'S CONVERSATION.

"At a town meeting convened in Norwalk, August 12th, 1726, at ye same meeting, the town by a major vote do signifie their dissatisfaction with the former and latter conversation of the Reverend Mr. Stephen Buckingham, viz.: before and since ye determination of council; as also with the determination of the council in that affair.

"At ye same meeting, the Reverend Mr. Buckingham appeared, and read off before ye town then convened the following proposals, and directed in manner following."

## MR. BUCKINGHAM'S PROPOSAL.

"To y<sup>e</sup> town of Norwalk, with y<sup>e</sup> Church appertaining thereunto:

"Being apprehensive of disquietments among many respecting my continuance in y<sup>e</sup> service and work of y<sup>e</sup> ministry among you, these are to signifie to you that if you are disposed, and do so agree to call a consociation of y<sup>e</sup> elders and messengers of y<sup>e</sup> churches of this county, whereby I might have a regular discharge from y<sup>e</sup> work and service of the ministry and y<sup>e</sup> care of your souls; as by a like consociation I was regularly established in, and unto y<sup>e</sup> same; and that the said consociation shall also take cognizance of such publike scandalls that any of y<sup>e</sup> members of this church may lye under, in breaches of severall commands of the morall law and other Scripture rules; that so, whatsoever of that nature may appear may be orderly removed and y<sup>e</sup> chhs. peace established,— Under which surcomstances once obtained I shall freely lay down y<sup>e</sup> work and service of ye ministry among you.

"STEPHEN BUCKINGHAM.

"August 12th, 1726."

## THE PROPOSAL VOTED TO BE IRREGULAR.

"Sept. 14, 1726. The town according to adjournment met, at which meeting it was proposed to the town whether they would call a consociation according to foregoing proposall of the Rev. Mr. Buckingham, presented to y<sup>e</sup> town August 12th, 1726.

"By a major vote y<sup>e</sup> town determines the above s<sup>d</sup> proposal to be irregular, and therefore, by a major vote, resolves ye above question in the negative."

## A COMMITTEE TO TREAT WITH MR. BUCKINGHAM ABOUT HIS SALARY.

"Dec. 1, 1726. The town determines to have a committee chosen to treat with the Reverend Mr. Buckingham, referring to his salary, and the act of the town upon the same, Feb. 18, 1725-26."

## BUILDING A TOWN-HOUSE.\*

"Dec. 9th, 1726. The Town determines to have a house built upon such place as the town by major vote shall agree to determine, that may well entertain the town to meet in at their town-meetings, and others as the town shall or may have occasion from time to time: and also for the entertainment of a generall schoole.

"At the same meeting it was put to vote whether they would build a town-house 'between the meeting-house and Mr. Street's,' or whether they would 'build an addition to the upper school-house;' upon which 18 voted for the former, and 33 for the latter."

## MR. BUCKINGHAM'S FREQUENT VISIT AT YE HOUSE OF MR. LINES."

"Jan. 25th, 1726-27. The town determines that something shall be done respecting ye yet remaining

difficulties about ye Reverend Mr. Stephen Buckingham, in order for the obtaining relief; and in consideration of ye difficult surcomstances of ye church and people of this town, by reason of the s<sup>d</sup> Gentleman's frequent visit at ye house of Mr. Lines, with some other remarkable occurrences, the town have by major vote agreed that a council of elders and messengers of this county be called, in order to hear the grievances, and quiet the uneasiness of the Chh. and peeple herein.

"At ye same meeting the town made choice of John Copp, Mr. James Brown, and Mr. Saml. Betts, committee to represent ye town before s<sup>d</sup> council when convened, and to manage the whole affair respecting y<sup>e</sup> premises aboves<sup>d</sup>."†

## LAND TO WILTON PARISH.

"At a Proprietors meeting convened in Norwalk, Feb. 1, 1726-7, the proprietors by major vote grant to ye Parish of Wilton, Tenn Acres of land, to be layd out where ye proprietors allow land to be taken up, to be to ye use of ye Presbyterian or Congregational ministry among them forever."

## PARSONAGE.

"Feb. 12, 1728-29. The Proprietors grant Tenn Acres of land to be layd out West of ye High way that leads up from Isaac Hayes's to Strawberry Hill, and North of the high way that lead up by Ebenezer Hyat's lott, towards the said Hayes's, where it can be most conveniently had, and that not prejudiciall to any High wayes; which Tenn acres of land ye said proprietors grant for the use of a Dissenting Presbyterian or Congregational minister, that now is or shall be improved and ordained to that work in ye ancient and prime society in ye township of Norwalk from time to come.

"At the same meeting the Proprietors granted to the Parish of Wilton, five additional acres: six acres 'Westward of Canfield's Hill,' six acres 'about ye Wolf pits;' and six acres 'Where it may be most convenient about ye White Oak Shade, for ye use and Improvement' 'of a Dissenting, Presbyterian or Congregationall minister thereabouts Improved and settled in that work, and so from time to time."

## GRANT TO CANAAN PARISH.

"April 3, 1732. The Proprietors by major vote grant to the Inhabitants of Canaan Parish all ye common land where their meeting house standeth, and Thirty Rods from the meeting house, that is common and highway there, so long as they shall support a meeting house in said place."

## GRANT TO THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROFESSORS.

"Feb. 11, 1733-4. The Proprietors by major vote grant to such persons in the Town of Norwalk that

\* After the town were shut out of the meeting-house, they met generally in ye "North," or "Upper," school-house.

† Soon after this date some drew off to the Church of England, and the First Congregational Society was organized under the style of "The Prime Ancient Society." The town then ceased to manage the ecclesiastical affairs.



are professors of the Church of England by law established, One Rood of land on such part of the plain before Lt. Lees, as the committee hereafter named and chosen by sd proprietors shall think most fitting, stake the same out, for them to build a Church upon, for ye worship of God in that way; and for a burying yard; to be for yt use forever; Provided they build a Church on any part of it.

"Oct. 5, 1750. Nehemiah Mead and Joseph Lockwood, Jr., purchased of the Proprietors a small parcel of land 'Near the Mill Brook, where their Tann fatts now stand;' and 'At the same meeting the Proprietors by major vote, grant to ye professors of the Church of England in Norwalk, seventy one Poles of land adjoining to ye aforesaid land, as ye same is staked out by sd committee; who are hereby ordered to execute a deed in proper form and manner for their holding the same.' A deed of the same is on record in Book of Deeds from 1753 to 1762.

"Sept. 25, 1760. A Deed from the Committee of the proprietors, to the Chh. Wardens of St. Paul's Church, and the rest of the professors of the Chh. aforesaid, 'for the use and benefit of a burying yard, a small piece of common undivided land in sd Norwalk, situate and adjoining Northerly and Westerly of the land formerly granted by sd proprietors unto sd professors on which sd Chh. is built, in quantity fifty-eight poles of land,' 'bounded Easterly by highway and land belonging to sd professors, Southerly by sd land of sd professors, and partly by glebe land and common land, Westerly by sd glebe land, and Northerly by common land or highway.'"

DEED FROM THE FOUNDERS OF ST. PAUL'S PARISH.\*

"... Sundry persons, all Professors of ye Chh. of England, ... intending the same ... for ye first Glebe lands to endow sd Certain Parrish Chh. called St. Pauls, in the township of Norwalk ... KNOW YE that the sd Saml. Cluckston & Ralph Isaacs, John Belden, Jonathan Camp, ... in great reverence and regard to the Chh. of England as established by law, and her excellent Doctrine, service, unity, and order, preferable to any other upon earth ... have founded the Parish Chh. aforesaid ... and for the endowment thereof, do by these presents, truly give, grant ... to ye Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, a house and tract of land lying within ye bounds of Norwalk, in ye main street, sd land contains by estimation about one acre, be ye same more or less; and is bounded as followeth, viz, South and East by highway, North & west by common land ... in trust ... to say, as soon as there shall be a rector according to the order of the Chh. of England ... ye premises shall be and inure to ye use of such Rector incumbent and his successors as ye glebe land of sd Chh. in fee simple forever ... &c. 25 March, A. Dom. 1747."

GRANTS TO THE PROFESSORS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND OF LAND UPON STRAWBERRY HILL.

"At a proprietors' meeting, April 6, 1747, Ralph Isaacs & Saml. Cluckston, who are Church Wardens & have represented to this meeting that those of the Proprietors of the Church of England request that the Proprietors at this meeting would grant ye<sup>s</sup> Professors of the Chh. of England, Five Acres of land ... at a place called Strawberry hill; and this meeting having taken s<sup>d</sup> request into consideration; being minded to oblige s<sup>d</sup> Professors, Do hereby grant to s<sup>d</sup> Church Wardens and the rest of s<sup>d</sup> Professors said Five Acres, to be laid out by a committee appointed for that purpose, for the support of a missionary settled according to y<sup>e</sup> canons of y<sup>e</sup> Church of England, from time to time forever.

"June 14, 1748. The Proprietors granted to the same Two acres and a half, adjoining the above for the same uses."

MIDDLESEX.

"April 6, 1747. Whereas the Proprietors of Norwalk, did by their vote ye 12 Feb. 1728-9, vote and grant six acres of land South East from the land that was called Woods-land land, Westward of Canfield's hill, for ye use & improvement of a dissenting Presbyterian or Congregational minister thereabouts improved & settled in the work & so from time to time; and there being now a minister settled by some of the people of Norwalk & Stamford and the people of Five mile river that have united with ye people of Stamford, supposing that s<sup>d</sup> land belongs to them for ye support of s<sup>d</sup> minister, and thereupon a question being put to this meeting, whether s<sup>d</sup> land ought to be improved by those of ye s<sup>d</sup> society that lives in ye bounds of Norwalk for ye use afores<sup>d</sup>, passed in the affirmative by a Major vote."

TOWN-HOUSE.

"Dec. 8, 1746. The town agreed and voted to erect a town-house on ye southerly side of the road near where the old town-house stood (34 feet long, 24 feet wide)."

SOLDIERS IN THE FRENCH WAR.

"At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Norwalk, Nov. 2, 1757.

"Capt. Thomas Benedict is chosen Moderator of s<sup>d</sup> meeting.

"At ye same meeting, upon information of 350 Regulars to be posted in this town for Winter quarters, towards defraying the charges of the same the Town by vote grant a Rate of one penny upon pound of all the rateable estate. ... The Select men ... are by vote appointed to take care of the aforesayd Regulars."

GUARD-HOUSE AND HOSPITAL.

"Feb. 20, 1759. Voted that the Town shall provide fire wood, &c., for the Guard House and Hospital; and the select men for the time being are appointed to take care of the same, so far as it relates to the town."

\* Book of Records from 1740 to 1747.

## SAYBROOK PLATFORM.

"One Saybrook Platform given gratis to each minister in this town; the select men divide the remaining part according to list."

## AGAINST RIOTOUS PROCEEDINGS.

"Nov. 12, 1765. Whereas there have been diverse routs and tumultuous and riotous assemblies of disorderly people in the land, and some in this colony; and there are diverse reports of many threatenings of such further tumults and riotous assemblies, to the intent of doing mischief to the persons and properties of diverse people, and especially against some in the principall places of rule and government; all of which are contrary to the peace, and to subvert all order and government; and whereas the inhabitants of the town of Norwalk, in general town meeting assembled, taking these matters into serious consideration, think it their indispensable duty to bear proper and publick testimony against such unlawfull proceedings; and accordingly do declare their utter abhorrence and detestation of all such routs, tumults, and riotous assemblies, and such alarming threatenings of mischiefs; and as they think themselves bound in loyalty to the King, and for the security of the privileges of the colony, and of the lives and properties of ye subjects, do hereby further declare, they will use their utmost endeavor, in all proper and legal ways, to prevent and suppress all such disorders, so far as appertains to them to be aiding and assisting therein."

## BURYING-GROUND ON MILL HILL.

"Last Monday of Dec. 1767. At the same meeting the Inhabitants by major vote give and grant all their right and title to the burying place on Whitney's hill, so called, to ye inhabitants of the First Society."

## MEETING OF POPLAR PLAIN AND NORFIELD CITIZENS.

"Jan. 8, 1776. Whereas, information hath this day been made to this meeting, that there are numbers of the inhabitants of this town, living at Poplar Plain and parts adjacent, have united with numbers of the inhabitants of Fairfield, living in Norfield Parish and the Western part of the town of Fairfield adjoining to this town, and have unwarrantably formed themselves into a body, and call themselves a committee, and determined that every person that is in debt shall not be liable to be sued for the same, nor be liable to pay any interest on obligations, but be discharged therefrom; and that justices of the peace shall not sign any writ, or grant any executions, and the officers shall not serve either writs or executions; and have also in case any creditor shall attempt to sue for his debt or require interest or obligations, or a justice sign a writ, or any officer serve the same, they will unitedly prevent and oppose with all the force and strength they can procure the same.—This meeting, taking into consideration the aforesaid matters of information, and the aforesaid illegal resolves and determinations, are of opinion that the same have a direct tendency to set aside all law, and leave us in the hands of a

merciless set of men, and to throw us into confusion and distraction, and to deprive us of all our valuable and constitutional rights. We therefore do hereby vote and agree to use our utmost influence, power, and strength, to disapprove and to discountenance every such illegal measure; and do everything in our power, unitedly, to aid and assist the authority in suppressing the same in every proper and legal way."

## SALTPETRE-WORKS.

"At the same meeting, the select men are directed to erect Salt Petre works, and carry on the making of Salt Petre at the expense of the town, agreeable to the law of this colony; unless some particular person or persons shall appear to do the same."

## MAGAZINE.

"At the same meeting the selectmen are directed to erect a magazine to keep the warlike stores belonging to the town, 'and that on the hill between Mr. Leaming's house and Ebenezer Lockwood's.'"

## COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.

"May 20, 1776. Whereas, complaint is made to this meeting by the committee of inspection in this town, that some inconvenience has arisen on account of the difficulty of having the major part of said committee collected on sudden and special occasions, voted, that any seven of s<sup>d</sup> committee shall have power to act in said capacity on any sudden and special occasion."

## DONALD MCAULEY'S SALT.

"Oct. 14, 1776. Whereas there has been great uneasiness among the inhabitants, with respect to the great rise of salt; and there being a large quantity in the possession of Donald McAuley of this place, which the inhabitants of this town are necessitated to have for their use at some price; the said Donald McAuley therefore came into this meeting, and agreed with the inhabitants, that he would not ask them more than twelve shillings, lawful money, per bushel, out of the said quantity, for their own consumption; and if the market price shall be less, any time hereafter, he will accept of the same. Upon which the inhabitants consent that any one person may purchase salt of him accordingly."

RECORDS OF MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS  
DOWN TO THE YEAR 1700.

The following records are from Hall's "History of Norwalk:"

"Thos. Seamer, the Sonne of Rich'd Seamer, of Norwake, tooke to wiffe, Hannaih Marvin, the daughter of Math. Marvin of the same, January, 1653.\*

\* "The following items concerning the family of Matthew Marvin, I have received from T. R. Marvin, of Boston, from a record of the names of persons permitted to embark at the port of London after Christmas, 1634, contained in a MS. folio, at the Augmentation office (so called). Under the date of 15th April, 1634, is the following entry: 'Theis parties, hereafter expressed, are to be transported to New England, imbarked in the Increase, Robert Lea, Master, having taken the oath of allegiance



"Hannah Seamer, the Daughter of Thos. Seamer, borne the 12th of Desember, 1654.

"Abigail Seamer, the Daughter of Thos. Seamer, borne in January, 1655.

"Mary Seamer, and Sarah Seamer, beinge twinns, daughters of Thos. Seamer, borne in the month of September, 1658.

"Thos. Seamer, the sonne of Thos. Seamer, borne in September, 1660.

"John Bowten of Norwake, tooke to wiffe Abigail Marvin, the daughter of Math. Marvin, senr. of the same, January the 1st, 1656.\*

and supremacy, as also being conformable, &c., whereof they brought testimony per certif. from the justices and ministers where their abodes have lately been. The following names are included in said list:

"husbandman, Matthew Marvyn,	Age 35 yrs.
"Uxor, Elizabeth Marvyn,	31
"Elizabeth Marvyn,	31
"Matthew Marvyn,	8
"Marie Marvyn,	6
"Sara Marvyn,	3
"Hanna Marvyn,	½

"Reinold Marvin, who removed to Saybrook in 1639, and his brother, Matthew Marvin, were among the original settlers of Hartford, Conn. Matthew represented the town of Norwalk in the General Court in 1654.

"The children of Matt. Marvin, Sr., were as follows:

"1. Matthew, born in England, about 1627.

"2. Mary, born in England, about 1629, married to Richard Bushnell, of Saybrook, in 1648.

"Sarah, born in England about 1632, married to William Goodridge, of Weathersfield, 1648.

"4. Hannah, born in England about 1634, married to Thomas Seymour, of Norwalk, January, 1653.

"5. Abigail, born at Hartford, Conn., married John Bouton, of Norwalk, January, 1656.

"6. Samuel, born at Hartford, February, 1647-48.

"7. Rachel, born at Hartford, 'close of 1649.'"

\* "The name of John Bouton appears on p. 17 as among the first settlers of Norwalk. At what time he came to this country the family have no record. He was a French Protestant, and it is said there are many of the same name still living in France and Germany, and that a great similarity exists between the families there and here. He had five children after his marriage as here recorded,—viz., John, Matthew, Rachel, Abigail, and Mary. He must also have had children by a previous marriage.

"His son John had two children, Jakin and Joseph, and perhaps more, although no others appear on the record.

"His grandson, Jakin, had two children by his first wife, Joseph and Sarah; and by his second wife, two sons, Esaias and Moses, and seven or eight daughters.

"Joseph, his great-grandson, married Susannah Raymond, Aug. 25, 1748, daughter of Joshua Raymond, and had eleven children, six sons and five daughters. The sons were, William, Joshua, Joseph, Seth, Ira, and Aaron. The daughters were Rebeckah, Betty, Nancy, Susannah, and Deborah. He was an officer in the expedition sent against the French Provinces in 1758-59, and kept a journal of the service, which was unfortunately lost in pulling down the old family mansion, a few years since, which stood on the spot where Deacon John Bouton, his grandson now resides.

"William, the son of Joseph, the fifth descendant from the first John, was married to Sarah Benedict, Feb. 15, 1769, by whom he had fourteen children,—viz., Isaac (who died), Isaac, William, Betty, Esther, Sally, Clara, Seth, Joseph, Susannah, John, Mary, Ann, and Nathaniel.

"Joseph, the son of Joseph, was killed at Red Hook in the Revolutionary war. Seth, his brother, was killed by falling from a tree. Joshua was in the army at the age of fourteen, as a drummer, was taken prisoner, and kept on board a man-of-war till the peace, and arrived home just in time to see his father before he died. He afterwards followed the sea, and was a skillful and able captain.

"The descendants of the fourteen children of William are very numerous.—Communicated by S. W. Benedict."

"John Bowten, the sonne of John Bowten, borne the last day of September, 1659.

"Matthew Bowten, the sonne of John Bowten, borne the 24th of Desember, 1661.

"Mstr Thomas Handforde, pastor to the church of Norwake, tooke to wiffe the widow Mary ———; married unto his sayed wiffe at Newe Haven, October the 22th, 1661.

"Theophilus Handforde, sonne of mstr Tho. Handforde, born in July, the 29th, 1662.

"John Haite tooke to wiffe, Mary Lindall, the daughter of Henry Lindall, deacon of the church of Newe Haven, late deceased, the 14th of September, 1666.

"John Haite, the sonne of John Haite, borne the 21st of June, 1669.

"Ephraim Lockwoode tooke to wiffe Mercie Sention, daughter of Mathias Sention, sen. of Norwake, the 8th of June, 1665.

"John Lockwoode, sonne of Ephraim Lockwoode, born the 19th of March, 1665, 66.

"Daniell Lockwoode, sonne of Ephraim Lockwoode, born the 13th of August, 1668.

"John Raiment, tooke to wiffe Mary Betts, the daughter of Thos. Betts of Norwake, the 10th of Desember, 1664.

"John Raiment, sonne of John Raiment, borne the 9th of September, 1665.

"Sarah Lockwoode, the daughter of Ephraim Lockwood, borne the 3th of Nouvenber, 1670.

"John Platt, the sonne of John Platt, borne in June, 1664.

"Josiah Platt, the sonne of John Platt, borne the 28th of Desember, 1667.

"Samuell Platt, the sonne of John Platt, borne the 26th of January, 1670.

"Thos. Taylor tooke to wiffe Rebeckah Kettcham, the daughter of Edwd Kettcham late of Stratford, deceased. The sayd Thos. was married unto the sayed Rebeckah the 14th of february, Anno 1677.

"Thomas Taylor, the sonne of Thos. Taylor, borne the 26th of November, Anno 1668."

#### THOS. BENEDICT'S CHILDREN.

"Mary Benidict, the Daughter of Thos. Benidiet, Junr., borne the 4th of Desember, Anno 1666.

"Tho. Benidict the sonne of Tho. Benidict, Junr., borne the 5th of Desember, Anno 1670.†

† "Thos. Benedict, Sr., was born in England in 1617, and came to New England at the age of twenty-one, and settled in the Massachusetts Bay. He afterwards removed to Southhold, L. I.; thence to Huntington, and thence to Jamaica, from whence he removed to Norwalk in 1665. He had nine children,—viz.: Thomas, John, Samuel, James, Daniel, Betty, Mary, Sarah, and Rebeckah, all of whom removed with him to Norwalk.

"His son Thomas had six children; his son John had nine; Samuel had seven, James seven, Daniel four, Betty (married to John Slauson, of Stamford), two, Mary (married to John Olmsted, of Norwalk), ten, Sarah (married to James Beebe, of Stratford), two; Rebeckah was married to Doctor Samuel Wood, but we have no record of her children; making the number of grandchildren of the said Thomas Benedict, Sr., forty-seven, exclusive of the children of his daughter Rebeckah."

"Deborah Taylor, the daughter of Thomas Taylor, borne in June, 1671.

"Christopher Comestocke tooke to wiffe Hannah Platt, the daughter of Richard Platt of Milford, and was married October the 6th, 1663."

#### CHRISTOPHER COMESTOCKE'S CHILDREN.

"Daniel Comestocke, the sonne of Christopher Comestocke, borne the 21th of July, Anno 1664.

"Hannah Comestocke, the daughter of Christopher Comestocke, borne the 15th of July, Anno 1666.

"Abigall Comestocke, the daughter of Christopher Comestocke, borne the 27th of January, Anno 1669.

"Mary Comestocke, the daughter of Christopher Comestocke, borne the 19th of February, Anno 1671.

"Samuel Haite, the sonne of John Haite, borne the 17th of October, Anno 1670.

"John Benidict, Junior, tooke to wiffe, Phebe Griggorie, the daughter of John Griggorie, and was married the 11th of November, Anno 1670.

"Phebe Benidict, the daughter of John Benidict, Junior, was borne the 21th of September, Anno 1673.

"John Olmested tooke to wiffe Mary Benidict the daughter of Thomas Benidict, and was married the 17th of July, Anno 1673.

"James Pickitt, tooke to wiffe Rebecca Keeiler, the daughter of Ralph Keeiler, late of Norwake, and was married the 17th of July, Anno 1673.

"James Sention tooke to wiffe Rebecca Pickett, the daughter of John Pickett, of Stratford, and was married the last day of Desember, Anno 1673.

"Samuel Raimont the sonne of John Raimont born the 7th of July, Anno 1673.

"Rachell Bowten, the daughter of John Bowten, borne the 15th of Desember, Anno 1667.

"Abigall Bowten, the daughter of John Bowten, borne the 1st of April, Anno 1670.

"Mary Bowten, the daughter of John Bowten, borne the 26th of May, Anno 1671.

"John Taylor, the sonne of Thomas Taylor, borne in the mounth desember, Anno 1673.

"Joseph Taylor, the sonne of Thomas Taylor, borne in the mounth of Desember.

"Mary Griggorie the daughter of Jakin Griggorie, borne the 5th of Desember, Anno 1669.

"John Griggorie the sonne of Jakin Griggorie, borne the twentie fifth of January, Anno 1670.

"Thomas Griggorie the sonne of Jakin Griggorie, borne the 17th of January, Anno 1672.

"Robert Stewart tooke to wiffe Bethia Rumball the daughter of Thomas Rumball, of Stratford, and was married the 12th of June, Anno 1661.

"James Stewart the sonne of Robert Stewart, borne the 19th of March, Anno, 1662, 63.

"Abigall Stewart, the daughter of Robert Stewart, borne in August, the middle mounth, Anno 1666.

"John Stewart, the sonne of Robert Stewart, borne the 18th of March, Anno 1668, 69.

"Deborah Stewart, the daughter of Robert Stewart, borne in May, 1669.

"Elissabeth Stewart, the daughter of Robert Stewart, borne in the latter ende of September, Anno 1671.

"Phebe Stewart, the daughter of Robert Stewart, borne the middle of february, Anno 1673.

"Joseph Platt the sonne of John Platt borne the Seventeenth of February, Anno 1672.

"Elissabeth Griggorie the daughter of John Griggorie, Junior, borne in January, Anno 1665.

"Sarah Griggorie the daughter of John Griggorie, Junior, borne in Desember, Anno 1667.

"Jonathan Griggorie the sonne of John Griggorie, Junior, borne in June, Anno 1671.

"Abigall Griggorie, the daughter of John Griggorie, junior, borne in June, Anno 1672.

"Mary Handford, the daughter of Mstr Thos. Handford, borne the thirtieth of November, Anno 1663.

"Hannah Hanford, the daughter of Mstr Thos. Hanford, borne the twentie eighth of June, Anno 1665.

"Elissabeth Hanford, the daughter of Mstr Thos. Hanford, borne the ninth of January, Anno 1666.

"Thomas Hanford, the sonne of Mstr Thos. Hanford, borne the eighteenth of July, Anno 1668.

"Eleazer Hanford, the sonne of Mstr Thos. Hanford, borne the fifteenth of September, Anno 1670.

"Elnathan Hanford, the sonne of Mstr Thos. Hanford, borne the leaventh of October, Anno 1672.

"Samuell Hanford, the sonne of mstr Thos. Hanford, borne the —

"Judah Griggorie tooke to wiffe Hannah Haite, the daughter of Waltar Haite of Norwake, and was married, October the twentieth, Anno 1664.

"Hannah Griggorie, the daughter of Judah Griggorie, was borne the twentie fowrth of September Anno 1665.

"John Griggorie, the sonne of Judah Griggorie, was borne the 17th of March, Anno 1668.

"Percie Griggorie, the daughter of Judah Griggorie, was borne the eleventh of february, Anno 1671.

"Danniell Kellogge tooke to wiffe Bridgett Bowten, the daughter of John Bowten, and was married at Norwake, Anno 1665.

"Sarah Kellogge, the daughter of Danniell Kellogge, was borne in february, Anno 1665, 6.

"Mary Kellogge, the daughter of Danniell Kellogge, was borne in February, Anno 1662.

"Rachell Kellogge, the daughter of Danniell Kellogge, was borne in february, Anno 1663.

"Elissabeth Kellogge, the daughter of Danniell Kellogge, was borne in Auguste, Anno 1666.

"Thomas Haite, the sonne of John Haite, borne the fifth of January, Anno Domine sixe hundred seaventie foure.

"Mary Haite, the daughter of John Haite, borne



the first of September, Anno Domine, sixe hundred and seaventie seaven.

"James Benidicte tooke to wiffe Sarah Gregorie, the daughter of John Gregorie, Sen., of Norwake, and was married the tenth of May, Anno 1676.

"Sarah Benidicte, the daughter of James Benidict, borne the seventh sixe of June, Anno 1677.

"Hannah Benedict, the daughter of Thos. Benidict, Jun., borne the eighth of January, Anno Domi. 1676.

"John Benidict, the sonne of John Benidicte, borne the third of March, Anno 1675, 76.

"Johannah Benidicte, the daughter of Samuell Benidicte, borne the twentie second day of October, Anno 1673.

"Samuell Benidicte, the sonne of Samuell Benidicte, borne the fifth of March, Anno 1674, 75.

"Sarah Platt, the daughter of John Platt, borne the one-and-twentieth of May, in Anno one thous'd sixe hundred seaventie eight.

"Thomas Hyatt tooke to wiffe Mary Sention, the daughter of Mathias Sention, of Norwake, and was married about the 10th of November, 1677.

"Rebeckah Hyatt, the daughter of Thomas Hyatt, borne in the beginninge of October, Anno 1678.

"Ffrancis Bushnell tooke to wiffe Hannah Seamer, daughter of Tho. Seamer, of Norwalke, and was married the 12th of October, 1675.

"Hannah Bushnell, the daughter of Ffrancis Bushnell, borne the 22th of Augst, Anno. Domie, 1676.

"Mary Bushnell, the daughter of Ffrancis Bushnell, borne the 21th of Desember, Anno. Domi. 1679.

"John Crampton tooke to wiffe Sarah Rockewell, the daughter of John Rockewell, of Stamford, and was married the 8th of October, 1676.

"Sarah Crampton, the daughter of John Crampton, borne the 10th of September, 1679.

"Elissabeth Webb, the widow of Ritchard Webb, formerly of Norwalke, deceased the twenty fowrth of January, 1680.

"Benjamin Skrivener tooke to wiffe Hannah Crampton, the daughter of John Crampton, of Norwalke, and was married the 5th of March, 1679, 80.

"Thos. Skrivener, the sonne of Benjamin Skrivener, borne the thirtie one of March, one thousand sixe hundred and eighty-one.

"Elizabeth Comstocke, borne the 7th of October, one thousand sixe hundred and seventie foure.

"Mercie Comstocke, the daughter of Christe. Comstocke, borne the twelfth of November, one thousand sixe hundred seaventie sixe.

"Samuell Comstocke, the sonne of Christe. Comstocke, borne the sixe of February, one thowsand sixe hundred seaventie-nine.

"Ephraim Lockwood, the sonne of Ephraim Lockwood, borne the first of May, one thowsand sixe hundred and seaventie three.

"Joseph Lockwood, the sonne of Ephraim Lockwood, borne the first of Aprill, one thowsand sixe hundred eightie.

"John fitch, the sonne of Tho' fitch, Sen., tooke to wiffe Rebeckah Lindall, the daughter of Deacon Lindall, formerly of Newe Haven, and was married the third of December, one thowsand sixe hundred seventie fower.

"John fitch, the sonne of John fitch, was borne the twentie nine of September, one thowsand six hundred seaventie seven.

"Rebeckah fitch, the daughter of John fitch, was borne the fifteenth day of January, 1679.

"John Whitney, the sonne of John Whitney, was borne the 12th of March, 1676, 77.

"Joseph Whitney, the sonne of John Whitney, was borne the first of March, 1678.

"Henry Whitney, the sonne of John Whitney, was borne the 21th of february, 1680.

"John Keeiler, the sonne of Ralph Keeiler, formerly of Norwalke deceased, tooke to wiffe Hittabell Rockewell, the daughter of John Rockewell, formerly of Stamford, and was married the 18th of June, 1679.

"Elissabeth Keeiler, the daughter of John Keeiler, was borne the 19th of March, 1678.

"Joseph Ketchum tooke to wiffe Mercy Lindall, the daughter of Deacon Lindall, formerly of Newe Haven, and was married the 3th of Aprill, 1679.

"Sarah Ketchum, the daughter of Joseph Ketchum, was borne the 19th of february, 1681.

"Nathaniel Ketchum, the sonne of Joseph Ketchum, was born the 23th of January, 1679.

"Deborah Haite, the daughter of John Haite, was borne the 28 of Desember, 1679.

"Josiah Gregorie, the sonne of Judah Gregorie was borne the 13th of July, 1679.

"Benjamin Gregorie, the sonne of Judah Gregorie, borne the 26 of March, 1682.

"Abigall Crampton, the daughter of John Crampton, borne the 9th of August, 1681.

"Samuel Sension, of Norwalk, deceased, and dyed the 14th of January, 1684.

"Sarah Sension, the daughter of Samuell Sension, deceased and dyed the 5th of January, 1685.

"Abigail Comstock, the daughter of Christopher Comstock, deceased and dyed the 9th of february, in the yeere 1689.

"Sarah Sturdivant, the daughter of William Sturdivant, born the 9th of Aprill, 1678.

"John Sturdivant, the sonn of William Sturdivant, borne the 20th of July, 1676.

"Daniel Comstock, the son of Christopher Comstock, tooke to wife Elissabeth Wheeler, the daughter of John Wheeler, of Ffairfield, at the Black Rock, the 13th of June, in the yeere 1692.

"Jonathan Abbitt, the sonn of Jonathan Abbitt, borne the 6th of April, in the yeere 1697.

"Samuell Benedicke tooke to wiffe Rebeckah Andrews, the daughter of Thos. Andrews, formerly of Faierfield, and was married the 7th of July, 1678.

"Thos. Benydicke, the sonne of Samuell Benydicke, borne the 27th of March, Anno 1689.

"Abraham Benydike, the sonne of Samuell Benydicke, born the twentieth-one of June, Anno 1681.

"Thomas Gregorie tooke to wiffe Elissabeth Pardie, the daughter of George Pardie, of Newe Haven, and was married the twenty-five of Desember, Anno 1679.

"Martha Gregorie, the daughter of Thos. Gregorie, born the thirtee one day of Aprill, Anno 1680.

"Samuell Gregorie, the sonne of Jackin Gregorie, born the 10th of March, one thousand sixe hundred seaventie five, seaventie sixe.

"Sarah Gregorie, the daughter of Jackin Gregorie, born the 15th of September, 1678.

"Matthew Gregorie, the sonne of Jackin Gregorie, borne the 17th of Desember, 1680.

"Jackin Gregorie, the sonne of Jackin Gregorie, borne the 10th of May, 1682.

"Sarah Haies, the daughter of Samuell Haies, borne the 19th of September, 1673.

"Isake Haies, the sonne of Samuell Haies, was borne the 27 of August, Anno 1682.

"James Jupp took to wife Anie Hickens, the daughter of Tho. Hickens, formerly of Stamford, deceased, and was married the 2th of January, 1682.

"John Keeiler, the sonne of John Keeiler, born the 26th of Desember, 1682.

"John Crampton, the sonne of John Crampton, was born the 7th of January, 1682.

"Samuell Keeiler, the sonne of Ralph Keeiler, formerly of Norwalke, deceased, tooke to wiffe Sarah Sention, the daughter of Marke Sention, and was married the 10th of March, Anno 1681, 82.

"Nathaniel fitch, the sonne of John fitch, borne the sixth of Nov., 1682.

"Thomas Barnam, the sonne of Thos. Barnam, born the 9th of July, 1663.

"John Barnam, the sonne of Thomas Barnam, borne the 24th of february, 1677.

"Hannah Barnam, the daughter of Thos. Barnam, borne the 4th of October, Anno 1680.

"Ebbinezer Barnam, the daughter of Thos. Barnam, borne the 29th of May, 1682.

"James Beebe tooke to wiffe Sarah Benydicke, the daughter of Ths. Benydicke, Sen., of Norwalke, and was married the 19th of Desember, 1679.

"Sarah Beebe, the daughter of James Beebe, was borne the 13th of November, 1680.

"Elissabeth Sention, the daughter of Marke Sention, borne the 6th of Desember, 1656.

"Sarah Sention, the daughter of Marke Sention, borne the 18th of January, 1659.

"Danniell Kellogge, the sonne of Danniell Kellogge, was borne the seaventh of May, Anno 1671.

"Samuell Kellogge, the sonne of Danniell Kellogge, was borne the latter end of february, Anno 1673.

"Samuell Sention tooke to wiffe Elissabeth Haite, the daughter of Walter Haite, and was married in September, 1663.

"Sarah Sention, the daughter of Samuel Sention, borne in January, Anno 1664.

"Thos. Sention, the sonne of Sam'll Sention, borne in October, 1666.

"Elissabeth Sention, the daughter of Sam'l Sention, borne in Aprill, Anno 1673.

"Joseph Griggorie, the sonne of Judah Griggorie, borne the sixteenth of July, Anno 1674.

"James Pickett, the sonne of James Pickett, borne the seaventh of May, Anno 1674.

"Hannaih Platt, the daughter of John Platt, borne the 15th of Desember, Anno 1674. I say the fifteenth of Desember, Anno 1674.

"John Whitney tooke to wife Elissabeth Smith, the daughter of Richard Smith, and was married the 17th of March, 1674, 75.

"Eliphalett Lockwoode, the sonne of Ephraim Lockwoode, borne the twentie seven of february, 1675.

"Abigall Haite, the daughter of Zerrubabell Haite, borne the second day of february, Anno 1675.

"Mercie Seamer, the daughter of Thos. Seamer, borne in November, one thowsand sixe hundr'd sixtie sixe.

"Mathewe Seamer, the sonne of Thos. Seamer, borne in May, one thowsande sixe hundred sixtie nine.

"Elissabeth Seamer, the daughter of Thos. Seamer, borne in Desember, 1000 sixe hundrede seaventie three.

"Rebecka Seamer, the daughter of Thos. Seamer, borne in January, 1000 sixe hundrede seaventie five.

"Liddia Griggorie, the daughter of Judah Griggorie, borne the ninth of January, one thowsand sixe hundred seaventie sixe.

"Mary Griggorie, the daughter of John Griggorie, Junr., borne in Desember, 1674.

"John Platt, Jun'r., of the towne of Norwalke, tooke to wife and was married unto Sarah Lockwood, the daughter of Ephraim Lockwood, of Norwalk, in May, in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred and ninety-five.

"Sarah Platt, the daughter of John Platt, Jr., Junior, was borne on the thirtieth day of March, 1697.

"Elisabeth Platt, the daughter of John Platt, Jr., was borne on the eleaventh day of June, in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred and ninety-nine.

"John Platt, the sonn of John, borne the 2d day of Aprill, in the year of our Lord 1702.

"Abigail Platt, the daughter of John Platt, born the 12th day of Feb., 1707-8.

"Elisabeth Raymond, the daughter of Serjnt. John Raymond, born the two and twentieth day of August, in the yeare of our Lord 1697.

"Hannah Raymond, the daughter of the abovesayd Serjnt. John Raymond, was born the two and twentieth day of July, in the yeare of our Lord 1700.

"John Raymond, Jr., took to wife and was married unto Elisabeth Sention, the daughter of Samuell Sention, on the 7th day of March, 1690.



"John Raymond, son of the above, born May 19, 1693.

"James Olmsted, son of James, born March 10, 1676-7.

"Samuel Olmsted, son of James, born May 13, 1683.

"John Olmsted, son of James, born Aug. 14, 1692.

"Nathan Olmsted, born April 27, 1678, married Sarah Keeler, daughter of Ralph Keeler, Dec. 7, 1702.

"Edmund Wareing took to wife Elizabeth Bouton, ye daughter of Serjeant John Bouton, of Norwalk, Oct. 6, 1698.

"Edmund Wareing, son of Edmund Wareing, born Sept. 16, 1700.

"Isaac Wareing, born Jan. 13, 1702.

"John Wareing, born Dec. 21, 1704.

"Solomon Wareing, born April 24, 1707.

"Mary Wareing, born Dec. 22, 1708.

"Nathan Wareing, born Feb. 6, 1710-11.

"Jacob Wareing, born Jan. 15, 1712-13.

"Michael Wareing, born July 16, 1715.

"Eliakim Wareing, born July 8, 1717.

"Elisabeth Wareing, born March 8, 1719-20.

"Abigail Wareing, born April 19, 1723.

"(The above) born 'in Oyster Bay, in Queen's village.'

"In Norwalk, Hannah Wareing, ye daugh'r of s'd Edm. Wareing, born Sept. 7, 1725."

## CHAPTER LIII.

### NORWALK (Continued).

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The South Norwalk Savings-Bank—The Fairfield County Savings-Bank—The Fairfield County National Bank—First National Bank, South Norwalk—Old Well Lodge, No. 108, F. and A. M.—Butler Lodge, No. 97, I. O. O. F.—Fairfield Fire Insurance Company—The South Norwalk Sentinel—The City of Norwalk—Organization—First Officers—Officers from Organization to Present Time—Representatives—Description.

#### THE SOUTH NORWALK SAVINGS-BANK.

THIS bank was incorporated in May, 1860, as the "Mechanics' Savings Society of South Norwalk." It was changed to its present name in 1869.

The first board of managers were D. K. Nash, A. E. Beard, C. F. Tolles, Eben Hill, J. A. Weed, T. L. Peck, C. B. White, F. H. Nash, F. Belden, L. Dibble, D. Hatch, L. H. Moore, M. B. Pardee, T. B. Griffith, George Seymour, H. H. Elwell, Alfred Knapp, William H. Benedict, H. M. Prowitt.

The first officers were: President, D. K. Nash; Vice-President, A. E. Beard; Secretary and Treasurer, C. F. Tolles. The present officers are as follows: President, Dudley P. Ely; Vice-President, Alden Solmans; Secretary and Treasurer, John H. Knapp; Managers, Dudley P. Ely, Alden Solmans, John H. Knapp, F.

H. Nash, William H. Benedict, Burr Knapp, Edwin Adams, Henry I. Smith, Oliver W. Weed.

The first deposit was made Aug. 27, 1860, by John Fairweather; amount, twenty-five dollars. The deposits, May 5, 1880, are \$151,610.89.

D. K. Nash continued president from organization till July, 1860; William H. Benedict was then elected president, and so continued to Feb. 1, 1877, when Dudley P. Ely was elected, and has continued till present time.

#### THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY SAVINGS-BANK.

This bank was organized Aug. 21, 1874. The first board of directors were William K. James, Samuel Lynes, M.D., Edward Merrill, Alfred H. Camp, Thomas H. Morison, Martin S. Craw, Joseph W. Hubbell, Winfield S. Moody, Sherman Morehouse. The first officers were President, William K. James; Vice-President, Samuel Lynes, M.D.; Secretary and Treasurer, Charles H. Street. The present officers are as follows: President, Winfield S. Moody; Vice-President, Martin S. Craw; Secretary and Treasurer, Lester S. Cole. The present board of directors are Winfield S. Moody, Martin S. Craw, Joseph W. Hubbell, Edward Merrill, Alfred H. Camp, Edward H. Nash, Elbert Curtis, Sherman Morehouse, Charles E. St. John.

The first deposit was made Oct. 1, 1874; amount, one dollar. Deposits present time, \$295,000.

#### THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY NATIONAL BANK.

This bank was organized July 26, 1824, with the following officers and directors: President, Henry Belden; Cashier, John J. Barnard; Directors, Henry Belden, Moses Gregory, Ebenezer Jessup, W. J. Street, Wm. St. John, Clark Bissell, David Holly; Directors branch of the bank at Danbury: Samuel Tweedy, Zalmon Wildman, David Foote, Friend Starr, Daniel Comstock, William Hawly, William Meeker.

Presidents and cashiers from organization to present time. Presidents: 1st, Henry Belden; 2d, Clark Bissell; 3d, A. E. Beard; 4th, Charles Isaacs; 5th, F. St. John Lockwood. Cashiers: 1st, John J. Barnard; 2d, E. M. Morgan; 3d, Henry T. Morgan; 4th, Thomas Warner, Jr.; 5th, John A. Morehead; 6th, George E. Miller; 7th, Charles H. Street; 8th, Lester S. Cole.

Present board of directors and officers: President, F. St. John Lockwood; Vice-President, Joseph W. Hubbell; Cashier, Lester S. Cole; Directors, F. St. John Lockwood, Joseph W. Hubbell, Wm. S. Lockwood, Eli B. Bennett, Wm. B. E. Lockwood, Lewis J. Curtis, Charles E. St. John, John H. Perry.

Capital, \$300,000; surplus, \$58,000.

#### FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTH NORWALK.

This bank was organized Sept. 1, 1864. The first directors were Algernon E. Beard, Leprelette H. Moore, Winfield S. Hanford, Chester F. Tolles, Wm. H. Ferris, Frederic Dimon, Lorenzo Dibble, Tall-

madge Baker, and Jonah J. Millard. The first officers were President, L. H. Moore; Cashier, J. J. Millard. Dudley P. Ely was chosen president in April, 1865, and has held the office to the present time. Jonah J. Millard was chosen cashier at the time of the organization of the bank, and has held the office since. The present directors are Dudley P. Ely, Andrew J. Crofut, Winfield S. Hanford, Edward K. Lockwood, Alden Solmans, Edward Scofield, and John Dingee.

The bank has always paid eight per cent. per annum on its capital stock, in semi-annual dividends.

Capital stock, \$200,000; present surplus (April, 1880), \$43,000.

#### OLD WELL LODGE, No. 108, F. AND A. M.

This lodge was instituted in September, 1869, but worked under a dispensation in 1868. The following were its charter members: Theodore Wilcox, M.; Samuel Comstock (2d), S. W.; Frederick A. Kayser, J. W.; Chester F. Tolles, Treas.; William S. Knapp, Sec.; George W. Knight, S. D.; William B. Reed, J. D. The following is a list of the Masters of the lodge from 1868 to the present time: Samuel Comstock (2d), George W. Knight, Robert M. Wilcox, William H. Raymond, Thaddeus Guyer.

The present officers are as follows: Thaddeus Guyer, Master; George W. Smith, S. W.; Nathaniel Bouton, J. W.; Walter C. Quintard, Treas.; Robert M. Wilcox, P. M., Sec.; James M. Warden, S. D.; John W. Bogardus, J. D.; R. E. Kinney, Sen. Stew.; Royal L. Comstock, Jun. Stew.; William Goodwin, Tyler. The lodge is now in a prosperous condition, and has a membership of one hundred and forty-four.

#### BUTLER LODGE, No. 97, I. O. O. F.

This lodge was organized Sept. 23, 1875, with the following charter members: S. G. Brinton, L. E. Dennis, C. S. Diver, Thomas F. Wilson, F. P. Stabell. First officers: S. G. Brinton, N. G.; Thomas F. Wilson, V. G.; L. E. Dennis, R. S.; C. S. Diver, P. S.; F. P. Stabell, Treas. Noble Grands from organization to the present time: S. G. Brinton, L. E. Dennis, H. S. Rood, William Russell, William H. Saunders, William H. Duncan, John W. Mains, John H. Batterson, Louis J. Blake.

The present officers are Louis J. Blake, N. G.; Abram H. McChesney, V. G.; Franklin A. Smith, Rec. Sec.; Henry Philipson, P. Sec.; William H. Duncan, Treas. Present number of members, one hundred and eight. There have been one expelled, sixteen suspended, three died, and two reinstated.

#### FAIRFIELD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

was organized in South Norwalk in 1869, under the name of Fairfield County Fire Insurance Company, which was changed in 1874 by act of Legislature to its present title. The company has a full paid-up cash capital of two hundred thousand dollars, and has now and has had many of the leading capitalists

of the town as its directors. It paid heavy loss claims by the Chicago fire of 1871, and contributed seventy-five thousand dollars on its policies to the great Boston calamity of the year following.

This company commenced paying dividends in 1872, and up to January, 1880, had paid eighty-two per cent. upon its capital stock in dividends to the stockholders.

E. A. Woodward, of South Norwalk, was first president of the company. Henry R. Treadwell, of Westport, was next, and W. S. Hanford has filled the presidential chair since July, 1872. The present directors are W. S. Hanford, F. W. Bruggerhof, H. R. Treadwell, L. Ingersoll, Tallmadge Baker, L. H. Biglow, John H. Knapp, H. E. Bowers, Alden Solmans, A. Bleakley, D. P. Ely, Winfield S. Moody, William W. Watson.

Present officers: President, W. S. Hanford; Vice-President, Tallmadge Baker; Secretary, H. R. Turner; Assistant Secretary, A. L. Frisby.

#### THE SOUTH NORWALK SENTINEL

was established Nov. 17, 1870, by E. A. Horton, who was also the founder of the *Derby Transcript*. The paper had run but a short time under Mr. Horton's sole proprietorship when a joint-stock company was organized under the firm-name of the "South Norwalk Printing Company," with D. P. Ely for president, and Mr. Horton as manager and superintendent.

The paper was subsequently edited by C. V. Arnold, and later by H. E. Wing. He was succeeded by Rev. H. N. Durney, pastor of the Congregational Church, who contributed the editorials up to the time when the joint-stock company was dissolved and the concern purchased by E. A. Horton and James Golden, the latter from New York City.

Up to this time the paper had not paid its expenses, but had lost money, and was almost bankrupt. This change was made in February, 1873, and with it came a change in the fortunes of the paper. Horton & Golden ran it a little over a year, when Mr. Horton retired, and R. H. Golden, a brother of James, took his interest. The firm then became Golden Brothers, and its business was successfully conducted by them till April, 1879, when another brother, John F. Golden, was added to the firm.

The office was at this time removed from its former location, opposite the railroad depot, to the building on Washington Street erected by Gen. Nelson Taylor, and known as the "Sentinel Building." At the same time the stationery and paper business was added to that of publishing, and has proved successful.

The paper is independent, published every Wednesday, and devoted mainly to giving the local news and considering matters and topics of local interest. It ranks well up among the weekly papers of the county, and is among the successful business concerns in the city in which it is published, where it has a strong



influence and is considered one of the leading institutions of the place.

## CIVIL HISTORY.

## CITY OF SOUTH NORWALK.

The city of Norwalk was chartered at May session of 1870, and organized Aug. 18, 1870. The first election for city officers was held Aug. 17, 1870, as follows: Mayor, Dudley P. Ely; Councilmen; First Ward, Tallmadge Baker, Thomas Guyer, Leander G. Wilcox, Franklin B. Purdy; Second Ward, John L. Richards, Robert H. Rowan, J. L. Hopkins, Winfield S. Hanford; Third Ward, Henry H. Elwell, George Benedict, Hartz Z. Norton.

The officers since have been as follows:

- 1872.—Mayor, Dudley P. Ely; Councilmen: First Ward, Thomas Guyer, Lorenzo Dibble, William H. Wilcox, Henry W. Lester; Second Ward, John L. Richards, Robert I. Tolles, Samuel F. Peck, Edwin A. Whitman.
- 1873.—Mayor, Dudley P. Ely; Councilmen: First Ward, Thomas Guyer, Morris M. Norton, Henry W. Lester, Nelson J. Crow; Second Ward, Robert I. Tolles, John L. Richards, George Nowell, Samuel F. Peck; Third Ward, George W. Smith, Joseph R. Raymond, Henry H. Elwell, Francis H. North.
- 1874.—Mayor, Walter C. Quintard; Councilmen: First Ward, Thomas Guyer, Morris M. Norton, Nelson J. Crow, Henry W. Lester; Second Ward, Robert H. Rowan, John L. Richards, Robert I. Tolles, Chester F. Tolles; Third Ward, Joseph R. Raymond, Henry H. Elwell, Henry Seymour, Charles E. Doty.
- 1875.—Mayor, Walter C. Quintard; Councilmen: First Ward, Morris M. Norton, Thomas Guyer, Nelson J. Crow, Francis F. Byxbee; Second Ward, Burr Nash, Thomas I. Raymond, James M. Lane, Winfield S. Hanford; Third Ward, Jonah Jonathan Millard, Joseph R. Raymond, Hanford Wilcox, Charles E. Doty.
- 1876.—Mayor, Walter C. Quintard; Councilmen: First Ward, William H. Duncan, Charles W. Hoyt, Nelson J. Crow, Henry R. Fitch; Second Ward, Thomas I. Raymond, David R. Sellick, Winfield S. Hanford, James M. Lane; Third Ward, Charles E. Doty, Henry H. Elwell, Joseph R. Raymond, Henry Seymour.
- 1877.—Mayor, Dudley P. Ely; Councilmen: First Ward, William T. Crow, William S. Bouton, Henry R. Fitch, John P. Zeluff; Second Ward, D. R. Sellick, Thomas I. Raymond, Peter L. Cunningham, Charles W. Smith; Third Ward, Edwin Adams, John H. Ferris, James L. Russell, George W. Smith.
- 1878.\*—Mayor, Dudley P. Ely; Councilmen, T. Baker, P. L. Cunningham, C. F. Hallock, John H. Knapp, W. T. Crow, D. R. Sellick.
- 1879.—Mayor, Winfield S. Hanford; Councilmen, C. F. Hallock, William T. Crow, P. L. Cunningham, John L. Richards, O. W. Weed, C. Swartz.
- 1880.—Mayor, Walter C. Quintard; Councilmen, Andrew J. Crofut, Lorenzo Dibble, Andrew Thompson, Charles M. Lawrence, Burr Knapp, Gould Hoyt.
- 1881.—Mayor, Christian Swartz; Councilmen, Charles F. Hallock, Ebenezer Hill, Henry I. Smith, Henry R. Fitch, Jeremiah Donovan, Jr., Ebenezer P. Harvey.

Walter T. Buckingham was elected city clerk Aug. 17, 1870, and served till April, 1872; Edwin Wilcox, 1872-75; John W. Crow, 1875 to Aug. 7, 1876; Edwin Wilcox, Aug. 7, 1876, to present time.

## REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1653 TO 1880.

1653-54, 1658-60, 1662-69, Richard Olmstead; 1654-66, Mathew Campfield; 1654, Mathew Marvin; 1656, Richard Webb; 1656-57, 1660, Samuel Hules; 1656, Nathaniel Ely; 1657, Isaac Moore; 1658, Nathaniel Richards; 1658-61, 1667-68, 1670-74, 1676, 1678, 1681, Walter Hoyt; 1659, 1662-63, 1665, 1667-71, 1674-75, 1677, 1678-81, 1695, John Gregory; 1669, John Douglass; 1670, 1675, Thomas Benedict; 1670,

1672, 1674-75, 1677, 1679-80, 1683, D. Kellogg; 1671, 1673, 1685, John Bouton; 1672, Nicholas Hoyt; 1672, 1676, 1678, 1694, Mark Sennison; 1673, Thomas Fitch; 1678, 1680-86, 1691-92, 1694, John Platt; 1686-87, 1689, 1692-1703, Samuel Hayes; 1686, 1689-90, Christopher Comstock; 1691, Samuel Smith; 1691, Edward Messenger; 1691, 1705, John Belding; 1691-93, 1699, James Olmstead; 1692, 1694, 1704-5, 1707, Thomas Betts; 1693, 1710, Samuel Betts; 1694, 1697, Mathew Marvin; 1695, Jakin Gregory; 1696, 1700-2, Andrew Messenger; 1698, John Keeler; 1701, 1703-4, 1706, 1709, Samuel Keeler; 1705-22, 1724-39, 1743-46, 1748-55, 1757-62, 1765-70 (fifty years), Joseph Platt; 1705, 1707-8, 1711, 1714, 1717, 1719-20, 1722, 1733, 1735-37, Samuel Hanford; 1706, 1716, 1718-19, John Copp; 1708-16, 1715-16, John Betts; 1711, 1714, 1720, 1723, 1725-30, Samuel Comstock; 1712-13, Mathew Seymour; 1714, Samuel Kellogg; 1715, 1717, John Read; 1716, John Raymond; 1718, John Bartlett; 1718, Samuel Marvin; 1720, 1756-57, James Brown; 1721-24, 1726-27, 1729, 1732-33, 1735, 1738-40, 1742, 1746, 1748-49, 1751, James Lockwood; 1722, 1725, John Benedict; 1724, Eliphalet Lockwood; 1724, Mathew Gregory; 1726-27, 1729-30, Thomas Fitch; 1728, Benjamin Hickox; 1730-34, Joseph Birchard; 1731, 1736, 1739, 1741-43, John Betts; 1734, 1738, John Marvin; 1734, Daniel Hoyt; 1736, 1741-54, 1760-61, Samuel Fitch; 1737, 1740, 1744, Thomas Benedict; 1738, James Comstock; 1739-40, Samuel Cluckston; 1741, John Belding; 1747-48, Elnathan Hanford; 1749, Nehemiah Mead; 1751, David Lambert; 1753-55, 1757, James Fitch; 1753, Noah Taylor; 1754, Theophilus Fitch; 1755, 1761-64, Peter Lockwood; 1760, Joseph Betts; 1751, 1763-76, Thomas Fitch, Jr.; 1762, Nathaniel Benedict; 1767, Joseph Hall; 1768, Asa Spaulding; 1768-75, 1787-89, 1793, Thomas Belding; 1722, Uriah Rogers; 1774-76, 1784-86, Dr. Thaddeus Betts; 1777, Moses Comstock; 1777, Daniel Betts, Jr.; 1778-79, 1783, Clapp Raymond; 1778, 1780-85, Stephen St. John; 1777, 1779-89, 1791-92, 1794, Samuel C. Silliman; 1779-81, Mathew Mead; 1779, 1782, James Richards; 1781, 1786, 1790-91, 1794-96, Eliphalet Lockwood; 1786-88, Hezekiah Rogers; 1790-92, Job Bartram; 1792-93, 1795, Samuel Comstock; 1794-96, Taylor Sherman; 1796-99, Mathew Marvin; 1797, John Cannon; 1797, 1800-1, Joseph Silliman; 1798, Roger M. Sherman; 1799, Isaac Richards; 1800-4, 1809-10, William M. Betts; 1801-2, 1804, Phineas Miller; 1804-8, 1811-12, Jabez Gregory; 1805-6, Stephen St. John; 1805, John Hanford; 1805, 1807, George Raymond; 1807, Stephen Lockwood; 1808, 1818, 1820-21, 1823-24, 1827, Moses Gregory; 1808, John Taylor; 1809-10, 1814, Jacob Osborne; 1811, Samuel Bowton; 1812-13, 1825-26, Thomas Reed; 1813, 1815-20, 1822, 1824-25, 1827-28, 1834, Benjamin Isaacs; 1813-14, Moses W. Reed; 1814-16, 1818, John Eversley; 1814, Lewis Mallory; 1815, 1830, Thaddeus Betts; 1816, 1828, Samuel B. Warren; 1817-18, William J. Street; 1818, Dan Taylor; 1819, Andrew Hanford; 1821, James Quintard; 1822-23, 1835-36, Noah Wilcox; 1826, 1831, David Roberts; 1829, 1835, Charles W. Taylor; 1829, 1841, 1850, Clark Bissell; 1830-31, 1848, Eli B. Bennett; 1832-33, John D. Loundsbury; 1832-33, 1837, 1843, 1846, Thomas B. Butler; 1834, Samuel Comstock; 1836-38, Lewis Gregory; 1838, Timothy T. Merwin; 1839-40, 1844-45, 1850, Algernon E. Beard; 1839-40, Joseph W. Hubbard; 1841-42, Henry Sellick; 1842-43, Mathew Wilcox; 1844, Charles Thomas; 1845-46, William S. Lockwood; 1847, Samuel Jarvis; 1847, Asa Hill; 1848, Harvey Pennoyer; 1849, Gould D. Jennings, William H. Benedict; 1851, Ebenezer Hill, Henry M. Prowitt; 1850, Clark Bissell, A. C. Beers; 1851, Ebenezer Hill, Henry M. Prowitt; 1852, Thomas Robinson, Thomas Guyer; 1853, Ira Gregory, Eben. Wilson; 1854, Stephen Raymond, Thomas Guyer; 1855, David Comstock, Jr., Burr Nash; 1856, Asa Hill, Daniel K. Nash; 1857, Josiah M. Carter, William T. Crow; 1858, Daniel K. Nash, A. Homer Byington; 1859, A. Homer Byington, William T. Crow; 1860, William T. Crow, Samuel E. Olmstead; 1861, Josiah M. Carter, P. L. Cunningham; 1862, Josiah M. Carter, Ebenezer Hill; 1863, William C. Street, Joseph H. Jennings; 1864, William C. Street, Chester F. Tolles; 1865, Chester F. Tolles, F. St. John Lockwood; 1866, F. St. John Lockwood, Ebenezer Hill; 1867, Asa B. Woodward, D. Webb; 1868, George S. Bell, Reuben Hodge; 1869, Asa Smith, Israel M. Bullock; 1870, Martin S. Crow, Tallmadge Baker; 1871, Martin S. Crow, Lewis F. Beers; 1872, F. St. John Lockwood, Thomas Guyer; 1873, Thomas Guyer, Moses Hill; 1874, Edward P. Weed, Thomas Guyer; 1875-76, James W. Hyatt, Winfield S. Hanford; 1877, Allen Betts, Tallmadge Baker; 1878, Allen Betts, Edward P. Weed; 1879, Robert H. Rowan, James G. Gregory; 1880, Charles H. Street, Robert H. Rowan.

\* Charter amended; number of councilmen reduced to six.

† Chosen assistant.

‡ Died May 9, 1875.

§ Convention.

## THE CITY OF SOUTH NORWALK.

This place has a population of about five thousand. It is situated on Norwalk River, one and a half miles from the head of navigation, and about two miles from Long Island Sound. The New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad runs through its centre. Its depot in the city is the terminus of the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad, and is only forty-two miles from the Grand Central depot in New York City, thirty from New Haven, and twenty-two miles to the Danbury depot. Its water-facilities are unsurpassed.

A large and commodious steamer leaves the dock at the foot of Washington Street every morning, except Sundays, for New York City, returning at six P. M. Two freight-steamers make tri-weekly trips between this city and New York. Within the city are ample dock accommodations for vessels drawing from ten to twelve feet of water, at which are constantly moored in the busy season sailing-crafts of every description discharging lumber, timber, and every kinds of building-materials, coal, and wood, and receiving cargoes of various sorts for other ports. Here the oyster-trade is a large factor of wealth. At certain seasons of the year the docks are crowded with vessels engaged in transporting oysters to New York City, Bridgeport, New Haven, Hartford, and to foreign countries. It is computed that at least two millions of dollars' worth of bivalves are planted in the waters of Norwalk, three-quarters of which are owned by citizens of South and East Norwalk.

The city of South Norwalk is really the entrepot of nearly all the commerce of Norwalk, Wilton, Ridgefield, Bethel, Danbury, and the southwestern portion of Litchfield County, from whence it is carried by the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad.

This city is the centre of an extensive and lucrative hat-manufacturing interest, giving employment, probably, to fifteen hundred operatives of both sexes, many of whom come from the surrounding towns by rail. For about seventy-five years South Norwalk has been noted throughout the country as one of the centres of this trade. The hats produced in this locality have found a ready market in all the States of the Union, Mexico, and the States of South America, because of their superior texture and styles.

There are in the city ten extensive hat-establishments, two fur-cutting, and one hat-body forming company: Crofut & Knapp (two factories), Adams Brothers, Swift & Palmer, A. Solomons, Benedict Brothers, Brown & Co., F. Volk, Craw, Brother & Volk.

Two large iron-foundries in full blast, one boiler, pump, and engine-works, one lock-factory, the largest in the country, whose goods find a market throughout the civilized world.

Two steam saw-mills for cutting up lumber and furnishing sash, windows, blinds, and doors for builders in all the surrounding country: Burr Knapp, H. R. Fitch.

One paper box and two wooden box factories: R. H. Rowen, W. Fitch, C. T. Tolles.

One shoe- and boot-manufactory, doing a large and thriving business, and giving employment to about seventy-five hands of both sexes: Lounsburys Bros. & Rockwell. The company had, till Ely's Hotel was built, the most attractive building in the city.

One corset establishment, but recently erected: Goldsmith & Co. When in order will give employment to three hundred hands.

One boat-building company and one marine railway company.

One factory for the manufacture of ink: J. Pennell.

Two carriage-establishments, which turn out the most stylish carriages to be found in the State: H. Tilly, C. A. Mulings.

Three cigar-factories and one cigar-box factory: C. Smarts, L. Lowder, Hoyt & Comstock.

One printing establishment,—the South Norwalk Printing Company,—doing a prosperous business under the management of the Golden Brothers.

## SCHOOLS.

The schools of the South Norwalk Union School District rank among the best in the State.

## CHURCHES.

Three live and prosperous churches exist within the bounds of the city, and in the outlying districts are two union chapels, occupied in turn by the pastors of the Congregational, Methodist, and Episcopal Churches. Combined, they have a membership of about twelve hundred.

## CHAPTER LIV.

## NORWALK (Continued).

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Norwalk Savings Society—National Bank of Norwalk—Central National Bank—Old Advertisements—Steamboats—Masonic—St. John's Lodge—Washington Chapter—Clinton Commandery—Washington Council—Our Brothers' Lodge, I. O. O. F.—The Norwalk Insurance Company—Judges of Probate—The Borough of Norwalk—Organization—First Officers elected—The Fire Department—Water-Works—Horse Railroad—Manufactures—The Press—The Norwalk Gazette—The Norwalk Hour—The Democrat—The Schulte Murder—The Drawbridge Disaster—Hon. Clark Bissell.

## NORWALK SAVINGS SOCIETY.

THIS institution was organized in September, 1849. The first board of trustees were Clark Bissell, Stiles Curtis, Joseph W. Hubbell, William S. Lockwood, Charles Isaacs, Thomas C. Hanford, William K. James, Jonathan Camp, Eli B. Bennett, A. E. Beard, Gould D. Jennings, Stephen Olmstead, Charles C. Betts, William C. Street, Asa E. Smith, of Norwalk; Charles Marvin, Samuel P. Randle, of Wilton; Eliphallet Swift, John W. Gaylor, of Westport; Ira Scofield, Holly Bell, of Darien; Watts Comstock, Hezron L. Ayres, Caleb S. Benedict, Charles Raymond, of



New Canaan. The first board of officers were: President, Clark Bissell; Vice-Presidents, Stiles Curtis, Joseph W. Hubbell, William S. Lockwood; Secretary and Treasurer, Thomas Warner, Jr.

Clark Bissell continued as president until his death, in 1857. William S. Lockwood was elected June 16, 1858, and continued until July, 1871. He was followed by William C. Street, July 19, 1871, who held the office until July 27, 1878, when he was succeeded by Edward P. Weed, who continued in office until his death, April 18, 1880. T. Warner, Jr., remained secretary and treasurer until March 1, 1856, when Joseph W. Hubbell was elected, and continued until August, 1870. George E. Miller followed, and is the present incumbent.

The present board of directors are: William B. E. Lockwood, F. St. John Lockwood, George M. Holmes, Robert B. Craufurd, Samuel E. Olmstead, William C. Street, Asa Smith, George E. Miller.

The first deposit was made Oct. 9, 1849; amount, thirty dollars. Present amount of deposits, \$1,620,000; present number of depositors, 4325.

#### THE NATIONAL BANK OF NORWALK.

This bank was organized in September, 1857. The first board of directors were Ebenezer Hill, Charles B. White, John A. Weed, Stiles Curtis, Jonathan Camp, Samuel Lynes, F. Belden. E. Hill was president from organization, in 1857, till his death, in 1875. Stiles Curtis has held the office from 1875 to date (May, 1880). Charles G. Rickard was cashier from September, 1857, till March, 1858, since which time R. B. Craufurd has been the incumbent. The bank was reorganized as a national bank in 1865. The capital from date of organization to 1879 was \$300,000, when it was reduced to \$240,000.

The present board of directors are Stiles Curtis, Ebenezer Hill, Edward Beard, E. K. Lockwood, E. J. Hill, W. Randel Smith, one vacancy.

The officers are: President, Stiles Curtis; Cashier, R. B. Craufurd.

THE CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK was organized Sept. 15, 1876, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars. The first board of directors were A. S. Hurlbutt, T. H. Morison, J. P. Beatty, H. F. Guthrie, G. M. Holmes, Charles Smith, P. L. Cunningham, W. R. Smith, S. Morehouse. The first officers were: A. S. Hurlbutt, President; T. H. Morison, Vice-President; William A. Curtis, Cashier. Present officers same.

The present board of directors are as follows: A. S. Hurlbutt, T. H. Morison, H. F. Guthrie, G. M. Holmes, Charles Smith, P. L. Cunningham, S. Morehouse, E. L. Boyer, G. S. Hutchinson.

Dividends semi-annual,—January and July.

#### OLD ADVERTISEMENTS.

In No. 1, Vol. I., of the *Norwalk Gazette*, under date of May 6, 1818, A. N. Beers advertises that he has for sale paints, oils, carpenters' tools, etc.

Asa Lockwood advertises Jamaica and St. Croix rum, maccaboy, Rappee, and Scotch snuff, etc.

June 10th, Betts & Cannon advertise black and colored Canton crapes, Jamaica rum, Italian lustrings, French brandy, cambric dimities, Holland gin, etc. They advertise tabby and Manchester velvets, blue and yellow nankeens, black, blue, bottle-green, and "mixt" broadcloths; and should the customer want Jamaica or St. Croix rum, American and French brandy, or Holland gin, he has only to make his wants known, for these are for sale in the same establishment.

Under date of July 29, 1818, William J. Street announces that he "has just returned from New York, etc., and that he will sell fine 6-4 Cambric Dimity at 37 1-2 cts. per yd.; 6-4 cambric muslin for 37 1-2 cts. per yard; good domestic shirting for 20 to 25 cents per yard; 1 doz. super London made vests, \$2.25 each;" also "1 doz. ready-made Pantaloon (Jefferson sheeting), \$1 per pair; 20 doz. pocket Hhkfs., good size and quality, 6 cents each; 100 elegant fans from 2 to 3 each."

The following advertisement also appears:

#### ACCOMMODATION PACKETS,

to sail

From EBENEZER D. HOYT's landing at Norwalk for Peck Slip, New York.

#### SLOOP ELIZA, PENNOYER MASTER,

Will commence sailing from the above landing on Tuesday, the 12th day of May next, and return on Saturday.

#### SLOOP MARY, BRYANT MASTER,

Will sail on Thursday and return on Tuesday.

#### SLOOP UNION, BROWN MASTER,

Will sail on Saturday and return the Thursday following, each vessel performing their weekly trips through the season.

For freight or passage apply to the subscriber, or to either the captains of their respective vessels.

E. D. HOYT.

Norwalk, March 5, 1818.

#### STEAMBOATS.

In 1824 the first steamboat was put on the line from Norwalk to New York, called "John Marshall," in honor of the chief justice, and was about eighty feet long, with a capacity of thirty or forty passengers. Fare, one dollar. Three years later the late Com. Vanderbilt started an opposition boat called the "Nimrod," and the fare was reduced to one shilling, which continued about two years. The "Nimrod" was commanded by Capt. Brooks, of Bridgeport. The "John Marshall" was superseded by the "Fairfield," commanded by Capt. Peck. The steamer "Adelphi" now runs between Norwalk and New York.

#### ST. JOHN'S LODGE, NO. 6, F. AND A. M.

The original charter of this lodge was obtained from the Provincial Grand Lodge in New York, and bears the signature of R. W. George Harrison, Grand Master, dated May 23, 1765, appointing Benjamin Isaacs, Master, Stephen St. John, Senior Warden, and Jehiel Ketcham, Junior Warden, of said lodge, "to be held at Norwalk only, and that until such time as a Grand Master shall be appointed for the Colony

of Connecticut." The records of the lodge previous to 1779 are supposed to have been destroyed when the town was burned, in July of that year. The records from Sept. 8, 1779, to the present are in regular order.

At the convention preliminary to forming the Grand Lodge, which was held in New Haven in 1783, this lodge was represented by David Lambert, but at the subsequent convention, when the constitution was adopted and signed, the name of a delegate from this lodge does not appear on the minutes. Their present charter was issued by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, Oct. 17, 1793.

The following is a list of the first one hundred and thirty-two members of the lodge: Benjamin Isaacs, 1st W. M.; Stephen St. John, 1st S. W.; Jehiel Ketcham, 1st J. W.; Ebenezer Whitney, Jesse Betts, Samuel Brooks, Hezekiah Belden, John Betts, Peter Betts, Samuel Burrall, William S. Betts, Samuel Baker, Willis Cliff, Joshua Disbrow, Daniel Finch, Alvin Hyatt, Prentice Hosman, Thomas Hill, Stephen Lockwood, David Lambert, Mathew Mallory, Auley McAuley, Mathew Marvin, Nathan Pollock, John Ritch, Mathew Reed, William Reed, Eleazer Scott, Josiah Thatcher, 2d, Stephen Thatcher, Timothy Whitney, Zebulon Williams, James Whitney, John White, Joseph Allen Wright, Dunlap Coggesal, John Clarke, Stephen Betts, John S. Cannon, John Cannon, Jr., Aaron Hoyt, James Hurlburt, Shubal Gorham, James Hamlin, Ephraim Marvin, David Crosby, Daniel Bull, Jacob Reed, Eli Crosby, Adonijah Stanesborough, David Aiken, 3d, James Sackett, Nathan Gilbert, Jeremiah Burgess, Thomas Sears, Samuel De Forrest, Samuel Middlebrook, Charles Jarvis, James Richards, Jr., Benjamin North, Lambert Lockwood, David Dunning, Nathan Paddock, Eben Olmstead, Timothy Foster, Jabez Gregory, John St. John, 3d, Peter Hendrick, Nathan Douglass, Stephen Jarvis, Henry Jarvis, Joseph Cable, Benjamin Keeler, Jonathan Cass, William Beers, Joseph Bouton, Timothy Benedict, Zalmon Sanford, Samuel Dauchy, Joseph C. Fields, Benjamin Sanford, David Olmstead, 3d, Aaron Keeler, David Jackson, Jr., Nathan Dauchy, Jr., Josiah Thatcher, Jr., Ebenezer Lockwood, Jonathan Knight, Jesse Benedict, Jr., Isaac S. Isaacs, William Maltby Betts, Samuel Gibbs, Phineas Miller, Nehemiah Hanford, Henry Chichester, Jotham Waring, John Smith, William A. Cannon, Rev. George Ogilvie, Alexander McNabb, Stephen Rockwell, Samuel Seely, Samuel Jarvis, Moses Gregory, Daniel Seymour, William Fancher, Taylor Sherman, William Pike, David Keeler, John C. Ketcham, Stephen Fields, Stephen Bishop, Hezekiah Hyatt, Stephen Belknap, Jacob Osborn, Benjamin Brooks, Clapp Raymond, Jr., Gould Hoyt, Jr., Hezekiah De Forrest, Seely Conklin, Joshua King, Wolcott Down, St. Louis De Fontaine, Benjamin Isaacs, Lemuel Brooks, Jr., Jesse Jarvis, David Olmstead, Philip Bradley, Samuel Howes, Ebenezer Jessup, Jr., Gabriel Allen, Eleazer Wood.

The following is a list of those who have held the office of W. Master from its organization until the present time: 1765-75, Benjamin Isaacs; 1776-79, 1783-84, Stephen St. John; 1780-82, Ebenezer Whitney; 1785-87, David Lambert; 1788-92, Matthew Reed; 1793, Samuel Burrall; 1794, 1798, 1806, Jonathan Knight; 1795, Isaac S. Isaacs; 1796, 1810, Phineas Miller; 1797, Taylor Sherman; 1807-8, Josiah Thatcher; 1809, William M. Betts; 1811, Moses Gregory; 1812, Daniel Church; 1813-15, 1818, William J. Street; 1823-24, Stephen Smith; 1816-17, 1819, 1821-22, Joseph Keeler; 1820, William G. Betts; 1825-26, Henry Selleck; 1827-28, Philo Price; 1829-30, 1841-42, Asa E. Smith; 1831-32, 1836-40, 1845-48, James Stevens; 1833-35, 1843-44, Henry W. Smith; 1849, George F. Daskam; 1850, John A. McLean; 1851, Dimon Fanton; 1852, Eli K. Street; 1853, William D. Camp; 1854, 1869, Samuel Lynes; 1855, William W. Storey; 1856, Thomas B. Butler; 1857, Asa Smith; 1858, F. St. John Lockwood; 1859, Edward P. Weed; 1860, Albert H. Wilcoxsen; 1861, 1873-75, Alfred H. Camp; 1862, John H. Aiken; 1863, Levi Warner, Jr.; 1864, Claude Guthrie; 1865-66, 1868, James W. Storey; 1867, Theodore Wilcox; 1870, Isaac Church, Jr.; 1871, David Pollard; 1872, 1877-78, A. C. Golding; 1876, Jesse Pollard; 1879, Mark Harris; 1880, G. Ward Selleck.

#### WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 24, ROYAL ARCH MASONS,

was instituted by virtue of a charter granted by the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, May 10, 1827. Its number was then 25, but was afterwards changed to 24. It has always been located in Norwalk. The following companions have held the office of High Priest: 1827, 1846, Henry Selleck; 1828, Phineas Miller (died in office); 1828-46, William J. Street; 1847-49, Elijah Gregory; 1850-52, James Stevens; 1850, Edwin Hoyt; 1850, John A. McLean; 1853-59, George F. Daskam; 1856, Samuel Lynes, M.D.; 1857, 1861, 1864, William W. Storey; 1858, 1860, Asa Smith; 1862, Albert H. Wilcoxsen; 1863, Edward P. Weed; 1865-69, Stephen Merrill; 1870-76, Augustus C. Golding; 1871-72, Robert M. Wilcox; 1873, George W. Smith; 1877, William A. Sammis; 1878-80, William Randell Smith.

CLINTON COMMANDERY, No. 3, KNIGHTS TEMPLARS, and appendant orders, was instituted by a dispensation from De Witt Clinton, Grand Master of Knights Templars in the United States, bearing date Feb. 9, 1827, to be located in the town of Washington, Litchfield Co. In the year 1847 it was removed to Norwalk, where it has since been located. Clinton was one of the three encampments (as then called) which formed the Grand Encampment of the State, Sept. 13, 1827. Two commanderies which have since been formed from it are Hamilton, No. 5, of Bridgeport, May 10, 1855, and Crusader, No. 10, of Danbury, March 21, 1871.



The following is a list of Sir Knights who have held the office of Eminent Commander from its organization, in 1827, to the present date (those marked with a star are deceased): 1827-47, Daniel B. Brinsmade;\* 1847-53, James Stevens;\* 1853-61, George F. Daskam;\* 1861-66, 1868, 1870, 1874, William W. Storey; 1867, 1873, Asa Smith; 1869, David M. Lane; 1871, 1876, Augustus C. Golding; 1872, James W. Storey; 1875, David Pollard; 1877-78, Edwin Hoyt; 1879, G. Ward Selleck; 1880, Dwight Waugh.

#### WASHINGTON COUNCIL, ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS,

was chartered by the Grand Council of Connecticut, May 10, 1849, the first three officers being James Stevens, John A. McLean, and Henry W. Smith. It has always held its meetings in Norwalk.

#### OUR BROTHERS' LODGE, I. O. O. F.

The following history of this lodge is taken from an historical address delivered by Dr. Asa Hill in October, 1871:

"On the 19th of October, 1842, the R. W. G. D. M. George Walters, assisted by R. W. Grand Warden Gibson London, P. G. Wilson, P. G. Stevens, of the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut, together with a number of Brothers from Pequonoc Lodge, No. 4, of Bridgeport, proceeded to institute this lodge, under the name of 'Our Brothers' Lodge,' No. 10, I. O. O. F., and in ample form delivered to the lodge a charter for the same. The names of the charter members were as follows: Cholwell J. Gruman, Asa E. Smith, Stephen Olmstead, R. S. Pennoyer, and J. Taylor Hunt. The first officers of the lodge were as follows: C. J. Gruman, N. G.; Asa E. Smith, V. G.; Stephen Olmstead, Sec.; R. S. Pennoyer, Treas. The first batch of candidates initiated were as follows: Samuel R. Bunting, George W. Raymond, Eli K. Street, Wm. E. Bissell, Eli Curtis, R. Osborn, E. Donnelly, and H. Ray. These persons were severally appointed to fill the subordinate offices, and the lodge, thus duly officered, commenced a singularly prosperous career, the twenty-ninth anniversary of which we this evening celebrate.

"The first lodge-room was but a small affair, located in Olmstead's Block, in Main Street, yet it answered the necessities of the case sufficiently well. The furniture was simple and plain, and the brothers, warm in their 'first love,' were content to work and wait until the accession of greater numbers and more ample means allowed them to improve and expand their borders.

"After a while the place became too strait for them, and the lodge-room was enlarged and to some extent embellished. This room served us for a number of years, and until the *Gazette* building was erected, when we transferred our headquarters to our present beautiful lodge-room. It is a matter of no little interest thus to recall the leading facts of our early history and mark the course of our onward progress. It was in this old lodge-room that many of our most substantial and worthy members were initiated into the order, and it is still fragrant with pleasant associations. It is within the memory of the speaker when the death of the first Odd-Fellow made our little band so sad and touched the springs of sympathy in all our hearts, and an Odd-Fellow's funeral was for the first time in this town witnessed by our people.

"Primarily to Brother C. J. Gruman more than to any other person are we indebted for the organization of this lodge. He expended his time and money lavishly to get the lodge in working order. His zeal was tireless, his attendance regular and uniform, and the ardent impulses of his nature found abundant room for their exercise in the growth and expansion of the brotherhood. Indeed, the very name of 'Our Brothers' Lodge,' at once so beautiful and suggestive, I believe, originated with him.

"We mention his name in this connection with special prominence because we are enjoined in that *good old book* that we all cherish as the guide of our lives to render 'honor to whom honor is due.'

"It is to him also, more than to any other member of our order, that we are indebted for the existence of an additional branch, known as Kabaosa Encampment, No. 9. The petitioners for this encampment

charter were Cholwell J. Gruman, John G. Quigley, Wm. H. Cleveland, Henry W. Smith, James A. Quintard, and Peter L. Cunningham. Two of the persons whose names were appended to this petition have since deceased, to wit: John G. Quigley and Wm. H. Cleveland."

The present number of members (Sept. 27, 1880) is two hundred and seventy-eight; funds on hand, eleven thousand six hundred and sixty-four dollars.

#### THE NORWALK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

This company has a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, and is officered as follows: President, William C. Street; Secretary, George R. Cowles; Treasurer, Samuel Lynes. The following is the board of directors: William C. Street, Asa Smith, G. G. Bishop, E. S. Tweedy, Samuel Lynes, M.D., Stiles Curtis, William S. Lockwood, E. B. Bennett, A. E. Smith, S. E. Olmstead, E. C. Bissell, John Osborn, F. S. Wildman, G. R. Cowles, D. P. Nichols, S. Y. St. John, D. M. Marvin, D. P. Ely, Henry I. Hoyt, and George B. St. John.

#### JUDGES OF PROBATE.

The following is a list of the judges of Probate of the district of Norwalk:

1802-15, Taylor Sherman; 1815-18, Clark Bissell; 1818-28, William M. Betts; 1828-35, Benjamin Isaacs; 1835-37, Stephen Smith; 1837-38, William St. John; 1838-42, Benjamin Isaacs; 1842-43, Cyrus A. Mead; 1843-44, George A. Davenport; 1844-45, Benjamin Isaacs; 1845-46, Sidney B. Beardsley; 1846-47, George A. Davenport; 1847-49, Thomas B. Butler; 1849-50, Orris S. Ferry; 1850-78, George A. Davenport; 1878, Asa B. Woodward.

#### BOROUGH OF NORWALK.

The borough of Norwalk was chartered on the first Wednesday in May in 1836. The first officers were elected July 11, 1836, as follows: Warden, Joseph W. Hubbell; Burgesses, William S. Street, Matthias Hubbell, Stephen T. Brewer, Stiles Curtis, Levi Clark, and Timothy T. Merwin; Treasurer, Charles Thomas; Bailiff, James Stevens; Haywards, Levi Clark, Jason Merrill, William Cleveland, Richard Camp, Daniel Nash, Robert Cameron, John Wasson, Lewis Whitney, and James S. Kellogg; Pound-Keepers, Eli Sanford, Nathan Jarvis, Matthias Hubbell, and Buckingham Lockwood; Inspector of Coal, Wood, and Hay, James Stevens; Inspector of Grain, Edwin Lockwood; Inspector of Butter, James Porter.

The present officers of the borough (elected Dec. 1, 1879) are as follows: Warden, James W. Hyatt; Burgesses, George B. Cowles, Charles C. Betts, Homer Merrill, Darius W. Couch, John Keena, and Frank Street; Borough Treasurer and Treasurer of Water Fund, Robert B. Crawford; Collector, Elbert Curtis; Bailiff, James Finney; Board of Registration, George N. Ells and Jacob Turk; Inspectors of Elections, Charles H. Wheeler, John A. Honneker; Water Commissioners, Augustus C. Golding, Winfield S. Moody, Isaac Selleck, Jr.\* Clerk, Joseph F. Foote;† Chief of Police, John O. Sullivan; Policemen, Daniel J. Bennett and William Sheldon.

\* Appointed vice Carlyle T. Weeks, resigned.

† Officiated for nine successive years.

The first fire inspectors elected after the organization of the borough were Charles Isaacs, Henry Selleck, and Gould D. Jennings.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.\*

The present fire department of the borough is a volunteer one, and consists of a chief engineer with two assistants, one engine, one hose, one hook-and-ladder, and one fire-police company. The apparatus consists of one steam fire-engine, one hose-carriage, one hose-crab, two hose-jumpers, one hook-and-ladder truck with all its appurtenances, and about nineteen hundred feet of good rubber hose. The companies and apparatus are all in good serviceable condition.

The formation of the department for 1880 is as follows: Chief-Engineer, Joseph B. Ells; Assistants, Royal L. Adams, Frank S. Fancher.

The companies are:

**PHOENIX ENGINE COMPANY, No. 1,** William Hands, foreman, with fifty members. This company was organized Dec. 15, 1858, and has been in continual active service ever since its formation. It first ran a second-class Sickles piano machine. In 1870 it was furnished with a second-class steam fire-engine of Cole Brothers' make, with which it has done much efficient and good service. At present the engine is held in reserve, by reason of the borough having a good and powerful supply of water through the public water-works; therefore at present the company runs a hose-crab on occasions of fire.

**HOPE HOSE COMPANY, No. 3,** F. McKeon, foreman, has about thirty members. The company was organized in the spring of 1859 as an auxiliary of Phoenix Engine Company, and assumed the name of Phoenix Hose Company, but changed its name to Hope Hose in 1877. The company run a handsome four-wheeled hose-carriage and two two-wheeled jumpers.

**PIONEER HOOK-AND-LADDER COMPANY, No. 1,** Edgar S. Wilcoxsen, foreman, has thirty-two members. It was organized in January, 1861. It runs a fine and handsome truck well supplied with ladders, hooks, etc.

**THE FIRE POLICE,** Capt. A. J. Meeker, numbers thirty men. Is a comparatively new company, having been organized to fill a gap long felt in the department,—viz., to protect and prevent the active firemen from being interfered with or crowded by the idle persons usually attracted to a fire, and also to handle and care for any property necessarily removed from any burning building.

The department is a good and efficient one, and has proved its worth on many occasions. It is always prompt in answer to duty calls, and ever ready for hard, earnest work.

#### WATER-WORKS.

The movement to introduce a supply of pure and wholesome water into the borough of Norwalk was begun early in 1870. The General Assembly of the

State, of that year, was petitioned to grant authority to the borough to introduce water, and the representatives of that year, and certain citizens of the borough, interested themselves in the procurement of a charter for that purpose. The charter was approved July 15, 1870, containing a proviso that it should not be binding upon the borough until accepted by a vote of the citizens of the borough at a meeting duly called for that purpose. A special meeting was held Aug. 24, 1870, and the charter for the introduction of water was accepted by a vote of three hundred and thirty-four yeas to sixty-five nays.

A special meeting of the borough was held Sept. 2, 1870, and Thomas H. Morison (re-elected Dec. 5, 1871), Samuel Lynes, M.D., and William K. James were elected commissioners, and Charles H. Street treasurer, of the water fund. At the same meeting, the borough, by vote, authorized the water commissioners to issue the bonds of the borough to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars to defray the expense of the introduction of water. It becoming evident to the commissioners that the above sum was insufficient, application was made to the borough for authority to issue the bonds of the borough to a larger amount, and on April 20, 1871, at a borough-meeting called for the purpose, it was voted to petition the General Assembly for power to issue the bonds of the borough to the amount of seventy-five thousand dollars additional. The Legislature, at its May session, 1871, accordingly amended the water charter of the borough, granting the necessary authority to issue the bonds of the borough to the amount of seventy-five thousand dollars additional, and the borough, in a special meeting called for that purpose July 1, 1871, voted to authorize the commissioners to do so. March 2, 1872, at a special meeting for that purpose, the borough voted to petition the General Assembly to pledge its credit for an additional twenty-five thousand dollars. Power was granted by the General Assembly at its May session, 1872, to do so, and the borough, in special meeting for that purpose Aug. 17, 1872, voted to authorize the commissioners to issue the bonds of the borough for an additional twenty-five thousand dollars, making in all the sum of two hundred thousand dollars.

The water is unusually pure and wholesome. It is taken from the Silver Mine Brook, in New Canaan.

#### HORSE RAILROADS.

This road was chartered in May, 1862, with the following members: Asa Hill, Le Grand Lockwood, Edwin Lockwood, Samuel G. Blackman, Edward C. Bissell, Charles Isaacs, and Chester N. Carr. The first officers were: President and Manager, Le Grand Lockwood; Asa Hill, Secretary. The first directors were Le Grand Lockwood, Edwin Lockwood, Thomas D. Richards, Asa Hill, Samuel G. Blackman, Edward C. Bissell, A. H. Byington, C. E. Lockwood, Levi Warner, elected September, 1862. The length

\* Contributed by Joseph B. Ells.



of track is two and a quarter miles, extending from Norwalk to South Norwalk. The present officers are: President and Manager, James W. Hyatt; Secretary, Edwin G. Hoyt; Directors, James W. Hyatt, Burr Smith, C. E. Hyatt, Edwin G. Hoyt, Hart Denton, Levi Warner, L. W. Sandeforth.

## MANUFACTURERS OF NORWALK.

According to the census ruling of 1880 the following is a list of all whose business amounted to five hundred dollars and upwards during the year 1879:

*Box-Makers (Wood).*—William E. Fitch, Chester F. Tolles.

*Box-Maker (Paper).*—R. H. Rowan.

*Box-Maker (Cigar Boxes).*—Giles Hanlenbeck.

*Boots and Shoes.*—A. N. Hoyt & Co., Benedict & Co., H. S. Brown, M. Carew, C. H. Harvey, John Schaub.

*Carriage-Makers.*—Mulling Bros., Edward Nelson, Jehiel G. Rockwell, E. Seymour, Henry Tilly.

*Corsets.*—Rotch & Goldschmidt.

*Children's Carriages.*—F. Boylston.

*Cigars.*—Hoyt & Olmstead, Alexander Lander, Norwalk Bridge Cigar Company, P. F. Shehan, Daniel H. Sims, Old Well Cigar Company.

*Foundries (Iron).*—A. C. Arnold & Co., S. E. Olmstead & Co., Lockwood & Wheeler, N. L. Austin.

*Foundry (Brass).*—McMahon Bros.

*Furniture.*—John Bouton, William Lockwood, E. Quintard's Son.

*Fur Cutters.*—J. J. Arch, Martin J. Bates, Jr., R. H. Millard.

*Gas.*—Norwalk Gas-Light Company.

*Granite-Works.*—Philo W. Bates, Donnelley & Co.

*Hatters (Fur).*—Adams Bros., Brown, Sherwood & Co., Benedict Bros. (G. & W. H.), Crofut & Knapp, John Judson, Smith & Palmer, A. Solmans, Frank A. Volk, S. Versoy.

*Hatters (Straw).*—Beatty Bros., Dennis Dexter.

*Harness-Makers.*—P. H. Dwyer, Charles Miller, J. F. Peckwell, J. F. Rourke, James L. Ferris.

*Hearse-Maker.*—William Youle.

*Hat-Bodies.*—The Hat-Forming Company.

*Ink-Manufacturers.*—J. W. Pennell & Bro.

*Iron Fence.*—Wm. H. Duncan.

*Iron-Works.*—Norwalk Iron-Works Company.

*Locks.*—Norwalk Lock Company.

*Machinist.*—John Cotter.

*Machinists' Tools.*—C. W. Le Count.

*Marble Works.*—C. J. Taylor, J. W. Cavanagh.

*Mill (Saw- and Grist-).*—Allen Betts.

*Mill (Saw- and Wood-Turning).*—Henry F. Guthrie.

*Matches.*—J. M. Rose.

*Paper-Mill.*—J. E. Ells.

*Pattern-Makers.*—Thomas Village.

*Printers.*—Byington & Co., Golden Brothers, Norwalk Printing Company.

*Rubber-Works.*—J. H. Buckley & Son.

*Sash and Blinds.*—E. F. Bates & Co., Raymond Johnson, Jr.

*Sash and Blinds and Planing-Mill.*—Burr Knapp.

*Shirt-Manufacturers.*—Morison & Hutchinson.

*Shoe-Manufacturers.*—J. T. Cousins, T. Cousins, Lounsbury Bros. & Co.

*Wood-Working.*—George H. Rice.

*Beer, Cider, Etc.*—E. & W. Comstock.

Union Manufacturing Company (felt), The Lounsbury & Bissell Manufacturing Company (felt), Norwalk Mills (cassimers).

## THE NORWALK GAZETTE.

In May, 1800, a printer named Picket came to Norwalk from Danbury and established the first newspaper in Southwestern Connecticut. His publication was about the size of a modern sheet of letter-paper. It was a great novelty in the section about Norwalk, and a subject of discussion and interest all over the State. It was printed upon an old-time Ben Franklin Ramage press, with wooden platen, and requiring four impression-pulls for each paper; so that, almost literally, the more subscribers the paper had the worse its owner was off. Its few stray numbers now in existence are curiosities indeed. The latest news from New York City averages ten days prior to date of publication. The latest intelligence from Washington is a full month old, and the latest news from Europe more than three months past its date.

In 1818, Roswell S. Nichols and Philo Price purchased the Picket concern. From that date to this the *Gazette* has been issued every week without a break, subject to frequent changes of proprietorship.

The new firm of Nichols & Price enlarged the *Gazette* to a paper nineteen by twenty-four, and continued its publication some four years, when it was sold to their young apprentice, Seth W. Benedict. Mr. Price went to New York and started the *Christian Messenger*, and Mr. Nichols to Bridgeport (then Newfield), to start or join in the publication of a paper there. Mr. Benedict, in 1832, sold it in turn to his apprentice, James Reed, and Benedict went to New York and started the *Evangelist*. Mr. Reed held it for about two years, and, desiring to go to New Orleans, disposed of his interest to Timothy T. Merwin. Merwin, then a prominent lawyer in Norwalk, soon wearied of editorial drudgery, and sold it to William G. Hyer. Mr. Hyer, subsequently becoming an Episcopal clergyman, sold the paper to J. U. Ammerman, a brother-in-law of P. T. Barnum. Ammerman soon sold to the late Judge Stephen Smith, and Smith sold, after a few months, to George Taylor. In 1839, Taylor sold it back to James Reed, who continued its proprietorship till January, 1848, when he sold it to James H. Hoyt and A. Homer Byington. In July, 1849, Byington sold his interest to Hoyt, but in July, 1851, he repurchased the entire property, and soon after admitted Henry W. Hyatt to a part ownership. Hyatt was associated with Byington some three years, and then left the *Gazette* to assume the proprietorship of the *Litchfield Enquirer*. In April,

1858, Joseph B. Ells and George N. Ells became joint owners. From that date to the present (1880) the *Gazette* has been conducted under the firm-name of A. H. Byington & Co.

During the *Gazette's* long and eventful history, clergymen, lawyers, doctors, congressmen, and teachers have alternated as its editors. James Reed, now of the *Ashtabula* (Ohio) *Telegraph*, during his first ownership, employed the then Dr. Thomas B. Butler, who subsequently became Chief Judge Butler, as his chief writer. Rev. Dr. Edwin Hall and his brother, Storrs Hall, gave the paper more or less editorial aid at different times. The late United States senator Orris S. Ferry and Dr. Asa Hill were practically editors of the *Gazette* during the ownership of Hoyt. From 1851 to date its editorial and business management has been conducted entirely by the present firm of A. H. Byington & Co.

The *Gazette* proudly numbers among its past and present contributors articles from time to time from many of the finest writers and best thinkers in the country. It has always maintained a high character for newspaper enterprise and ability, and is widely known as one of the leading and influential journals of the State.

#### THE NORWALK HOUR.

In 1869, B. W. Maples, a commuter on the New York and New Haven Railroad, was expelled from the cars of the company because he had mislaid his commutation ticket and refused to pay the single-trip fare demanded by the conductor under the regulations of the company. Because of such expulsion, he instituted proceedings against the company in the courts. The usual delays followed, and numerous newspaper articles favoring the company were published. Thinking there was something other than spontaneity to account for such articles appearing just previous to each time fixed for a hearing of his case, Mr. Maples determined, on his own part, to appeal to the press, and wrote a brief statement of the facts, which he sent to numerous newspapers; but all but one refused to print. He then decided to have a newspaper of his own, and tried to purchase one already established. Not succeeding in this, on May 6, 1871, he issued the first number of *The Westport Hour*. The paper was issued bi-weekly for ten months, and has since been published on Saturday of each week.

In December, 1874, Mr. Maples reached a favorable decision of his suit, and would have then discontinued the *Hour* had he not found, to his surprise, that its receipts exceeded the expenses.

In 1873 *The Hour* was removed to Norwalk, and in 1874 *The Westport Advertiser* was consolidated with it, and the paper has since carried both names and is dated at Norwalk and Westport. It has reached a large circulation. Mr. Maples is still its editor and manager. It is thoroughly independent, and through

the able editorial management of Mr. Maples has reached a large circulation.

#### THE DEMOCRAT.

The *Democrat* was started Jan. 10, 1877, H. H. Barbour editor; it was published by B. W. Maples. Mr. Barbour disposed of it to Thomas Tohill, Oct. 27, 1877, and Otis R. Pickett was placed in the editorial chair.

Dec. 1, 1877, Mr. Tohill sold it to Charles V. Arnold, who consolidated it with *The South Norwalk Champion*. He continued it one week, when Mr. Tohill resumed the office and reinstated Mr. Pickett as editor.

Jan. 1, 1878, William R. Palmer became associated with Mr. Pickett by purchase of all of Tohill's interest, and the name of the publishers changed to Pickett & Palmer, Palmer being the local editor. The size of the paper was increased from sixteen by twenty-two, six columns, to eighteen by twenty-four, seven columns.

March 20, 1878, William R. Palmer assumed full charge of the paper, both as editor and proprietor.

The *Democrat* has a large circulation, and is uncompromisingly Democratic.

#### THE SCHULTE MURDER.

A murder was committed on Roton Hill, near South Norwalk, about 6.30 P.M., Dec. 27, 1878. The victim was John Schulte, a wealthy and eccentric German, who first came to South Norwalk in February, 1877, when he bought a farm of eight acres for the exorbitant price of eight thousand dollars. He came to his house to live in October, 1877. Here, together with his companion and servant, Wm. Bucholz, he occupied two poorly-furnished rooms. In the rest of the house the family of Mrs. Waring lived. Schulte furnished the provisions, which Mrs. Waring cooked for the two men, who ate them in the proprietor's bedroom. Bucholz was twenty-two years of age. He had a fair complexion, an intelligent expression, and some education. The old man lived the life of a recluse, busying himself chiefly in reading German books, playing on the violin, and making experiments in photography. He had the name of being wealthy and of carrying large sums about his person, having occasionally shown a pocket-book bursting with bank-notes. Common report did not err in attributing riches to him, as he owned property in Germany to the amount of over a quarter of a million dollars. The rumor that he carried large sums of money also received verification. There was about seventy-five thousand dollars on his person the night of the murder.

When Schulte came to New York from Germany he brought a young German man-servant, named Seigfried Greenewald, with him. At the Sun Hotel, in New York, Bucholz, also a German, met Greenewald, and learned from him that he intended to leave Schulte's employ. During this conversation they



talked about Schulte's money, and Bucholz remarked that if he were in Greenewald's place he would run off with Schulte's coat. Very soon after this we find William Bucholz acting as companion and servant of the eccentric miser.

On the day of the murder Schulte went to New York. He returned at 6.11 P.M., and started to walk home, accompanied by Bucholz, who had met him at the depot. This was the last seen of Schulte alive. About seven o'clock Bucholz rushed excitedly into the house, and, falling, half fainting, on the floor, cried, "Schulte is dead, dead, down in the woods,—dead! The tramps have killed Schulte!"

The neighbors were aroused, and, with Bucholz, they went to the place where the body lay. They found Schulte lying on his face near the foot-path. There were two terrible wounds on his head, either of them fatal. They had the appearance of having been made with a hatchet or an axe. In his inside vest-pocket was found a package containing about twenty thousand dollars, mostly in German money.

At the hearing before the coroner's jury Bucholz had little to testify, save that he was walking ahead of Schulte, when, hearing a cry from him, he turned around and at the same time was struck a blow in the face. He then ran to the house. At first he was not the subject of any general suspicion, the murder being laid to tramps. The State Attorney, James H. Olmstead, however, suspected him from the first, and gave orders for his arrest, which took place Jan. 21, 1879. The testimony showed that he had given Paul Herscher, a saloon-keeper, four twenty-dollar bills to keep. These bills bore a series of numbers given in a memorandum found among Schulte's papers. In explanation of his possession of this money, Bucholz claimed that Schulte had paid it to him on the night of the murder. This and some minor circumstances gave the case against Bucholz a black look; the jury of inquest returned a verdict against him, and he was confined in the Fairfield County jail. A true bill was found against him by the grand jury. The first trial began at Bridgeport, Conn., on Tuesday, Sept. 9, 1879, Chief Justice Park and Judge Sanford on the bench.

Upon this trial evidence was brought out which produced great sensation. A witness named Ernest Stark, a German detective of Pinkerton's agency, Philadelphia, testified of having been arrested in the city of Bridgeport, under the name of Edward Somers, during the month of March, 1879, charged with the crime of forgery. At a preliminary hearing before the City Court he demurred, and was bound over to the Superior Court for trial under bonds, failing to obtain which he was committed to jail, where he soon ingratiated himself into the good graces and gained the confidence of William Bucholz.

In the course of a conversation with him Bucholz disclosed the hiding-place of some of Schulte's money, in the barn upon the Waring premises. Mr. Stark

then procured bail, went to the Waring place, and found the money in the place designated. He then returned to Bridgeport and frequently visited Bucholz in prison. At one of these interviews Stark told him that some one was about to purchase the Waring premises, in hope of finding some of Schulte's money, whereupon Bucholz informed him where another pocket-book was concealed. Stark then, in company with Robert Pinkerton, proceeded to the place, and found it, together with several pieces of gold coin. All the money found hidden amounted to fifty-five thousand dollars. At no time did he admit to Stark of having murdered Schulte.

Bucholz in this, as well as on the two following trials, was defended by Gen. W. R. Smith and Alfred E. Austin, Esq., of Norwalk, and Charles Bollman, Esq., of New Haven, the State being represented by State Attorney Olmstead, of Stamford, and Nelson Taylor, Jr., of Norwalk.

At 4.15 P.M., on Friday, the 19th, Chief Justice Park finished his charge to the jury, and for the first time in the history of the Superior Court of Fairfield County the jury held an all-night session. At twelve o'clock on the following day they at last came out, and returned a verdict of murder in the first degree.

On Oct. 15, 1879, a new trial was granted for the following reason: Joseph R. Lockwood, one of the jurors, had conversed during the trial with one Thomas Bour concerning the case. For this offense both were arrested and fined in the City Court of Bridgeport.\*

The second trial began Feb. 17, 1880, with Chief Justice Park and Judge Martin on the bench. The jury retired to their room at 1 P.M., Monday, March 15th, and after remaining until 8.30 A.M., Thursday, the 18th, reported a disagreement, and were discharged.

The third trial began April 13th of the same year, with Judge Beardsley and Judge Culver on the bench. The charge was given by Judge Beardsley, and on May 7th the jury returned a verdict of murder in the second degree. Bucholz was sentenced to States' prison for life.

#### THE DRAWBRIDGE DISASTER.

The following facts are gathered from the *Bridgeport Farmer* of May 16 and 17, 1853. The most disastrous railroad accident which ever occurred in this part of the country took place at the South Norwalk drawbridge on Friday morning, May 5, 1853. The train was the Boston express, which left New York at 8 A.M.

The New York and New Haven Railroad crosses the harbor of Norwalk at South Norwalk, one thousand and eighty-six feet east of the depot. On the bridge over the channel of the harbor, and one hundred and fifty-three feet from the next abutment, there is a draw, which revolves horizontally upon a central abutment, and leaves, when open, two passages of

\* See Conn. Gen. Statute, chap. 5, sec. 10.

sixty feet each. The bridge was under the care of William Harford, who was in the employ of the company as bridge-tender.

At the time of this occurrence the draw was open, and the draw-tender was just about to close it. It had been opened about fifteen minutes before for the passage of the steamer "Pacific."

The fact of the draw being open was communicated to the train by a signal, which consisted of a red ball elevated upon a pole. Unless this ball was in sight, the trains were forbidden to go upon the bridge.

The train did not stop at Norwalk, and, being about eight minutes late, was hurrying on its way to make up lost time. The engineer was at his post, the conductor in the second passenger-car, and unoccupied. The absence of the ball or signal was unnoticed, or, if noticed, was unheeded. The train passed the depot and around the curve at a rate of not less than twenty miles per hour. When it reached about three hundred feet of the draw, two sudden sharp alarms of the whistle were blown; the engineer, Edward W. Tucker, the fireman, and the brakeman leaped from the train, which rushed on into the open draw. The engine, tender, baggage-car, smoking-car, and two passenger-cars, together with about half of the next car, plunged some twenty feet into the watery pit below in one mass of wreck and ruin. Persons who were near and saw the catastrophe say that the noise of the crash and the wail of the struggling and dying passengers were heartrending to a degree which language is utterly inadequate to describe.

The water being at full tide, nearly all in the forward car were drowned. The number of lives lost was forty-four, and twenty-five were rescued from the wreck alive, but badly injured. Among the killed was Dr. Samuel Beach, of Bridgeport, of whom the *Farmer* of May 10, 1853, says: "He was a physician of acknowledged skill, and had an extensive practice. His loss will therefore be felt and mourned by a large circle who regarded him as holding a more intimate relation than that of a mere friend."

Several other physicians, who, with Dr. Beach, had been in attendance at a medical convention in New York, were killed also. These were Dr. W. C. Dwight, of Brooklyn; Dr. John O. Grey, one of the most prominent in Springfield, Mass.; Dr. Smith, also of Springfield; Dr. Abel S. Pierson, of Salem, Mass.; and Dr. Welsh, the leading physician of Hartford, Conn.

The calamity caused great excitement, and indignation-meetings were held, one at Norwalk, and another at New Haven. The Legislature took the matter into consideration, and adopted a resolution requiring all trains to stop at least one minute before passing any draw.

#### HON. CLARK BISSELL.

Hon. Clark Bissell was eighth in line from John Bissell, who was born in 1591, and came from England to Plymouth, Mass., in 1626 or 1628, removing

from thence to Windsor, Conn., in 1636 or 1637. The traditions are that the ancestors of the Bissells were Huguenots who fled from France about the time of the massacre of St. Bartholomew (1572) and settled in Somersetshire, England. There seems to have been a branch in Worcestershire. The name there was sometimes spelled Byssell and Bysell. The family coat-of-arms is thus described in "Burke's Complete Armory": "Gul on a bend or; three escallops sa; crest, a demi-eagle, with wings displayed, sa, charged on the neck with an escallop, sa; ten besants,—four, three, two, one."

Clark Bissell was born in Lebanon, Conn., Sept. 7, 1782. He was eldest of three sons. His father was a farmer in straitened circumstances, and was unable to afford his children any further advantages of education than were furnished by the district schools of almost a century ago. With these his eldest son was not content, and, the village clergyman offering to give him instruction if he could get time to learn, the lad obtained Latin and Greek grammars, and, in the intervals of labor, at morning, noon, and night, fitted himself for college. When he went to New Haven to commence his collegiate course, his parents gave him a "homespun" suit of clothes dyed with butter-nut, and made from the fleece by his mother's hands; *and this was all they could give him.*

Mr. Bissell maintained himself while in college by teaching in the schools about New Haven, and graduated with honor and four hundred dollars in debt. This was in 1806. In the autumn of that year he went to Maryland, and spent about a year there as tutor in the family of a Mr. Singleton, on the Eastern Shore. Returning to Connecticut, he taught school at Saugatuck (now Westport) for another year, pursuing, meanwhile, the study of law under the instruction of Hon. Samuel B. Sherwood. Having succeeded in paying off his debt, he entered the office of Hon. Roger M. Sherman, where he completed his preparation for the bar, and in 1809 was admitted to practice. In June of that year he removed to Norwalk, and the following extract from a letter written by Dr. Jonathan Knight, father of Prof. Knight, of Yale College, will show at once the manners of the times and the auspices under which Mr. Bissell commenced life in Norwalk:

"Mr. Clark Bissell, who was lately licensed as an attorney, came in town yesterday, and lives with me. He has the character of a reputable young man. R. M. Sherman, Esq., with whom he has last studied, has given him letters of recommendation *to the civil authorities of the town.*"

In April, 1811, Mr. Bissell was married to Sally, daughter of Hon. Samuel B. Sherwood. For nearly half a century she was to her husband a loving wife, a faithful companion, and a sympathizing friend. She died Feb. 27, 1856.

Mr. Bissell, by unwearied industry and scrupulous fidelity, rose rapidly in his profession. In 1829 he





HON. CLARK BISSELL.





was sent from Norwalk to the Legislature, and at the session of that year was elected a judge of the Supreme Court of Errors and Superior Court. He occupied this position till 1839, when he resigned, the salary of our highest judicial offices being at that time only about one-third of the income of a respectable lawyer, and entirely inadequate to the support of a growing family. In 1842 and 1843 he represented the Twelfth District in the Senate, and in 1847 and 1848 he was successively elected Governor of the State. While holding this office he accepted the appointment of Kent professor of law in Yale College, the duties of which position he continued to discharge till ill health and advancing infirmities of age compelled him to resign. In 1850 he represented Norwalk in the General Assembly, a controversy concerning the lower shire-town in Fairfield County, to which Norwalk was a party, and which was not terminated till 1853, being then pending. After his retirement from the law school, Mr. Bissell remained at his home in Norwalk, occupying himself mainly in reading and association with his children and grandchildren, till he sank peacefully to rest on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 1857, aged seventy-five years and eight days.

Such is a brief sketch of the life and public services of Governor Bissell. It is not too much to say of him that in every department of duty to which he was called his work was well and faithfully done. As chief magistrate of this Commonwealth his sound judgment, his purity of purpose, his unaffected demeanor, won the confidence and respect of all parties. As a member of our highest court of judicature, his learning, probity, strict impartiality, and uniform courtesy conferred additional lustre upon the dignity of the bench. In the Legislature, though he seldom mingled in debate, yet the breadth and solidity of his views, his good sense, his keen wit,—sparingly but, if needful, effectively used,—always placed him in the first rank. As a lawyer he deserved the high reputation which by common consent was assigned him. He was a most effective advocate before a jury. Ready of speech, earnest and impressive in manner, clear in arrangement, and possessed, withal, of a caustic humor, sometimes playful, but when directed against fraud or falsehood often withering, he had but few equals in forensic discussion. His industry was untiring. He prepared his arguments with great assiduity. He never forgot his client in himself. Those who secured his services were sure of his every honorable effort. And, at the same time, he was faithful to justice. He would not knowingly prosecute a fraudulent or unjust cause. An anecdote illustrating the estimation in which he was held in this respect by those who knew him best is this: An eminent lawyer was retiring from practice; among his clients was one individual a part of whose claim, there was reason to suspect, was tinged with conscious fraud. He went to his counsel and said, "As

you are going out of practice, what other lawyer would you advise me to employ?" "Well," was the reply, "I have generally sent my clients to Judge Bissell; but there is this part of your case," and he mentioned the suspicious portion. "If you go to Judge Bissell, *you hadn't better say anything to him about this.*"

His duties in the Law Department of Yale College were discharged with the same fidelity which characterized him in all other relations of life. His lectures to the senior class were of the highest order of that species of intellectual effort. A letter from one of the faculty says, "The lectures which he delivered to the senior class were, in my opinion, the best and most thorough ever given in this country. I wish they might be given to the public."

It is, however, as a citizen and a man that the memory of Governor Bissell is most highly cherished by his fellow-townsmen. For half a century he was ready with heart and hand in every good work. Was there a public improvement required? It was unnecessary to *ask* his assistance; every one counted on his assistance as a matter of course. Was aid sought for some one in misfortune? It was known beforehand that no meritorious appeal was made to him in vain. Were wise counsels needed in municipal affairs? From no source could they be obtained more surely than from him. And these things were rightly appreciated by the people of Norwalk. The gathering multitude, the closed stores, the suspension of business, the flags drooping at half-mast on the day of his funeral obsequies, testified to the common feeling of a public loss.

Governor Bissell's religious character was a matter peculiarly between his God and himself. He made no *parade* of piety. For many years a member of the Congregational Church, he adorned his profession with a consistent life and conversation. As a man he possessed the respect of all, the love of many. His integrity was unbending. He never sacrificed principle to expediency. He had no small arts to win popular favor, yet his character was full of winning traits. A defective vision, making it difficult to distinguish even members of his own family at the distance of a few feet, sometimes gave him an air of reserve to those who were unaware of the defect, and who would occasionally meet him without receiving the customary token of recognition; but to those who knew him well there was no reserve about him. To the younger members of his profession he was ever a friend, ready with counsel and kind words of encouragement. To his family he was all that a husband and father could be. In his social intercourse his courteous, unobtrusive manners, his fund of anecdote, his genial humor, made him always a very agreeable companion. He was especially fond of the society of very young persons, and we have heard that in his last sickness, when his mind, wandering from the scenes around him, yielded to the illusions of disease, he fancied he was

playing with little children and tossing them in his arms. His memory is the memory of the just, and his rest is with God.

Mr. Bissell was the father of six children,—Samuel B. S., Edward C., George A., Mary E. (Mrs. C. C. Betts), Charlotte Charity (wife of Hon. O. S. Ferry), and Arthur H., who died in infancy.

## CHAPTER LV.

### NORWALK (Continued).

#### ECCLESIASTICAL.

First Congregational Church of Norwalk—First Congregational Church of South Norwalk—The Episcopal Church—Baptist Church—The First Methodist Episcopal Church—The Second Methodist Episcopal Church.

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORWALK.

THIS church was organized in the year 1652, and as a society separate from the town in 1726. Its history prior to the organization of the society will be found in the town records elsewhere in this work.

The following is a copy of the call for organizing the society apart from the town.\*

"To Lt. Matthew Seymond, in Norwalk, Greeting, &c.:

"Pursuant to an act of ye Generall Assembly, passed in October, 1726, entitled an act for directing how societies shall meet and form themselves after other societies are drawn off from them,

"In His Majestie's name ye are hereby required to warn all ye inhabitants of ye Prime Ancient Society, in ye township of Norwalk, to meet together on ye first Friday of March next ensuing ye date hereof, at eight of ye clock in ye morning, then and there to act any thing proper and lawful for them to act when so met together.

"Dated at Norwalk, Feb. ye 27,  
Annoque Domini, 1726-77."

"JOSEPH PLATT,  
Justice Ps.

The society met and made choice of "ye Worshipfull Joseph Platt, Esq.," as moderator.

At the same meeting it was voted that measures should at once be taken to supply "ye vacancy of our pulpit:"

"The society, considering ye awfull frowns of heaven upon them for months past, and are still obvious, concludes it their incumbent duty to set apart a day for the humbling and abasing their souls before the Lord by fasting and prayer for redress, by their major vote do appoint Wednesday, ye 15th of this instant March, for that solemnity; and desire Rev. Mr. Davenport, Mr. Cook, Mr. Sackett, Mr. Hauley, and Mr. Sturgeon to grant us their presence and assistance in carrying on ye work of s<sup>d</sup> day."

Mr. Buckingham's rate due last year voted to be paid as heretofore, "any act of ye town to ye contrary notwithstanding."

The following extracts from the society records are given as showing the action taken at various times upon such subjects as came up for consideration:

"March 16, 1726. The society determines to have an Association Quorum, at least of ye Ministers of this county called, and to associate with us on Wednesday ye 22d of this instant, March, to advise, direct, and guide us in ye weighty affair before us."

"March 23, 1726. According to adjournment ye society met. The Revd Mr. Cook, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Sacket, & Mr. Hauley associated with the society.

"The society, by major vote, desires ye Revd. Association to give them an answer to ye following question, viz., Whether it be proper or expedient that the Revd Mr. Buckingham be introduced into ye work of ye ministry in this society or not."

"The Prime Ancient Society in Norwalk moving this Question for resolution to us ye subscribers associated at their desire in Norwalk, March 23, 1726-27, viz., Whether, &c.,—We are of opinion that inasmuch as ye Revd Mr. Buckingham hath resigned his pastoral charge here, considering ye distressed circumstances of ye place, and that under the countenance of ye late Council in this place, who also have signified themselves persuaded that the interest of religion and edification of souls are the great ends of ye Gospel ministry, and sorrowfully affected with the consideration of those ends in this place being greatly obstructed and disadvantaged, We are of opinion that it is not proper or expedient that the sd Revd. Mr. Buckingham be introduced into ye work of ye ministry in this society, for ye reasons above alleged.

"SAML. COOKE,  
"DANIEL CHAPMAN,  
"THOMAS HAULEY,  
"RICHARD SACKET."

"There was nominated by some persons in the meeting, viz., Mr. John Curtice of Wethersfield, Mr. Gilbert Tenant in ye Jersey, Mr. Dunbar of Boston, and Mr. Chauncey, Jr., of Hadley; and ye Society crave of the Revd. Association their particular direction concerning them, or any other that they shall see meet to direct to us as a person to be applied to, with an invitation to a probationary improvement among us in ye ministry."

"We ye subscribers associate at Norwalk, March 23, 1726-27, being applied to by ye Prime Ancient Society in sd Norwalk for advice and direction, &c., . . . We are of opinion that as to Mr. Tennant now in the improvement in ye ministry in the New Jersey, it may not be so proper to make application to him for the supply of a vacancy here for this reason, viz., Because ye paucity of Gospel labourers in those parts: which requires us rather to wish their increase than to take any methods for ye decrease of their numbers; especially considering our ministry from time to time earnestly solicited to send Gospel labourers unto those parts, more than we have been capable of supplying them with; and do advise that this society would soon as may be, endeavor to inform themselves whether there may be a probability of obtaining Mr. Dunbar of Boston; and upon such a probability attained, to make application to him for ye purpose afore sd; and if there shall not be a probability of obtaining the sd Mr. Dunbar, we advise that the society make application either to ye said Mr. Curtice or Mr. Chauncey, as upon consulting the ministers next neighbouring either of them, they may be encouraged.

"SAML. COOKE,  
"DANIEL CHAPMAN,  
"THOMAS HAULEY,  
"RICHARD SACKET."

"May 10, 1727. The Society . . . determines to send a meet person to Mr. Chauncey Jr. of Hadley, as upon consulting ye ministers neighbouring to him he may be encouraged; and in case Mr. Chauncey cannot be obtained, then to apply himself to ye sd ministers for advice to some other suitable person to apply to, and that he do his utmost endeavor to obtain one according to such direction, or to act about ye whole according to the best of his discretion, to supply ye vacancy in our pulpit, at least for a probationary improvement in the ministry among us.

". . . Mr. James Brown to proceed upon ye business as above expressed."

"June 26, 1727. The Society by major vote agree to give the Revd. Mr. Moses Dickinson a call to supply the vacancy in our pulpit.

". . . Made choice of Capt. Joseph Platt, Esq., to go to ye Revd. Gentleman, and endeavor to obtain him pursuant to s<sup>d</sup> vote.

"Made choice of Mr. John Bartlett, Capt. Joseph Platt, and Mr. Thos. Fitch Junr, to provide for, & to treat with ye s<sup>d</sup> gentleman when he comes."

"July 19, 1727. The Society having had report made from ye late Committee of ye circumstances of ye Revd. Mr. Moses Dickinson, who hath been with us upon a probationary improvement, with which report they are well satisfied as to the gentleman's circumstances; and do hereby give the s<sup>d</sup> Revd. Gentleman a call to ye work of ye ministry among us; provided ye Revd. Elders now convened in this place give their approbation thereunto, voted in ye affirmative 75, Contra 39."

"The Society determines to move to the Rev. Elders for a resolve respecting the circumstances of ye Revd. Mr. Dickinson, and whether they advise to the call above s<sup>d</sup>.

"There being severall persons of this Society under scruples respecting the relation they stand in to ye Revd. Mr. Buckingham, that is to say,

\* Extracts from Dr. Edwin Hall's Norwalk.



whether <sup>sd</sup> gentleman be regularly discharged from his pastorall relation to y<sup>e</sup> Chh. and people of this place; the Society taking this matter into consideration, do move to y<sup>e</sup> Revd. Elders convened, that they would give their opinion in the premises, that such persons may receive satisfaction in that matter."

"July 20, 1727. The society receiving from y<sup>e</sup> Revd. Elders associated, an answer to y<sup>e</sup> foregoing matter of scruple, and it was read off as followeth:

"A Quorum of Fairfield Association Occasionally convened in Norwalk July 19th, 1727.

"Whereas it is Signified to us from ye records of ye Society that there are severall persons of this Society under Scruples respecting the relation they stand in to ye Revd. Mr. Buckingham. That is to say whether ye said Gentleman be Regularly Discharged from his pastorall Relation to ye Church and people of this place; and that our opinion in this case is desired.

"In answer whereunto we Declare this to be our Opinion that the Revd. Mr. Buckingham hath been regularly Discharged from his pastorall Relation to ye Church and people of this place; And offer upon it as followeth; viz. (1) The Condition of this Church and people hath been for a considerable time grievously perplex<sup>d</sup> & Divided; whereof a very great part have been so distanced in affection from their Late pastor, that the Cure of it after a Considerable time of Tryall, hath appeared even to be Despaired of; Whereas also it appeared to us, that Saving Ends of ye Gospel Ministry here may not generally be attained, which in ye Judgment of late Counsel and in our Opinion is Cause Justifying ye pastor's Resigning his pastorall Office, as to ye Exercise of it in ye place of his Improvement; We propose the following Scriptures to be well Considered. Ephe. 4: 11, 12, Our ascended Lord gave ye gifts of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry to men for ye Edifying ye Body of Christ: Where y<sup>e</sup> Edifying ye Body is expressly Set down as a main End of Gospel Ministry. Now the principle End being Generally Obstructed, and that after a Convenient Time of Waiting, may be well interpreted as a call from above to y<sup>e</sup> Minister that hath been improved, Humbly to yield himself to — that Christ our Lord and ye interest of immortal Souls may increase and flourish; John 3d, 30th. We have also considered James 3d, 16th, Where envying and strife is, there Confusion and every evil work. Now this we have thought ye Malancholly Condition of this Place; & have been Ready to account the Method of ye Council in their late Doings accepting ye Revd. Gentleman's Resignation, & supplying the Sanction of their authority thereunto to be a proper and probable Remedy of ye unhappy Distemper of this place. (2) The Revd. Mr. Buckingham, as we understand, appearing in the late Council, affected with ye Sorrowful state of ye place and ye improbability of his future service here, Did Seriously, Solemnly, & willingly resign his pastorall Relation to ye Church and people of the place; which was in his power to Do so far as Concerns an act of his. And the <sup>sd</sup> Resignation being willingly made by him, we apprehend no injury Done him, Because an injury to a willing mind cannot be Done. We propose John 3d, 30th, he must increase, but I must Decrease. Which example of that Great man, than whom a greater was not Born of Women, We do understand presidential even to ye ministers of ye Gospel in our Times, when this continuing in the exercise the Gospel ministry may be justly thought to interfere with the Generall Spirituall good of Precious Souls.

"3. The Resignation of ye Revd. Mr. Buckingham in ye presence of ye society's com'tee, before ye council, ye authority whereof we suppose not proper for ye good people of this place to question, who have come into our ecclesiastical constitution and accepted our articles of administering Chh. discipline; yet for ye satisfaction of any of our people of this place, we mention ye fifteenth Chapter of ye Acts; and thence observe, that ye council at Jerusalem (ye pattern for Chh. councils in Gospel times) in the difficulties that had arisen, in ye church of Antioch, &c., did undertake to determine that difference, in authoritative way. Acts 15: 2. 'To whom we gave no such commandment.' Now commandment is a word necessarily implying authority—see also verse 28. 'It seemed good to ye Holy Ghost & to us to lay no greater burden,' &c., which expression to us implies authority, carrying an obligation in it on ye Chh. and people that applyd to ye council, see also verse 29; 'From which if ye keep yourselves ye shall do well;' whence followeth yt ye Chh., which applied to the council at Jerusalem, if they did not observe the order of council, they should not do well, for that ye conclusion of council were ye highest authority, not to be controlled or disputed.

"4. The Resignation of ye Revd. Mr. Buckingham being authorized by his proper judges, that is to say, ye council of ye elders & Chhs. of this county, the bond of his relation to this society, as pastor, is dissolved & ceaseth (whereupon it followeth that ye bond of ye relation of this Chh. and every member thereof to ye sd Mr. Buckingham, their late pastor, is also dissolved and ceaseth).

"Unto ye above we only add as ye Rev. Mr. Buckingham hath formally declared himself willing to be directed by ye ministers of this country, now then as we account it on his part a good observance of order, for the future to forbear the exercise of ye pastoral office, to say, preaching and administering any sacraments in this place; so also, ye good & Christian people of this place will, in our opinion, show themselves men of order to contribute their part to such a direction of our association.

"Our thoughts in relation to ye motion of this society to the Revd. Mr. Moses Dickinson, we offer as followeth, vizt:

"That we are all glad of an opportunity now to signify the great respect and value we have for ye Revd. Mr. Moses Dickinson, and the satisfying prospect we have of his well answering ye necessities of this destitute society, and with all cheerfulness assure ye good people thereof, of our good approbation of this society's having their eyes upon the Revd. and valuable gentleman for ye work of ye ministry here, whensoever it appears to us that ye condition or proviso of ye Presbytery releasing him from a pastoral relation to ye people of Maidenhead, &c., appears absolutely & in fact to be by judgment of that Presbytery completed.

"A true copy.

"SAMUEL COOK,  
"Scribe."

"The society by a vote of Eighty eight, none appearing in the negative, do invite and call ye Revd. gentleman to ye work and labor of ye ministry among them.

"Agreed and concluded to defray the charge of transportation of ye sd Mr. Dickinson and family, whensoever he may be obtained to move unto us."

A committee appointed for this purpose and to provide a house, etc.

"... Appointed ye Worshipfull Joseph Platt, Esq. to attend ye Revd. Mr. Dickinson home into ye Jerseys, and also to endeavour the obtaining from ye Revd. Presbytery there, the Revd. Mr. Dickinson's discharge from ye Chh. and people of Maidenhead."

On the society book is recorded at length the minutes of the Fairfield Association, in a meeting at Wilton, Aug. 29, 1727, in which they approve of the doings of the council at Norwalk; and, it appearing that Mr. Dickinson was now dismissed by his Presbytery, the association advise the society of Norwalk to repeat their call, which they did in full form on Nov. 1, 1727.

"Jan. 10, 1727-28. The society grants ten pounds to Mr. James Brown for his service at ye General Court, in answering ye memorial against the select men, preferred at New Haven in October last to the General Court by Mr. Stephen Buckingham. Also granted 20s. to Lieut. Samuel Comstock, which he paid to Mr. Fowler, lawyer, to assist in ye cause above said.

"May 10, 1728. Made choice of Joseph Platt, Esq., to represent the inhabitants of ye said society, to answer ye memorial of Mr. Stephen Buckingham. Made choice of Thomas Fitch, Esq., Mr. James Brown, and John Copp, committee to prepare what is needful to be sent to Capt. Platt, who is now at ye said Assembly, by a safe hand, if such can be obtained, or else to send a man directly from hence to Capt. Platt.

"At a meeting of ye Prime ancient Society of ye Town of Norwalk, convened May 7, 1729. . . . Made choice of Mr. James Brown and Thos. Fitch, Esq., to appear in behalf of the society at the General Court, to be held at Hartford this present month; there to answer a Petition exhibited to sd court against the town of Norwalk by the Revd. Mr. Stephen Buckingham.

"The society impowers Mr. James Brown (that if he finds ye above-named Mr. Fitch engaged on ye petitioner's side) to employ or improve (if he see it needful) an attorney at Hartford to aid and assist him in ye premises."

"Dec. 22, 1729. The society, by major vote, determines that a receipt from under the hand of ye Revd. Mr. Caner, brought by any of ye Church of England in this society (so declaring themselves, and intending as ye law\* in that case mentions), for so much paid him as he or they are

\* At a General Assembly held in Hartford, May, 1727, it was enacted, . . . That, "If it so happen that there be a society of the Church of England where there is a person in orders according to the Canons of the Church of England settled and abiding among them, and performing divine service, so near to any person that hath declared himself of the

assess by this society in the minister's rate of said society; which receipt or receipts, so delivered to ye collector of the minister's rate, shall be a sufficient discharge to ye said collector as if gathered by said collector and paid the said Mr. Caner, and thereby obtained his receipt for the same."

"At a meeting of ye Prime Society\* in Norwalk with the Professors of the Church of England inhabitants of said society, legally warned and being convened at ye old school-house in said society, Feb. 2, 1746-47 . . . Grant a rate of one penny the pound on all polls and ratable estate of all the inhabitants within ye limits of said society, towards completing ye town-house; said house to be improved for school society's meetings of ye inhabitants in said society, as pr grant of ye town at their last annual meeting."

"Dec. 14, 1747. Voted, that Saml. Fitch, Esq., shall sit in ye pew next ye pulpit stairs, with the rest of ye authority."

"Dec. 17, 1750. Determine to glaze the meeting-house with sash-glass 7 & 9 inches . . . A committee appointed to perform the same; and are impowered to sell and dispose of ye glass and lead belonging to ye windows, in order to purchase glass and other materials for ye same."

"At a meeting of the Prime Ancient Society in Norwalk, assembled Dec. 25, 1754, . . . The society by vote manifest their willingness that his Honor the Governor should choose any place in ye meeting-house to erect a pew for himself and family. Ye society send 3 men to treat with his Honor in the affair."

"At the same meeting, ye said society grants the head of two fore seats in the meeting-house, on ye women's side, to erect a pew for his Honor the Governor to sit in; which is left to the discretion of David Benedict, Doct. Uriah Rogers, and Mr. Joseph Platt, a committee appointed to build said pew at ye society's charge."

"Dec. 10, 1755. The society by vote desire the Justices to remove and sit in the pew with their wives."

At the same meeting the society desire the committee appointed to erect the Governor's pew to do what they shall think proper to adorn the pew where the Governor now sits, in lieu of building a pew.

In February, 1764, the society, with the concurrence of Mr. Dickinson, voted to take measures to procure

Church of England, that he can conveniently and doth attend the public worship there, then the collector, having first indifferently levied the tax as aforesaid, shall deliver the taxes collected of such persons declaring themselves, and attending as aforesaid, unto the minister of the Church of England living near unto such persons; which minister shall have full power to receive and recover the same, in order to his support in the place assigned to him."

The same act gave power to any society of the Church of England to levy on themselves greater taxes at their own discretion for the support of their minister.

"And the parishioners of the Church of England, attending as aforesaid, are hereby excused from paying any taxes for the building meeting houses for the present established churches of this government."

The General Assembly held at Hartford, May 8, 1727, enacted "That where there are such dissenters as are commonly called Quakers, who do attend the worship of God in such way as is allowed by said act [in the 7th of Queen Anne, A.D. 1708] within this colony, or are so situated that they may and do attend the service out of the limits of this government in any such meeting aforesaid, and shall produce a certificate from such a society of their having joined themselves to them, and that they do belong unto their society, that he or they shall be excused from contributing to the support of the established ministry, and from contributing or paying any tax levied for the building any meeting-house or houses in the society where they dwell."

The General Assembly held at New Haven, Oct. 9, 1729, also granted, "That for the future the same privilege and exemption from the charges aforesaid as was granted by this Assembly in May last unto the people called Quakers is hereby allowed unto them [the people called Baptists] under the like regulations, any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding."

"At this time," says Prof. Kingsley, "there were in Connecticut but two or three congregations of Episcopalians and two of Baptists, all of which were small, and no congregation of Quakers."

\* The schools were managed by the Prime Ancient Society; their votes concerning districts, school-houses, &c., at their annual meetings being put on record from time to time.

a colleague; provided that means for the support of such colleague could be furnished by subscription, without laying any burden upon the society as such. In March report was made to the society that such subscriptions were furnished.

Mr. Tennent having preached some Sabbaths on probation, the society, by vote, unanimously invited him to settle as colleague with Mr. Dickinson, Nov. 13, 1764.

"Dec. 17, 1764. Thomas Hanford appointed to collect Mr. Leaming's rate."

Mr. Tennent wished to retain his connection with the Presbytery, which the society, by mutual understanding, allowed, provided Mr. Tennent should "unite with us and with the Association in the Ecclesiastical constitution of the colony." The Presbytery, however, understood it otherwise, and appointed a time and a committee of their own for the installation. Whereupon, June 12, 1765, after a suitable preamble, the society voted thus:

"This society, by a copy from the minutes of the Presbytery, are informed that Mr. Tennent declared his acceptance of the call of the society, upon condition that he shall still continue a member of the synod of New York and Philadelphia, and of New Brunswick Presbytery; . . . but at the same time professed his desire and intention to hold communion, and be in connection, with the Revd. association aforesaid, as far as is consistent with his continuing in his relation to said synod; and that thereupon the said Presbytery had presumed that this church and society complied with the condition annexed by Mr. Tennent, to his acceptance of their call (which was made on very different terms); and accordingly have assumed to themselves a right to appoint and did appoint the time of installment, and a committee of their own to officiate therein. On consideration of all which, this society is of opinion, that the annexing the condition aforesaid to the acceptance of the call aforesaid, is a proposal subversive of the foundation on which the agreement and proceedings of the society were predicated; and the proceedings of the Presbytery in consequence thereof is an attempt to draw the church and society off from the constitution in which they are united, and to lead them to renounce the relations they stand in, and esteem too sacred to be violated; and do also view such appointment of the time and persons for installment, as an imposition on the society; and therefore is to be treated with neglect. Therefore, the society do declare, that they cannot comply with the abovesaid conditions and appointment; but are obliged to look on Mr. Tennent's annexing such embarrassment to his acceptance, tantamount to a denial of the invitation made him, etc., etc."

In consequence of this the society appointed a committee to rent the house and land which they had purchased as a parsonage for the colleague pastor. An explanation followed: Mr. Tennent declared that he never expected or intended that the society should be under the power of the Presbytery; and signified his readiness to accept the call, if this explanation should prove satisfactory. Whereupon the society voted their approval and desired his settlement, adding, in their vote, June 19, 1765, that "Nevertheless, it is expected, that before his installment, a certificate be produced from the Revd. Presbytery aforesaid, of Mr. Tennent's being released from them, agreeably to the tenor of the above proposals, in order to make way for a regular settlement here, and a full union with the association here, on the constitution of this colony."

"Dec. 16, 1765. Nathan Burwell, Jr., to collect Mr. Leaming's rate.

"Dec., 1766. Ebenezer Church to collect Mr. Leaming's rate.



"Dec. 14, 1767. Gould Hoyt chosen collector of Mr. Leaming's last year's rate, likewise for the present year's rate.

"Dec. 20, 1768. Asa Hoyt chosen collector of ye Church of England professors.

"Dec. 11, 1769. Garner Olmsted to collect of the Church of England professors.

"Dec. 10, 1770. John Saunders to collect Mr. Leaming's rate.

"Dec. 15, 1771. Matthew Reed, collector of Mr. Leaming's rate.

"Dec. 21, 1772. Micajah Nash chosen to collect Mr. Leaming's rate (afterwards excused and Isaac Camp chosen in his room).

"Dec. 13, 1773. Garner Olmsted chosen collector of tax on ye professors of ye Church of England.

"Dec. 14, 1774. Garner Olmsted collector of ye professors of ye Church of England.

"Dec. 11, 1775. Daniel Church collector of ye professors of ye Church of England.

"Dec. 9, 1776. Saml. White chosen collector of ye Church of England Professors.

"Dec. 8, 1777. Barnabas Merwine Collec. of ye Church of England professors.

"Dec. 14, 1778. John Saunders collector of Mr. Leaming's rate."

Before the next annual meeting the town was burnt by the British, and Rev. Mr. Leaming retired with the invaders to their fleet.

"Dec. 11, 1769. Put to vote, whether the society will repair the meeting house according to the report of those persons desired to view the same; that is to say, to put on a new roof, and new side the house, and to make new window frames, so far as should be necessary. Passed in the affirmative."

"Dec. 15, 1771. The committee heretofore appointed to repair the meeting house, are requested to do the same in the month of May next, etc., . . . and then to colour ye sd house."

"Jan. 8, 1772. Whereas the Rev. Mr. Treat, of New York, applied to the committee of this society, desiring them to call the society together, that he might inform them that a call is presented to the Rev. Mr. Tennent in Charles Town in South Carolina, and to acquaint the society with the reasons for the application made to Mr. Tennent, and also to know whether the society will concur with Mr. Tennent in calling a council to deliberate upon the affairs of the call; and also further signified that it was the earnest desire of the Rev'd Mr. Tennent that the society should be convened for the purpose aforesaid; and whereas the society being now convened in consequence of sd requests; and the Revd. Mr. Treat having informed this meeting of the call from sd church in Charles Town, &c.

"The question was put whether this society will concur with the Revd. Mr. Tennent in calling a council for the purpose aforesaid. The society having taken these matters into consideration, and seriously deliberated upon them, are of opinion, that as there doth not appear any cause arising in the society, or any matter subsisting between Mr. Tennent and the society that makes it necessary or expedient for the society to desire a council, Therefore the society Resolve the above question in the negative."

"Jan. 14, 1772. Whereas the Consociation of the Western District of Fairfield County, now met in this society to consider and determine a case of no less importance than the expediency of the Rev. Mr. Tennent's dismission from the pastoral relation to this church and society, in consequence of a call, etc. . . . have notified this society of sd meeting, so that they may have an opportunity to be heard if they have anything to offer in the case. . . . Voted and agreed by this society that the reasons offered for Mr. Tennent's dismission are altogether insufficient, etc., . . . and that they are entirely against Mr. Tennent's being dismissed, and do not consent to the sd Mr. Tennent's dismission from us; and that a copy of this vote be presented to sd council speedily, to signify our minds in ye aforesaid case."

"Jan. 22, 1772. [The society considering at length the reasons offered by the Consociation; and] Having seriously weighed the several matters and proceedings with the effects and consequences which may probably follow a non-compliance, are of opinion that considering the same, and the steps taken to effect it, has rendered Mr. Tennent's usefulness in this society much less than it otherwise might have been, if not altogether at an end, Therefore, in compliance with his earnest request, and in deference to the opinion and advice of the venerable Council, etc., . . . do signify that if he desires the council to be convened, or shall convene the same for their approbation thereof, or for his discharge from any other relation or connexions, this society has nothing to object."

In October, 1773, Mr. Cotton was employed to preach till the next annual meeting, and on Dec. 13, 1773, "the committee appointed to look out for another minister to preach on probation are desired to return the society's thanks to Mr. Cotton for his good service here, and to pay him honorably for the same."

Dec. 6, 1776, Mr. Kittletass was preaching here. May 11, 1778, the society voted to invite Mr. Fenn to preach; in December, 1778, to invite Mr. Robinson. April, 1780, the committee were directed to hire Mr. Mourdock; Aug. 27, 1782, to invite Mr. Tullar; Dec. 9, 1782, voted that Mr. Tullar shall be invited to settle here as a minister in this society; but Dec. 26, 1782, this vote was reconsidered and made void, "by reason there were but few people at the former meeting."

Sept. 5, 1783, desired the committee to invite Mr. William Lockwood to preach in the society. June 17, 1784, Mr. Spalding had been employed, and was desired to preach two or three months longer. Dec. 13, 1784, the committee were directed to invite Mr. Sherman to preach on probation.

Second Tuesday in October, 1785, the society called Rev. Mr. Burnet to be their minister, to be installed "on the second day of November next."

#### MINISTERS.

Thomas Hanford began to preach in 1652; ordained in 1654, and died in 1693, after laboring in the ministry here forty-one years.

Stephen Buckingham was ordained Nov. 17, 1697; resigned Feb. 24, 1727, having labored in the ministry here about thirty years.

Moses Dickinson was installed in 1727, and died May 1, 1778, in the eighty-third year of his age, having been pastor nearly fifty-one years.

William Tennent was installed colleague pastor with Mr. Dickinson in 1765. Having been called to Charleston, S. C., he was dismissed in 1772, after a ministry of seven years.

Matthias Burnet, D.D., was installed Nov. 2, 1785, and died June 30, 1806, in the twenty-first year of his ministry in this church, and in the fifty-eighth year of his age.

Roswell R. Swan was ordained Jan. 14, 1807, and died March 22, 1819, in the thirteenth year of his ministry, and the forty-first year of his age.

Sylvester Eaton was ordained Oct. 4, 1820, and dismissed Feb. 28, 1827, in the seventh year of his ministry.

Henry Benedict was installed Aug. 13, 1828, and dismissed Feb. 22, 1832, in the fourth year of his ministry.

Edwin Hall, D.D., was installed June 14, 1832, and after a ministry of twenty-three years was dismissed April 24, 1855, to accept the professorship of systematic theology in the seminary at Auburn, N. Y.

William B. Weed was installed June 27, 1855, and died Dec. 13, 1860, in the sixth year of his ministry.

Joseph Anderson was installed April 3, 1861, and dismissed Oct. 12, 1864, in the fourth year of his ministry.

Thomas S. Childs, D.D., was installed Feb. 6, 1866.

Rev. Mr. Dunham. Rev. John A. Hamilton, installed April 8, 1874; present pastor.

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, SOUTH NORWALK.

This church was organized Jan. 3, 1836, by Rev. Edwin Hall, with the following members: John Bouton, Daniel K. Nash, James Warner, Betsey Bouton, Sally Nash, David Low, Mary Low, E. G. Wheeler, Sarah B. Wheeler, David Swords, Hannah Swords, Stephen G. Ferris, Raymond Benedict, Nancy Benedict, Ruth H. Bouton, Ann Raymond, Arnot A. Nash, Deborah C. Nash, Jacob Nash, Anna Nash, Esther Benedict, Ann Downs, Thomas Guyer, Hannah Guyer, Maria Warner, Mary C. Warner, Jasper W. Smith, Jane C. Smith, Sally Hawley, Hannah Rockwell, Harriet B. Benedict, William H. Benedict, James Quintard, Sally Quintard, Margaret Quintard, Sally Seymour, Sarah E. White, Mary A. Quintard, Esther M. Bouton, Samuel G. Warren, Almirah Bouton, Sarah Bouton, Eliza Knapp, Susan Warren, Samuel F. Richards, Betsey Bouton, Mary White, Mary Guyer, Mary Guyer (Benedict), Sally Raymond, Mary Brown, Polly Wood, Ira Seymour, Asa Benedict, Ruth Benedict, Dinah Smith, George Benedict, Sarah J. Benedict, Amaryllis Thayer, Nancy Hoyt, Lydia Smith, Julia Ann Benedict, Stephen S. Comstock, Lydia Warren.

The first deacons were John Bouton, Daniel K. Nash, and Stephen G. Ferris. The church edifice was erected in 1835. The following is a list of the pastors: Rev. James Knox, April, 1836, to April, 1839; Rev. John B. Shaw, 1839 to 1841; Rev. Francis B. Woodworth, February, 1842, to February, 1844; Rev. Z. K. Hawley, April, 1844, to May, 1848; Rev. S. Haight, July, 1848, to September, 1851; Rev. D. A. Austin, October, 1851, to February, 1866; Rev. H. N. Dunning, February, 1866, present incumbent.

The present officers are Stephen G. Ferris, George Benedict, Clarence Nash, Edward Beard, Nelson Dickerman, and Marshall Tolles. The church has a membership of about four hundred and forty-six.

#### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Episcopal Church of St. Paul's Parish was incorporated in 1737, and a small building erected, which was afterwards converted into a parsonage, and a larger one, fifty-five by forty feet, erected in 1743. In 1779 this was burnt, together with the town of Norwalk, by Gen. Tryon; but in 1780, when the people had been impoverished and scattered by this disaster and the removal of their pastor, the parish erected a temporary church edifice, and in 1785 rebuilt upon the former foundation. The building was consecrated by Bishop Seabury. In 1840 the society unanimously resolved to build the edifice now erected, seventy-seven

by fifty-five feet; tower projecting nine feet; vestry in the rear, nine feet; height of the steeple, one hundred and fifty feet.

The following is a list of the clergy who have officiated in this parish since its incorporation: 1737, Rev. Henry Caner, a missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; 1738, Rev. Richard Caner; 1749, Rev. John Ogilvie; 1751, Rev. John Fowle; 1756, Rev. Dr. Dibble, of Stamford; 1758, Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Leaming, who was removed by Gen. Tryon in 1779; 1780, Rev. Dr. Dibble, of Stamford; 1784, Rev. John Bowden, D.D.; 1789, Rev. Mr. Foot; 1790, Rev. George Ogilvie; 1797, Rev. William Smith, D.D.; 1800, Rev. Henry Whitlock; 1811, Rev. Bethel Judd; 1813, Rev. Mr. Johnson; 1814, Rev. Bethel Judd; 1816, Rev. Reuben Sherwood; 1830, Rev. Mr. Atwater; 1830, Rev. Jackson Kemper, D.D.; 1835, Rev. James C. Richmond; 1836, Rev. William Cooper Mead, D.D. The present pastor is Rev. C. M. Selleck.

#### THE NORWALK BAPTIST CHURCH.

This church was organized Aug. 31, 1837, in the First Congregational church, the council being composed of delegates from the churches in Weston, Danbury, Stamford, Stratfield, and Redding. The first officers of the church were: Deacons, Noah Weed, Andrew Turney; Clerk, Alonzo C. Arnold. The first pastor was Rev. William H. Card. The constituent members were Noah Weed, William Wakeman, Andrew Turney, Josiah Raymond, Jr., Alonzo C. Arnold, Mrs. Abby Fitch, Mrs. Betsey Gaylor, Mrs. Eliza Mills, Mrs. Sarah Stephens, Mrs. Catharine Fitch, Mrs. Charity Smallhorn, Mrs. Mary Knapp, Miss Emily Knapp, Miss Hannah Knapp, Miss Julia Burchard.

The church edifice was commenced in the spring of 1839, and dedicated March 11, 1840.

Name and term of service of each pastor: 1838-39, Rev. William H. Card; 1840-47, Rev. James J. Woolsey; 1847-50, Rev. J. Chaplin; 1850-51, Rev. N. Boughton; 1851-53, Rev. J. J. Woolsey; 1853-56, Rev. William C. Ulyat; 1856-59, Rev. L. D. Gowen; 1859-61, Rev. George W. Lasher; 1861-73, Rev. O. W. Gates; 1873, Rev. E. D. Bentley.

The present officers are: Pastor, Rev. E. D. Bentley; Deacons, A. Ambler, D. M. Fillow, C. P. Turney, R. A. Fillow, and S. Arlington; Clerk, J. L. Ambler; Treasurer, R. A. Fillow; Prudential Committee, pastor, deacons, and clerk. The number of present members is two hundred and fifty-four.

The church was originally composed in part of members of the Milton Baptist Church, which disbanded at the time this church was organized. It worshiped for a time in the academy, then standing on the green, afterwards in the town-house, until their church edifice was dedicated, in 1840. The pastorates of Revs. Woolsey, Gowen, and Gates were those in which the church made the most progress.



In 1870 the church building was entirely renovated and remodeled inside, and refurnished, the repairs costing about fourteen thousand dollars. The Sunday-school has a membership of two hundred and twenty-five, and has been fifteen years under the superintendency of J. L. Ambler.

#### FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH NORWALK.

The first Methodist sermon was preached in this place in 1787 by a young minister named Cornelius Cook, but Methodism was formally introduced into Norwalk—as, indeed, in New England—by Jesse Lee. Stevens, in his "History of Methodism," says, "On the 17th June, 1789, Jesse Lee preached his first sermon in New England at Norwalk, Conn." He was denied the use of either house or barn for this purpose; so, taking his stand on the public highway, under an apple-tree and surrounded by about twenty hearers, he says, "I preached on John iii. 7: 'Ye must be born again.'" In his diary he wrote, "After preaching I told the people that I intended being with them again in two weeks. Who knows but I shall yet have a place in this town where I may lay my head?"

The organization of a church occurred in 1790, and the services were held in the old red school-house that stood on the site now occupied by the store of Nash Brothers. Here a remarkable revival occurred in 1816. In this year the society felt strong enough to erect its first house of worship, on the site of the present church. This building remained until 1843, when a new one was substituted for it, capable of holding about four hundred and fifty persons, and in 1856 was enlarged, and is the one now occupied by the society.

One name stands conspicuous among the early members of the church,—viz., that of Absalom Day, a man of unusual ability. Devoted to all the interests of the church, he served it with great fidelity and success. Gideon Wilcox was also a prominent member and officer of the church in its early days, and gave to it three sons,—Noah, William, and Matthew,—who each served the church faithfully and well.

Norwalk continued as a part of a circuit, served by two or more itinerant ministers, each preaching in regular turn, until 1834. Among these were Elijah Hebbard, Abram S. Francis, and others. The pastors that have served the church since it became a station are as follows: 1834, Luther Mead; 1835–36, Davis Stocking; 1837–38, Josiah L. Dickerson; 1839, Cyrus Foss; 1840, William Thatcher; 1841, Gad N. Smith; 1842, L. C. Cheney; 1843–44, Harvey Husted; 1845–46, William C. Hoyt; 1847, Jacob Shaw; 1848–49, Buel Goodsell; 1850–51, S. W. King; 1852–53, Morris Hill; 1854, L. A. Nickerson; 1855–56, F. Botome; 1857, George C. Crevy; 1858–59, Hart F. Pease; 1860–61, J. J. Woolley; 1862–63, Albert Nash; 1864–65, L. P. Perry; 1866–68, W. H. Simonson; 1869–71,

D. A. Goodsell; 1872–73, W. H. Thomas; 1874, F. P. Tower; 1875–77, W. H. Simonson (second term); 1878, W. H. Boole; 1879–80, J. V. Saunders, the present pastor.

Among the membership who have taken a deep interest in and rendered substantial aid to the church was the late Mr. Ebenezer Hill; who long and faithfully ministered to the temporal and spiritual welfare of the church until called to his heavenly reward, in the year 1875.

The present officers of the church are: Trustees, Ebenezer Hill, William H. Duncan, Burr Nash, C. F. Hallock, J. P. Treluff, Charles Smith, Dr. Mossman, Seth Remington, James Golden; Stewards, C. H. Wheeler, Henry I. Smith, James A. Brown, John B. Wheeler, J. S. Dunning, L. P. Foote, Franklin A. Smith, Charles E. Seymour, John W. Powell; Class-leader, William S. Bailey. The present membership is three hundred and fifty.

There is connected with the church a flourishing Sunday-school, of which Thomas I. Raymond is the superintendent. It has fifty-one officers and teachers, two hundred and eighty scholars, and four hundred and twenty-five books in its library.

Since the organization of the church three others have been formed from it,—viz., the Second Methodist Episcopal Church, at Norwalk, the Third Methodist Episcopal Church, at Rowayton, and the Fourth Methodist Episcopal Church, at East Norwalk, each of which, like the parent church, is in a flourishing condition. Thus, if ninety-three years ago Methodism was planted in Norwalk by the hand and heart of Jesse Lee, every door barred against him, and only the highway to receive him, it has grown and flourished until now it has four churches, over one thousand members, and an equal number of Sunday-school children. The prophecy of the old pioneer of Methodism has been fulfilled when almost a century ago he wrote, "Who knows but I may yet have a place in this town where I may lay my head?" for, were his return to earth a possible event, he would see that he had not labored in vain.

#### SECOND METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.\*

Although the congregation had met as an organization for some time previous to 1861, with Dr. Asa Hill, local elder, as preacher, it appeared for the first time on the minutes for that year, when the first Conference preacher was sent to them. No more definite history of the organization or of the first officers appears on record, nor any account of the number of members.

The church building was erected in 1860, and dedicated December 6th of that year by Bishop Janes. The pastors have been: 1861–62, Nathaniel Mead; 1863–65, Samuel H. Smith; 1866–68, John S. Breckenridge; 1869–72, I. Simmons; 1873, John Pegg, Jr.;

\* Contributed by B. W. Maples.

1874-76, Robert H. Jones; 1877-78, C. S. Williams; 1879 to date, C. S. Wing.

The above is all the information given by the meagre and miserably-kept church records. From other sources I have gathered the following:

Among the first members were Augusta Ambler, Eliza J. Ambler, Gerardus P. Adams, Sarah L. Adams, William S. Atherton, Mariette Atherton, John Austin, Samuel R. Bunting, Margaret Bunting, George T. Brady, Susan Brady, Theodore Brush, Cebelia Brush, David Betts, Jonathan Betts, Ann E. Betts, Addison Brown, Cordelia Brown, Oscar S. Brown, Clarissa M. Brown, Elizabeth Brotherton, Cynthia E. Beers, Rebecca A. Beers, Sherman Cole, Susan Cole, Eliza Cole, Mary A. Crowe, Eliza J. Chinery, Amanda Cook, Zilla A. Denney, George W. Downs, Daniel Fitch, Sarah E. Fitch, Rebecca Fitch, Edwin W. Fitch, Elmira Fitch, Ann E. Fitch, Susan Finney, Bradley Gilbert, Hannah Gilbert, Horace S. Gibbs, Asa Hill, Susan Hill, Zalmon Hoyt, Emily Hoyt, Garrett Haulenbeck, Catherine Haulenbeck, Edgar Jennings, Mary Jennings, Jemima Kellogg, Albert Morehouse, Laura B. Morehouse, Louise Morehouse, Sarah E. Mosier, Elizabeth Murray, Leah Murray, Caroline Murray, Silas B. Meeker, Rosina A. Meeker, Elizabeth Merrill, Mary E. Nash, David W. Nash, Eliza A. Nash, George Nash, Betsey Platt, Platt Price, Eliza A. Price, Joseph B. Scribner, Harriet Scribner, Mary F. Selleck, Phoebe A. Selleck, Lucretia Smith, Esther A. Westerfield, William B. Warren, and Sarah A. Warren. The present membership is five hundred and thirteen.

There is also a flourishing Roman Catholic Church, but we have been unable to obtain any material for its history.

#### MILITARY RECORD.

##### THIRD REGIMENT.

###### *Company A.*

Douglass Fowler, captain; com. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Gilbert Bogart, first lieutenant; com. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Stephen D. Byxbee, second lieutenant; com. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
James L. Russell, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
John W. Crow, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Edwin R. Smith, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Watson Olmsted, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
John Whiteman, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Thomas S. Weed, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Theodore L. Smith, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Rufus Buttery, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Aiken, Joseph, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Allen, Francis, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Ayers, Almon H., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Baker, Henry, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Bishop, Jacob, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Birdsall, Charles, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Bishop, Hiram H., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Beers, William W., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Benger, William, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Berry, John, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Beers, Charles, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Bottsford, George, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Bouton, William, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Bulkley, David, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Clendenen, Andrew J., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

Comstock, Zalmon M., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Crowe, John M., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Dixon, Samuel, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Engel, Philip, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Fairweather, George N., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Fredericks, Jacob, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Frey, Charles G., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Fitzsimmons, Philip, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Gray, William H., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Guthrie, Sidney, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Griffith, Raymond, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Hendrickson, Abram, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Hill, Charles, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Hotchkiss, Wooster, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Hodges, Stephen, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Hurd, William B., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Hyatt, Henry E., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Johnson, Thomas, Jr., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Kirk, Nathaniel S., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Laing, Charles, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Lambert, John, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Lyons, Melancth S., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Mann, John W., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Maconless, George W., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Magee, William, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Mead, John D., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Merwin, Francis E., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Morehouse, Albert, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Nelson, Newton B., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
O'Coner, James, Jr., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
O'Coner, James, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
O'Coner, David F., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Olmsted, George F., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Pelham, Marcus L., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Platt, Oliver, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Ross, Alanson, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Seymour, George W., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Searles, Stephenson, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Shannon, Edward, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Shaw, George W., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Smith, John, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Smith, George W., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Smith, Francis, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
St. John, Oscar, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Sweetser, Edmond, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Taylor, Alexander H., enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Tilden, Albert, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Tucker, George, enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

##### FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.

Frederick Marrero, must. Dec. 30, 1863.  
John Mulligan, must. Nov. 22, 1864.  
John O'Neil, must. Dec. 23, 1863.  
George F. Daskam, must. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.

##### FIRST ARTILLERY.

###### *Company B.*

John Farrell, must. Oct. 21, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Thomas Flood, must. Oct. 21, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Edward Hall, must. Oct. 15, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
William Hyland, must. Oct. 21, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Charles Morrell, must. Oct. 31, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
John Sheehan, must. Nov. 16, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

###### *Company K.*

Henry J. Miller, must. Oct. 14, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

###### *Company L.*

Jacob Allington, must. Dec. 14, 1863; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
John Burns, must. Oct. 26, 1864; disch. Jan. 6, 1865.  
James Cullen, must. Nov. 2, 1864; disch. Jan. 6, 1865.  
Patrick McFarland, must. Oct. 25, 1864; disch. Jan. 6, 1865.  
Charles B. Vandenburg, must. Oct. 29, 1864; disch. Jan. 6, 1865.

##### SECOND ARTILLERY.

###### *Company L.*

John Boyce, must. Feb. 8, 1864; disch. Aug. 18, 1865.  
Richard Crawford, must. Feb. 8, 1864.



John Clark, must. Feb. 8, 1864.  
 John Davidson, must. Feb. 8, 1864.  
 Thomas Daley, must. Feb. 6, 1864.  
 John Emmerson, must. Feb. 4, 1864.  
 George Fiss, must. Feb. 4, 1864.  
 Charles Hart, must. Feb. 8, 1864.  
 Thomas Mack, must. Feb. 10, 1864.  
 Patrick Hagen, must. Feb. 10, 1864.  
 James Wilson (2d), must. Feb. 9, 1864.  
 A. B. Albin, must. Jan. 25, 1864.  
 William D. Flood, must. Feb. 8, 1864.  
 John R. Williams, must. Dec. 26, 1864.

#### FIFTH REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

Orris S. Ferry, colonel; com. July 23, 1861; pro. to brigadier-general.  
 George Lasher, chaplain; com. July 23, 1861; res. Dec. 11, 1861.

#### SIXTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company C.*

Henry Meyer, must. Oct. 5, 1863.  
 Frank Salbach, must. Oct. 9, 1863.

#### SEVENTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company D.*

Thomas Horton, second lieutenant; com. Sept. 5, 1861; killed June 14, 1862.  
 Edward Ayres, must. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 John T. Byxbee, must. Sept. 5, 1861; died Sept. 1, 1862.  
 John Doughton, must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability.  
 William Fagen, must. Sept. 5, 1861.  
 William Holly, must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability Jan. 3, 1862.  
 Samuel K. Lyons, must. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 John F. Morris, must. Dec. 22, 1862; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 George W. Raymond, must. Sept. 19, 1862; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Charles S. Scott, must. Sept. 5, 1862; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Oscar Smith, must. Sept. 5, 1862; killed June 17, 1864.  
 Albert Van Tassell, must. Sept. 5, 1862; disch. May 7, 1865.  
 Charles H. Weed, must. Sept. 5, 1862; must. out June 19, 1865.  
 John A. Ames, must. Feb. 3, 1864; wounded June 17, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Samuel W. Waterbury, must. Jan. 29, 1864; wounded Jan. 19, 1864; must. out May 22, 1865.

#### EIGHTH REGIMENT.

Peter L. Cunningham, lieutenant-colonel; com. Oct. 5, 1861; res. Dec. 23, 1861.  
 Joseph J. Wooley, chaplain; com. Oct. 5, 1861; res. March 13, 1862.

##### *Company H.*

Douglass Fowler, captain; com. Sept. 23, 1861; res. Jan. 20, 1863.  
 James L. Russell, first lieutenant; com. Sept. 23, 1861; pro. to captain, Co. G; res. Jan. 3, 1863.  
 Thomas S. Weep, second lieutenant; com. Sept. 23, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Oct. 24, 1864.  
 J. T. Crosby, pro. to second lieutenant; res. Aug. 27, 1862.  
 George H. Tucker, must. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Charles G. Fry, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 John W. Whitman, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 M. S. Lyon, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; died March 4, 1864.  
 Oliver B. Platt, enl. Sept. 23, 1861.  
 Anthony R. Canfield, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; pro. second lieutenant Co. F; wounded; res. July 30, 1864.  
 John B. Boughton, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, April 1, 1864.  
 William A. Sammins, enl. Sept. 30, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 2, 1862.  
 Edgar Allington, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 John W. Boughton, enl. Sept. 30, 1861; disch. Jan. 31, 1865.  
 Timothy Cahill, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Oct. 1, 1864.  
 John Cockfer, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; died Aug. 11, 1863.  
 William G. Crockett, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 John Doran, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 James E. Ellis, enl. Sept. 23, 1861.  
 George H. Fayerweather, enl. Oct. 8, 1861; disch. Feb. 16, 1863.  
 Stephen H. Ferris, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; died Feb. 18, 1862.  
 John Hickey, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; disch. Sept. 22, 1864.

George A. Hoyt, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; died Sept. 9, 1864.  
 James O. Jennings, enl. Oct. 7, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Martin W. Knowlton, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 John J. Leonard, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Sept. 22, 1864.  
 Charles E. Merrill, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; died Sept. 3, 1863.  
 Patrick Monehan, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Peter Monehan, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Marcus L. Pelham, pro. to first lieutenant; must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Dec. 29, 1864.

Peter Rowel, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; died Jan. 7, 1862.  
 William Raymond, enl. Sept. 23, 1861.  
 Gould Saunders, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. March 10, 1863.  
 Alonzo F. Swords, enl. Oct. 7, 1861; disch. Oct. 1, 1865.  
 Sylvanus H. Sheldon, enl. Sept. 27, 1861; disch. Nov. 2, 1861.  
 Calvin A. Smith, enl. Sept. 30, 1861; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Edwin Sweetzer, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 R. E. Thomas, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; killed June 2, 1864, at Cold Harbor.  
 Henry C. Taylor, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; died April 29, 1862.  
 Charles Tiernan, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Charles W. Hurst, enl. Feb. 19, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Albert S. Weed, enl. Nov. 25, 1863; disch. for disability Feb. 2, 1865.

##### *Company I.*

Frederick Green, enl. Feb. 23, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 D. P. Palmer, enl. Sept. 25, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Amos Wade, enl. Feb. 25, 1864; must. out June 21, 1865.

#### ELEVENTH REGIMENT, COMPANY H.

Samuel Bundage, enl. Dec. 30, 1863.

#### SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

Albert H. Wilcox, enl. Aug. 1, 1861; pro. to lieutenant-colonel; died March 6, 1865.

##### *Company B.*

Henry Burns, enl. July 23, 1862; killed July 23, 1862.  
 John D. Hoyt, enl. July 22, 1862; disch. Oct. 5, 1864.  
 William H. Aldrich, enl. Aug. 31, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Lewis E. Bates, enl. Jan. 2, 1864; disch. Dec. 16, 1864.  
 John W. Bishop, enl. Aug. 21, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John Cheal, enl. Nov. 11, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Arthur M. Dudley, enl. Aug. 11, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Robert N. Morehouse, enl. Aug. 11, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Charles Marvin, enl. Sept. 16, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Andrew Perry, enl. Aug. 23, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 James E. Parks, enl. Sept. 11, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John M. Smith, enl. Aug. 11, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Alexander J. White, enl. Sept. 22, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

##### *Company D.*

James Sault, enl. Jan. 25, 1865; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. J. Westerfield, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

##### *Company F.*

Enoch Wood, captain; com. Aug. 9, 1862; res. March 23, 1863.  
 Allen Henry, first lieutenant; com. July 23, 1862; pro. to major, February, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 William A. Kellog, second lieutenant; com. Aug. 9, 1862; res. March 25, 1862.  
 William S. Knapp, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; res. Dec. 1, 1863.  
 Charles E. Doty, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; res. Aug. 4, 1863.  
 N. Raymond Griffith, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. July 27, 1864.  
 Oscar St. John, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Charles F. Loomis, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 E. J. Campbell, enl. Aug. 11, 1862.  
 Albert Morehouse, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. Feb. 13, 1863.  
 John B. Holland, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Feb. 13, 1863.  
 George W. Shaw, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Theodore Brush, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Frank S. Middlehook, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out as sergeant-major, July 19, 1865.  
 S. R. Wilcox, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Thomas Hearn, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

George Hyatt, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out June 28, 1865.  
 R. J. Allen, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 1, 1863.  
 J. H. Armstrong, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; died Oct. 21, 1863.  
 Lewis Arnold, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; died May 2, 1863.  
 Nelson Beach, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; died July 20, 1863.  
 John Bulger, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out June 1, 1865.  
 J. H. Batterson, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Martin Brophy, enl. Aug. 20, 1862.  
 W. F. Benedict, enl. Aug. 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Edwin Barnes, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Alexander Bundy, enl. Aug. 13, 1862.  
 Theodore Brotherton, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 D. Cudmore, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John A. Comstock, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 13, 1865.  
 John Cahill, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Legrand Comstock, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. Dec. 7, 1863.  
 C. H. Castle, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out Aug. 28, 1865.  
 Isaac Camp, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. July 19, 1863.  
 E. Cahill, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 A. W. Cutler, enl. Aug. 21, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Austin Cockefer, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 F. W. Day, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; wounded May 2, 1863.  
 R. S. Dowd, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John Duggan, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Michael Dougherty, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. March 17, 1863.  
 W. H. Downs, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 David Fields, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John Fayweather, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. W. Gilbert, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 William Grace, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; wounded July 3, 1863.  
 Henry H. Gray, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Oct. 21, 1864.  
 Alfred Godfrey, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; trans. to U. S. S. C.  
 William O. Godfrey, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John L. Hayes, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. July 6, 1865.  
 George Hoyt, enl. Aug. 22, 1862.  
 William Hennagan, enl. Aug. 15, 1862.  
 Sylvester Keeler, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 J. Kellogg, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out Aug. 28, 1865.  
 W. R. Keyser, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 James H. Lounsbury, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 James Lyons, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 J. Lounsbury, enl. Aug. 22, 1861; died June 23, 1865.  
 Thomas McLaughlin, enl. Aug. 8, 1861; died May 28, 1863.  
 W. McDonald, enl. Aug. 8, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 William McCormick, enl. Aug. 8, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Martin Mulligan, enl. Aug. 8, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 J. W. Metcalf, enl. Aug. 12, 1861; killed July 2, 1863.  
 John McCauley, enl. Aug. 12, 1861; disch. September, 1862.  
 S. Newell, enl. Aug. 12, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 P. Purden, enl. Aug. 9, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 R. N. Perry, enl. Aug. 23, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 G. S. Patrick, enl. Aug. 14, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 R. A. Rogers, enl. Aug. 11, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. A. Reynolds, enl. Aug. 11, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. H. Raymond, enl. Aug. 13, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 W. A. Reid, enl. Aug. 19, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John Ryan, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 C. L. Smith, enl. Aug. 13, 1861; disch. Dec. 11, 1862.  
 Henry Sherwood, enl. Aug. 14, 1861; disch. March 29, 1863.  
 Isaac A. Smith, enl. Aug. 11, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Oscar Smith, enl. Aug. 11, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 S. W. Smith, enl. Aug. 11, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 L. W. Smith, enl. Aug. 8, 1861; disch. Jan. 20, 1863.  
 W. W. R. Stanton, enl. Aug. 19, 1861.  
 J. E. Stevens, enl. Aug. 20, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John Tracy, enl. Aug. 21, 1861; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 A. F. Taylor, enl. Aug. 11, 1861.  
 Henry I. Webb, enl. Aug. 11, 1861; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, March 13, 1864.  
 Oscar Weed, enl. Aug. 8, 1861; must. out July 10, 1865.  
 James Whitney, enl. Aug. 20, 1861; must. out July 8, 1865.  
 Henry Britts, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 C. M. Brotherton, enl. Aug. 31, 1864; must. out June 8, 1865.  
 Charles Cargill, enl. March 9, 1864; must. out June 14, 1865.  
 Thomas Farrell, enl. Dec. 13, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Byron Green, enl. Dec. 19, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 H. P. Hearn, enl. Feb. 20, 1863; must. out June 10, 1865.

*Company G.*

Edgar Aiken, enl. Aug. 21, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 S. P. Elwood, enl. Sept. 1, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 James Gaffney, enl. Aug. 19, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 S. L. Holly, enl. Aug. 27, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Robert Roberts, enl. Aug. 15, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company H.*

Wm. H. Mather, Jr., enl. Aug. 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 F. McNally, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 William Smedley, enl. Aug. 27, 1862; died June 20, 1865.  
 A. F. Thomson, enl. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Dec. 10, 1862.  
 Anthony Comstock, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 S. R. Rusco, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out July 11, 1865.

*Company I.*

Robert Bones, enl. Nov. 16, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 C. A. Clark, enl. Dec. 28, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 G. H. Meeker, enl. Aug. 11, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 William Fitch, enl. Aug. 15, 1864; must. out Sept. 13, 1864.  
 A. Sayres, enl. Feb. 1, 1865; must. out May 11, 1865.

## TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company E.*

Andrew G. Armstrong, enl. Nov. 7, 1862; must. out Aug. 31, 1863.  
 W. H. Perry, enl. Nov. 7, 1862; must. out Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company G.*

J. A. Comstock, enl. Oct. 27, 1862; must. out Aug. 31, 1863.

## TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

G. W. Thomson, enl. Dec. 28, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company B.*

C. Nash, enl. Dec. 1, 1863; died Aug. 10, 1864.  
 A. Burton, enl. Dec. 4, 1863; must. out Nov. 9, 1865.

*Company C.*

Andrew Nash, enl. Dec. 14, 1863; disch. Nov. 5, 1865.  
 J. Y. Anthony, enl. Dec. 14, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Amos Carpenter, enl. Dec. 14, 1863.  
 George E. Green, enl. Dec. 14, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Charles Jackson, enl. Dec. 14, 1863; must. out March 2, 1865.

*Company E.*

L. O. Drake, enl. Dec. 18, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Joseph Fogg, enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 I. J. Wilson, enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 B. Milton, enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company F.*

D. Chippie, enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 George Spywood, enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 William Frames, enl. Dec. 18, 1863; died Sept. 30, 1864.  
 William H. Hathaway, enl. Dec. 19, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Lewis Jackson, enl. Dec. 26, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Thomas Johnson, enl. Dec. 9, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company G.*

John Bailey, enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 D. Canklin, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 H. Deberty, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Silas Floyd, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Edwin Hall, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 N. Harmoin, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Benjamin Huguee, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Robert Manley, enl. Dec. 26, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 J. H. Raymond, enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Robert Squier, enl. Dec. 28, 1863.  
 James Smith, enl. Dec. 29, 1863.

*Company H.*

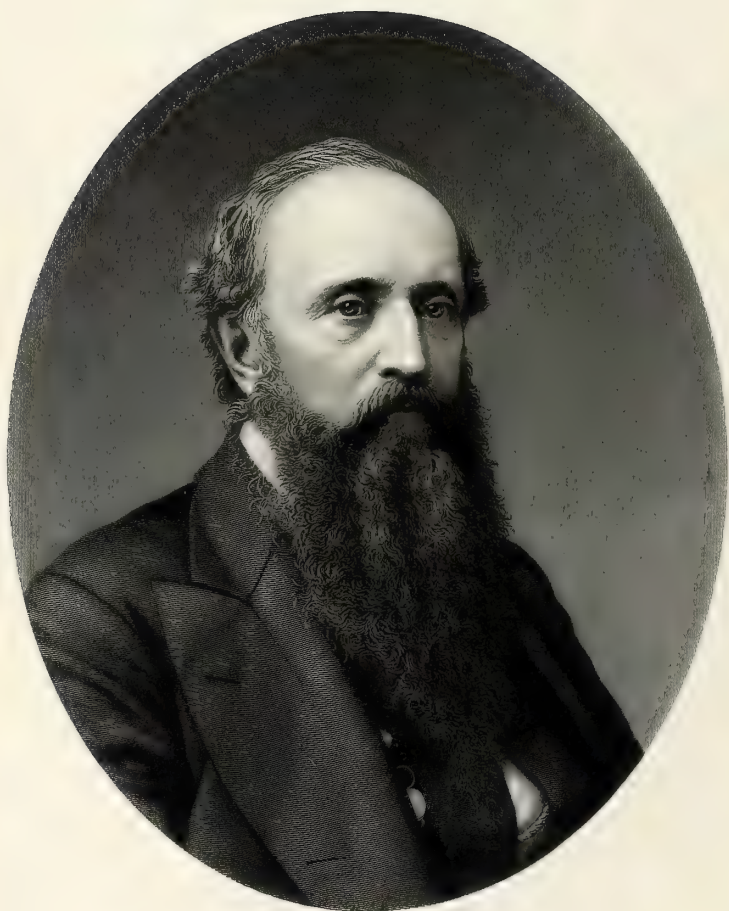
Stephen Farrew, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Henry J. Jackson, enl. Dec. 13, 1863; killed Oct. 27, 1864.  
 Jacob Pigay, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company K.*

H. Parker, enl. Dec. 31, 1863; disch. Feb. 11, 1865.







*Dudley P. Ely*



## THIRTIETH REGIMENT (COLORED).

*Company A.*

James Whitney, enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out June 27, 1865.

## SEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company D.*

Thomas Horten, second lieutenant; com. Sept. 5, 1861; killed June 14, 1862.

## FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

T. Benedict, enl. April 19, 1861; must. out July 31, 1861.

T. D. Brown, enl. April 19, 1861; must. out July 31, 1861.

Thomas Hooton, enl. April 19, 1861; must. out July 31, 1861.

George Keeler, enl. April 19, 1861; must. out July 31, 1861.

James Read, enl. April 19, 1861; must. out July 31, 1861.

Joseph Tennary, enl. April 19, 1861; must. out July 31, 1861.

H. W. Wheeler, enl. April 19, 1861; must. out July 31, 1861.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## DUDLEY P. ELY.

Dudley P. Ely, of South Norwalk, Conn., was born in Simsbury, Hartford Co., Conn., Nov. 16, 1817, and was the youngest child of Benjamin Ely, a farmer in comfortable circumstances and a prominent man. He has a well-authenticated genealogy showing him of French ancestry. Richard Ely, his forefather, was the first American of the name. His great-uncle, Daniel Ely, was colonel in the American army during the Revolutionary war, and had the French coat of arms engraved on his sword hilt, undoubtedly to gratify a feeling of pride in his lineage. Mr. Ely descends on his mother's side from Bigot Eggleston, who was born in England about 1580, and came to America in 1630. He landed at Dorchester, Mass., and remained there until 1635, when he, with a company of sixty, removed to Windsor, Conn., and made the first settlement in Connecticut. In the records of the town of Windsor it is recorded that "He d. Sept. 1, 1674, nere 100 yeres of age."

Mr. Ely attended common school until he was about fourteen years old, when he was sent to Hartford, where he received two years' tuition at the school of Mr. Olney, the author of Olney's geography.

When he had completed his education he was not content to follow farming, but, as all his brothers had done, and despite all efforts and influence to persuade him otherwise, he resolved to leave home and take his chances for success. He first obtained employment in a store in his native town, which position he filled for about a year and a half, and then, being but a few months over eighteen years of age, he was engaged by a Mr. Toby to take the entire charge of a store in West Hartland, Conn., where he remained a year. Having fulfilled his engagement with Mr. Toby, Mr. Ely next turned his mind toward the great metropolis, and Jan. 13, 1837, found him in New York City. He went into the employ of his brother, Nathan C. Ely, as book-keeper,

which position he filled four years, when he became his partner. Previous to this Mr. Ely had received no pecuniary aid from any source other than his salary. When he became partner with his brother he received, unsolicited, from his father two hundred and fifty dollars. Though unexpected, it was fully appreciated, and proved a kind help to him, and he has never forgotten this act of kindness. (This amount was accounted for in the settlement of his father's estate many years afterwards.) This was the only pecuniary aid he ever received other than usual mercantile credit.

He remained in partnership with his brother for several years, when, that gentleman retiring, Mr. Ely associated with him two gentlemen from Boston. He shortly after purchased their interests and conducted the business alone till 1867, when he ceased his connection therewith. Although he has passed through many panics and financial crises, he never failed to meet his obligations at maturity, and never asked special favors of his creditors. He was a heavy loser by the Rebellion, his losses thereby amounting to over \$50,000.

Nov. 28, 1844, Mr. Ely married Miss Charlotte W., daughter of Jeffery O. Phelps, of Simsbury, Conn., a most estimable lady, who lived about fourteen years thereafter, and bore five children, all girls. She died Oct. 3, 1858, in Brooklyn.

Mr. Ely's father-in-law, Judge Phelps, was an officer in the war of 1812, and well known throughout the State. He died in 1879, aged eighty-eight years.

Mr. Ely removed to South Norwalk May 1, 1861.

April 25, 1865, Mr. Ely was elected President of the First National Bank of South Norwalk. He still holds the office.

Since Mr. Ely became a resident of South Norwalk he has held various offices of trust and honor. When the village of Old Well was transformed into the city of South Norwalk, he was elected mayor, and twice re-elected, and, after a time, was again elected, and re-elected, thus serving five terms. He is at the present time President of the First National Bank, President of the Norwalk Gas-light Company, President of the South Norwalk Savings Bank, Treasurer of the Alden Mining Company, and a director in several other institutions. He has always taken a lively interest in agriculture, and was for several years President of the Fairfield County Agricultural Society.

Mr. Ely owns considerable real estate in the city and town where he resides, including the elegant hotel recently completed at South Norwalk. He owns over half of the capital stock of the First National Bank, is the owner of a large amount of gas company, insurance, and other stocks.

Beginning with nothing, Mr. Ely to-day pays, and for some time has paid, the largest tax of any one in the city or town, the assessed valuation of his property being nearly \$200,000. He was one of the

original subscribers to the government for the first issue of bonds during the civil war, subscribing at the time when many were fearful as to the result of the contest, and consequently as to the payment of the bonds. He made a large amount of money in real estate operations in Brooklyn, N. Y., a few years since. In attendance upon business he is prompt and diligent; has no extravagant habits; is social in his disposition and unassuming in his manners.

Mr. Ely's mother died in 1850, aged seventy-three, and his father in 1852, aged eighty-five. He had five brothers and three sisters, all now being dead except one brother. His eldest daughter, the wife of Hon. J. E. Wheeler, of Westport, died in 1868, at the early age of twenty-two years.

We can only enumerate the more prominent business transactions in the life of Mr. Ely. Commencing at the lowest round of the ladder, by strict attention to business, and a scrupulous regard for square dealing, paying every cent of his just obligations, taking no advantage of the many opportunities that offer in a business career to make money by the technicalities of the law, he has risen to wealth and influence. His example illustrates what application, combined with business tact and honesty, can do. He has always taken a lively interest in the growth and prosperity of his town and city, and is ever ready to lend a helping hand and assist any enterprise that he can with a proper regard for his own interests and those of his fellow-townsmen.

#### EDWARD P. WEED.

Edward P. Weed, only son of John A. and Emeline (Chichester) Weed, was born in the town of Norwalk, Conn., April 7, 1834. He received his education in the private schools of Norwalk, attending among others the reputable one of Dr. Hall, and when a youth commenced clerking in the drug-store of his father, whom in time he succeeded in business, and which business he continued until his death.

Mr. Weed was at various times called to fill places of honor and trust: was twice elected member of the Legislature, was chosen warden for the borough several times, was chief engineer of Norwalk fire department, and intrusted with various other public positions. For many years he held the offices of president of Norwalk Savings Bank, and vice-president of the National Bank of Norwalk.

As a citizen he was quiet, unobtrusive, and unassuming, and in his pleasing way made many strong and loving friends.

As a business man his judgment, talents, and integrity were well known and appreciated, and his advice sought for, listened to, and heeded to advantage. Broad and liberal in his views, he had the utmost charity for those differing from him in opinion, and from the natural kindness of his disposition all benevolent objects found in him a ready respondent.

Mr. Weed was always frank and outspoken in politics, ever clinging to the constitution as the bulwark of our liberties, and cherishing the Democratic principles enunciated by Thomas Jefferson as the only means of perpetuating the American republic.

Mr. Weed was united in marriage, Dec. 19, 1865, to Miss Sophia Lynes, of an old and highly respected Norwalk family, which traces its ancestry to the early days of the commonwealth. This union was blessed with two children—Samuel Lynes and Edward Chichester.

Mr. Weed died suddenly, April 18, 1880. He received the three first degrees of Masonry in St. John's Lodge, No. 6, Norwalk, in 1856; was Junior Warden in 1857, Senior Warden in 1858, and Worshipful Master in 1859. He received the chapter degrees in Washington Chapter, No. 24, R. A. M., in the year 1856, and held the office of High Priest in 1863. He received the degrees of Royal and Select Master in Washington Council, No. 17, in 1858.

Special meetings of the directors of each of the banking institutions to which Mr. Weed belonged were held immediately after his death, and we can in no more fitting manner indicate the esteem in which his immediate associates and intimate friends held him than by transferring to these pages the resolutions following, which, among others, were passed at those meetings. The Directors of the National Bank of Norwalk said,—

*"Resolved,* That by the death of Mr. Weed, the Board of Directors of this Bank has lost one of its most faithful and trusted members, whose integrity of character, fidelity to the interests of the Bank, and sound business qualifications were fully recognized and valued; while, in the broader social and business relations of life, where his honorable principles, strict integrity, and kind and genial manners endeared him to all who knew him, his death will be most deeply felt and deplored."

The Directors of the Norwalk Savings Society passed this resolution:

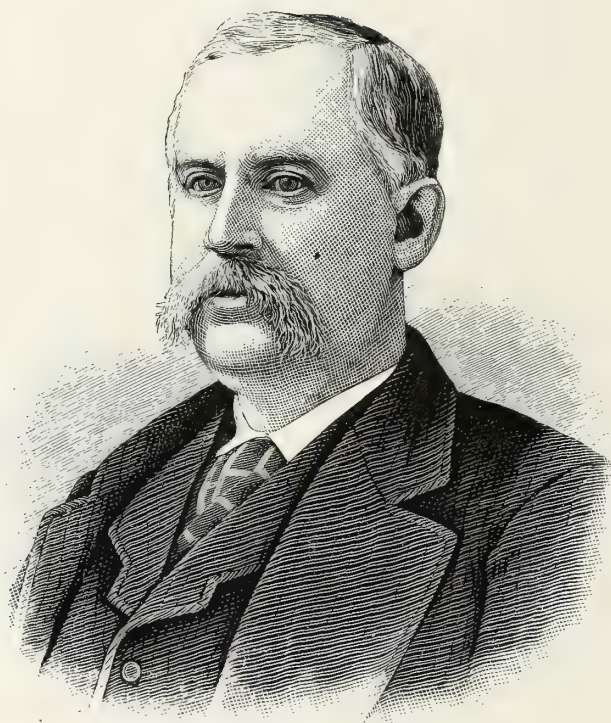
*"Resolved,* That in recognition of his personal worth and faithful services as President and Director of this society, we hereby express our regrets and sorrow at this painful event. As a friend whose fidelity was never questioned; as a counselor whose wisdom commanded our respect; as a man whose name was synonymous with honor and integrity, we deplore his death as a great and irreparable loss."

#### HON. JAMES W. HYATT.

It is among the most pleasing tasks of the historian to place upon the pages of history for the perusal of coming generations the records of "self-made" men, and to show the results of the labor of those who, deprived in early life of those advantages which many claim to be necessary qualifications of success, of powerful friends, liberal education, and inherited







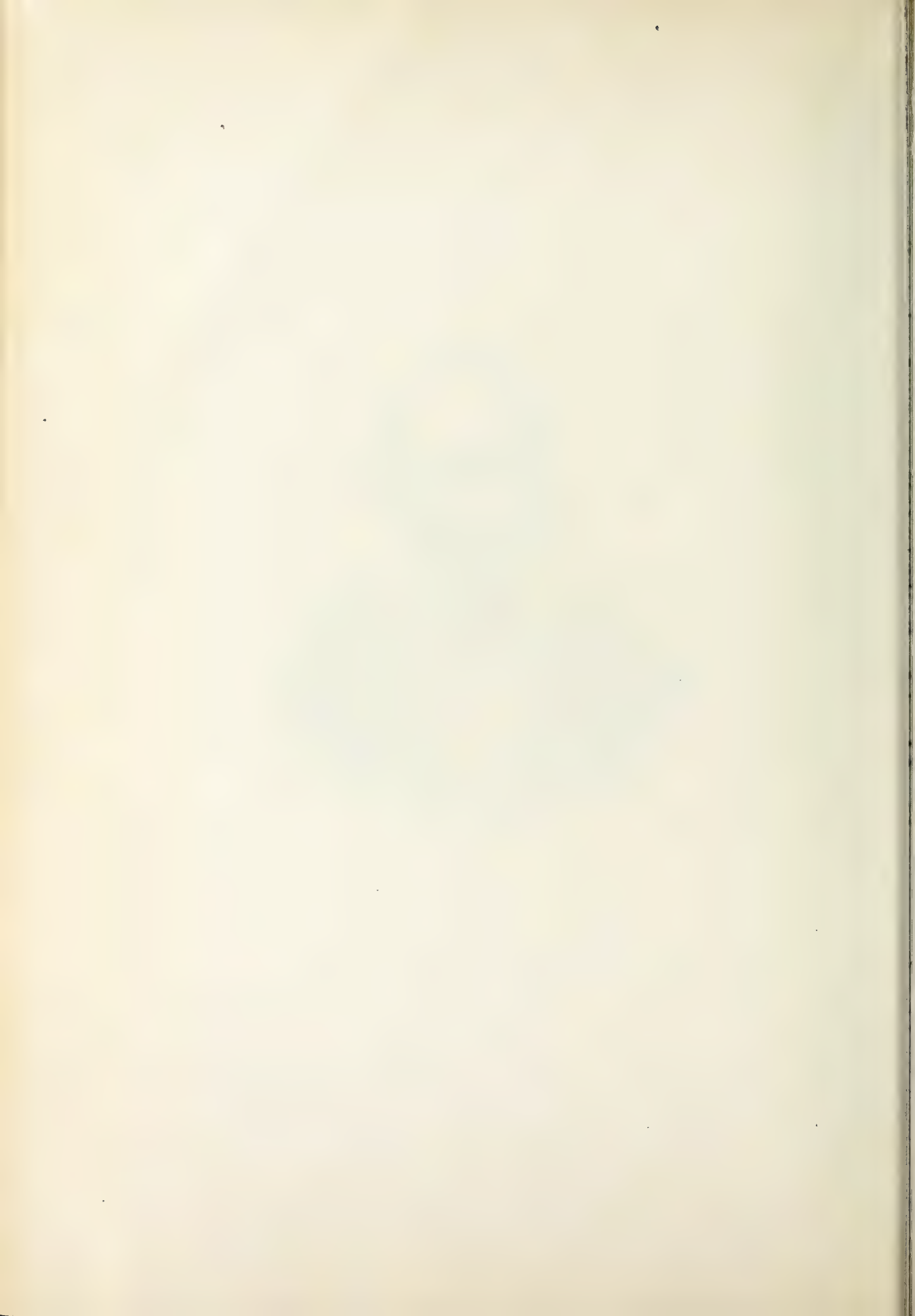
*John T. Mide*





Photo. by Readman Bros., Norwalk.

James W. Cogate









Very Truly  
Yours  
Ch. H. Hill D.D.



wealth, yet, by their own ability, determined will, and persistency of purpose, have carved out a niche in the granite column of life, and won success where many possessed of those advantages have faltered and failed.

No better exemplar for the truth of this can be taken than the one of whom we now write. James William Hyatt was born at Norwalk, Conn., Sept. 19, 1837. He attended the common schools of the villgae until he was eleven years old, when he commenced the active business of life by entering the employ of A. N. Holly, of Stamford, Conn., and working in a lumber-yard at fifty cents a week. Step by step he rapidly and steadily rose, and we find him from 1860 to 1872 a trusted clerk: first, in the grocery house of Bishop & Waterbury, in Stamford, afterwards with Legrand Lockwood & Co., bankers in New York City. Here he displayed that skill in rapid calculation which to-day makes him one of the best accountants in the State.

Mr. Hyatt removed to Norwalk, Conn., in 1873, and has since made that his residence. From his return to Norwalk Mr. Hyatt has had positions of trust placed in his charge in rapid succession. The same year he was elected justice of the peace. January, 1874, he was elected vice-president of Danbury and Norwalk Railroad Company; in June, 1874, elected president of Norwalk Horse-Car Railroad Company; in October, 1874, elected selectman; in 1875, represented Norwalk in the State Legislature, and was appointed by Governor Hubbard bank commissioner to succeed Hon. G. H. Landers, resigned. In 1876, Mr. Hyatt was again elected representative, and in 1877 was chosen warden of the borough of Norwalk. He was appointed bank commissioner by Governor Hubbard for the term of two years in 1878, and received the same appointment from Governor Andrews in 1880. He was re-elected warden of Norwalk in the same year.

Mr. Hyatt was brought up under "old-line Whig" influences, and acted with the Republican party until 1872, when he supported Horace Greeley for President. He has since been identified with the Democratic party.

Mr. Hyatt is an attendant of the Episcopal church, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity; held one term the office of "Worshipful Master" of Sagamon Lodge, No. 371, F. and A. M., of New York city; was twice thereafter re-elected, but refused to serve.

Mr. Hyatt was united in marriage, Dec. 25, 1860, to Miss Jane M., daughter of George Hoyt, Esq., of an old Norwalk family. They have three children living,—John, Jane, and Harry,—aged respectively ten, six, and two and a half years.

Mr. Hyatt is of nervous temperament, active and of positive character, quick to resolve and to act. He is a discriminating student of human nature. Strong and loyal in his friendships, he is justly popular with all classes, and, as his record shows, a man who is trusted and held in high esteem. He is a hard

worker, wastes no time in acting or speaking, but comes directly to the point, doing business in a clear, straightforward way, and accomplishing much, though, by his systematic habits, he is never in a hurry. Industry, economy, and perseverance are his guiding principles.

#### DR. ASA HILL.

Asa Hill was born in Norwalk, Conn., Nov. 20, 1815. He was the youngest of six children. His mother died when he was only three years old. Shortly after this event his father removed to Huntingdon, L. I., where Asa remained until about fourteen years old, when he went to live with his oldest brother at Danbury, Conn., and attended district school the next winter. This was his graduating course in school education, and at fifteen years of age he commenced the active care and duties of life.

His was an earnest nature, and feeling the necessity of a broader and deeper knowledge than his limited opportunities had given him, and desirous of becoming more intelligent that he might be more useful, he surrounded himself with books and mastered the contents of all that came in his way. Religious in his nature, his preference was works on divinity, but scientific and philosophical ones were also almost literally devoured. Before his twentieth birthday he was noted for his attention to business, his zeal and activity in religion, and his earnest search for knowledge.

About this time came the pivotal event of his life,—one that marked and opened a life-career. While acting as nurse to a dying brother, under treatment of Dr. Howell Rogers, of Colchester, Conn., he made the acquaintance and friendship of that celebrated physician, but was not a little astonished when the doctor proposed that he should come and study medicine with him. On reflection he accepted, and commenced at once the elementary studies with his accustomed energy. While thus assiduously working, Dr. David P. Knapp, who was practicing dentistry in Danbury, suggested to him its study, offering to give him instruction. Thinking it might aid him financially, Mr. Hill soon entered the office. Here he continued for several months, acquiring the use of tools, making and shaping his instruments. A love for the profession developed. In those days dentistry had not risen to the position it now occupies. There were no dental schools nor colleges, no dental magazines, and few text-books. With his steadiness of purpose Mr. Hill plodded on until he had acquired a superficial knowledge of dentistry, made a case of instruments, and returned to Colchester and his medical studies. By means of his new art he gained a scanty support, and, although there were times when money was all gone, he steadily persevered in his course of study.

After several months of earnest labor, and after

much deliberation, he determined to give his whole time to dentistry, and, finding that Norwalk presented a good field, located there,—temporarily, as he supposed, but for life. At the first meeting of the American Dental Society, in Boston, Dr. Hill became a member and received the diploma of the society. Shortly after he became associate editor of the *New York Dental Recorder*. Continuing in this capacity for four years, he became for a time both editor and publisher. The subject of plastic fillings for teeth was at this time much agitated in dental circles, and to produce a substance fitted for the purpose was not only a great desideratum, but an exceedingly difficult thing to do. Many were the costly experiments, resulting in failure, made in all parts of the country. Dr. Hill early commenced to experiment, and after years of anxiety and trial brought out what has been since known to the profession as "Hill's Stopping." The first production was soon given a standard place in every dentist's office, and now, under a new and changed formula, the perfected work is kept as a most valuable *secret*. In 1847, Dr. Hill received the honorary degree of D.D.S. from the Baltimore Dental College. In the same year he was elected representative from Norwalk, and in 1856 was chosen to the same office. Up to the time of his death, which occurred Nov. 28, 1874, Dr. Hill was largely a contributor to dental journals. He built up a lucrative practice, and the proceeds of that, and his valuable invention, placed him in circumstances to gratify his taste for experiment and study. His marble-staining process was a novel and peculiar result of study. But would we do full justice to the many ramifications of this remarkable and versatile character, we would needs have to occupy much more space than can be afforded. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, of the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, and was active in the Order of Sons of Temperance, presiding officer of the Grand Division of the State, and representative to the National Division.

From early youth Dr. Hill was subject to deep religious convictions and a belief that he should preach the gospel. For many years he put off that duty, but at last was convinced it was a call from God, and was licensed as local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church, and afterwards was ordained deacon and elder. While engaged in erecting a church edifice in Norwalk, he organized the Second Methodist Episcopal Society, serving them as pastor for three years, declining any compensation.

Dr. Hill was married in April, 1842, to Miss Susan, daughter of Hon. Charles Isaacs, of an old and honored Norwalk family. Their only child is Rebecca Isaacs, familiarly known to her circle of friends as Betta. She married Ira Cole, who was born in Wilton, Fairfield Co. All in all, Dr. Hill was a true type of the highest order of self-made men, at all times the staunch friend of those who, in any sphere, were striving for a higher good, and his generous

nature and warm sympathies carried his benevolence into many a household, causing his name to be revered as a public benefactor and a lover of his kind. He despised all "shams," and whenever he was enlisted in anything gave it the best gifts of his earnest nature. His wonderful eloquence and skill in impromptu speaking was frequently called into exercise, and many will remember how his audiences hung spellbound as his beautiful language portrayed still more beautiful thoughts. With pen, as with tongue, he was wonderfully gifted, and, with his intense enjoyment and love of music, we see how he could and did produce some of as sweet gems of poetry as any author of his day. Perhaps no one in his broad acquaintance enjoyed a higher popularity, was more cherished, more dearly beloved, or of a higher Christian character than Dr. Hill. As a Christian, as a scholar, as a writer and speaker, as an inventor, as a friend, a husband and father, his memory will be fondly and tenderly remembered by all who knew him.

#### JACOB LOCKWOOD.

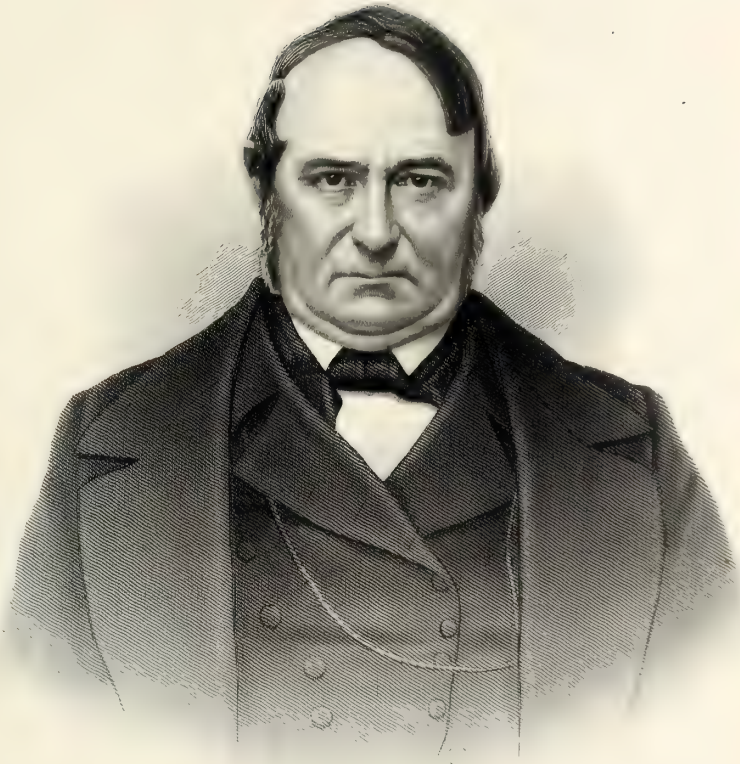
Jacob Lockwood, son of David Lockwood, was of an old Fairfield county family which located in Stamford. His grandfather, Timothy Lockwood, was a soldier in the Continental army, and was shot by the Cow-Boys, while acting as volunteer picket, during a visit home on a furlough. His maternal grandfather, Samuel Tryon, served through the French and Indian wars, was in the Revolution, and afterwards fought with Gen. Anthony Wayne against the Indians on the then Western frontier.

Mr. Lockwood was born Jan. 30, 1794, in Stamford, where he spent his childhood and acquired the education afforded by the schools of that place. When he had attained a suitable age, he varied his labor on the farm by teaching district school during the winter months. He married, on Feb. 11, 1822, Fanny Raymond, daughter of Stephen Raymond, who was born in Norwalk. For over forty years this worthy couple walked harmoniously together through life before they were separated by Mr. Lockwood's death.

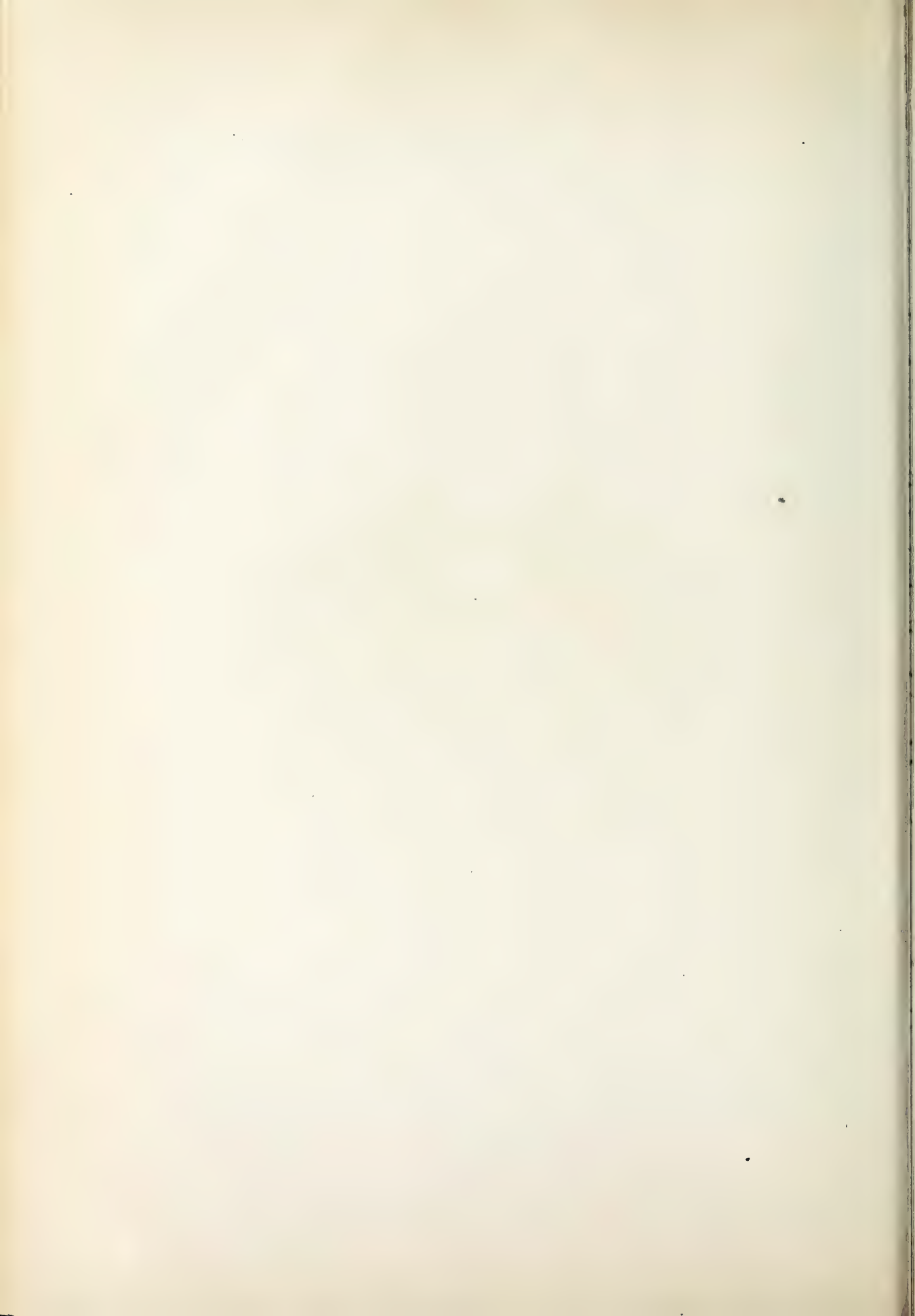
Their only child, Wm. Raymond, was born Jan. 18, 1823. He married Mary E. Roberts, of an old family of Darien. Their children—William, Fannie, and George—are living.

Jacob Lockwood was an agriculturist, and, by judicious calculation, economy, and thrift, from a very humble beginning rose to have more than a competency and to have title-deeds of many a broad acre. He shrank from publicity, but was a selectman and filled various other town offices. He was appointed quartermaster-sergeant in the war of 1812, his commission dating April 21, 1814, but, through noncomplicity with some dishonorable transactions of a superior officer, was discharged September 20th of the same year. He was an honorable man in all business re-





Jacob Lockwood









*Wm. Loomis*



lations, and while he deemed himself entitled to his own, would not exact from a debtor a dollar more than was his due, and ever, under all circumstances, Jacob Lockwood's word was as good as his bond. In the family relation he was a kind husband and father, and his name among his associates was a synonym for worth, integrity, and justice. In his life he was called upon to administer on many estates, and was noted for his skill in unraveling the complicated conditions in which he found many of them involved. Mr. Lockwood died Dec. 26, 1863. His wife survives him.

#### CHARLES ISAACS

was born in Norwalk, Conn., June 7, 1795. His ancestors for many years were leading citizens of the town, and originally, like other Puritan families, came to America from England. His father's name was Isaac S. Isaacs. His mother's maiden name was Susannah St. John. He could claim kindred not only with Gov. Thomas Fitch, from whom he was immediately descended, but with John Fitch, who preceded by some time Robert Fulton in the invention of the steamboat.

When but two years old he lost a most estimable mother, and at the age of ten years his father, who was wealthy, sent him to a boarding-school in Fairfield, in this county, where he remained several years. He was then sent to a school of higher grade in Cheshire, Conn., where he graduated. Mr. Isaacs then commenced for himself the work of life. The first position held by him was teacher, holding that place in the "Down Town" school of Norwalk as early as 1818. By his conduct he made the position both influential and honorable. From the files of the *Norwalk Gazette* we find that on Aug. 17, 1819, he entered into a copartnership with his oldest brother, Benjamin, in the grocery, drug, and medicine trade. This partnership lasted for a number of years. In the same files mention is made of his being collector of taxes in 1824, deputy sheriff in 1831 (which position he held several years), of his dealing alone in hardware and groceries in 1838, postmaster in 1841-1843, and member of Court of Burgesses in 1844.

In April, 1845, Mr. Isaacs was elected high sheriff on the Whig ticket, and in a strong Democratic county, by his personal popularity, received a majority of seven hundred. He was re-elected in 1848 by equally as decisive a vote, running far ahead of his ticket. When collector of taxes, if he found any who said "they could not pay up," he would quietly pay for them, and in all of his official relations he was very popular and made many staunch friends. Not less widely and favorably was he known as an officer of Fairfield County Bank, of which he was director for many years, under the presidency of Henry Belden, Esq., and president for full twenty years. In his business transactions, if perchance he offended any one by his blunt, off-hand ways, he always en-

deavored to make amends and bring about cordiality again.

Nowhere did Mr. Isaacs feel more at home, or distinguish himself more, than in his connection with the courts of justice when Fairfield County bar found no superior in any county in Connecticut. He was honored by the friendship and intrusted with the most important business of its best men. He was a strong and ardent politician, throwing all the energies of his intensely positive nature into the campaign, whether in town, county, State, or national contests. He knew no such thing as fear or defeat, and this applied to all the relations of life. One of the most distinguished men of the county, who knew him well, says, "Charles Isaacs was a Roman, and *the noblest Roman of them all.*"

In social life he was lively, cheerful, and full of fun. He delighted in practical jokes, but his kindness of heart prevented his being severe in them. He was very fond of children, and, indeed, of all young people. Many a young man owes his financial prosperity to the generous aid furnished him, when starting business, by Mr. Isaacs; nor was his generosity confined to them, but reached, in some way, every circle of society.

In official relations firm and prompt to duty's call, in friendship true and loyal, a tender husband and loving father, in all circumstances and everywhere a high, chivalric gentleman, Charles Isaacs lived respected and loved, and died July 18, 1872, leaving an honest and unblemished name and life.

He married Rebecca, daughter of Henry and Rebecca (Fitch) Betts, Nov. 20, 1815. They had one child, Susan, born May 28, 1819. She married Dr. Asa Hill, whose portrait and biography are to be found elsewhere in the history of Norwalk.

#### THOMAS BENEDICT.

From a period dating back to at least 1500, it is said that the first son of the Benedict family has been christened Thomas, and the first American progenitor, Thomas, was the only son for three successive generations, and transplanted the name from old to New England. He was born in 1617, of reported Huguenot ancestry, and emigrated from England in 1638, marrying, shortly after his arrival, Mary Bridgum, his sister-in-law, who came over in the same vessel with him. Stopping not long in Massachusetts Bay colony, he went to the wild, and in winter inaccessible, shores of Long Island, where he was commissioned magistrate, or, to use the quaint old records, "empowered to act in point of government," and "invested with magisterial power on the island." "He was a pillar in the church, the arbiter of differences, civilized or savage." "All sorts of offices clustered around him, forced on him by the popular choice, and everywhere he wrought righteousness." After divers changes, this worthy pioneer settled perma-

nently in Norwalk, Fairfield Co., Conn., about 1665, where all his children married. From them sprang a most numerous family. Mr. Benedict was at once chosen town clerk, and occupied thereafter almost continuously till his death some office of public trust. In the patent granted by the General Court in 1686, confirming the title of Norwalk to its territory, his name is inserted as a patentee. He died at Norwalk "aged about 73 years."

Thomas (2), born in Southold, L. I.; married Mary, daughter of Andrew Messenger, Esq.; moved to Norwalk in 1665-66; was made a freeman in 1669. He died at Norwalk in November, 1688-89.

Thomas (3) was born in Norwalk, Dec. 5, 1670; married Rachel, daughter of Samuel and Rachel (Marvin) Smith. He held many local offices, and was ensign; died May 10, 1743.

Thomas (4), born in Norwalk, Oct. 29, 1701; married Deborah Waters, of Jamaica, L. I. He held many local offices, was highly respected, and died Feb. 11, 1757.

Thomas (5) was born in Norwalk, Feb. 25, 1725; married Hannah, daughter of Capt. John Raymond, of Norwalk. Up to this time the Benedicts of this line seem to have devoted themselves to agriculture. But this Thomas was a merchant in Norwalk. His house, store, cider-mill, and distillery were destroyed July 11, 1779, when the British, under Gen. Tryon, burned the town. Died Feb. 21, 1802.

Thomas (6) was a lad of fourteen when this event occurred, and his reminiscences of it are recorded elsewhere in this history. He married, Oct. 8, 1795, Mary, daughter of Phineas Waterbury, and died Jan. 5, 1852, at the honorable age of eighty-seven years. His love of instrumental music amounted to a passion, and in many respects his memory is peculiarly remembered by his associates. He left the savor of a good name to his descendants, and a comfortable share of this world's goods.

Thomas (7) was born Oct. 7, 1797, on the old homestead, in the same house where his father and grandfather were born, now standing in the borough of Norwalk, Conn., and resided there until he was twenty-six years of age. He married, March 26, 1820, Susan, daughter of Henry and Rebecca (Fitch) Betts, of Norwalk. In 1823 he removed to the place now occupied by him at East Norwalk, where all his children were born, save Mary, whose birth occurred at the old home in 1821. His other children are Thomas (8), born June 27, 1824, married Cornelia A., sister of Hon. Smith M. Weed, and, although residing in Norwalk, is most of his time engaged in mining in Missouri; Elizabeth, born Jan. 5, 1827 (died in infancy); Sarah C. (Mrs. Richard Parmelee), born Feb. 10, 1832; Julia W. (Mrs. George O. Keeler), born Sept. 3, 1834; Edwin, who was born Oct. 24, 1839, married Sarah W. Raymond, of Southport, Conn. He enlisted during the late civil war in the Fifth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers, and served four years. He now resides in Dakota Territory.

Mrs. Benedict died June 16, 1876. Dec. 10, 1876, Mr. Benedict married Betsey Ann Betts, of Wilton. She died Nov. 11, 1879.

Mr. Benedict is a man of originality of character, vivacious and pleasant in his social relations, and possessed of much kindness of heart. He was never "made a freedman," which is done by taking the oath of allegiance to Connecticut and the United States, and consequently has never exercised or possessed the right of suffrage. During his life Mr. Benedict has been engaged in milling, carpentering, farming, and other active pursuits. Always industrious, economical, and saving, he has added much to his handsome patrimony. The declining years of his life are cared for by his daughter, Mrs. Parmelee, and with as vigorous, clear, and active intellect as he has ever possessed, Mr. Benedict is at the present time (August, 1880) a remarkably good type of the sturdy New England race, which has placed its impress on the whole broad continent. Fertile in resources, prompt in action, with physical powers to carry into execution the plans of the mind, the children of this New England race are connected with and stand in the van of every progressive movement for the benefit of mankind. May he be long spared to fill his place in the town of his birth.

#### CAPT. JOSEPH W. HUBBELL.

Joseph W. Hubbell, son of Aaron and Sarah (Silliman) Hubbell, was born Oct. 22, 1800, in Fairfield, Conn. His grandfather, a farmer, was born in Fairfield County, was a member of the Legislature, and died in middle life, much respected.

Aaron Hubbell was also a farmer, and was born, spent his life, and died, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, in Fairfield County.

Joseph W. was reared on the farm of his ancestors till his fifteenth birthday was passed, when, desirous of a more active life than the quiet seclusion of rural occupations, he entered the store of Benjamin Wheeler, of Bridgeport, as clerk. His new avocation continued four years, two of which were spent in the employ of Mr. Wheeler and two in that of Isaac Burroughs. Another and a more responsible position was awaiting our young merchant: he became captain of a vessel running from Bridgeport to New York. In this new sphere, navigation, he was engaged nine years. While occupied in this pursuit he married Mary Ann, daughter of Wm. Parrott, of Bridgeport, Dec. 23, 1823. In 1829, Capt. Hubbell ceased his mariner life, and on July 29th removed to Norwalk and formed a partnership in the milling and mercantile business with Thos. C. Wardin, of Bridgeport. This partnership proved a profitable one, and continued till the death of Mr. Wardin, in 1851, when Capt. Hubbell purchased the interest of his late partner, and continued both milling and merchandising till he lost both mill and the bulk of his property by







*Thomas Benedict*



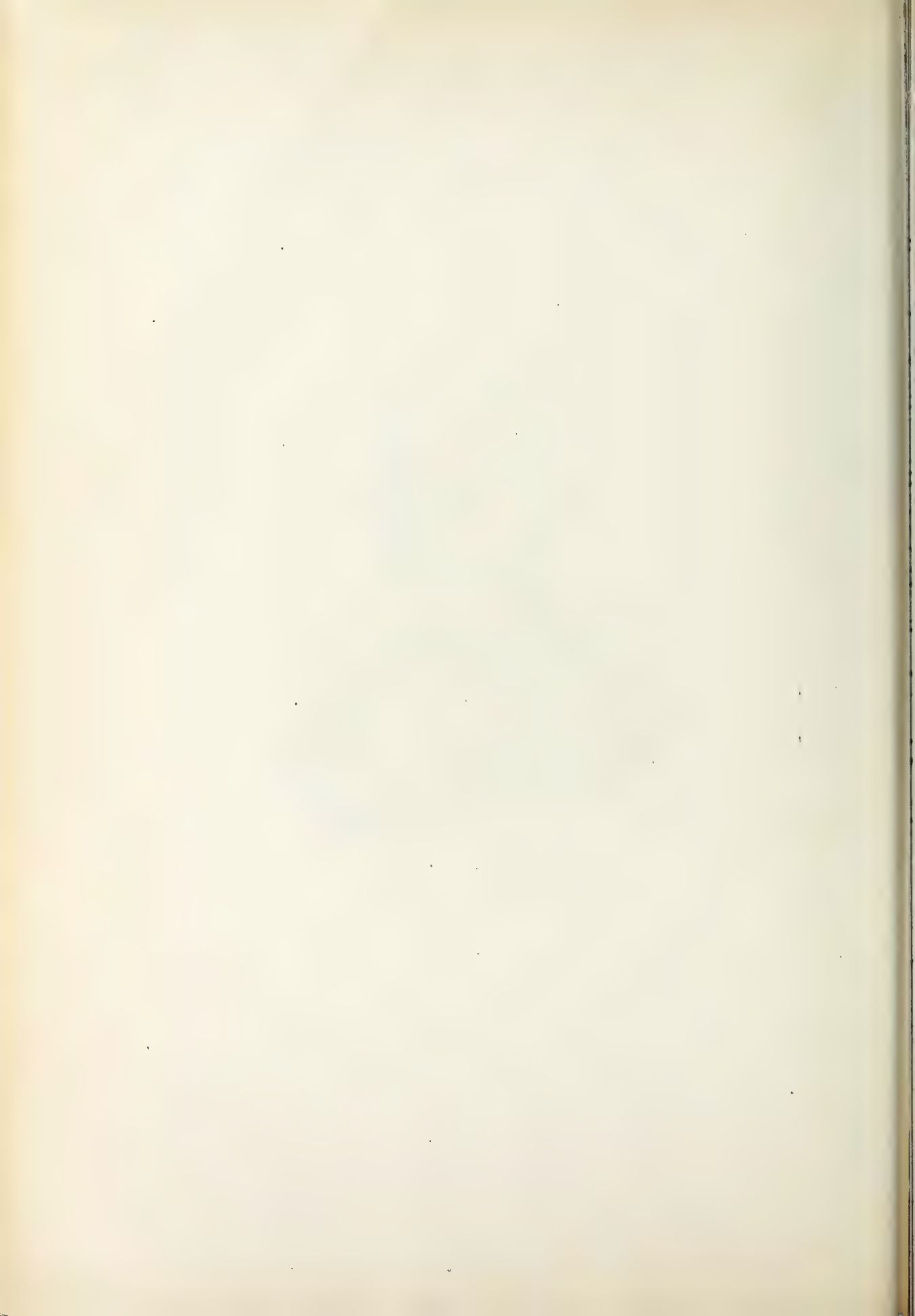


CAPT. THOMAS W. JOSSELL.



CAPT. JOSEPH W. HUBBELL.











ANSON RICHARDS.



*David Mc Gillow*





a great freshet. After this he only continued the mercantile part of his business, building a store for that purpose. In 1856 he went out of merchandising and became the treasurer of the "Norwalk Savings Society." For fourteen years and over he transacted the duties of that position with care, frugality, and honesty, and to the entire satisfaction of his associates.

Capt. Hubbell has been a magistrate for a period covering many years, a selectman for eight years, an assessor for two terms, member of Connecticut Legislature, and was in early life a Whig, but since the organization of the Republican party an earnest supporter of its principles.

For forty years and upwards Capt. Hubbell has been a director of the Fairfield County Bank and its successor, the Fairfield County National Bank. At the present time (July, 1880) he is vice-president of the same. Both Capt. and Mrs. Hubbell became members of the Episcopal Church in 1823. He was vestryman for over thirty years, since then a warden, and is now a senior warden. Mrs. Hubbell died May 8, 1876, and was buried in Norwalk Cemetery. In disposition Capt. Hubbell is kind and genial, a hospitable friend and generous giver to a deserving cause. In business he was accommodating, but careful, economical, and conservative rather than prone to rush hastily into new schemes of brilliant promise. He is enabled, by the prudence of his earlier life, to have a competency of worldly possessions to cheer his latter days, and may well be happy in the esteem and confidence of his many friends of years.

#### ANSON RICHARDS.

One of the old-time families of Norwalk, Conn., is the Richards family. Most of its members have pursued the even tenor of their way as quiet agriculturalists, living to a hale old age.

Anson Richards, second son of Samuel and Mercy Richards, was born in Norwalk, June 2, 1794.

Samuel Richards, Sr., his paternal ancestor, was born April 27, 1770, and died Oct. 2, 1840, much respected.

Samuel Richards, Jr., older brother of Anson, was born Nov. 14, 1791, and died Dec. 6, 1871. He was a stirring, representative man, holding many and prominent positions.

Anson Richards remained with his father on the farm where he now (August, 1880) resides at the advanced age of eighty-six years. In the common schools of his early youth he was an apt scholar, and when about seventeen years of age went to New Canaan as clerk in the employ of Richards & St. John, in a general country store. Here he remained two years. Returning to his birthplace, he assisted his father in agriculture, and after his father's death carried on the farm.

Mr. Richards never sought or cared for office. The only one he ever held was secretary and treasurer of

Union Cemetery Association, left vacant by the death of his brother Samuel.

Mr. Richards married Mrs. Azetta Perkins, daughter of Isaiah Smith, of Stamford, Conn. They had no offspring. Mrs. Richards was born in 1807, and died July 16, 1861.

With the same quietude and tranquillity as that in which his life has passed, Mr. Richards is awaiting the summons for his "going home," secure in the rectitude of a well-ordered life, which has dealt justly with all and held malice for none, and in possession of a competency more than sufficient to supply all the wants of his remaining years.

#### DAVID M. FILLow.

David M. Fillow was born in Wilton, Conn., Jan. 5, 1810. His great-grandfather, James, was of French ancestry, and was probably the first of the name ever in America. He died in 1717, at the advanced age of eighty years, in Westport, where he was buried. He had excellent health until a short time previous to his death. He was social in his manners and believed a laugh much better medicine than physic. He married Mary, daughter of Garner Olmstead. His two sons, Benjamin and Elijah, survived him. His old homestead has but recently passed out of the possession of his descendants.

Benjamin Fillow was born in Norwalk, and was a small boy at the commencement of the Revolution, of which he held vivid recollections. He was probably a soldier of 1812. He was a farmer, highly respected, was a consistent member of the Methodist Church. He never aspired to political distinction; was quiet in his tastes, preferring the home-life of the farm to any other station, but was held in high esteem in the community where he lived for his upright life. His latter years were passed in that portion of Norwalk now included in Westport. He married Clemons, daughter of Denton Gregory. This union was blessed with four children, three of whom—Lewis P., Phœbe, and James—grew to maturity. His death occurred Jan. 6, 1852, aged eighty-six years.

Lewis P. was born Feb. 15, 1787. Like his father, he was a farmer, and a representative one. He was independent in politics. He married Lydia Moorehouse, daughter of Stephen Moorehouse. Their ten children—six sons and four daughters—all lived to maturity and married. In the relations of life he did well his part, and his memory is cherished by a large circle of descendants. Though poor in world's goods, he left an honest name, and passed away March 1, 1866, aged eighty years.

David Moorehouse Fillow was, as a lad, on the farm with his father, and had no such opportunity of acquiring education as the children of this generation, for David was the eldest son of a large family, and the work of earning a livelihood kept both father and son busy, and the only time of school he could



get was in the three months' winter term, and never a day after he was fifteen years old. The winter he was fifteen, instead of going to school, he learned shoemaking, and worked at that trade winters thereafter, his father receiving his wages, until he was twenty-one.

Mr. Fillow married Jane, daughter of Thaddeus Waterbury, of Wilton, Dec. 5, 1830, but did not commence housekeeping until the next year, when the young couple commenced the new home life in what is now Westport. Here they lived eight years. At that time he removed to his present place, which was purchased from his father. For almost forty-one years he has kept his residence here, acting well his part, enjoying much happiness and enduring many sorrows, and in his way doing much to make the history of that part of the town. His first wife died Nov. 9, 1866. She was mother of six, four of whom—Lydia Ann (Mrs. Thaddeus Waterbury), Lewis Burr, William F., and David A.—are living.

Nov. 25, 1868, Mr. Fillow married Mrs. Nancy J. Whitney, daughter of Reuben Blake, of Greenwich.

Mr. Fillow has for years been a member of the First Baptist Church of Norwalk, and from his consistent walk, honesty of purpose, and steady following of Christian principles was called to the position of deacon, which office he has held for the last four years.

In politics Mr. Fillow is a Democrat, and is always loyal to his principles, and, from his conscientiousness, would vote that ticket as well alone as if every one else in town voted it.

## CHAPTER LVI.

### REDDING.

Organization—Topographical—The Indians—Chicken Warrups—The First Grant of Lands—Subsequent Grants—Capt. Samuel Couch's Purchase.

THE town of Redding is an interior town, lying near the geographical centre of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Danbury and Bethel; on the east by Newtown and Easton; on the south by Easton, Weston, and Wilton; and on the west by Wilton and Ridgefield. It is watered by the Saugatuck, Aspetuck, and Norwalk Rivers, and their tributaries, all of which flow in a southerly direction, mingling their waters with Long Island Sound. The surface is hilly and the soil is generally good, particularly on the ridges, which are very fertile.

### INDIANS.

The tract of land embraced within the bounds of the present town of Redding was claimed by a small and unimportant tribe of Indians, composed of a few stragglers or disaffected members of the Potatucks of Newtown, the Paugussets of Milford, and the Mo-

hawks of New York. This motley tribe had their village near the present residence of Mr. John Read, and was presided over by a chief bearing the euphonious name of Chicken Warrups, or Sam Mohawk, as he was sometimes called. It is supposed that he was a sagamore or under-chief of the powerful Mohawks, one of the tribes of the celebrated league of the Iroquois, which inhabited New York, and who for some reason fled from his tribe, and settled on Greenfield Hill. Here he killed an Indian, and fled to Redding. He was a shrewd, cunning, and important character in the early history of the town, and the original deeds were executed by him and one Naseco, a subordinate chief.

Their signatures were as follows:

his  
CHICKENS, *alias* X  
SAM MOHAWK mark.  
his  
NASECO X  
mark.

### THE FIRST GRANT OF LANDS.

The first grant of lands was made to Mr. Cyprian Nichols in 1687, in that part of the town now known as Lonetown. The following is a copy of the grant and survey:

"At a General Court held at Hartford, Oct. 13, 1687.

"This Court grants Mr. Cyprian Nichols two hundred acres of land where he can find it, provided he take it up where it may not prejudice any former grant to any particular person or plantation; and the surveyors of the next plantation are hereby appointed to lay out the same, he paying for it.

"CALEB STANLEY."

Capt. Nichols "took up" his grant in that part of the "obling" which is now Lonetown, as is shown by the following document:

"MARCH 1, A.D. 1711.

"Then laid out ye Grant of two hundred acres of land granted by ye General Court to Capt. Cyprian Nichols, Oct. 13, 1687, as follows,—viz., beginning at a great Chestnut tree marked on ye south and west side, and J. R. set upon it, standing at ye south end of Woolf Ridge, a little below Danbury bounds, thence running west one hundred rods to a Walnut tree marked on two sides, then running south one mile to a red oak tree marked, then running east one hundred rods to a black oak tree marked, then running north one mile to the Chestnut tree first mentioned. An heap of stones lying at ye root of each ye trees. We say then thus laid out by us,

"THOMAS HOYT,

"DANIEL TAYLOR,

"Surveyors of ye Town of Danbury.

"Entered in ye public book of Entries for Surveys of Land, folio 14, per Hezekiah Wylls, Secretary, March 21, 1711."

### SUBSEQUENT GRANTS.

The next grant of land in this locality was made to Daniel Hilton, May 7, 1700, of two hundred acres; and on the 10th of October, 1706, a grant was made to Richard Hubbell, of one hundred acres, as follows:

"MARCH 3RD, A.D. 1711.

"Then laid out ye Grant of two hundred acres of land made by ye General Court to Mr. Daniel Hilton, May 7, 1700, and ye Grant of one hundred acres, granted October 10th, 1706, by ye General Court to Mr. Richard Hubbell, all in one piece as followeth,—viz., Beginning at a Walnut tree

marked, and J. R. upon it, standing a little way North East from ye Hog Ridge between Danbury and Fairfield, thence running two hundred and eighty rods northerly to a Red Oak tree marked, on ye West side of Stadly Ridge, thence running easterly one hundred and eighty-four rods to the Little River at two Elm Staddles and a Red Oak, marked, thence running Southerly, west of ye river, and bounded upon it, two hundred and eighty rods to a bitter Walnut tree marked, thence running one hundred and sixty rods westerly to the Walnut tree first mentioned, thus and then laid out by us,

"THOMAS HOYT,  
"DANIEL TAYLOR,  
"Surveyors of the Town of Danbury."

Mr. Todd in his "History of Redding" says, "These grants were purchased, probably before they were laid out, by Mr. John Read, one of the earliest actual settlers of Redding."

#### CAPTAIN SAMUEL COUCH'S PURCHASE.

In 1712 it was ordered by the General Court that all lands lying between Fairfield and Danbury, not already "taken up" by settlers, should be sold at public auction in the town of Fairfield. This, however, was not sold until August, 1722, when it was bid off by Capt. Couch for himself and Nathan Gold. The inhabitants of Redding claimed that no notice of the sale had been given, and the result was that they grew very indignant, and in the following year presented the following protest and petition to the General Court then convened at New Haven:

#### "TO THE HONOR'BLE THE GENERAL COURT:

"John Read, in behalf of himself and the rest of the farmers or proprietors of farms between Danbury and Fairfield, humbly sheweth,

"That the Hon'ble Nathan Gold, Esq., late deceased, and Peter Burr, Esq., as Agents for ye Colony, held a Vendue lately at Fairfield about ye time of ye Superior Courts sitting yr in August last, and sold to Capt. Samuel Couch, who bid for himself and for s'd Nathan Gold, Esq., all ye land between Fairfield and Danbury not before disposed of for the sum of ———. Yr humble pet'rs conceive the same ought not to be ratified, because ye same was done so unexpectedly and without sufficient notice, none of us most nearly concerned knew any thing of it; if ye order of ye General Court had been freshly passed, ye less notice was need full, but lying ten or twelve years, sufficient notice was not given, and well considered it can't be good. The inconveniences are intolerable, the place is now growing to be a village apace. Ye lands purchased are but ye ——— over and over for farms.

"The remaining Scraps will be a very lean and scanty allowance for a comon, and (are) absolutely necessary to accommodate the place with hiways, and some strips left on purpose for ye use and ye surveying of the farms. Several farms interfere through mistakes, and such interferences must be supplied elsewhere; now in such circumstances it was never the hard fate of any poor place to have ye shady Rock at their door and ye path out of town or about town sold away from them by ye General Court. Therefore humbly praying ye Hon'ble Court to grant ye same to ye proprietors of farms there in proportion for a common and hiways, or if the same seem too much, since some persons have bid a sum for our hiways, we pray to buy them at first hands, and will pay this Hon'ble Court for the same as much as ye Court shall sett upon, and remain your honor's most obedient servants.

"JNO. READ."

When the matter came before the court Mr. Jonathan Sturges deposed as follows:

"Some of the Company began to bid for s'd land, and some of the Company desired that Mr. Stone, who was there present, would pull out his watch and that the time for bidding should be but ten minutes, and the watch was laid down on the table. For a little time the people bid but slowly; but when they perceived the ten minutes to be near out, they began to bid very briskly, and when it came to the last minute the people bid more quickly, and at the last they bid so quick after one another that it was hard to distinguish whose bid it was. At the very

minute the tenth minute ended; but I, standing near the watch, spoke and said, 'The time is out, and it's Capt. Couch's bid, but I am certain Thomas Hill bid twenty shillings more.'"

Mr. Read, however, did not succeed in his attempt to have the sale set aside, and the lands were adjudged to the purchasers. Capt. Couch seems to have disposed of an interest in a part of his purchase to Thomas Nash, of Fairfield, and in 1723 the two received a joint patent for the same. This patent is a curious and valuable document and is given entire:

"Whereas, the Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut, in General Court assembled at Hartford the 8th day of May, Anno Domini, 1712, did order and enact that all those lands (lying within the said Colony) between Danbury on the north, and the towns of Fairfield and Norwalk on the south, should be sold at Public Vendue, and by said act did fully authorize and empower the Hon'ble Nathan Gold and Peter Burr, Esq., both of the town of Fairfield aforesaid, to make sale and dispose of the s'd same lands accordingly and whereas the s'd Nathan Gold and Peter Burr, in pursuance and by force and virtue of the aforesaid act, did by their deed in writing, executed in due form, bearing date this first day of May, Anno Domini 1723, for a valuable sum of money paid by Samuel Couch and Thomas Nash, both of the town afores'd, Grant, sell, and convey unto them the s'd Samuel Couch and Thomas Nash, one hundred acres of s'd land bounded and butted as follows, that is to say, lying within six rods of the north bounds line of the townships afores'd, and on both sides of the road that leads from Norwalk to Danbury, and lying the whole length of the one hundred acres formerly laid out to s'd Thomas Nash, and bounded westerly by the s'd Thomas Nash, and from the northeast corner of s'd Nash, his bound being a black-oak stump that stands on the land and a small box-wood tree marked in course, running northerly sixty-eight degrees, eastwardly thirty-two rods to a white-oak staddle; thence South forty-three degrees and thirty minutes, eastwardly fifty rods to a rock, and stones on the same, that stands on the eastward side of a brook that runs by the southerly end of Umpawaug Hill, between the s'd brook and Danbury road, and from s'd Rock to run North sixty-eight degrees, Eastwardly eighty-six rods to a mass of stones; then South twenty-two degrees, Eastwardly one hundred and thirteen rods to a white-oak sapling, marked, standing on the aforementioned North bounds line of Fairfield; then by s'd line one hundred and forty rods up to the South-East corner of s'd Nash, his one hundred acres, Danbury road being allowed in above measure of six rods wide, and the hiway by the Township's line of six rods wide, and whereas the s'd Samuel Couch and Thomas Nash have humbly desired that they may have a particular grant of s'd Governor and Company made (by Patent) unto them, their heirs, and assigns, for the same land bounded, butted, and described, under the seal of the s'd Colony, know ye, therefore, that the Governor and Company of the s'd Colony, in pursuance and by virtue of the powers granted unto them by our late Sovereign Lord, King Charles the Second of blessed memory, in and by his Majesty's letters-patent under the great seal of England, bearing date the three-and-twentieth day of April, in the fourteenth year of his s'd Majesty's Reign, have given and granted, and by these presents, for them, their heirs, and successors, do give, grant, ratify, and confirm unto them the s'd Samuel Couch and Thomas Nash, their heirs and assigns forever, all the s'd peice or parcell of land, containing one hundred acres, be the same more or less, butted and bounded as afores'd, and all and singular the woods, timber, underwoods, lands, waters, brooks, ponds, fishings, fowlings, mines, minerals, and precious stones upon or within the s'd peice or parcell of land here by granted or mentioned, or intended to be granted as afores'd, and all and singular the rights, members, hereditaments, and appurtenances of the same, and the reversion or reversions, remainder or remainders, profits, privileges whatsoever, of and in the s'd peice or parcell of land or every or any part thereof. To have and to hold the s'd one hundred acres of land hereby granted, with all and singular its appurtenances, unto them the s'd Samuel Couch and Thomas Nash, their heirs and assigns, to and for their own proper use, benefit, and behoof from the day of the date hereof, and from time to time and at all times forever here after as a good, sure, lawful, absolute, indefeasible estate of Inheritance in Fee simple, without any condition, limitation, use, or other thing to alter, change, or make void the same. To be holden of our Sovereign Lord, King George, his heirs and successors, as of his Majesty's Manor of East Greenwich, in the county of Kent, in the Kingdom of England, in free and common socage and not in capitee, nor by Knight service;



they yielding and paying therefor to our Sovereign Lord the King, his heirs and successors forever, only the fifth part of all the oar of Gold and Silver, which, from time to time and at all times hereafter, shall be gotten, had, or otherwise obtained, in lieu of all rents, services, duties, and demands whatsoever, according to charter. In witness whereof, we the s'd Governor and Company have caused the Seal of the s'd Colony to be hereunto affixed the fourteenth day of May, Anno George, Magna Britanniae, &c., Annoque Domini 1723.

"G. SALTONSTALL, .  
Governor."

"By order of the Governor:  
HEZEKIAH WYLLYS,  
Secretary."

Subsequently Capt. Couch purchased of the Indians a tract of land lying in Lonetown, contiguous to the estate of Mr. John Read, and which a few years later he sold to that gentleman. The deed was given by Chickens, and some of its provisions caused considerable trouble to the colonists in later years. This deed is as follows:

"Know all men whom it may concern that I Chicken an Indian Sagamore living between Fairfield, Danbury, Ridgefield, and Newtown, at a place called Lonetown in the county of Fairfield in the Colony of Connecticut, in New England, for and in consideration of twelve pounds, six shillings, already paid unto me by Samuel Couch of Fairfield, husbandman, have given, granted, bargained, sold, confirmed, and firmly made over unto said Samuel Couch, his heirs and assigns forever, all the lands, lying, being and situate between the aforesaid towns of Danbury, Fairfield, Newtown, and Ridgefield, except what has been by letters patent from the Governor and Company of this Colony of Connecticut made over unto any person or persons or for any particular or public use. To have and to hold unto the said Samuel Couch, and to his heirs and assigns forever the aforesaid granted and described lands or unpatented premises, with all the privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or any manner of way appertaining, affirming myself to be the true owner, and sole proprietor of said land and have just, firm, and only right to dispose of the same. Reserving in the whole of the same, liberty for myself and my heirs to hunt, fish, and fowl upon the land and in the waters, and further reserving for myself, my children, and grandchildren and their posterity the use of so much land by my present dwelling-house or wigwam as the General Assembly of the Colony by themselves or a Committee indifferently appointed shall judge necessary for my or their personal improvement, that is to say my Children, children's children and posterity, furthermore I the said Chickens do covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said Samuel Couch, that I the said Chickens, my heirs, executors, and administrators, the said described lands and bargained premises, unto the said Samuel Couch his heirs, etc., against the claims and demands of all manner of persons whatever, to warrant and forever by these presents defend. In confirmation of the above premises I the said Chickens set to my hand and seal this 18th day of February Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and twenty four five Annoque Regis, etc.

his  
"CHICKENS, X Sagamore."  
mark

Although the lands were adjudged to the purchasers, the people did not submit quietly, and in 1725 presented the following unsuccessful petition to the General Court:

"To the Honorable the General Court to be holden at Hartford on the Second Thursday of May, 1725.

#### THE EARNEST PRAYER

Of the inhabitants, and of those that have farms in a certain tract of land lying between Fairfield and Danbury, Newtown and Richfield, with whom the Proprietary of a certain division of Land in Fairfield importunately joins—

"WHEREAS the Honorable General Assembly of this Colony hath in several of their Sessions, been pleased out of their great goodness & generosity to give unto some of your humble Petitioners & to others of

them to sell certain Parcels of Land between the aforesaid towns & many of your Petitioners that they might get a comfortable maintenance & thereby be better able to serve their country have removed from their former habitations with great families of Children unto sd Land where we by ye blessing of God on our Industry have (passed) through (the) many difficulties that generally attend such new & Wooden Habitations and have now yet to go through, which are by us insuperable—but reflecting upon your Honor's accustomed Goodness, ready protection, and willing encouragement towards all such that have been under ye like circumstances as we now are, makes us far from despairing of Living like rational Creatures and Christians in a very few years, and under our present Circumstances we have often the neighboring Ministers preaching ye word of God to us, and when your Honors shall be pleased to grant this our earnest & necessary request our number of Inhabitants will immediately be greatly renewed & we soon able to obtain a Minister & give him an honorable support—and that is to grant the vacant land that lies in slips and pieces between ye Land already given and sold to your Petitioners to lye for a perpetual Comon for ye good of ye Parish: otherwise your poor Petitioners living at a great distance from any place where the public worship of God is attended, must be obliged and their Posterity after them to be soon as the Hathen are—without the outward and ordinary means of Salvation, the Thought of which makes us now most importunately address your Honors with this our Request making no doubt but yt ye desire your Honors have & the great care you have always taken to promote & encourage Religion—will also now be moved to grant your poor Petitioners their Request, it being no more than your Honors have often done even unto every new Plantation, many of which are not nor never will be comparable unto this. Your Honors, granting us this our Request, and it will be as we humbly conceive the most profitable way for ye good of this Colony to dispose of ye land for a perpetual comon, for ye good of a Parish than any other way whatsoever: for a flourishing and large Parish such as we are assured this will make will soon pay more into ye Public Treasury than the whole of the Land would do if it were now to be sold: and not only so, but your poor Petitioners & their Posterity preserved from Heathenism & Infidelity: for if your Honors should not grant the Land for a common for the good of a Parish your poor Petitioners—the most of us at least, must be shut within the compass of our own land, & cant possibly get off unless we trespass, or gain the shift yt the birds of the air have, neither to market nor meeting & we & our Posterity forever unable to have a settled Minister & your Honors may easily conceive how greatly disadvantageous to our Temporal Interest, which is so great an act of cruelty and hardship that never yet was experienced from your Honors & your Petitioners humbly beg they may not: but yt they may be sharers with their neighbors in your Honor's thoughtful care and regard for them—

"And if your Honors in their Prudence and Wisdom shall think it best to sell the aforesaid Land your Petitioners humbly beg they may have the first offer of it, who are always ready to give as much as any shall or will let it lye for a perpetual Common, & your humble Petitioners beg and most earnestly desire the Land may not be sold from their doors or confirmed to any yt pretend they have bought it: for whatever pretended sale there has been made thereof already we humbly conceive that it was not with the proper power & Legality that it ought to be confirmed: and as for its being purchased of the Indian (who both English and Indian acknowledge has a good Indian title to it viz. Chicken, is by what we can learn by the Indian himself & ye circumstances of, a slight peice of policy & we fear Deceit, ye latter of which the Indian constantly affirms it to be, for his design as he saith, and being well acquainted with him, living many of us near him have great reason to believe him, was to sell but a small Quantity, about two or three hundred acres, but in ye deed ye whole of the land is comprehended, which when the Indian heard of it he was greatly enraged, and your Petitioners humbly beg yt such a sale may not be confirmed, lest it prove greatly disadvantageous to this Colony & cause much bloodshed, as instances of ye like nature have in all Probability in our neighboring Provinces—

"Your Petitioners most earnestly & heartily beg that your Honors would think on them & grant them their request, & your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray—

"JOHN READ,	WILLM HILL,
THOMAS WILLIAMS,	DAN'L CROFOOT,
STEPHEN MOREHOUSE,	EBENEZER HULL,
BENJAMIN HAMBLETON,	ASA HALL,
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,	JOSEPH MEEKER,
MOSES KNAPP,	DAN'L LYON,
NATHAN LYON,	THOMAS HILL,
BENAJAH HALL,	GEORGE HULL,

"And we, ye Proprietors of a certain Division of Land in Fairfield called ye Longlots most heartily join with your Honor's above Petitioners in their needful Request to you, & as we your humble petitioners being well acquainted with the circumstances of them—they being our Children Friends & Neighbors & concerned greatly for their welfare do earnestly beg that your Honors would consider how melancholy a thing it is, that these poor people should live destitute of the means of grace for want only of your small encouragement which to give them would not only be most certainly very pleasing to Almighty God but would likewise enrich this Colony if a large & Rich Parish will any ways contribute thereto, & as your Petitioners Land runs to & adjoins to ye aforesaid Vacant Land, We for the good of a Parish, thereby to advantage your above poor Petitioners are willing & very ready to give in Two miles of our land adjoining to the afores'd Vacant Land to be within the Parish; & are assured if your Honors would grant the afores'd Land to be for a Comon there soon would be a Flourishing Parish; & being so well acquainted with the Circumstances of the above Petitioners that we cant but earnestly & Pathetically entreat your Honors to grant their Request.

"& your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray:

"MOSES DIMON,  
JOHN HIDE,  
THO. HILL,  
CORNELIUS HULL,  
ELIZABETH BURR,  
JONA STURGIS,  
JOHN SMITH,  
THAD'S BURR,  
ANDREW BURR,  
SAMUEL WAKEMAN,  
SAMUEL SQUIRES,  
EZEKIEL SANFORD,  
ROBERT TURNER, JR.,

JOSEPH WILSON,  
JOHN WHEELER,  
JOHN STURGES,  
JOSEPH WHEELER,  
THOMAS SANFORD,  
JOHN MOREHOUSE,  
JOSEPH ROWLAND,  
WILLIAM HILL,  
NATHAN GOLD,  
JOHN GOLD,  
ROBERT SILLIMAN,  
DANIEL MOREHOUSE."

## CHAPTER LVII.

### REDDING (Continued).

The First Dwellings—Sketches of the Various Families: Adams, Banks, Barlow, Bartlett, Bartram, Bates, Beach, Benedict, Betts, Burr, Burritt, Burton, Chatfield, Couch, Darling, Fairchild, Foster, Gold, Gorham, Gray, Griffen, Hall, Hawley, Hill, Heron, Hull, Jackson, Lee, Lyon, Lord, Mallory, Meade, Mecker, Merchant, Morehouse, Perry, Platt, Read, Rogers, Rumsey, Sanford, Smith, Stowe, etc.

### THE PIONEERS.

THERE is a tradition that the first three dwellings in this town were built at about the same period,—one in the Boston District, on the site of the present residence of Noah Lee; one in the centre, on the site of Capt. Davis' present residence; and the third in Lonetown, built by John Read, on the place now occupied by Aaron Treadwell's residence.

Although the settlement increased gradually and gave evidence of a healthy growth, still there is no authentic record of the inhabitants until 1723, when we find the following names: Nathan Pickett, Gershom Morehouse, John Hall, Francis Hall, Robert Chauncey, Wolcott Chauncey, Daniel ———,\* William Hill, Jr., Philip Judd, Nathan Adams, Stephen Morehouse, Benjamin Fayerweather, Thomas Bailey, Thomas Williams, Asa Hall, Joshua Hall, David Crofut, John Read, Isaiah Hull, Moses Knapp, Benjamin Sturges, Samuel Hall, John Read (2d), Burgess Hall, Isaac Hall.

The following sketches of the early families of Red-

ding are taken substantially from Mr. Charles Burr Todd's excellent "History of Redding." Some additions and corrections are made by Thomas Sanford, Esq., of Redding, and Mr. A. B. Hull, of Danbury.

### THE EARLY FAMILIES OF REDDING.†

Joseph Adams removed when a young man from Boston to Fairfield, and married, soon after, Joanna Disbrow, of Fairfield. About 1760 he removed to Redding, and settled in Lonetown, on the farm now owned by his grandson, Stephen. His children were Stephen, baptized Aug. 15, 1762; Hezekiah, baptized Sept. 30, 1764; Ellen, baptized Nov. 1765; Abigail, baptized March 6, 1768; Joseph, baptized April 28, 1771; Israel, baptized Jan. 10, 1773; Aaron, baptized July 16, 1775; Nathan, baptized Sept. 6, 1778. Of these children, Stephen enlisted in the Continental army and never returned. Hezekiah married Betty Parsons, and had children: Betsey, who married John Gray and settled in Norwalk; Stephen, now living in Redding, at the age of eighty-nine; Lemuel, now living in Redding, aged eighty-six; Aaron, who removed to the West; and Elinor, who married Hawley Judd. It is related of Hezekiah Adams that, too young to enlist as a soldier in the Revolutionary army, he entered the service as a teamster, and on one occasion drove a wagon loaded with Spanish milled dollars to Baltimore.

Abraham Adams, brother of Joseph, was contemporary with him in Redding. His wife was Sarah ——. Their children were Ann, baptized March 6, 1768; Deborah, baptized April 28, 1771; Sarah, baptized July 31, 1774 (died in infancy); Sarah, baptized Oct. 20, 1776; Eli, baptized Jan. 30, 1780. Family record mentions a son Abraham.

Jesse Banks, a son of Joseph Banks, of Fairfield, removed to Redding at an early day; married, June 11, 1763, Mabel Wheeler (town record says *Mehitable* Wheeler). Their children were Hyatt, born Dec. 9, 1764; Jesse, born Oct. 29, 1766; Joanna, born July 27, 1768; Mabel, born Oct. 2, 1772 (died in infancy); Mary, born June 23, 1774; Mabel, born Nov. 17, 1776.

Jesse married, Dec. 15, 1787, Martha Summers; Mabel married Ebenezer Foot, Aug. 29, 1797. Seth Banks also appears in Redding contemporary with Jesse; married Sarah Pickett, Nov. 20, 1776, and had children: Mehitable, born Jan. 15, 1778, and Thomas; and perhaps others.

The Barlow family in Redding is descended from John Barlow, who appears in Fairfield as early as 1668, and died in 1674. Samuel Barlow, son of Samuel Barlow, of Fairfield, grandson of John Barlow, he a son of the first settler of that name, removed to

† These notes, arranged alphabetically, are not intended as complete histories of the families mentioned, but rather as sketches of the early settlers of the town, and as aids to the genealogist in his researches. For complete histories, the inquirer should consult the ancient records of Norwalk, Stratford, Fairfield, and Danbury, as well as those of Redding. —TODD.

\* Illegible.



Redding about 1740, and settled in what is now Boston District, near the present residence of Bradley Hill. He married, first, Eunice, daughter of Daniel Bradley, of Fairfield, Aug. 2, 1731. Their children were Daniel, born Nov. 24, 1734; Ruhamah, born Jan. 22, 1737; James, born Jan. 29, 1739; Jabez, born March 21, 1742. After the death of his first wife, Samuel Barlow married Esther, daughter of Nathaniel Hull, of Redding, Aug. 7, 1774; she died Aug. 28, 1775, aged fifty-four years. Their children were Nathaniel, born May 13, 1745; Aaron, born Feb. 11, 1750; Samuel, born April 3, 1752; Joel, the poet, born March 24, 1754; Huldah, born —.

Mr. Samuel Barlow purchased his farm of James Bradley for two thousand five hundred pounds. It consisted of one hundred and seventy acres, with "buildings thereon," and was bounded on the north by the first cross highway from the rear of the long lots,—without doubt the road leading from Boston through the centre to Redding Ridge. "This northern boundary," says Mr. Hill, "together with the familiar names of the old owners of property on the other side of the farm, and also the names of such familiar localities on the farm as 'the boggs,' and the 'flat ridge,' and the 'up-and-down road,' leading to each from the main road, mark this farm purchased by Samuel Barlow as being unmistakably the present property of Bradley Hill and the heirs of Gershom Hill. There was on it at the time a good substantial dwelling-house of respectable size, erected by a previous owner, and which stood about four hundred feet west of the present residence of Bradley Hill, on the same side of the street. The house was demolished in 1823. Having purchased this property, Jan. 2, 1749, he undoubtedly located his family on it the following spring, as in subsequent deeds he is recognized as a resident of the 'Parish of Reading.' It was here that Aaron, Samuel, Joel, and Huldah were born. It was here he lived and died, and from here he was buried in the old cemetery west of the Congregational church in Redding Centre."

Of the children of Samuel Barlow, Daniel and Ruhamah died early. James settled in Ridgefield, on a farm of one hundred and thirty acres conveyed to him by his father March 30, 1770. He had four children: Samuel, who removed to the South, Lewis, Abigail, and James, who settled in Vermont. Jabez, the youngest son by the first wife, settled in Ohio.

Nathaniel Barlow married Jane Bradley, who was born May, 1744. Their children were Gershom, born Oct. 21, 1765, died of consumption, Sept. 24, 1794; Esther, born Sept. 30, 1767 (a deaf-mute), died May 10, 1783; Sarah, born Jan. 16, 1770, died April 11, 1845; Jonathan, born April 14, 1772, died Aug. 28, 1775; Betsey, born Aug. 2, 1778, died Sept. 9, 1864; Huldah, born April 3, 1780 (a deaf-mute), died Aug. 29, 1787. Mr. Nathaniel Barlow died Dec. 26, 1782.

Aaron Barlow settled in Redding, on Umpawaug Hill, on a farm purchased by his father several years before. He was a man of ability, tall and of imposing bearing, and served in the capacity of a colonel in the Revolution. He removed to Norfolk, Va., and died there of yellow fever. His children were Elnathan, who died young; Elnathan, died in the war of 1812; Samuel, removed to Ohio; Stephen, a lawyer in Ohio; Daniel, lived and died in Redding; Aaron, died at sea; Esther, died at Norfolk, of yellow fever; Joel, died in Redding; Rebecca, lived and died in Redding; and Thomas, called after Thomas Paine by his Uncle Joel.

Thomas was educated and adopted by his uncle, the poet, and accompanied him to France as his private secretary. He was also his companion on the fatal journey to Wilna. After the death of his uncle Thomas returned to America and established himself as a lawyer in Pittsburgh, Pa., and died there.

Samuel Barlow, the third son by the second wife, was a soldier in the Revolutionary army, and died at Rhinebeck, N. Y., on his return from the expedition against Ticonderoga. A stone to his memory was erected in the old cemetery in Redding, near the Congregational church, and which is still standing.

Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett, second pastor of the Congregational Church in Redding, became a resident in 1753, and so remained until his death, in 1810. He married, June 13, 1753, Mrs. Eunice Russell, of Branford, Conn. Their children were Russell, baptized June 9, 1754; Daniel C., baptized Jan. 16, 1757; Anne, Feb. 25, 1759; Eunice, April 26, 1761; Jonathan, Oct. 14, 1764; Lucretia, March 27, 1768. Russell married, Feb. 28, 1776, Rachel Taylor, and had children: Clare, baptized March 30, 1777, and Flora, baptized Aug. 29, 1779. Daniel C. married Esther Read, Jan. 7, 1778, and settled in Amenia, N. Y., where some of his descendants now reside. Rev. Jonathan married, first, Roda, daughter of Lemuel Sanford; second, Betsey Marvin, of Wilton; and third, Abigail, daughter of Lemuel Sanford. He had no children.

David Bartram removed from Fairfield to Redding as early as 1733, in which year he appears as surveyor of highways. He was a farmer, and settled in Lonetown. He had five sons and three daughters born in Fairfield,—viz., David, Paul, James, Daniel, born Oct. 23, 1745, John, Mabel, Hannah, and Betsey. All the sons settled in Redding. David married, April 30, 1762, Phebe Morehouse, by whom he had Joel, David, John, Jonathan, Hulda, Hepsy, and Phebe. (Family record.) Paul married, Sept. 19, 1756, Mary Hawley. Their children were Joseph, born Jan. 28, 1758 (died in infancy); Mary, born May 12, 1760; Sarah, born Aug. 6, 1762; Eunice, born Jan. 3, 1765; Eli, born March 30, 1767; Ruth, born Jan. 7, 1769; Ezekiel, born July 9, 1770 (town records); Ezra, baptized May 9, 1773; Joseph, baptized March 10, 1776. (Family record mentions a daughter Olive.)

Of these children, Mary married Jabez Burr, and removed to Clarendon, Vt.; Sarah married Milo Palmer, and removed to the same place; Eunice married Daniel Parsons, of Redding; Eli married Dolly Lyon, of Redding, and about 1804 removed to Delaware Co., N. Y. His children were William, Belinda, Phebe, and Lodema. Ezekiel married Esther, daughter of Jonathan Parsons, of Redding. Their children were Mary, Jared, Milo, Clarissa, Elizabeth, Jehu, Sarah, Elias, Ezra, Phebe, and Noah. One of his sons, Jehu, studied law and rose to eminence in the profession; was judge, representative, and senator. Ezekiel moved to Ohio at an early day and settled in Marion, where he resided until his death, March 15, 1845. Ezra was a sailor; married Elinor, daughter of Chauncey Merchant, of Redding, and, quitting the sea, removed to Delaware Co., N. Y., where he died shortly after, leaving children: Joel M., Ezra, Uriah, and Lucy. Joseph removed first to Vermont, and afterwards to Tioga Co., N. Y. Olive married Justus Stillson, of Redding, and removed to Groton, N. Y.

James Bartram, son of David, settled in Redding; was a private in the Revolution; married Hannah Morehouse, who became the mother of twenty-one children, ten only of whom survived. These were Isaac, born April 15, 1758; Noah, born 1760; James, born 1770; Aaron, born Feb. 21, 1784; Lucy, Hannah, Betsey, Irena, and Anna.

Of these children, Isaac settled in Redding; married Molly Hamilton, by whom he had children as follows: Isaac, Harry, David, Willis, Chasie, Lucy, Polly, and Huldah. Aaron also settled in Redding, married Eunice Jenkins, and raised a large family of children.

Daniel, fourth son of David, also settled in Redding, was a tanner and currier by trade, and built the first works of the kind in the town, on the ground now occupied by Walter M. Edmonds for the same purpose. He married, Oct. 10, 1768, Ann Merchant, of Redding. Their children were Esther, born April 16, 1770; Gurdon, born Oct. 25, 1771 (died in infancy); Anna, born Jan. 23, 1773 (died in infancy); Elinor, born March 1, 1774 (died in infancy); Gurdon, born Sept. 21, 1776; Anna, born Aug. 10, 1778 (married — Mead; settled in Ridgefield); Elinor, born Feb. 4, 1780 (died in infancy); Uriah, born Jan. 9, 1782; Elinor, born Oct. 28, 1783 (married — Nash; settled in Marion); Julilla, born Nov. 12, 1785 (married — Bangs; settled in Central New York); Levi, born Nov. 26, 1787; Phebe, born Sept. 19, 1790 (married — Curtin); David, born June 5, 1795.

At the time of Tryon's invasion, with nearly every other man in the town capable of bearing arms, Daniel Bartram joined the militia and marched to the defense of Danbury. Being absent several days, he sent word to his wife that she must get some one to take the hides from the vats or they would spoil. There was not a man to be found; and so the brave woman,

leaving her four small children to amuse one another, caught her horse, hitched him to the bark-mill, ground the bark, took the hides out, turned and re-packed them, and had just seated herself at the dinner-table when her husband rode up, having gained leave of absence for the purpose of attending to the matter.

John Bartram, son of David the first, married, Sept. 19, 1756, Charity Bulkley. Family record mentions two children,—Sally and Samuel.

Elias Bates was received to church-membership in Redding Jan. 19, 1745; his wife, Sarah, March 4, 1748. There is no hint of his previous residence, and he probably came here direct from England. His children recorded in Redding were Justus, baptized July 26, 1747, and Sarah, baptized Feb. 2, 1752; by a second wife, Tabitha —, Walker, baptized Jan. 6, 1760, Elias, baptized Feb. 16, 1761, died in infancy.

John Bates, probably son of Elias, married Esther —. Their children were Ezra, baptized March 23, 1760 (died in infancy); John, baptized July 25, 1762; Sarah, baptized May 5, 1764; Esther, baptized Aug. 23, 1767; Nathan, baptized March 25, 1770; Aaron, July 1, 1772; Martha and Slawson, Jan. 26, 1778.

Justus Bates, son of Elias, married Hannah Coley, May 23, 1770. They had one child, Elias, baptized Oct. 4, 1772, who married, Nov. 9, 1793, Lydia Andrews, of Redding, and was the father of three children: Walker, born June 4, 1796; Amaziah, born May 17, 1801; Harriet, born May 21, 1804.

John Beach, missionary of the Church of England in Redding, was born in Stratford, Conn., Oct. 6, 1700. His father was Isaac Beach, son of the John Beach who came from England in 1643. He graduated from Yale College in 1721. He married, first, Sarah —, who died in 1756, and, second, Abigail Holbrook, who after his death returned to Derby. He had in all nine children. Those who had families were Joseph, born Sept. 26, 1727; Phebe, born 1729 (married Daniel Hill, of Redding; died 1751, leaving a son Abel); John, born 1734 (married Phebe Curtis; died in 1791); Lazarus, born 1736; had two children,—viz., Lazarus, born 1760, and Isaac, born 1773.

Lazarus inherited his father's land in Redding, at Hopewell, near which he built his house. Lazarus Beach, Jr., was of a literary turn, and edited a paper at Bridgeport, and afterwards at Washington, D. C. On his journey to the latter place he lost his trunk or valise, containing the Beach manuscripts and all his materials gathered for the purpose of writing a memoir of his distinguished grandfather. He built the house now standing near Mr. Godfrey's. Isaac Beach built the house now occupied by Hull B. Bradley. The Rev. John Beach lived about thirty to forty rods south of the church, probably on the site of the old Capt. Munger house, which has long since disappeared; the well is still used by Mr. E. P. Shaw. Lucy, daughter of the Rev. John Beach,



married Rev. Mr. Townsend, and was lost at sea on her passage to Nova Scotia, probably at the time of the great exodus of loyalists after the Revolution. The mother of James Sanford, Sr., was the daughter of Lazarus and granddaughter of Rev. John Beach.

The Benedicts were a Norwalk family, and settled quite largely in Ridgefield. The first of the name found in Redding was Thaddeus Benedict, who was a lawyer and town clerk for a term of years. His house stood in the lot adjoining the Congregational parsonage, near the site of the present residence of Joseph Squire. His law-office was under the great elm in front of his house. He married Deborah Read, July 12, 1775, daughter of Col. John Read, who bore him several children.

Lieut. Stephen Betts, a prominent character in the Revolution, lived on Redding Ridge, in a house that stood on the corner, nearly opposite the former residence of Francis A. Sanford. He was an active Whig, and was taken prisoner by the British on their march to Danbury, in 1777. He had a son Daniel and two or three daughters, of whom there is no record. His son Daniel was a merchant for a while in Redding Ridge, and then removed to New Haven, where some of his children are now living.

Among the earliest settlers of Redding were Jehu, Stephen, and Peter Burr, sons of Daniel Burr, of Fairfield, and brothers of the Rev. Aaron Burr, president of Princeton College. They all appear at about the same time,—viz., 1730. In October of that year Stephen Burr was elected a member of the First Society committee of the parish. He married Elizabeth Hull June 8, 1721. Children: Grace, born Dec. 12, 1724; Elizabeth, born Jan. 17, 1728; Hezekiah, born Sept. 1, 1730; Sarah, born Nov. 9, 1732; Martha, born March 24, 1735; Esther, born Feb. 5, 1743; Rebecca. He married, second, Abigail Hall, of New Jersey. He lived in a house that stood where Dr. Gorham later built his residence. His only son, Hezekiah, died December, 1785, unmarried. Of the daughters, Grace married Daniel Gold, Elizabeth married Reuben Squire, Sarah married Joseph Jackson, Martha married Zacariah Summers. Esther married Antony Angevine, and Rebecca married Seth Sanford. Deacon Stephen Burr died in 1779. Of him Col. Aaron Burr wrote in his journal in Paris: "My uncle Stephen lived on milk-punch, and at the age of eighty-six mounted by the stirrup a very gay horse and galloped off with me twelve miles without stopping, and was, I thought, less fatigued than I."

Peter Burr first appears in Redding as clerk of a society-meeting held Oct. 11, 1730. His children were Ellen, baptized Sept. 19, 1734; Sarah, baptized Feb. 21, 1736; Ezra, baptized Jan. 2, 1737; Edmund, baptized Sept. 28, 1761. Peter Burr died in August, 1779; his children shortly after removed to Virginia.

Jehu Burr and wife were admitted to church-membership in Redding Dec. 24, 1738. None of his children were recorded in Redding, and none, so far

as known, settled there. He owned property in Fairfield, and probably spent the last years of his life there.

Jabez Burr, son of Joseph Burr, of Fairfield, and his wife Elizabeth appear in Redding as early as 1743. Their children were Elijah, baptized May 15, 1743; Nathan, born Jan. 1, 1745; Jabez —; Ezekiel, born March 23, 1755; Stephen, born Jan. 16, 1757; Joel, born Sept. 9, 1759; Eunice, Huldah, and Hannah. Jabez Burr died in 1770. He is said to have settled in the Saugatuck Valley, near the present residence of Stephen Burr, and to have built there the first grist-mill in the town. Of his children, Elijah married Roda Sanford, April 2, 1767, and had children,—Lemuel and Elizabeth,—and by a second wife, Eunice Hawley, married April 27, 1773, Joseph, Roda, John, who died of yellow fever in the West Indies, and Lucy, who married Jonathan Knapp, of Redding. Nathan, the second son, removed to Pawlings, Dutchess Co., N. Y., in 1792, and there founded a numerous and wealthy family. Jabez, the third son, married Mary, daughter of Paul Bartram, and removed to Clarendon, Vt., in 1786. He had one son, Aaron. Ezekiel married Huldah Merchant, of Redding, who bore him three children: Aaron, who lived and died in the house now owned by Capt. Davis; William, who removed to Kentucky in 1816; and Huldah, who married Daniel Mallory in 1806 and removed to the West.

A son of William Burr is now president of the St. Louis National Bank. Another son, George, a teller in the same institution, was the companion of Prof. Wise in his late fatal balloon expedition, and shared the fate of the aeronaut. Stephen Burr married Mary Griffin, of Redding. His children were Clara, Mary, Stephen, and Ezekiel. Joel Burr married Elizabeth Gold, and settled in Ballston Springs, N. Y.

William Burritt and wife were admitted members of the church Dec. 9, 1739. No hint of their previous residence is given. Their children recorded at Redding were Mary, baptized Dec. 16, 1739; Abijah, Jan. 18, 1741; Roda, Oct. 24, 1742; Sybil, Feb. 19, 1744. Gershom Burritt appears at the same time. His son Solomon was baptized Aug. 5, 1739; Noah, Jan. 31, 1842; Nathaniel, Oct. 17, 1743; Isaac, July 21, 1745.

Benjamin Burton, son of Solomon, was baptized Dec. 19, 1742. Ruth, a daughter, was baptized Oct. 7, 1744. Solomon Burton and his wife were church-members July 5, 1741.

Samuel Chatfield and wife were admitted church-members July 29, 1733. Their children recorded were Samuel, baptized July 29, 1733; Daniel, baptized Aug. 31, 1735; Sarah, April 17, 1737; Martha, baptized May 20, 1739.

Capt. Samuel Couch, of Fairfield, was one of the largest landholders in Redding at one time, and was largely instrumental in its settlement. He was, however, never resident here. Ebenezer Couch appears

here as early as 1739. His children recorded were Daniel, baptized July 29, 1739; Adea, baptized Sept. 19, 1742; Elijah, baptized July 26, 1747; Thesde, Jan. 26, 1755.

The following children of John Couch and his wife Elizabeth are recorded: John, baptized March 20, 1748; Stephen, Jan. 21, 1753; Adria, baptized April 20, 1755; Elizabeth, baptized July 17, 1757; Samuel, baptized Aug. 30, 1758.

At an early day nearly the entire district of Couch's Hill was purchased by Mr. Simon Couch, of Fairfield, who gave his name to the district purchased. His wife was Abigail Hall, a member of a notable Fairfield family. His will, dated March 2, 1712-13, is still in the possession of Mr. Nash Couch, of Couch's Hill, who is a lineal descendant. In this will he gives his "Negro man Jack" and "negro maid Jinne" to his wife, in addition to other bequests. His children mentioned in the will were Simon, Jr., Thomas, Abigail, Hannah, Sarah, Isabel, and Deborah. Thomas was lost at sea while on a voyage to England. Simon settled on his father's estate in Redding; married, Jan. 27, 1753, Rebecca, daughter of Capt. Thomas Nash, of Fairfield. Their children, as given in the genealogy of the Nash family, were Abigail, baptized Feb. 10, 1754 (died young); Simon, born May 18, 1755 (settled at Green's Farms); Thomas Nash, born April 18, 1758 (settled at Redding); Rebecca, born Jan. 31, 1761; Abigail, baptized Jan. 27, 1765; Lydia, born Oct. 20, 1767. Deacon Simon Couch died April 25, 1809.

Thomas Couch, of Fairfield, removed to Redding prior to the Revolution, and settled on Umpawaug Hill. He married, April 2, 1772, Sarah, daughter of Jonathan Nash, of Fairfield. Their children were Sarah, born Aug. 9, 1773 (died young); Thomas, born Sept. 23, 1774; Jonathan, born Feb. 13, 1777 (father of Maj.-Gen. Couch, distinguished in the war of the Rebellion); Sarah, born Sept. 18, 1779; Nathan, born Sept. 25, 1781; Esther, born Dec. 14, 1783; Moses, born Oct. 2, 1786; Edward, born March 7, 1789; Hezekiah, born March 14, 1791; Mary, born April 21, 1793; John, born July 28, 1795. Mr. Thomas Couch died in Redding in 1817.

At the outbreak of the Revolution, Thomas Couch enlisted in the patriot army, and was one of the band of heroes who were present with Montgomery at the siege of Quebec. He left his wife with their young children in Fairfield. When Tryon moved on that town, Mrs. Couch had what furniture and grain she could gather put into an ox-cart, drawn by two yoke of oxen, and started for Redding, where she owned land in her own right. She followed on horseback, carrying her two children in her arms. At the close of the war Thomas joined his wife in Redding, where they continued to reside until death.

Simon Couch, brother of Thomas, settled in Redding, on Umpawaug Hill, about the same time. He married, Jan. 7, 1776, Eleanor, daughter of Jonathan

Nash, of Fairfield. Their children were Elizabeth, born Oct. 9, 1776; Jessup, born Aug. 3, 1778; Seth, born Aug. 31, 1780; Eleanor, born Aug. 26, 1782; Simon, born Dec. 1, 1784; Nash, born April 23, 1787; Priscilla, born June 27, 1790; Edward, born July 14, 1792; Simon A., born Dec. 6, 1794; Caroline, born June 23, 1801. Simon Couch died April 16, 1829. Of the children, Simon and Jessup graduated at Yale College. Jessup graduated in 1802, and in 1804 removed to Chillicothe, Ohio, where he practiced law until his appointment as judge of the Superior Court of Ohio in 1815; this office he continued to hold until his death, in 1821. In the war of 1812 he was also aide-de-camp to Governor Meigs, of Ohio, and bearer of dispatches to Gen. Hull.

Simon Couch, his brother, settled at Marion, Ohio, where he practiced medicine until his death, in 1826.

Eunice Darling, daughter of Joseph Darling, was baptized Jan. 25, 1736; Benjamin was baptized April 13, 1738; Martha, Jan. 11, 1741; Joseph, November, 1743.

Thomas Fairchild removed to Redding from Norwalk in 1733; was one of the original members of the church. His wife, Mary, was admitted Jan. 29, 1738. Their children recorded were Timothy and William, baptized Oct. 22, 1738; Sarah, April 12, 1741; Abigail, May 27, 1744; Mary, Oct. 27, 1745.

Abraham Fairchild, probably brother of above, came from Norwalk in 1746, and built the first fulling-mill in the town, near the site later occupied by Deacon Foster's woolen-mill. His wife was Sarah Scribner, of Norwalk. Their children were Abraham, born Jan. 1, 1745 (died aged seventeen); Ezekiel, born Oct. 26, 1746; Daniel, born Dec. 26, 1748; Isaac, born March 4, 1751; David, born June 5, 1753; Samuel, born July 9, 1755; Stephen, born March 7, 1758; Rachel, born Feb. 2, 1761; John, born March 15, 1764; Ellen, born Oct. 16, 1767. Six of these brothers were in the Revolutionary army at one time. David was captured by the British, and confined in Trinity church, New York. The smallpox was communicated to the prisoners,—it is said with design,—and he with many others died of the disease. Stephen was wounded at Ridgefield, but recovered; married Lizzie Fitch, of Wilton. Their children were Daniel, Kier, Isaac, Ellen, and Stephen. Ezekiel married Eunice Andrews and had four children,—Abraham, Sarah, Abigail, and Burr; Daniel married Betsey Mead, and removed to the West; Isaac married Rachel Banks, and removed to Liberty, N. Y.; Samuel married Nabie Platt, of Redding, and had two children,—Aaron and Betsey; John married Abigail Wakeman, of Weston, and had children: Eli, David, Rachel, Moses, Henry, and Eliza; David married Charlotte Guyer, of Weston, and had children: Eli, William, David, Mary, and John. Rachel married Seth Andrews, of Redding; Ellen married Minott Thomas, a Baptist clergyman.

Stephen, Samuel, and John built a grist-mill at an



early day on the site of the one later known as Treadwell's mill. It was carried off by the great freshet of 1807, and the large stock of grain it contained was scattered over the meadows below. They also owned a saw-mill just below, and sawed plank for the soldiers' huts in the Revolution.

Reginald Foster, the founder of the family in America, came to this country in 1638 with his five sons,—Abraham, Reginald, William, Isaac, and Jacob,—and settled at Ipswich, Essex Co., Mass. Jacob Foster was the ancestor of the Redding family. Jonah Foster settled in Redding about 1775; married Hannah Benedict, of Ridgefield, and shortly after removed to that town, and there resided until his death, in 1815. His son, Joel Foster, was born in Redding Nov. 8, 1780, and lived in Ridgefield with his parents until his marriage with Esther Seymour, in 1802. In 1803 he removed to Redding, and bought of Moses Fox a small place on which was a fulling-mill and other conveniences for cheapening cloths. This mill stood a little below the present bridge over Nobb's Crook Brook, and the ruins of its dam are still to be seen. In 1804, Mr. Foster built an addition to his fulling-mill building, which was leased to Zalmon Toucey, of Newtown, and in which Toucey erected a carding-machine, paying a yearly rent of twenty dollars.

How long Mr. Toucey's lease continued is not known, but he probably soon relinquished it to Joel Foster, as the latter continued the business until about the time of the opening of the war of 1812, when a company was formed, styled Comstock, Foster & Co., who built a woolen-factory a few rods below the old fulling-mill, and continued the manufacture of woolen goods during the entire period of the war, being very successful. The company, a few years after the war, was bought out by Joel Foster, who continued the business until the burning of his factory, in 1843 or 1844, when he retired. Mr. Foster died in 1854, aged seventy-four years. He had four children, all born in Redding: Daniel, Betsey, Eliza, and Charles F.

Daniel, Samuel, and Stephen Gold (now written Gould), brothers, members of a Fairfield family that had been prominent in Church and State for several generations, were among the early settlers of the town, though none of their descendants are now found among us. Daniel appears first; he married Grace, daughter of Deacon Stephen Burr, and lives where James Lord now lives. His children, as named in the will of Deacon Burr, were Abigail, who married Richard Nichols; Esther, who married Nathaniel Northrop; Sarah, who married David Turney; Mary, who married Seth Price; and Elizabeth.

Samuel Gold settled in Lonetown, and built the house now owned by Seth Todd. He was a soldier in the Revolution, and was wounded at the skirmish in Ridgefield. Some of the officers of Putnam's command had their quarters at Mr. Gold's during their encampment in Redding. He married Sarah Platt,

of Redding. Their children were Hezekiah, Daniel, Burr, Aaron, Sarah, Polly, and Grace. Stephen Gold settled on the farm later owned by Timothy Platt in Lonetown. He is called captain in the records. He did not long remain a resident of Redding, but returned, it is said, to Greenfield.

Isaac Gorham and his wife, Ann, first appear on the parish records Jan. 25, 1762, when their son Isaac was baptized. There is no hint of their former residence, but they were probably from Fairfield. There is no further record of children.

Daniel Gray and wife were admitted church-members Dec. 5, 1742; John Gray and wife, Feb. 9, 1744, on the recommendation of Rev. Mr. Dickinson, of Norwalk.

The only child of Daniel Gray recorded was James, baptized May 8, 1743. The children of John Gray were Hannah, baptized July 1, 1744; Joseph, July 15, 1753; Eunice, Jan. 2, 1755; and (by a second wife, Ruamah) Eunice, baptized April 13, 1760, and Joel, Sept. 11, 1763.

Stephen, son of Stephen and Sarah Gray, was baptized May 10, 1747; also Huldah, a daughter, Dec. 14, 1760; Hannah, Oct. 3, 1762; Sarah, June 17, 1764. James Gray, only son of Daniel, married Mabel Phinney, Feb. 9, 1764. Their children were Jesse, baptized April 14, 1765; perhaps others.

John Griffin appears in Redding as early as 1736. His children were Sarah, baptized May 9, 1736; Annie, baptized Oct. 22, 1738; Jonathan, baptized Nov. 23, 1746. He settled in West Redding, near the Danbury line.

The Halls were among the earliest settlers in Redding, the name appearing on the earliest petitions from the parish. In 1730, at the distribution of the estate of Samuel Hall, he is said to be of Chestnut Ridge, in Reading. His children, as given, were Ebenezer, Johannah, Jemima, and Rebecca. Isaac Hall, whose farm lay contiguous to Samuel's, was one of the original church-members, and was recommended by Rev. Mr. Chapman; he died in 1741. Asa Hall and Rachel, his wife, were admitted March 23, 1736, on the same recommendation. There is no mention of children.

Joseph Hawley and wife were admitted church-members in December, 1740, on recommendation of Rev. Mr. Gold of Stratford. Their children recorded were Mary, baptized Feb. 7, 1742; Ruth, Nov. 5, 1746; Eunice, Oct. 25, 1750. Joseph Hawley died Dec. 12, 1771, aged sixty-six years. William Hawley, who appears in Redding as early as 1762, was probably his son. He lived where James Miller now lives; married Lydia, daughter of Capt. Thomas Nash, of Fairfield, July 12, 1758. Their children were Lydia (died in infancy); Joseph, born June 23, 1762 (settled in Redding); Lydia, born Dec. 13, 1763 (married Aaron Sanford, of Redding); William (died in infancy); Bille, born Feb. 9, 1767 (removed to the West); Hezekiah (died in infancy); Hezekiah, born

March 10, 1772; Lemuel (died young, of smallpox). William Hawley died Feb. 16, 1797; Mrs. Lydia Hawley died April 26, 1812.

The founder in America of the Hill family was William Hill, who on his arrival here, about 1632, settled first at Dorchester, Mass., and shortly after removed to Windsor, on the Connecticut River, where he bought land and set out an orchard. At an early day he removed to Fairfield, and was among the early settlers of that town. He died in 1650. His children were Sarah, William, Joseph, Ignatius, James, and Elizabeth. William, the second child, married Elizabeth —. Their children were Sarah, William, Joseph, John, Eliphalet, Ignatius, and James. William, the third, married —, and had children, — Sarah, William, Joseph, and David. William Hill, the fourth, married Sarah —. Their children were Joseph, William, and David. Deacon Joseph Hill, born April 1, 1699, married Abigail Dimon March 30, 1731. The children of this marriage were Abigail, born March 21, 1732; Sarah, born Aug. 21, 1733; David, born April 22, 1737; Ebenezer, born Feb. 26, 1742; Jabez, born June 17, 1744; Moses, born Jan. 11, 1748. Of the sons, only Ebenezer, Jabez, and Moses married. Ebenezer married Mabel Sherwood, Jan. 17, 1765. Their children were David, Ebenezer, Seth, Dimon, Joseph, Mabel, Eleanor, Jabez, and Esther. Ebenezer, his second son, married Sarah, daughter of Nathaniel Barlow, brother of the poet, in May, 1791. He removed to Redding early in life, and settled in Boston District. His children were Mabel, Nathaniel B., Gershom, Ebenezer, Moses, and Jabez. Jabez Hill, son of Deacon Joseph Hill, settled in Weston; was a major in the army of the Revolution; married Sarah, daughter of Col. John Read, of Redding. The children of this marriage were Sarah, John Read, and Moses. Sarah married Timothy Platt, of Redding. John Read settled in Redding at an early day, and became one of its wealthiest and best-known residents. He began his business career by engaging in the manufacture of lime, and on his retirement, in 1823, purchased the "manor" of his grandfather, Col. John Read, where he continued to reside until his death, in 1851. He married, March 23, 1799, Betsy, daughter of Aaron Sanford, of Redding. Their children were Aaron Sanford, Moses, William Hawley, Betsy, John Lee, Morris, Lydia, and Joseph.

Moses Hill, a son of Deacon Joseph Hill, married Esther, daughter of Ebenezer Burr, of Fairfield, June 17, 1773. The children by this marriage were William, Abigail, and Esther. William married Betsey, daughter of Nathaniel Barlow, brother of the poet, and had children, — Bradley, Abigail, Horace, Burr, and William.

In Revolutionary days, and before, 'Squire Heron lived in the now ancient house on Redding Ridge, just south of the Episcopal church. He was a native of Cork, Ireland, a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and a man of much ability and force of character.

It is said that he had taught the academy in Greenfield Hill before coming to Redding, and had also surveyed the old stage-route from New York to Boston. I cannot determine the precise date of his arrival here, but it was some time prior to the Revolution. In that memorable struggle he sided with the king, and was the recognized leader of the company of Tories on Redding Ridge. At the time of Tryon's invasion he openly gave aid and comfort to the enemy. After the war he became a prominent character in the town, and, although somewhat bigoted and imbued with the Old-World notions of caste and social distinctions, is said to have exercised a great deal of influence in public affairs, especially at town-meetings. "We must keep down the underbrush" was a favorite remark of his in speaking of the common people. The following story, illustrating in a marked manner the customs of the day, is related of him:

At one of the annual town-meetings Mr. Hezekiah Morgan, a somewhat illiterate man, was nominated for grand juror. 'Squire Heron, in laced waistcoat, ruffles, and velvet breeches, and aiding himself with his gold-headed cane, arose to oppose the motion. "Mr. Moderator," said he, "who is this Kier Morgan? Why, a man brought up in Hopewell Woods: he fears neither God, man, nor the devil. If elected, who will be responsible for his acts? Will you, Mr. Moderator? or I? Why, sir, he can arrest anybody: he can arrest Your Honor, or even myself;" and with like cogent reasons succeeded in defeating the obnoxious candidate.

'Squire Heron died Jan. 8, 1819, aged seventy-seven years, and is buried in the old Episcopal churchyard on Redding Ridge. His children were William, Maurice, Elizabeth, Lucy, Elosia, Margaret, and Susan. William never married. He lived on the old homestead in Redding all his days, and was a man much respected in the community. His brother Maurice graduated at Yale College, and shortly after was killed by a steamboat explosion on the Connecticut River, near Essex.

George Hull, the ancestor of the Hulls of Fairfield County, appears in Dorchester, Mass., in 1630. He died in Fairfield in 1659. His will, dated Aug. 25, 1659, mentions sons, Josias and Cornelius, and several daughters. His son Cornelius married Rebecca, daughter of Rev. John Jones, the first minister of Fairfield, evidently Nov. 29, 1653, as that is the date he is given a homestead by his father on the occasion of his marriage. His will, of the date Sept. 16, 1695, names three sons—Samuel, Cornelius, and Theophilus—and three daughters,—Rebecca, Sarah, the wife of Robert Silliman, and Martha, wife of Cornelius Stratton. Robert Silliman was the father of Ebenezer Silliman, and grandfather of Gen. Gold Sellick Silliman, of Revolutionary fame, and great-grandfather of Benjamin Silliman, LL.D., the distinguished professor of chemistry and mineralogy in Yale College.

Cornelius, second son of Cornelius Hull (1st), mar-



ried Sarah, daughter of the first Ezekiel Sanford. Their children were George, Sarah, Rebecca, Nathaniel, Ebenezer, Elizabeth, Martha, John, Eleanor, and Cornelius. Deacon George Hull was prominent in the first settlement of Redding, particularly in the formation of the church. He was moderator of the first parish-meeting, a member of the first parish committee, and first deacon of the church. He also appears on numerous committees. He and his wife, Ebenezer and wife, and Theophilus and wife were among the original church-members in 1733. John Hull was admitted April 18, 1736. All of them removed from Greenfield Hill. Cornelius, George, and Ebenezer were commended to the church at Greenfield Hill from the first church in Fairfield, and Theophilus from the church in Green's Farms in 1726.

Deacon George Hull married Martha, daughter of Samuel Gregory, of Stratfield. His children recorded in Reading are Seth, baptized July 29, 1733, and Rebecca, May 25, 1735. He died Feb. 9, 1769, aged eighty-three. Seth Hull married Elizabeth Mallory. His children recorded in Reading are Abigail, born Jan. 28, 1762; Jonathan, Oct. 25, 1763; Eliphalet, Dec. 18, 1765; Walter, Nov. 21, 1767; Lazarus, Jan. 16, 1770; Hezekiah, March 24, 1792; Martha, April 28, 1794. Besides these were Elizabeth and Sarah. Jonathan married Eunice Beach, granddaughter of Rev. John Beach, and was the father of Rev. Lemuel Beach Hull, former rector of Christ Church in Redding. Martha married David Belden, an Episcopal clergyman. Seth Hull died April 5, 1795.

Nathaniel Hull was born in 1695, and reared Sarah, Elizabeth, Esther, Stephen, Nathaniel, Peter, Ezekiel, David, Aaron, Silas, and Hannah. Silas married Huldah Goodsell, Nov. 26, 1761; she died young, leaving two daughters,—Hannah and Huldah. He married Ellen Bradley, Dec. 25, 1765; their children were Bradley and David. His third wife was ——— Smith, of Ridgefield, who died leaving no children. His fourth wife was Elizabeth Hoyt, who had a daughter, Sally. Silas Hull died in 1803. Bradley Hull, son of Silas and his second wife, Ellen Bradley, married Mary Chapman, daughter of Jedediah Hull. Their children were Burr, Pamela, Charry, Silas, Aaron B., Mary Chapman (who died in the third year of her age), Mary (who also died young), and Charles R. Bradley Hull's second wife was Susan Hubbell. Their children were Bradley H., Moses Chapman, Le Grand, and Cornelia.

The children of Ebenezer were Daniel, Ebenezer, Nehemiah, and Abigail. Daniel married Mary, daughter of Stephen Betts, Nov. 10, 1748, and removed from Redding to Berlin, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., in 1770; he was one of the first settlers of that town. He died Aug. 26, 1811, aged eighty-nine years. He had ten children,—viz., Martha, Hezekiah, Justus, Abigail, Peter, Esther, Daniel, Stephen, Harry, and Ebenezer. Justus was one of the first ministers of the Second Baptist Church in Danbury, and is re-

puted to have been a preacher of more than ordinary ability. He was in the ministry fifty-six years, and died in Berlin, N. Y., May 29, 1833, at the age of seventy-eight. His children were Justus P., Emerson, Polly Ann, and Alonzo Grandison. The last named is a physician, and resides in New York. He was a successful practitioner in London for twelve years. Ebenezer married and emigrated to the West.

John Hull removed to Redding when in middle life. He went with the provincial troops in the expedition against Cuba in 1741, and died of what the historian terms an "extraordinary sickness" which broke out among the troops, represented to have been "nearly as mortal as the plague. Of nearly one thousand men from New England not one hundred returned." He directed that his musket carried in the wars should be sent home to his eldest son, Timothy; he to leave it to his eldest son, and that it should descend in this manner to the eldest son as long as it existed. Thus it has fallen in regular descent to Mr. Aaron B. Hull, of Danbury, the great-grandson of the original owner. Before enlisting Mr. Hull made his will, dated Sept. 16, 1740, in which he mentions sons—Timothy, James, and John—and daughters,—Anna, Abigail, and Esther. Timothy was born Sept. 4, 1726, and married Anna, daughter of John Gray, Dec. 14, 1749. He died April 29, 1800. His children were Hannah, born July 27, 1751, married Samuel Mallory, and died in Danbury, Sept. 4, 1836; Sarah, born Feb. 5, 1754, married John Fairchild, and removed West; Ezra, born April 5, 1756, and died in Redding, March 5, 1837. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Onesimus Coley. His children were Eunice, born July 6, 1785, married Hiram Jackson, died in Kingston, N. Y., May 3, 1862; Laura, born Aug. 4, 1788, married John Eckert, and died in Springfield, Otsego Co., N. Y., Nov. 17, 1865; Polly, born Nov. 29, 1798, died in Kingston, N. Y., Sept. 28, 1876. Elizabeth, the wife of Ezra Hull, died Feb. 28, 1809.

He married widow Mary Bradley, daughter of Gershom Banks, of Fairfield, June 20, 1810; she died in Wilton, April 17, 1854. The children of this marriage were Ezra Bradley and Charles, who both died young, and Aaron B. Ezra Hull served in the Revolutionary war, and participated in those events which transpired during Governor Tryon's expedition to and the burning of Danbury. Eunice, fourth child of Timothy Hull, was born Aug. 26, 1757; married George Perry, and emigrated to Kentucky; John, born June 26, 1759, married Sarah Fairchild, died in Redding, April 7, 1838 (his children were Aaron, Ezekiel, Hezekiah, Abraham, and Polly); Abraham, born March 30, 1761, married Lois Starr, died in Danbury, Oct. 29, 1831 (his children were Betsey, Annis, Lucy, and Maria); David, born March 22, 1763, died in Redding, March 19, 1847 (he married Chloe Lee, and had children,—Daniel, Harry, and Lucy); Samuel, born June 22, 1766 (he married Anna Wakeman,

and had one child, a daughter Eliza; he died in Redding, July 19, 1846); Hezekiah, born Oct. 22, 1769, died in Danbury, July 26, 1852 (he married Hannah Starr, and had an only child, a daughter, named Eliza); Anna, born Dec. 7, 1771, married Lemuel Burr, died in Redding, Dec. 20, 1840; Abigail, eleventh, and youngest child of Timothy Hull, born Nov. 17, 1775, married Timothy Perry, died in Miamisburg, Ohio, March 16, 1844.

The will of James, the second son of John Hull, of the date of April 26, 1799, mentions no children. He died Feb. 20, 1805, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. John married Molly Andrews, Feb. 3, 1763. His children recorded are Eleanor and Molly. His will, bearing date June 24, 1815, mentions no children, but names his grandson, John Goodyear, and the son of his grandson, Hull Goodyear, and two others, names not given, but which were undoubtedly Munson Goodyear and Ellen, wife of Harry Meeker.

Cornelius, the youngest son of Cornelius Hull (2d), and Abigail, daughter of Robert Rumsey, were married Aug. 24, 1731. Their children were Jedediah, Eunice, Grace, Eliphalet, Abigail, Sarah, and Ruey. Jedediah Hull was second lieutenant under Col. David Wooster in the army which invaded Canada in 1758. He married Mary Chapman, May 2, 1761. He died Feb. 14, 1796. His children were Denny, Eunice, Chapman, Mary Chapman, and Cornelius, and, by a second wife, Jedediah. Denny and Chapman settled in Redding. The children of the first-named were Mary, Denny, Isaac Platt, and Eunice. Chapman's were Morris, Henry C., and George.

The Redding records contain the marriage of Nehemiah Hull and Grizzle Perry, Feb. 5, 1767. Nehemiah, probably his son, married Sarah Jackson. Twin daughters were born to them, Dec. 7, 1792, and were named Sally Betsy and Betsy Sally. The first-named married Theophilus B., son of Zalmon Hull, and the other Morris, son of Chapman Hull.

Theophilus Hull, of Fairfield, youngest son of Cornelius Hull (1st), married Mary, daughter of Ezekiel Sanford (1st). His will, dated June 4, 1710, gives the names of sons—Theophilus, Eliphalet, John, and Jabesh—and daughters,—Mary and Ann. His oldest son, Theophilus, removed to Redding, and was one of the first deacons of the church there. From him descended Zalmon, Sarah, and Lydia Hull. Zalmon's sons were Hezekiah, Theophilus B., and Henry L., and his daughters Lydia and Sally. The descendants of Cornelius and Theophilus Hull, once so numerous in Redding, are now, especially those of the latter, scarcely represented there, having removed to other localities.

Ephraim Jackson and his wife, Martha, removed to Redding from Green's Farms, Fairfield, in 1748, and were admitted church-members the same year. He died April 28, 1765, aged sixty-five years. The children of his son, Ephraim Jackson, were as follows: Aaron, baptized Nov. 12, 1767; Mollie, bap-

tized July 23, 1769; Peter, Sept. 8, 1771; Hezekiah, Feb. 27, 1774. David Jackson appears in Redding as early as 1763; was probably son of Ephraim; married, Nov. 18, 1762, Anna Sanford. Their children were Ezekiel, baptized Oct. 23, 1763; David, Feb. 2, 1766; Anna, Sept. 30, 1770 (died in infancy); Anna, Sept. 14, 1772; and, by a second wife, Esther, Moses, baptized Dec. 11, 1774; perhaps others. Ezekiel, son of David, married Hannah Gray, April 30, 1786 (town record). Their children were Anna, born Dec. 21, 1786; Hiram, born April 22, 1788; Samuel, born Dec. 29, 1789; Clarissa, born Dec. 25, 1792; Laura, born Feb. 28, 1794; Harriet, born Dec. 18, 1795. Harriet married Gideon H. Hollister, of Woodbury, and became the mother of Judge Gideon H. Hollister, the historian of Connecticut.

William Lee and wife were admitted church-members May 23, 1742. Their children recorded were Daniel, baptized Jan. 8, 1744; Abijah, baptized Sept. 21, 1745; Abigail, baptized May 5, 1748; William, baptized April 5, 1753; Seth, baptized March 23, 1755.

Joseph Lee and wife were admitted May 8, 1737. Their daughter Mary was baptized May 8, 1743.

Among the original members of the church at its organization in 1733 appear the names of Daniel Lion and wife, of Benjamin Lion and wife (recommended by Rev. Mr. Gay), and Richard Lion and wife. All settled in the southeastern part of the town, near what is now the Easton line. The record of their families is as follows: Child of Daniel: Jonathan, baptized April 12, 1741. Children of Benjamin: Bethel, baptized May 29, 1733; John, baptized Aug. 22, 1736; Samuel, baptized Aug. 20, 1738; Phebe, baptized Feb. 24, 1740. Richard Lion died in January, 1740, aged eighty-seven years.

David Lord was admitted church-member in 1744, recommended by Rev. Mr. Parsons, of Lyme. His children were David, baptized July 8, 1744; Elizabeth, baptized March 5, 1749; perhaps others.

Jonathan Mallory and wife were admitted church-members Dec. 22, 1735, on recommendation of Rev. Mr. Chapman. She was Elizabeth Adams. They were married April 10, 1735. Their children were Jonathan, baptized Jan. 11, 1736; Eliza, baptized Dec. 17, 1738; perhaps others. Peter Mallory married Joanna Hall, Feb. 28, 1737. Children: Rebecca, baptized Feb. 5, 1738 (died in infancy); Rebecca, baptized Jan. 13, 1739. Ebenezer Mallory and Hannah Keys were married Feb. 6, 1744; no children found. Daniel Mallory and Sarah Lee were married Nov. 30, 1748. Their children were Daniel, baptized Oct. 25, 1750; Nathan, Aug. 25, 1754; Abigail, April 24, 1757; Sarah, May 15, 1763; Joseph, baptized Feb. 12, 1767. Eunice, daughter of Daniel Mallory, Jr., and his wife Rachel, were baptized Sept. 5, 1779. Samuel and Charles Mallory were born April 6, 1780. The names of the parents are not given. Charles Mallory was the father of Stephen



Mallory, United States senator from Florida, and later Secretary of the Confederate Navy.

Stephen Meade, the first of the name in Redding, appears as early as 1755. He married Rachel Sanford, daughter of Ephraim Sanford. Their children were Jeremiah, born March 22, 1752; Ezra, baptized Jan. 19, 1755; Hannah, baptized May 9, 1756; Esther, baptized Aug. 17, 1760; Thaddeus, baptized Oct. 25, 1761; Stephen, baptized Jan. 24, 1768. Stephen Meade is called lieutenant and captain in the records. He was a man quite prominent in town affairs; was elected the first clerk of the town at its organization, in 1767, and held other important offices. He lived in the centre, on the site of the present residence of Thomas Sanford.

Benjamin Meeker and wife were admitted church-members June 4, 1747. She was Catharine Burr. They were married July 20, 1745. Their children were Witely, baptized June 7, 1747; Esther and Eunice, baptized Aug. 13, 1755; Azariah, baptized Feb. 5, 1769. Daniel Meeker married Sarah Johnson, July 10, 1744. Their children were Elnathan, baptized July 26, 1747; Jared, baptized Jan. 29, 1749; Rebecca, baptized Jan. 20, 1751; Louis, baptized March 28, 1753; Josiah, baptized July 17, 1757.

About the same time appear David Meeker and Robert Meeker. The former married Hannah Hill, Oct. 31, 1744; the latter, Rebecca Morehouse, Sept. 19, 1746. No record of children. Joseph Meeker appears as early as May 4, 1735, when his son Isaac was baptized.

Gurdon Merchant married Elinor Chauncey (probably of Fairfield), Dec. 9, 1747. Their children were Amelia, baptized Feb. 5, 1749; Chauncey, Feb. 25, 1753; John, baptized Aug. 31, 1755; Elinor, Jan. 8, 1758; Gurdon, March 16, 1760; Joel, June 6, 1762; Phebe, May 20, 1764; Silas, May 8, 1766. Gurdon Merchant was the first town treasurer, and held other offices of trust. The family figures quite prominently in the later history of the town.

Gershom Morehouse and wife were admitted members of the church May 8, 1737, on recommendation of Rev. Mr. Hobart, of Fairfield; also Jonathan Morehouse, July 5, 1741. There are no children of Gershom Morehouse recorded in Redding. The Gershom Morehouse who married Anna Sanford, Jan. 18, 1748, was probably his son. The children of the second Gershom Morehouse were Ezra, baptized April 28, 1754; Bille, baptized July 18, 1756; Aaron, baptized June 4, 1758; Jane, baptized Nov. 4, 1760; Ann, baptized June 19, 1764; Hill, baptized May 5, 1765; Lucy, baptized July 12, 1767; Betty, baptized Aug. 6, 1769; Elizabeth Ruth, baptized Nov. 10, 1771; Polly, May 15, 1774; Polly, baptized May 4, 1777. The children of Jonathan Morehouse were Joanna and Mary, baptized April 13, 1738; Hannah, baptized June 3, 1739; Elijah, baptized March 11, 1742; Phebe, baptized May 27, 1744; Ruth, baptized June 14, 1747.

Ebenezer Perry removed to Redding, probably from Stratford, in 1735, in which year he was admitted church-member. His children were John, baptized May 10, 1741; Ebenezer, June 12, 1743; probably others.

Daniel Perry, son of Joseph Perry and Deborah Burr, of Fairfield, removed to Redding about 1770 and settled in the southwestern part of the town. He married, first, Mary, daughter of Peter Sturgis, of Fairfield, and, second, Sarah Wilson. His children, all by the second wife, were Grissel, born Feb. 10, 1745-46; Daniel, born April 15, 1747; John, born Dec. 30, 1748; Deborah, born Oct. 8, 1750; George, born Nov. 26, 1752; Isaac, born Nov. 3, 1754; Thomas, born Feb. 21, 1757. Of the sons, two at least, Daniel and John, settled in Redding. Daniel married, Feb. 19, 1772, Elizabeth Gorham, of Greenfield. His children were Timothy, baptized Jan. 10, 1773; Isaac, baptized Aug. 23, 1778; perhaps others.

Timothy Platt was admitted a church-member May 10, 1741, on recommendation of Rev. Mr. Chapman. But one child is found,—Abigail, baptized April 8, 1736; married Nathaniel Hill, May 28, 1754. He was probably father of the Timothy Platt who married the sister of John R. Hill and settled in Lonetown, on the farm now owned by Henry Adams. Obadiah Platt, who appears in Redding as early as 1737, and Jonas Platt, who, with his wife Elizabeth, was admitted church-member Feb. 5, 1749, were probably his brothers. Timothy Platt died Dec. 5, 1769, aged sixty-two years. The children of Obadiah Platt were Mary, baptized Feb. 20, 1737; Elizabeth, May 15, 1739. Jonas Platt married Elizabeth Sanford, Oct. 17, 1747. Their children were John, baptized Feb. 5, 1752; Daniel, Aug. 11, 1754; Eunice, May 30, 1756. He removed to New York.

Hezekiah Platt appears in Redding as early as April 4, 1762, when his son Justus was baptized. His other children recorded were Hezekiah, Jan. 16, 1764; William, May 18, 1766; Griswold, Dec. 1, 1767; Robert, Sept. 1, 1771.

John Read, perhaps the earliest settler of Redding, was one of the most eminent men of his day. He was born in Connecticut in 1680, graduated from Harvard College in 1697, studied for the ministry, and preached for some time at Waterbury, Hartford, and Stratford. He afterwards studied law, and was admitted an attorney at the bar in 1708, and in 1712 was appointed queen's attorney for the colony. In 1714 he bought of the Indians a large tract of land in Lonetown and settled there. He continued to reside in Redding until 1722, when he removed to Boston, and soon became known as the most eminent lawyer in the colonies. He was attorney-general of Massachusetts for several years, and also a member of the Governor's council. He died in February, 1749, leaving a large estate. His wife was Ruth Talcott, daughter of Lieut.-Col. John Talcott, of Hartford, and sister of

Governor Joseph Talcott. They had six children: Ruth, born (probably) in Hartford in 1700, died in Redding, Aug. 8, 1766 (she was the wife of Rev. Nathaniel Hunn, first pastor of the church in Redding; they were married Sept. 14, 1737); John, born in Hartford in 1701, lived in Redding at the "Lone-town Manor," and was a leading man in his day in the colony; was much in public life, both civil and military, and was noted for his public spirit, patriotism and piety. He married twice. His first wife was Mary —, a Milford lady; his second wife was Sarah Bradley, of Greenfield Hill. His children were William, who married Sarah Hawley, of Redding; Zalmon, who married Hulda Bradley, of Greenfield; Hezekiah, who married Anna Gorham; John, who married Zoa Hilliard; Mary, wife of John Harpin; Sarah, wife of Jabez Hill, and afterwards of Theodore Monson; Ruth, wife of Jeremiah Mead; Deborah, wife of Thomas Benedict, a lawyer; Mabel, wife of Levi Starr; and Esther, wife of Daniel C. Bartlett, son of Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett. One of his children, a lad of four years, fell into a burning coal-pit in 1739, and was so badly burned that he survived but a few hours. His father wrote a letter to his father in Boston, informing him of the melancholy event, and his father sent back a letter in reply. Both of the letters are yet preserved, after a period of one hundred and forty years, and are both remarkable for the piety and Christian resignation manifested in them. The other children of John Read were William, born in Connecticut about 1710 (was a lawyer in Boston, and afterwards a judge in several of the courts there; he lived a bachelor, and died in 1780, aged seventy years); Mary, born (probably) in Reading, Conn., April 14, 1716 (married Captain Charles Morris, of Boston, afterwards of Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he was for many years chief justice of the courts; they had nine sons and two daughters); Abigail, married Joseph Miller, of Boston; Deborah, married a Mr. Willstead, and, afterwards, Henry Paget, of Smithfield, Rhode Island.

To the above sketch we add that Col. John Read, son of the Mr. John Read mentioned, appears as one of the original members of the First Society in 1729, and was the Col. John Read so often referred to in the town records. His "manour" comprised nearly all of what is now Lonetown, and his manor-house stood on the exact site of Mr. Aaron Treadwell's present residence. He had a fenced park, in which he kept deer, nearly opposite the present residence of William Sherwood.

Mr. George Read, of Redding Centre, has a very interesting collection of old papers belonging to the colonel, such as wills, deeds, account-books, etc. In one of them directions are given his men about feeding the deer, letting the cattle into the long meadow, etc. Another is Mr. Read's commission as colonel, and is of sufficient interest to warrant its insertion here. It is as follows:

"THOMAS FITCH Esq., Governor and Commander in chief of his Majesty's Colony of Connecticut in New England, to John Read Esq., Greeting:

"Whereas you are appointed by the General Assembly of said Colony to be Colonel of the Fourth Regiment of Horse in said Colony. Reposing special trust and confidence in your Loyalty, courage, and good conduct, I do by these presents constitute and appoint you to be Colonel of said Regiment. You are therefore to take the said Regiment into your Care and charge as their Colonel, and carefully and diligently to discharge that Care and Trust in Ordering and Exercising of them, both Officers and Soldiers in Arms according to the Rules and Discipline of War, keeping them in good Order and Government, and commanding them to obey you as their Colonel for his Majesty's service, and they are commanded to obey you accordingly, and you are to conduct and lead forth the said Regiment, or such part of them as you shall from time to time receive orders for from me, or from the Governor of this Colony for the time being, to Encounter, Repel, Pursue, and Destroy by force of Arms, and by all fitting ways and means, all his Majesty's Enemies who shall at any time hereafter in a Hostile manner, attempt or enterprize the Invasion, Detriment or Annoyance of this Colony. And you are to observe and obey such Orders and Instructions as from time to time you from Me, or other your Superior Officers, pursuant to the trust hereby Reposed in you and the laws of this Colony.

"Given under my hand and the seal of this Colony, in New Haven, the 3d Day of November, in the 31st year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second, King of Great Britain &c. Annoque Doms. 1757.

"By His Honor's Command.

"THOS. FITCH.

"GEORGE WYLLYS, Secty."

James Rogers was a prominent man in his day, and filled many responsible offices in town. He appears as early as 1762. His children were Joseph, born Oct. 31, 1762; Chloe, born Oct. 24, 1766; James, born April 28, 1768; Haron, born Aug. 22, 1770 (town record).

Joseph Rumsey appears in Redding as early as 1747. His will, dated Dec. 27, 1754, mentions his wife, Sarah —, and children, Isaac, Sarah, Joseph, Daniel, William, and Ephraim.

The will of Daniel Rumsey, of Reading, probated March 10, 1761, mentions his father, Robert, and brothers, John Rumsey and Seth Hull.

John Rumsey settled in Redding. His children by wife Esther were Abigail, baptized Feb. 19, 1751; Rachel, baptized Feb. 25, 1753; Mary, June 5, 1755; Nathan, Aug. 8, 1756; David, Jan. 28, 1759; Mary, June 15, 1761; Esther, May 13, 1764; Eben, Feb. 4, 1768.

Isaac Rumsey married Abigail St. John, May 23, 1761. Children: Abigail, born Dec. 25, 1761; Jeremiah, born May 23, 1762; Ruth, born Dec. 29, 1763; Noah, born March 28, 1768.

The Sanford family is one of the oldest and most numerous in the town, having been founded by four persons of the name, who removed here from Fairfield when the country was first opened to settlers. The names of these four settlers were Nathaniel, Lemuel, Samuel, and Ephraim.

The first two were original members of the church; the last two joined it during the first year of its existence,—viz., in 1734. According to Savage, Ephraim Sanford, who settled in Milford, and married Mary Powell, of New Haven, in 1669, had children,—Mary, Samuel, Ephraim, Thomas, Nathaniel, and Zacariah.



Samuel, Ephraim, and Nathaniel are no doubt identical with those who settled in Redding, as they were elderly men with families when they removed here.

According to the above-named authority, Ezekiel, eldest son of the above Thomas Sanford, was freeman in 1669 and died in 1683, leaving a widow, Rebecca, and children, Ezekiel, Thomas, Sarah, Mary, Rebecca, Martha, and Elizabeth. Ezekiel,\* eldest son, settled in Fairfield, and in his will, dated Jan. 29, 1729, mentions two sons, Lemuel and Ezekiel. Lemuel settled in Redding, as above stated. Thomas Sanford, father of Ezekiel and Ephraim, was the first of the name in America.

We shall trace the families of these ancestors in Redding in the order of their arrival here. Nathaniel Sanford settled in Umpawaug. His children recorded were Abel H., baptized March 25, 1733; Ruth, baptized May 12, 1737; Esther, baptized May 27, 1744.

We have no further record of this family.

Lemuel Sanford settled in the centre. He was one of the first committee-men of the society, and prominent in public affairs. He married — Squire, of Fairfield. Their children were Hezekiah, probably born in Fairfield; Sarah, baptized Sept. 19, 1734; Anne, baptized Nov. 1, 1736; Lydia, baptized June 4, 1738; Lemuel, baptized April 20, 1740; Ezekiel, baptized July 4, 1742; Anne, baptized Oct. 7, 1744; Roda, baptized Feb. 26, 1749.

Hezekiah married Hannah —, and settled in the centre, on the farm now owned by Mr. Delavan. His children were Aaron, baptized May 29, 1757; Hannah, baptized Aug. 26, 1759; William, baptized Oct. 14, 1764; Eunice, baptized June 7, 1772; Huldah, baptized May 18, 1777.

Aaron, his eldest son, settled in the centre, and lived in the house now owned by Mrs. Connors. He was the first male member of the Methodist Church in New England, and was the leader of the little class organized in Redding in 1790. The Methodist preachers in their rounds always found a home with him, and often held their meetings in his house. Later in life he became an acceptable local preacher in that church. He married Lydia Hawley, daughter of William Hawley, Nov. 2, 1780. Their children were Betsey, born Oct. 5, 1781; Hannah, born May 31, 1784; Aaron, born July 8, 1786; Hawley, born July 16, 1789; Jesse Lee, born July 27, 1791; Eunice, born Aug. 10, 1793; Walter, born Feb. 18, 1796; Charlotte, born Jan. 8, 1800; Lydia, born Sept. 23, 1803; William A., born Jan. 15, 1807.

Aaron Sanford, Jr., settled on Redding Ridge, in

the eastern part of the town. He married, Dec. 19, 1813, Fanny Hill, daughter of Andrew L. Hill. Their children were eleven in number: Andrew H., Daniel, Mary, Clara, Henry, Aaron, Fanny, Jesse L., Mary, Elizabeth, John, and Julia H.

Hawley, the second son, married Betsey Stow, Nov. 2, 1814, by whom he had two children, Russell and Betsey. On the death of his wife he married, second, Sarah Ketchum, Nov. 20, 1823. The children of this marriage were Francis A., Aaron K. (now presiding elder on the Poughkeepsie District), Hawley, Lydia, David, Morris, and Mary. Walter, the third son, married, Dec. 6, 1821, Harriet M. Booth. They had one son, Charles. Walter Sanford married, second, Emily Gorham. William Sanford, the fourth son, married Harriet Tuttle, May 2, 1832. Of the daughters, Betsey married John R. Hill. Hannah married the Rev. Aaron Hunt, a Methodist clergyman, celebrated in his day as being the first to successfully contest the old colonial law which forbade all ministers except those of the "standing order" to perform the marriage ceremony. Mr. Hunt was at one time located and resided for several years in Redding. Charlotte married Thomas B. Fanton; Lydia married Aaron Sanford Hyatt.

Lemuel Sanford, second son of Lemuel Sanford, settled in the centre, near his father. He married, Sept. 20, 1768, Mary Russell, of North Branford, Conn. The circumstances attending his marriage are thus narrated: He left Redding on horseback early on the morning of his wedding-day, but was delayed on the road, and did not reach Branford until midnight. By that time the wedding-guests had dispersed and the family had retired; but he roused them up, collected the guests, and the ceremony was performed. The next day bride and groom returned to Redding, traveling on horseback. The children of Lemuel and Mary Sanford were Lemuel, born July 18, 1769; Rhoda, born March 4, 1773; Mary, born May 18, 1776, married Dr. Thomas Peck; Abigail, born 1779 (died in infancy); Jonathan R., born Feb. 11, 1782; Abigail, born April 18, 1784; Lucretia, born May 4, 1786.

Mr. Lemuel Sanford died March 12, 1803, at Danbury, in the performance of his duties as judge of the County Court, leaving a most honorable record. He had filled all the positions of honor and trust in his native town, and during the Revolution had been a member of the committee of supply, the duties of which kept him absent in Danbury and Fairfield nearly the whole period of the war. He several times represented the town in the General Assembly, and also held the office of associate judge of the County Court.

Lemuel Sanford, eldest son of Judge Sanford, after being educated at President Dwight's famous academy on Greenfield Hill, returned to Redding, married Mary Heron, daughter of 'Squire Heron, and settled in the centre, on the farm now owned by Albert Gorham. He was a man of much ability, and quite prom-

\* Mr. E. J. Sanford, of Knoxville, Tenn., sends me the following account of Ezekiel Sanford, which he derived from Rev. Thomas F. Davies: Ezekiel Sanford was an English engineer, and had charge of the erection of the stockade fort at Saybrook, at the mouth of the Connecticut River, for protection against Indians. He afterwards removed to Fairfield and built the first mill in the county, at Mill River, for which he received a large grant of land from the English government.—TOWN.

inent in town affairs. He had but two children, Julia and Mary. The eldest, Julia, married Rev. Thomas F. Davies, who for a time was settled in Green's Farms as a Congregational minister. Mary married Dr. Nehemiah Perry, of Ridgefield, the father of the present physician of that place.

Jonathan R., the second son, married Maria, daughter of Dr. Thomas Davies, Oct. 17, 1808. Their children were Amanda, Maria (who died in infancy), Lemuel, Jonathan R., and Thomas. Mr. Jonathan Sanford died Aug. 20, 1858.

In an account of the death of Jonathan R. Sanford, published in Crosby's "Obituary Notices" (1858), the writer says of the deceased, "Through a long life the deceased enjoyed in an eminent degree the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens. In 1808 he was appointed to fill the office of town clerk and treasurer of his native town, and held those offices by consecutive annual appointment from that time to his death, — a period of half a century, — besides filling for several years the office of judge of Probate for the District of Redding. Representing at different periods his native town in the State Legislature, he discharged the duties of various trusts, both of a public and private nature, exhibiting in all his acts a sternness of integrity and purity of purpose seldom equaled. The consolations of that religion which cheered and comforted him through life were his solace and comfort in death."

The children of Jonathan R. Sanford now living are Lemuel, Jonathan R., and Thomas. Lemuel married Abby M. Hill, daughter of Bradley Hill; their children are Mary Russell, Lillia, Abby, Martha, Alice Lulu, and Jonathan B. Jonathan R. married Clarissa, youngest daughter of Deacon Samuel Read; their only child, Hannah Maria, died at the age of twenty-four. Thomas married Charlotte A. Hewitt, of Cornwall, Litchfield Co.; their children are Thomas F. and May A.

Ezekiel, third son of Lemuel Sanford the first, married Abigail Starr, Nov. 21, 1773, and settled in Boston District, in the western part of the town. His children were Mollie, baptized Dec. 18, 1774; Rebecca, baptized April 24, 1777; Ezekiel, baptized Nov. 1, 1778; Abigail, baptized March 19, 1780; perhaps others. He is called captain in the old records. Some of his descendants are now living in Amenia, N. Y.

Samuel Sanford the first settled in Umpawaug. He is called captain in the records. His children were Daniel, baptized April 22, 1734; Seth, baptized Aug. 23, 1735; Mary, March 19, 1738; David, Dec. 2, 1739; Abigail, Jan. 30, 1743; Samuel, May 5, 1745; Sarah, May 10, 1747; Esther, April 16, 1749; Ezra, March 25, 1751; Rachel, Feb. 25, 1753; Peter, May 23, 1756. Capt. Samuel Sanford died Nov. 6, 1768, aged sixty-two years.

Daniel married Esther Hull, April 18, 1758. Children: Eli, baptized Aug. 16, 1761; Chloc, July 5, 1767; and others. Seth married Rebecca, daughter

of Deacon Stephen Burr, April 25, 1759. Her children, as named in Deacon Burr's will, 1776, were Elias, Ebenezer, Joel, Elijah, Samuel, and Seth. Mary married Timothy Sanford, son of Joseph; Abigail married John Hawley, Dec. 21, 1762; Samuel, Jr., married Sarah Olmsted, July 23, 1767 (town record). His children recorded were Uriah, baptized Feb. 14, 1768; Thomas, Dec. 17, 1769. Peter married Abigail Keeler, June 1, 1780.

Ephraim Sanford the first settled in Sanfordtown and was a large landowner there, as is shown by several deeds now in the possession of his descendants, some of which date back as far as 1733. His children by his wife, Elizabeth Mix, according to the parish record, were Rachel, baptized July 29, 1733; Abigail, baptized May 18, 1735; John, April 29, 1739; Oliver, Sept. 20, 1741; Lois, Sept. 17, 1743; Huldah, May 5, 1748; Augustus, July 15, 1753; Esther, April 27, 1755. His will, dated Jan. 30, 1761, mentions also Ephraim, Elizabeth, and Tabitha.

Ephraim Sanford, according to the family tradition, was the first man having a store of goods in Redding. His goods were brought from Boston. Of his children, Abigail married Daniel Jackson, Oct. 2, 1755. John married —, and settled in the Foundry District, in Redding. His children were James, Stephen, Ephraim, John, Eli, Huldah, Lois, Betty, Elizabeth, and Annie. James, the eldest son, settled in the Foundry District, near his father. He was a teamster in the Revolutionary army, and was present at the execution of Jones and Smith on Gallows Hill. He married Sarah, daughter of John Beach, and granddaughter of Rev. John Beach, the faithful missionary of the Church of England. He was the father of 'Squire James Sanford. John, Jr., the fourth son of John Sanford, settled in Redding, and was the father of John W. Sanford, a well-known citizen.

Oliver Sanford, son of Ephraim, married, in April, 1767, Rachel, daughter of Deacon David Coley, of Weston. Their children were Mary, baptized July 31, 1768; David, Aug. 20, 1769; Ephraim, Sept. 15, 1771; Abigail, May 29, 1774; Enoch A., April 28, 1776; Levi, Dec. 14, 1777; Oliver C., Abigail, Mary, Betsey, and Loraine.

Anna Smith, daughter of Samuel Smith, of Redding, was baptized July 6, 1740, and Seth Samuel, son of Samuel and Lydia Smith, Sept. 28, 1760. The latter was the first lawyer who located in Redding. He had an office in the centre, where also he kept a select school. He was town clerk for a term of years, and wrote a most elegant hand, as will be remembered by those familiar with the records of his times. He also filled many other important positions in the town. He married Huldah —. Their children were Zalmon, baptized Feb. 3, 1780, and probably others.

Robert Stow, the first of the name in Redding, settled in Lonetown, on the farm now owned by his grandson, Sumner Stowe. He married Anne Darrow, Jan. 26, 1775. Their children were Daniel, born



July 4, 1779; Abigail, born April 11, 1776, married Israel Adams; Sarah, born Oct. 4, 1777; Sarah, born Aug. 11, 1781; Sumner, born Sept. 17, 1783; Huldah, born Feb. 6, 1787, married Andrew Andrus, of Danbury; Abraham, born March 4, 1792; Polly, born Sept. 20, 1794, married Moses Parsons, of Newtown. Robert Stow died Nov. 5, 1795. Daniel Stow married Lucy Hoyt, of Bethel, and settled in Redding, near his father. His children were Robert, Almira, Sarah, Harriet, Lucy, Sumner, Mary, and Polly. Abraham settled in Bethel; Sumner died when a young man.

Other settlers in the town at an early date, but who do not appear to have been permanent residents, were Daniel Bradley, Thomas Williams, Thomas and William Squire (of Fairfield), Ebenezer Ferry, George Cowden, Nathaniel Booth, Edmund Sherman, Jonathan Squire, John Whitlock, John Truesdale, Frederick Dikeman, and John. The families of Byington, Chapman, Hamilton, Knapp, Osborne, Dennison, Bennett, St. John, Gilbert, Johnson, Abbott, Duncomb, Edmonds, Olmstead, Rider, Treadwell, and Todd figure in later records of the town.

Benjamin and Isaac Rumsey were early settlers at Georgetown. In 1721, Robert Rumsey, of Fairfield, purchased a tract of land where now is located the village, and subsequently willed it to his three sons, Benjamin, Isaac, and Robert, the two former of whom became actual settlers.

## CHAPTER LVIII.

### REDDING (Continued).

#### THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

Extracts from Town Records—Tryon's Invasion—Hollister's History of the Invasion—Gen. Putnam—Execution of John Smith for Desertion, Barber's Account—Gen. Putnam's Orders—Revolutionary Pensioners—Capt. William Judd's Company—Revolutionary Accounts—William Lynes—"Uncle Barney Keeler, the Hessian"—Boston School District.

THE first reference in the town records to the war of the Revolution is under date April 2, 1777, when a committee was appointed "to hire a number of soldiers to serve in the Continental Army." At the same meeting "Hezekiah Sanford, Seth Sanford, Daniel Mallory, S. Samuel Smith, William Hawley, Stephen Betts, Jr., Jonathan Couch, Stephen Gold, and Hezekiah Read are appointed a committee to take care of the families of those soldiers that are in the service of their country." May 5, 1777, "David Jackson, Seth Sanford, Thaddeus Benedict, and John Gray are chosen Selectmen, in addition to and to supply the place of Stephen Betts and James Rogers, taken prisoners by the enemy in their expedition to Danbury." Dec. 17, 1778, the following committee was appointed to care for soldiers' families: Nehemiah Hull for Nathan Coley's, Elijah Burr for Stephen Meeker's, Ebenezer Couch for Elias Bixby's, Nehemiah Sherwood and John Read for Jeremiah Ryan,

and William Hawley for Samuel Remong. April 16, 1781, it was voted "to divide the people into eight classes, according to their several lists, in order to raise seven soldiers and one Light Horseman to serve for one year as coast-guards." Voted "that the sixth class (for procuring men to serve in the guards at Horse Neck till ye first of March next) shall procure a light-horseman and horse, and that the town shall pay said class all it shall cost them more to procure a man and horse than it shall cost the other seven classes on a medium."

Aug. 11, 1783, the following vote appears, and Seth Sanford, James Rogers, Stephen Betts, Hezekiah Sanford, and John Gray, the selectmen at the time, were instructed to carry it into effect:

"Voted, That the select men of this town be desired to move out of this town all those persons that have been over and joined the enemy, and have returned into this town, and that they pursue the business as fast as they conveniently can according to law."

The following Revolutionary history and incidents is taken chiefly from Todd's "History of Redding":

"Two years had passed since the opening of the War of Independence,—years of alternate victory and defeat to the colonists,—when a hostile armament of twenty-five vessels bearing two thousand men, the flower of the British army, appeared off Compo, in Westport, on the Connecticut shore. It was the 26th of April, 1777. A few days before, news had come to Lord Howe, commanding in New York, that a magazine of munitions of war had been formed by the rebels in Danbury, which afforded him a pretext for a descent on Connecticut,—a step which he had long meditated. The region of country covered by the proposed campaign had been swept of its able-bodied men, who were in the Continental ranks keeping a careful watch on His Lordship's regulars, but that there might be no balk in the operations an overwhelming force of two thousand picked men was detailed for the expedition. For commanders, Howe chose a nondescript genius, one Governor Tryon, and two military men of ability, Gen. Agnew and Sir William Erskine. Tryon had been Governor of New York; he had the further merit of being intimately acquainted with Connecticut, and of being consumed with an inveterate hatred for, and thirst for revenge on, the Yankees; he had a special grudge, too, against Connecticut, the sturdy little colony having thwarted him in a variety of ways. Her dragoons had scattered the types of his newspaper organ through the streets of New York; her 'Sons of Liberty' had plotted against him even in his own city; and she had treated with contempt his proclamations inviting her to return to her allegiance, even printing them in her gazettes as specimens of the Governor's pleasant humor.

"Furthermore, he was well acquainted with the country to be traversed. He had been as far inland as Litchfield, had probably visited Danbury, and had been dined and fêted at Norwalk, Fairfield, and New Haven. He seems to have acted as a guide to the

expedition, while his two advisers attended to its military details. The troops disembarked at Compo at four in the afternoon, and the same day marched to Weston, about eight miles distant, where they encamped for the night. To oppose these troops there was only a militia corps of old men and boys, not equal in number to one-half the invading force.

"Col. Cook was in command at Danbury with a company of unarmed militia. Gen. Silliman at Fairfield, Gen. Wooster at Stratford, and Gen. Arnold at Norwalk, could not muster, all told, more than eight hundred raw, undisciplined men. Under these circumstances Tryon's expedition can only be viewed as a picnic-excursion into the country; and as such, no doubt, he regarded it.

"On the morning of the 26th his army was early astir, and reached Redding Ridge, where the first halt was made, about the time that the inhabitants had concluded their morning meal. What transpired here is thus narrated by Mr. Hollister in his admirable 'History of Connecticut,' vol. ii. chap. 12:

"On the morning of the 26th, at a very seasonable hour, Tryon arrived at Redding Ridge, where was a small hamlet of peaceful inhabitants, almost every one of them patriots and most of them farmers, who had crowned the high hill where they had chosen to build their Zion with a tall, gaunt church, which drew to its aisles one day in seven the people that dwelt upon the sides of the hills and in the bosom of the valleys within the range of the summons that sounded from its belfry. By way of satisfying his hunger with a morning lunch until he could provide a more substantial meal, he drew up his artillery in front of the weatherbeaten edifice that had before defied everything save the grace of God and the supplications of his worshipers, and gave it a good round of grape and canister that pierced its sides through and shattered its small-paned windows into fragments. The only spectators to this heroic demonstration were a few women and little children, some of whom ran away at the sight of the red-coats, and others faced the invaders with a menacing stare."

"Mr. Hollister is in the main a careful and accurate historian, but a due regard for the truth of history compels us to say that he was misinformed in regard to the above facts. The following account is believed to be correct, our principal informant being an aged inhabitant of Redding, and a competent authority:

"During the halt the main body of the troops remained under arms on the green in front of the church. Tryon, Agnew, and Erskine were invited into Esquire Heron's, who lived in the first house south of the church, and which is still standing, though in a ruinous condition. Here they were hospitably entertained with cake and wine, and with many hopeful prognostications of the speedy collapse of the 'rebellion.' Across the street from the church, in a house a few yards south of the one now occupied

by Thomas Ryan, lived Lieut. Stephen Betts, a prominent patriot, and at whose house, it will be remembered, the County Convention was held in 1779. A file of soldiers entered the house, seized him, and he was taken with them on their march. James Rogers, another prominent patriot, and Jeremiah Sanford, a lad of ten years, son of Mr. Daniel Sanford, met a like fate. The lad, we may remark, was carried to New York and died in the prison-ships, June 28, 1777. Shortly before the army resumed its march a horseman was observed spurring rapidly down the Couch's Hill road towards them, and approached within musket-shot before discovering their presence; he then turned to fly, but was shot and severely wounded in the attempt. He proved to be a messenger from Col. Cook, in Danbury, bearing dispatches to Gen. Silliman, by name Lambert Lockwood. Tryon had formerly known him in Norwalk, where Lockwood had rendered him a service, and seems to have acted on this occasion with some approach to magnanimity, as he released him on parole and allowed him to be taken into a house that his wounds might be dressed.

"The statement concerning the firing into the church is a mistake, and I am assured that the reverse is true. It is said that the church was not molested at all (except that a soldier with a well-directed ball brought down the gilded weathercock from the spire); and the fact that the pastor, the Rev. John Beach, as well as several of its most prominent members, among them the 'Squire Heron above referred to, was a most pronounced loyalist, strengthens the assertion.

"The British army, after halting an hour or two in the village, resumed its march to Danbury, with the capture and burning of which the reader is, no doubt, acquainted.

"Meanwhile, the patriots in Redding anxiously waited the approach of the Continental army in pursuit. At length it came in view, marching wearily with dusty and disordered ranks,—a little army of five hundred men and boys, led by Brig.-Gen. Silliman in person. They had marched from Fairfield that day, and were fully twenty-eight hours behind the foe, who was then lying drunken and disorganized at Danbury. A muster-roll of the little band would have shown a most pathetic exhibition of weakness. There were parts of the companies of Col. Lamb's battalion of artillery, with three rusty cannon, a field-piece, and part of the artillery company of Fairfield and sixty Continentals; the rest were raw levies, chiefly old men and boys. It was eight o'clock in the evening when the troops arrived at Redding Ridge,—an evening as disagreeable as a northeast rain-storm with its attendant darkness could make it. Here the troops halted an hour for rest and refreshment. At the expiration of that time a bugle sounded far down the street; then the tramp of horsemen was heard, and presently Maj.-Gen. Wooster and Brig.-Gen. Ar-



nold, at the head of a squadron of cavalry, dashed into the village.

"On hearing that the British were so far ahead, it is said that Arnold became so enraged that he could scarcely keep his seat, and his terrible oaths fell on his auditors' ears like thunderclaps. Wooster at once assumed command, and the column moved forward through the mud as far as Bethel, where it halted for the night. At Danbury, but three miles distant, Tryon's force was sleeping in drunken security, and might have been annihilated by a determined effort, but the command was too much exhausted for the attempt.

"Tryon the next morning was early astir, being aware that the militia were closing in on him on all sides, and commenced a retreat to his ships, taking the circuitous route through Ridgefield. On learning this move, Gen. Wooster, at Bethel, divided his command, one detachment, under Gens. Arnold and Silliman, marching rapidly across the country and taking post at Ridgefield, while the other, commanded by himself, pressed closely on Tryon's rear. The succeeding fortunes of the patriots—how they met the foe at Ridgefield, how Wooster fell gallantly leading on his men, how Arnold performed prodigies of valor, and how the enemy were pursued and harassed until they gained the cover of their ships—have become a part of our national history, and need no recounting.

"News that the British had landed at Compo, that they were encamped at Weston and would march through Redding the next day, was conveyed to this town at an early hour, and occasioned the greatest consternation and excitement.

"Money and valuables were hastily secreted in wells and other places of concealment; horses and cattle were driven into the forests, and the inhabitants along the enemy's probable route held themselves in readiness for instant flight. Herod's emissaries could not have excited livelier emotions of terror in the hearts of Judean mothers than did Tryon's invasion in the breasts of the mothers of Redding. He seems to have warred pre-eminently on women and boys. The latter especially he made prisoners of and consigned to the horrible prison ships, holding them either as hostages or on the plea that they 'would very soon grow into rebels.' The women of Redding had heard of this propensity, and at his approach gathered all the boys of thirteen and under—the older ones were away under arms—and conveyed them to a secluded place near the Forge, where they were left under the charge of one Gershom Barlow; here they remained until the invader had regained his ships, provisions being cooked and sent in to them daily.

"Many other incidents of the invasion are current in the town.

"On receiving intelligence of the landing at Compo, Capt. Read mustered his company of militia and forthwith marched to intercept the invaders. At a

place called Couch's Rock, in Weston, they came suddenly upon the entire force of the enemy and were taken prisoners. Timothy Parsons, one of the militiamen, had a fine musket, which he particularly valued; this a grenadier took and dashed to pieces on the stones, saying it should waste no more rebel bullets.

"Mrs. Thankful Bradley, living in Weston, near the Redding line, was milking by the roadside when the troops surprised her. An officer told her to remain quiet and they would not molest her. She followed his advice, and continued milking while the entire army filed by. With the exception of kidnapping the lad Sanford, the British behaved with praiseworthy moderation during their march through Redding. No buildings were burned, and no such enormities committed as marked their descent on Fairfield and New Haven, two years later.

"After their departure nothing further of a warlike nature occurred in the town until the encampment in Redding, in the winter of 1778-79, of Gen. Putnam's division of the Continental army. This division comprised Gen. Poor's brigade of New Hampshire troops, the two brigades of Connecticut troops, the corps of infantry commanded by Hazen, and that of cavalry by Sheldon. This division had been operating along the Hudson during the fall, and as winter approached it was decided that it should go into winter-quarters at Redding, as from this position it could support the important fortress of West Point in case of attack, overawe the Cow-Boys and Skinners of Westchester County, and cover the country adjacent to the Sound. Accordingly, early in November, Gen. Putnam arrived with several of his general officers to select sites for the proposed camps. Three were marked out,—the first in the northeastern part of Lonetown, near the Bethel line, on land now owned by Aaron Treadwell; the second also in Lonetown, about a mile and a half west, on the farm of the late Sherlock Todd, a short distance southwest of his dwelling-house; the third in West Redding, on the ridge lying east of Uriah Griffin's, on land now owned by him, and about a quarter of a mile north of Redding Station. The sites of all three camps may be easily distinguished by the ruins of the stone chimneys which formed one side of the log huts in which the troops were sheltered. The ruins of the first camp are most distinct, and form perhaps one of the best preserved, as well as most interesting, relics of the Revolution within the reach of the antiquary. This camp was laid out with admirable judgment at the foot of the rocky bluffs which fence in on the west the valley of the Little River. The barracks were so disposed as to form an avenue nearly a quarter of a mile in length and several yards in width. At the west end of the camp was a mountain-brook, which furnished a plentiful supply of water; near the brook is a heap of cinders, which probably marks the spot where a forge was erected. The camp was until recently covered with heavy forests, which explains,

perhaps, the secret of its preservation. The present owner is clearing up the underbrush which has overgrown the ruins, rendering it easy of access to visitors, and it will in time, no doubt, become a favorite place of resort. Only a few heaps of stone mark the site of the second camp, which was also laid out on the southerly slope of a hill, with a stream of running water at its base. The same may be said of the camp at Long Ridge.

"As to the exact location of Putnam's headquarters at this time authorities differ, but all agree in placing it on Umpawaug Hill. Mr. Barber, in his 'Historical Collections,' says it was the old house that stood until recently on the corner of the road leading down to Sanford's Station, a short distance north of Andrew Perry's present residence. Mr. Lossing, in his 'Field-Book of the Revolution,' makes the same statement; but I am informed by an aged resident whose father was an officer in the Revolutionary army, and visited Gen. Putnam at his headquarters, that they were in an old house that then stood between the residence of the late Burr Meeker and that now occupied by Mr. Brady, and that the first-named was his guard-house. The question is one of little importance, perhaps, except to those who demand the utmost possible accuracy in the statement of fact.

"Some of the officers were quartered in the house now occupied by Seth Todd, then owned by Samuel Gould; others in a house that stood on the site of the one recently occupied by Sherlock Todd. Gen. Parson's headquarters were on Redding Ridge.

"While the army lay at Redding several events of importance occurred which are worthy of narrating with some degree of particularity. The troops went into winter-quarters this year in no pleasant humor, and almost in the spirit of insubordination. This was peculiarly the case with the Connecticut troops. They had endured privations that many men would have sunk under,—the horrors of battle, the weariness of the march, cold, hunger, and nakedness. What was worse, they had been paid in the depreciated currency of the times, which had scarcely any purchasing power, and their devoted families at home were reduced to the lowest extremity of want and wretchedness.

"The forced inactivity of the camp gave them time to brood over their wrongs, until at length they formed the bold resolve of marching to Hartford and presenting their grievances in person to the Legislature then sitting. The two brigades were under arms for this purpose before news of the revolt was brought to Putnam. He, with his usual intrepidity and decision of character, threw himself upon his horse and dashed down the road leading to his camps, never slacking rein until he drew up in the presence of the disaffected troops. 'My brave lads,' cried he, 'whither are you going? Do you intend to desert your officers, and to invite the enemy to follow you into the country? Whose

cause have you been fighting and suffering so long in? Is it not your own? Have you no property, no parents, wives, or children? You have behaved like men so far; all the world is full of your praises and posterity will stand astonished at your deeds, but not if you spoil all at last. Don't you consider how much the country is distressed by the war, and that your officers have not been any better paid than yourselves? But we all expect better times, and that the country will do us ample justice. Let us all stand by one another, then, and fight it out like brave soldiers. Think what a shame it would be for Connecticut men to run away from their officers!' When he had finished this stirring speech, he directed the acting major of brigades to give the word for them to shoulder, march to their regimental parades, and lodge arms, which was done. One soldier only, a ringleader in the affair, was confined in the guard-house, from which he attempted to escape, but was shot dead by the sentinel on duty, himself one of the mutineers. Thus ended the affair, and no further trouble was experienced with the Connecticut troops.

"Nothing had so much annoyed Putnam and his officers during the campaign of the preceding summer on the Hudson than the desertions which had thinned his ranks and the Tory spies who frequented his camps under every variety of pretext, and forthwith conveyed the information thus gathered to the enemy. To put a stop to this it had been determined that the next offender of either sort captured should suffer death as an example, and according to the usages of war. The time for putting this determination into execution soon arrived. One day some scouts from Putnam's outposts in Westchester County captured a man lurking within their lines, and, as he could give no satisfactory account of himself, he was at once haled over the borders and into the presence of the commander-in-chief. In answer to his queries, the prisoner said that his name was Jones, that he was a Welshman by birth, and had settled in Ridgefield a few years before the war had commenced; that he had never faltered in his allegiance to the king, and that at the outbreak of hostilities he had fled to the British army and had been made a butcher in the camp; a few weeks before, he had been sent into Westchester County to buy beeves for the army, and had been captured as above narrated. He was remanded to the guard-house and a court-martial at once ordered for his trial. The result is to be found in the following document, found among the papers of the late Lieut. Samuel Richards, paymaster in Col. Wylly's regiment:

"Feb. 4, 1779. Was tried at a General Court-Martial Edward Jones for Going to and serving the enemy, and coming out as a spy; found guilty of each and every charge Exhibited against him, and according to Law and the Usages of Nations was sentenced to suffer Death.

"The General approves the sentence and orders it



to be put in Execution between the hours of ten and eleven A.M. by hanging him by the neck till he be Dead.'

"Two days after, another court-martial was held for a similar offense, as the following proves:

"Feb. 6, 1779. At a Gen'l Court-Martial was tried John Smith of the 1st Connecticut Regiment for desertion and attempting to go to the Enemy; found guilty; and further persisting in saying that he will go to the Enemy if ever he has an opportunity, Sentenced to be shot to death, and orders that it be put in Execution between the hours of ten and twelve A.M.'

"General Putnam, having two prisoners under sentence of death, determined to execute them both at once, or, as he expressed it, 'make a double job of it,' and at the same time make the spectacle as terrible and impressive as the circumstances demanded. The lofty hill dominating the valley and the camps (known to this day as Gallows Hill) was chosen as the scene of the execution, the instrument of death being erected on its highest pinnacle. The details of the execution, for reasons which will appear, I prefer to give in the words of the three different historians who have chronicled it. Mr. Barber, in his 'Historical Collections of Connecticut,' p. 399, says,—

"The scene which took place at the execution of these men is described as shocking and bloody. The man on whom the duty of hangman devolved left the camp, and on the day of execution could not be found. A couple of boys about the age of twelve years were ordered by Gen. Putnam to perform the duties of the absconding hangman. The gallows was about twenty feet from the ground. Jones was compelled to ascend the ladder, and the rope around his neck was attached to the cross-beam. Gen. Putnam then ordered Jones to jump from the ladder. "No, General Putnam," said Jones, "I am innocent of the crime laid to my charge; I shall not do it." Putnam then ordered the boys before mentioned to turn the ladder over. These boys were deeply affected by the trying scene; they cried and sobbed loudly, and earnestly entreated to be excused from doing anything on this distressing occasion. Putnam, drawing his sword, ordered them forward, and compelled them at the sword's point to obey his orders. The soldier that was shot for desertion was but a youth of sixteen or seventeen years of age. Three balls were shot through his breast: he fell on his face, but immediately turned over on his back; a soldier then advanced, and, putting the muzzle of his gun near the convulsive body of the youth, discharged its contents into his forehead. The body was then taken up and put into a coffin; the soldiers had fired their pieces so near that they set the boy's clothes on fire, which continued burning. An officer with a drawn sword stood by, while every soldier of the three brigades who were out on the occasion was ordered to march by and look at the mangled remains.'

"Mr. Barber says in a foot-note that the above particulars were derived from an aged inhabitant of Redding who was present on the occasion and stood but a few feet from Jones when he was executed.

"Mr. Hollister, in his 'History of Connecticut,' takes exception to the above account. In vol. ii. page 375 of his work he has the following note:

"The Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett, who was pastor of the Congregational Church in Redding for a period of fifty years, officiated as chaplain to the encampment during the winter, and was present at the execution. He interceded with Gen. Putnam to defer the execution of Smith until Washington could be consulted, the offender being a youth of seventeen years, but the commander assured him that a reprieve could not be granted. Mr. Bartlett was an earnest and fearless Whig, and openly talked and preached "rebellion,"—so much so that the Tories, who were numerous in the eastern part of the town, threatened to hang him if they could catch him. In consequence of these threats he often carried a loaded musket with him when on his parochial visits. His son and successor in the ministry at Redding—the Rev. Jonathan Bartlett, now (1855) in his ninety-first year—well remembers the Revolutionary encampment at Redding, and frequently visited it. He is sure that the story in Barber's "Historical Collections" about Putnam's inhumanity at the execution of Smith and Jones is incorrect. Though not present himself, he has often heard his father relate the incidents of the occasion; and furthermore, he once called the attention of Col. Asahel Salmon (who died in 1848, aged ninety-one), who was a sergeant in attendance upon the execution, to the statement, and he declared that nothing of the kind took place.'

"Another historian, Rev. Thomas F. Davies, in an historical sermon delivered at Green's Farms in 1839, also takes exception to Mr. Barber's statement. He says,—

"Mr. Barber must have been misinformed. Redding is my native town, and from my boyhood I have heard the history of the proceedings on the occasion referred to, and was much surprised at the statements in the "Historical Collections." The Rev. Mr. Bartlett, whose father was chaplain on that occasion, informs me that Gen. Putnam could not have been guilty of the acts there charged.

"That Mr. Barber may have something to substitute for the narrative to which I object, I give the following:

"When General Putnam occupied the house of which Mr. Barber has given an engraving, a scene occurred which presents the general in a very amiable light. A poor man with a family needing support, and who lived in the neighboring town of Ridgefield, was told by one acquainted with his wants that if he would visit General Putnam and hold a conversation with him, he would on his return, and on proof of the fact, give him a bushel of wheat. The tempta-

tion in that time of scarcity and taxes was great, and so also was the fear of intruding upon so distinguished an individual; but the stern necessities of his condition at length induced the poor man to venture. He accordingly presented himself at headquarters, and requested the servant to solicit for him an interview with the general. Putnam promptly summoned the man to his presence, directed him to be seated, and listened with interest while the man with great trepidation gave the statement which accounted for the liberty he had taken. The general directed the servant to bring some wine, conversed for a time very pleasantly with his needy visitor, and then, calling for pen and ink, wrote a certificate, in which he gave the name of the individual and stated that he had visited and conversed with Gen. Putnam, who signed it in his official character. Thus furnished with the means of giving bread to his family, the distressed individual returned to his humble roof; and this anecdote, which I have on the very best authority, is proof that Putnam was not destitute of those kind and gentle affections which are so desirable an ornament of the most heroic character.

"This diversity of statements has led the writer to investigate the matter more thoroughly than he would otherwise have done, and the weight of proof seems to be in favor of the correctness of Mr. Barber's statement. His version of the affair is the one generally prevalent in the town, with the exception of Putnam's forcing the boys to become executioners. Nor is there anything in the story inconsistent with Putnam's known character and temperament. He had been a man of war from his youth, in perils often from wild beasts, the elements, the wilderness, and the Indians. Long service in the bloody French and Indian wars had scarcely taught him amiability. Boldness, firmness, promptness, decision,—these were the chief elements of his character; and at this particular crisis all were needed. There was disaffection and insubordination in the army, as has been seen. Desertions were frequent, and spying by the Tories was almost openly practiced. To put a stop to these practices was vitally necessary to the safety of the army; and, as the prisoners had been tried and sentenced to death by a competent tribunal, it was Putnam's duty to see that the sentence was carried into effect. If the execution was bunglingly done, the fault was with the executioners, and not with the general.

"As was to be expected, the citizens of Redding felt quite honored by the selection of their town for the army's winter-quarters, and welcomed heartily the dusty battalions as they filed into camp; but a few months' acquaintance opened their eyes to some of the ways of soldiers, and caused them to speed the army in the spring as heartily as they had welcomed it in the autumn. The soldiers argued that, as they were fighting the country's battles, it devolved on the latter to furnish the sinews of war, and plundered the neighboring farmers, whether Whig or Tory, with the

utmost impartiality. To them a well-stocked poultry-yard or a pen of fat porkers offered irresistible inducements. A milch-cow never failed of a circle of devoted admirers, while bands of merry rovers occasionally stole over the borders into the neighboring towns and harried in under cover of night droves of fat cattle, which were killed and eaten with as little formality as they were taken. With the morning would come the owner complaining of these little peccadilloes, but, as he could never prove property or identify the rogues, they usually escaped punishment. After a time, however, the wary farmers foiled the depredators by herding their live-stock over night in the cellars of their houses and in other secure places.

"The ringleader in all these forays was Tom Warrups, an Indian, grandson of the chief Chickens, and one of Putnam's most valued scouts and messengers. Tom possessed a great deal of individuality, and impressed himself on a succeeding generation to the extent that numberless anecdotes are remembered and told about him to this day. Some of these, illustrating the Indian character, are worthy the attention of the grave historian. Tom had a weakness for liquor, which would have caused his expulsion from the camp had it not been for his services as scout and guide. One day he was seen deplorably drunk, and the officer of the day in disgust ordered him to be ridden out of the camp. A stout rail was brought, Tom was placed astride of it, four men hoisted it upon their shoulders, and the cavalcade started. On their way they met Gen. Putnam with his aids making the rounds of the camp. 'Tom,' said the general, sternly, 'how's this? Aren't you ashamed to be seen riding out of camp in this way?'—'Yes,' replied Tom, with drunken gravity. 'Tom is ashamed—vera mooch ashamed—to see poor Indian ride and the ginerall he go afoot.'

"Tom had a house on the high ridge back of Capt. Isaac Hamilton's, now owned by William Sherwood. It was built, it is said, in primitive Indian style, of poles set firmly in the ground, then bent and fastened together at the top. This framework was covered with bark and roofed with reeds and rushes. Its furniture consisted of framework bedsteads, with bedding of skins, wooden bowls fashioned from pepperage-knots, huge wooden spoons, baskets made of rushes or long grass, pails of birch-bark, and an iron pot and skillet begged or borrowed from the settlers. His sister Eunice was his housekeeper. Except in war he was a worthless, shiftless fellow, and lived chiefly by begging; hunting and trapping were his recreations. He would often absent himself from his hut for weeks at a time, sleeping in barns or in the forest. A huge overhanging rock about a mile north of Georgetown often sheltered him on these occasions, and is still known as Warrups' Rock.

"Tom's neighbor and landlord before the war was Col. John Read, son of the early settler of that name. On one occasion the colonel had a company of gen-



flemen from Boston to visit him, and planned a grand hunt in their honor. Tom was always master of the revels at such times, and piloted the party on this occasion. In their rambles through the forests they came to a spring, and, being thirsty, one of the party lamented that they had left their hunting-cups behind. Tom at once slipped off his shoe, and, filling it with water, offered it to the guest to drink; whereupon Col. Read reproved him sharply for his ill breeding. Tom drank from the vessel while the homily was being delivered, and then replaced the shoe, observing, with the haughtiness of a king, 'Good enough for Indian, good enough for white man too.'

"After the war Capt. Zalmon Read and Tom were near neighbors, and the former had a cornfield in dangerous proximity to Tom's cabin; he missed the corn and suspected Tom, and, watching, not only discovered him to be the thief, but also his ingenious plan of procedure. About midnight the Indian would come, basket in hand, and, seated on the top rail of the fence, would thus address the field: 'Lot, can Tom have some corn?'—'Yes, Tom,' the lot would reply; 'take all you want;' whereupon Tom would fill his basket with ears and march off. The next night, as the story goes, the captain armed himself with a grievous hickory club and lay in wait behind the fence. Presently Tom came, repeated his formula, and proceeded to fill his basket; but when he returned to the fence, it was occupied by the captain, who proceeded to repeat Tom's formula with a variation: 'Lot, can I beat Tom?'—'Yes,' the lot replied; 'beat him all he deserves;' whereupon the fun-loving captain fell upon the culprit and gave him the thorough beating which his roguery deserved.

"One more anecdote of Tom must suffice. One day he went to a neighbor's house and demanded whisky. No, the neighbor was of the opinion that whisky was bad for Tom. 'Rum, then?'—'No.'—'Cider?'—'No; cider was bad too; food he might have to keep him from starving, but no fire-water.' Tom ruminated. 'Well,' said he at length, 'give me toast and cider,'—a favorite dish in those days,—and in this way won the desired stimulant.

"Some years after, when age was creeping on, Tom and his sister removed to the Indian reservation at Schaticook, in Kent, whither his tribe had preceded him, and the time and manner of his death were unknown to his white brethren in Redding.

"This is a long digression, pardonable in this connection only because its subject was one of the brave defenders of his country.

"Among the papers in the 'Richards Collection' are some that are interesting as detailing little episodes of camp-life, as well as some that possess considerable historic value. They are as follows:

"HEADQUARTERS, READING, May 28, 1779.

"Daniel Vaughn and Jonath'n Gore of the 8th Connecticut Regt Tryd by a Brigade C. M. whereof Lt. Col. Sumner was President, For Stealing

a Cup from Capt. Zalmon Read of Reading, The Court are of Opinion the charges against Vaughn and Gore are not supported.

"B. O.'

"CAMP, 2ND HILL, NOV. 14, 1778.

"The General having obtained permission of the Commander In Chief to be Absent a few days from the Division, the Command will devolve upon Brigadier Gen'l Huntington. Gen'l McDougal is happy that it falls upon a Gentleman in whose care for and attention to the Troops he has the utmost Confidence. The Orders will be issued as usual at the Headquarters of the Division.'

"READING, Dec. 18, 1778.

"Lieut. Col. Butler of Wyll's Reg. is promoted to the command of the 2nd Company Battalion and is to be obeyed as such. Col. Meigs is appointed Inspector to the Division and to do the duty of Adj. General for the same until further Orders—Quartermaster Belding of the First Conn. Brigade is appointed Quartermaster of the Division and is to do that duty until further Orders: David Humphrey Esq. late Brigade Major to Gen'l Parsons is appointed aide de camp to Gen'l Putnam till further Orders.'

"As the Division is now at Rest, Let us not . . . Who has appeared for us and America in innumerable instances in the hour of our Distress let prayers be attended, Both Morning and Evening, in fair Weather, at such times As the Commanding Officers of Brigades shall Direct. This order Constantly to be observed when the Division is Encamped. Gen'l McDougal flatters himself his officers Will give the Troops the virtuous Example of Attending at all times Divine Service. The Gen'l will be obliged to the officers to Desire any persons whom they know going to head Qr. or to hartford to call upon him.'

"DEC. 18, 1778.

"Quarter Master Belding of the First Conn. Brigade is appointed Qr. Master of the Division, and is to Do that Duty till further orders. David Humphrey, Esq., late Brigade Major to Gen. Parsons, is appointed A De Camp to Maj. Gen. Putnam Till further orders (Capt. Champion of Col. Wyllis' Regt. Is to do the Duty of Bd Major till further orders, and is to be Obeyed accordingly).'

"FEB. 13, 1779.

"The Gen'l Directs that no person be permitted to visit the Prisoners under sentence of Death Unless at their Request as frequent Complaints have been made that they are interrupted in their Private Devotions by persons who came for no other Purpose but to Insult them.'

"At a Gen'l Court-Martial held at Bedford Oct. 3, 1778, By order of Gen. Scott whereof Lt. Col. Blaisden was President.

"Elisha Smith a private in Capt. Stoddard's Co. 2d Regt. Light Dragoons was tryed for Deserting to the Enemy last August and Piloting them into and against the troops of this State Defrauding the publick, by selling his horse and Accountments in a Treasonable Manner to the Enemy and for Menacing and Insulting his officers while a Prisoner, found Guilty, and Sentence Him to Suffer the pains of Death—His Excellency the Commander in Chief Approves the Sentence and Orders s'd Elisha Smith to be Executed next Monday the 12th Inst. at 11 O Clock A.M. at or near Bedford as Gen. Scott shall Direct.'

No date: "Divine Service will be performed to morrow at the Church, to begin at 11 O Clock A.M. Those off Duty are to March from Camp so as to be at the Church by that time.'

"The 'Church' was the Congregational, at the centre, and the preacher the Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett.

"HEADQUARTERS, May 27, 1779.

"Major General Putnam being (about) to take command of one of the Wings of the Grand Army, before he leaves the Troops who have served under him the winter past, thinks it his Duty to Signify to them his entire approbation of their Regular and Soldier like Conduct, and wishes them (wherever they may happen to be out) a Successful and Glorious Campaign.'

"Hazen's command seems to have been the first to break camp in the spring, as the following proves:

"HEAD QUARTERS, READING, March 21, 1779.

"Col. Hazen's Regt. will march to Springfield in 3 Divisions by the shortest notice: the first Division will march on Monday next, and the other two will follow on Thursday and Friday next, Weather permitting, and in case the detached parties join the Regt. Col. Hazen will take with him one peice of Cannon and a proportionable Number of Artillery men.'

"April 11th the following order was issued :

"HEAD QUARTERS, Apr. 11th, 1779.

"The officers are Requested to lose no time in Preparing for the field, that they may be ready to leave their present Quarters at the Shortest Notice. The Q. M. Gen'l—as far as it is in his power will supply those with Portmanteaus, who have not been furnished before, and those who have or shall be provided are on no account to carry chests or Boxes into the field. The portmanteaus are given by the publick to Supersede those of such Cumbersome articles in order to contract the Baggage of the Army and lessen the Number of Waggons, which besides saving the Expense, is attended with many obvious and most Important Military Advantages. The General also thinks it necessary to give explicit notice in time with a view to have the army as little Encumbered as possible in all its movements, and to prevent burthening the public and the farmers more than can be avoided. No officer whose Duty does not Really require him to be on horseback—will be permitted to keep horses with the Army—it ought to be the pride of an officer to share the fatigues, as well as the Dangers to which his men are exposed on foot. Marching by their sides he will lessen every inconvenience and Excite in them a spirit of patience and perseverance. Inability alone can justify a Deviation from this necessary practice. Gen. Washington strongly recommends to the officers to Divest themselves as much as possible of everything Superfluous—Taking to the field only what is Essential for Dining and Comfort. Such as have not particular friends within reach with whom they would choose to confide their Baggage, will apply to the Q. M. Gen'l who will appoint a place for their Reception and furnish Means of Transportation."

"READING, May 24, 1779.

"Gen. Parsons orders the Brigade to be Ready to March to Morrow at 6 o'Clock A.M. Complet for Action."

"This brigade seems to have returned to the Highlands *via* Ridgefield and Bedford, as Gen. Parsons dates his next order at Ridgefield, May 30th :

"That Col. Wylls furnish a Sergt. Corp. and 12 privates to be posted as a Guard this Night one quarter of a Mile in front of where his Regt. is quartered on the road leading to Bedford. That Col. Meigs furnish a Guard of the Same Number and Distance on the road leading to Norwalk. The Revielle to be beat to-morrow morning at the Dawn of Day, the troops to parade at 4 o'clock half a mile below the meeting house, on the road leading to Bedford, for which place they will march immediately after in the same order as this day."

"BEDFORD, May 31st, 1779.

"The troops of Gen. Parson's Brigade to have two Days . . . per man from Capt. Townsend . . . refresh themselves, and be ready to march in two hours to Parade near the Meeting house."

"FISHKILL, June 2, 1779.

"Gen. Parsons orders that Com'r Sturm deliver one gill of Rum per man, and two Days provision to the troops of his Brigade, this Day. The Qr. master to make return for the same."

"HD. QUARTERS, HIGHLANDS, June 6, 1779.

"General McDougal Orders a Detachment of 150 Men Properly Officered from Gen. Parson's and Huntington's Brigades to parade at 12 o'clock, with arms, ammunition, accouterments, Blankets and three days Provisions in front of Gen. Hn. Bd." (Huntington's Brigade.)

"HD. QR. June 7th, 1779.

"The Grand Parade in front of Gen. Hn. Bd. 100 men properly Officered from Hn. Bd. will parade for piquet at 3 o'clock for the future. The Relief will parade at 8 o'clock in the morning. No person will pass the piquet who cannot give a Good Ac't of himself."

"The Signal of Alarm will be three cannon fired Distinctly by the Artillery in the front line."

"The following orders show the route taken by the army in the fall of 1778 from the Highlands to Redding :

"HEAD QUARTERS, FREDERICKSBURG, Oct. 16, 1778.

"To morrow being the Anniversary of the Surrender of Gen'l Burgoyne and his Troops to the Arms of America under the Command of Major Gen'l Gates, it will be Commemorated by the firing of thirteen cannon from the Park of Artillery at 12 o: Clock."

"HEAD QUARTERS, Oct. 22, 1778.

"Nixon's, Parson's and Huntington's Brigades are to march to morrow morning at 7 o'clock from the Line under the command of Major Gen'l McDougall—Orders of March—Gen'l Nixon's Brigade leads. Huntington's follows, Parson's brings up the Rear, Commanding Officers of Corps will be answerable for the conduct of the men while on the March. Artillery to March in Centre of each Brigade—the Baggage of Gen'l Officers to March in Rear of the Troops, the other Baggage will march in the same order. Forage and Commissary Waggons in the rear of the Whole."

"NEW MILFORD, Nov. 5, 1778.

"The Honorable, the Continental Congress having on the 12th of October passed a Resolution to discourage prophaneness in the Army it is inserted in this Division for the information of Officers, and Gen. McDougall hopes for their aid and Countenance in Discouraging and Suppressing a Vice so Dishonorable to human Nature, to the commission of which there is no Temptation enough."

"CAMP, NEW MILFORD, Oct. 26, 1778.

"His Excellency the Commander in Chief has Directed the troops to remain here till further orders—and be in Readiness to March at the shortest notice as Circumstances shall require. While the Division is Reposed, two days bread will be on store Continually, Baked."

"These interesting extracts might fitly conclude the story of the army's encampment in Redding. There are, however, some entries in the parish records, proving that amid the horrors of war sly Cupid found a chance to inflict his wounds, that are worthy of insertion. They are given as entered by the Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett :

"Feb. 7, 1779. I Joined together in marriage James Gibbins a soldier in the Army and Ann Sullivan.

"March 18th, 1779. I joined together in marriage John Lines, a soldier in the Army, and Mary Hendrick.

"March 30, 1779. I joined in marriage Daniel Evarts a soldier, and Mary Rowland.

"Apr. 15, 1779. I joined in marriage Isaac Olmsted a soldier, and Mary Parsons.

"Apr. 28, 1779. I joined in marriage Jesse Belknap an artificer in the army, and Eunice Hall.

"May 4, 1779. I joined in marriage William Little, Steward to Gen. Parsons, and Phebe Merchant.

"May 23, 1779. I joined in marriage Giles Gilbert an artificer in the army, and Deborah Hall.

"March 9, 1780. I joined in marriage William Darrow a soldier and Ruth Bartram."

"In the month of June, 1781, Count de Rochambeau and the Duke de Lauzun marched a column of French troops across Connecticut and took post in Ridgefield, within supporting distance of Washington's army on the Hudson.

"They passed through Redding on the march, and encamped over night, it is said, on the old parade-ground.

"Their supply-train numbered eight hundred and ten wagons, most of them drawn by two yoke of oxen and a horse. The column attracted much attention as it moved, with flashing arms and soldierly precision, over the hills and through the valleys on its way to Ridgefield.

"No complete list of the soldiers furnished by Redding to the Continental army can be prepared. The following names appear on the town list of Revolutionary pensioners : Col. Asahel Salmons, Capt. Zalmom Read, Capt. John Davis, Joel Merchant, Ezra Bates, Calvin Jenkins, Ezra Hull, Stephen Batterson, Jacob Patchen, and Abraham Parsons; and in the





"READING, April 22, 1779.

"Received of Lieut. Richards, paymaster, in State overalls at 15s. per pair, and breeches at 18s. per pair, the sums respectively annexed to our names, to be deducted out of our next pay.

"Witness our hands:

- 1 pair breeches, 18s., Liverpool Wadsworth.
- 1 pair overalls, 15s., Ebenezer Drake.
- 1 pair overalls, 15s., Elisha Webster.
- 1 pair overalls, 15s., Timothy Culver.
- 1 pair breeches, 18s., David Smith, Corporal."

# REVOLUTIONARY PENSIONERS.

William Lynes was a native of Redding; when a boy was bound out at Roxbury, Conn., to learn the trade of a blacksmith. A journeyman in the shop induced him to run away and go to Canada, where he was promised large wages at peeling bark. The British had press-gangs out, and he was pressed into the service. He was at sea about five years without being allowed to go on shore for fear he would run away. He refused all inducements given to enlist in the service. He was fourteen years in the British navy, and was stationed at St. Helena about seven years; was there when Bonaparte died, and shod his horses. The emperor, learning that he was an American, took frequent opportunities to talk with him about this country. Mr. Lynes was in the merchant service about fourteen years. He was for a number of years a charge to the town of Redding, and died on Gallows Hill, in Redding.

Bernhard—or, as he was commonly called, "Uncle Barney"—Keeler was a Hessian, and left the British army when Governor Tryon marched through Redding to Danbury. He married and settled at Redding. He had been a gardener to a nobleman in his country. He often used to boast that King George would have to pay his sovereign for him, for King George had to pay a certain sum to the ruler of Hesse for all the soldiers who did not return.

On the leaf of an old account-book kept in Reading in 1815-16 is a charge made by the selectmen against the State for boarding Eunice Warrups, as follows:

"To paid Lewis Deane for boarding her from 1st Nov. 1815, to 16th Jan'y, 1816, being 11 wks, \$1.25, 13.75."

There is on another leaf the following:

"Eunice Warrups, an Indian woman, was born in this town; is upwards of seventy years old; has been absent fifty years; came from New Milford, she says, 1st day of Nov.; came to this town; was warned to depart."

# BOSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT.\*

In the early part of the present century Boston School District was an important part of Redding. It was on the main road, the great thoroughfare between Danbury and Norwalk, over which most of the travel and traffic between the two places passed. In those days the old Danbury turnpike was a road of consequence. It was nothing unusual for half a dozen heavily-loaded wagons to be seen at a time passing over it. A daily stage was run to convey passen-

gers to Norwalk, who went to and returned from New York by way of sloop, and afterwards by steamboat. The old lumbering stage-coach, with its four, and frequent six, horses, and good-natured, accommodating driver, has been superseded by the steam-cars and the equally good-natured conductor; and the sound of the stage-horn, which, when blown by the strong-lunged driver, reverberated over the hill and through the valleys, has given way to the shriek of the steam-whistle, while rapid transit has made the old-fashioned taverns by the roadside no longer a necessity. The old turnpike-gates have also been set aside by modern innovation.

At the Corners, in Boston, was located the earliest post-office in town. There was an extensive hat-factory conducted by Billy Comstock, afterwards by his son Andrew, who was succeeded by the Shelton Brothers, N. H. Lindley, and others. In addition to the various trades necessary to a country hamlet was a ring cider-mill, owned by Daniel Mallory, where the farmers occupied a liberal portion of the time in autumn grinding their apples into cider, and storing their cellars with it. He also owned a distillery, where some of this cider was converted into whisky. There was a store where large quantities of goods were disposed of, and a hotel where in after-years the stage-horses were kept for relays. "Breakneck Hill," a mile above this tavern, was the dread of teamsters, who frequently had to be helped over it by the neighboring farmers. Subsequently a road was constructed farther west to avoid "Breakneck." By the liberality of S. Smith Gray, this formidable elevation was made quite passable by being cut down at the top and filled at the bottom, so that it is no longer a terror to the traveler.

In this district Joel Barlow, the poet and statesman, was born; here he attended the common school, received the rudiments of his education, and laid the foundation of his knowledge, which afterwards made him famous. Elias Bennett, the veteran post-rider, resided in this district, and for a period of thirty-three years, in whatever state of the weather, made weekly trips to Bridgeport and delivered the newspapers to his patrons. Here also resided Jack Freeman, an aged colored man, better known as "Governor,"—a title which he received from the fact of his being the acknowledged governor of the colored inhabitants of the State. He every summer, on the recurrence of Saint Cuffee's day, called out his subjects for inspection and review. Jack had been a slave, and was manumitted by the laws of the State when the act took effect.

In those days the merchants exchanged their goods for grain, flax, butter, eggs, and other produce, and teams were constantly on the road conveying this produce to Norwalk and other seaport-towns and returning with merchandise. Among those engaged in the business between Boston District and the seaboard was Jack Sturges, an old colored man. He, on

\* By A. B. Hull.



his way from Norwalk on that day, fell asleep in the cart, and his team, which consisted of a yoke of oxen and one of steers, stopped at the foot of "Steep Pitch," in the woods just below Georgetown. Some waggish persons, happening along, unhitched the steers, drove them into the woods, and secreted themselves under the cart. A few well-directed thrusts from a sharp stick soon awakened Jack, who raised himself up, and, seeing the steers gone, thus soliloquized: "Am I Jack, or am I not Jack? If I'm Jack, I've lost a pair of steers; and if I'm not Jack, I've found a pair of oxen and a cart."

Many stories are told of Hiram Barnes, the old stage-proprietor of Danbury, and an inveterate joker. It was not uncommon, in the hot days of summer, for the stage-horses to become exhausted, and sometimes they died in the harness. On a certain occasion one of the horses fell, and was removed to the roadside, where he soon died. The driver proceeded to Danbury with three horses. Barnes inquired about the missing horse, and was told that he fell in the harness and died. "You fool," said Barnes; "why did you stop? Why didn't you keep him going? He would have come through all right if you hadn't stopped."

During the time the horses were changed here an acquaintance of Barnes from Danbury, who was returning from his wedding-tour with his wife in a carriage, stopped at the tavern. Barnes soon got into an animated conversation with him about the speed of their horses. After driving about for some time Barnes offered to bet that he could drive to Danbury the quickest. The gentleman had become oblivious to everything but horse-racing, and at once fell in with the proposition. After going about two-thirds of the distance Barnes said to him, "Didn't you have a woman with you when you was at the tavern?"—"O Lord, yes," said the gentleman, and immediately drove back for the lady.

At one time a sleighing-party stopped at the tavern and called for refreshments, which consisted in part of cider and doughnuts, for which the landlord made repeated visits to the cellar, and on each return put down the amount on a sheet of paper, which for convenience he put into a Bible near at hand. When about to leave the party called for the bill, and, on seeing the amount, were dissatisfied, and declared they would not pay it. An appeal was made to Barnes. "Pay it, boys," said he. "Don't you see it's in the Bible? and it must be true." The bill was paid without further dispute.

## CHAPTER LIX.

### REDDING (Continued).

#### ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.\*

The Congregational Church—Christ Church—Methodist Episcopal Church—Methodist Episcopal Church of Long Ridge—Baptist Church, Georgetown—The Congregational Church, Georgetown.

#### THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

"THE Congregational Church was the first religious body organized in the town. As early as August, 1729, but three months after they had wrung a reluctant consent from the mother-town to assume parish privileges, we find them providing for the settlement of a minister among them in the following manner:

"At a Society Meeting held in the Society of Redding, Deacon George Hull chosen Moderator. It was voted that s'd Society would give for the settlement of a minister in s'd society the sum of seventy pounds, and a house, and his wood, and bring it up, and the next year eighty pounds, and raise five pounds a year till it comes to one hundred pounds a year. It was voted, that Edmond Luis, esquire, shall decide the matter as to setting the meeting house, it was voted that s'd Mr. Luis should come the first week in October to decide the matter afores'd."

"No minister was settled, however, until 1733; the first church edifice was erected early in 1732. It stood a few yards west of the present Methodist church, and nearly in the centre of the public square or common.† It was two stories high, lathed and plastered, and furnished with galleries, and windows of imported glass. All that is to be found in the church records concerning the building is contained in the following extracts:

"November 12th, 1730. It was Voted, That we will build a meeting-house in said society for the worship of God in the Presbyterian way. Voted, That the meeting-house shall be thirty feet long, twenty-eight feet wide, and two stories high. Voted, That Lemuel Sanford, Thomas Williams, and Daniel Lion, (be) chosen committee for (building) s'd meeting-house."

"Feb. 23d, 1730-31. You that are of the minds that all those persons that do, or hereafter may inhabit in this parish, which profess themselves to be of the Church of England, shall have free liberty to come into this meeting-house that is now in building, and attend the Publick worship of God there, according to the articles of faith agreed upon by the assembly of Divines at Seabrook, and established by the laws of this Government, and be seated in s'd house according to their estates."

"November 3d, 1732. Stephen Burr hath undertaken to cart stones and clay for the underpinning the meeting house for 11b. 10s. 00d. Daniel Lion hath undertaken to underpin the meeting house and tend himself for 2 lbs. 4s. 0d. Daniel Lion hath undertaken to get the lath and lay them on for 3lb. 0s. 0d. Stephen Burr and Theophilus Hull are chosen committee to take care of the parsonage (probably to secure a parsonage for the expected preacher, as it is not likely that one was then built).

"It was as yet, however, a church without a pastor. Mr. Elisha Kent had been called in October, 1730, but had declined, as we infer from the silence of the records on the subject. A society-meeting held May 8, 1732, extended a similar call to the Rev. Timothy Mix, and deputed Deacon George Hull 'to go to the Association at Stamford to ask advice concerning the settlement of Mr. Mix;' but this call, as in the case

\* The following history of the churches was compiled by Mr. Charles Burr Todd, and published in his "History of Redding," issued in 1880.

† The corner-stone of the old church may still be seen on the common, a little south of a line drawn from Deacon Abbott's to the store lately occupied by Mr. Mandeville.

of Mr. Kent, seems to have been declined. At length a unanimous call was made to the Rev. Nathaniel Hunn, as follows:

"Jan. 31, 1732-33. At a society meeting held in the parish (of) Reading, George Hull chosen Moderator for s'd meting, Mr. Nathaniel Hunn by a *voit nemine contradicente* was made choise of for the minister of s'd parish, furthermore it was voited at s'd meting to settle upon the s'd Mr. Hunn's yearly salary as followeth, that is, for the first year of his administration, seventy pounds current money or bills of Public Credit in New England, the second year, seventy-five pounds, for the third year, eighty pounds, for the fourth year, eighty-five pounds, the fifth year, ninety pounds, the sixth year, ninety-five pounds, the seventh year, a hundred pounds, all in currant money as afores'd, and so on a hundred pounds a year during the term of his continuance in the ministry in s'd parish, and also to give the s'd Mr. Hunn the whole and sole privilege of all the parsonage land belonging to s'd parish, and to provide him his firewood, during the term aboves'd, also to find him a convenient dwelling-hous for the first five years, also to give the s'd Mr. Hunn, a hundred acres of land on or before the day of his ordination.'

"Feb. 20, 1732-33, 'it was voted that the ordination of Mr. Hunn shall be on the 21st day of March next,' and John Read and George Hull were chosen a committee 'to represent the parish concerning the ordination of Mr. Hunn.'

"The Rev. Sidney G. Law, in his Centennial Sermon, delivered at Redding, July 6, 1876, thus speaks of Mr. Hunn's pastorate:

"His first record is very brief for so important a matter,—viz., "March 21st, 1733, I was separated to the work of the ministry by prayer and fasting, and the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery." The next record gives the choice of deacons, viz.: "At a church meeting, March 23, 1733, we made choice of Stephen Burr for a deacon, and some time after we chose Theo. Hall to the same service. . . ." The next records relate to the adoption of Tate and Brady's version of the Psalms, first for one month, and then for the indefinite future.

"The first members of the church enumerated by Mr. Hunn were as follows: Col. John Read and wife, Theophilus Hull and wife, George Hull and wife, Peter Burr and wife, Daniel Lion and wife, Daniel Bradley and wife, Stephen Burr and wife, Ebenezer Hull and wife, John Griffen, Nathaniel Sanford, Thomas Fairchild, Lemuel Sanford, Benjamin Lion and wife, Mary wife of Richard Lion, Isaac Hull, Esther wife of Thomas Williams, Esther wife of Benjamin Hamilton. Thus it appears that the church was organized with twenty-six members, including the two deacons, about the time that Mr. Hunn was ordained,—viz., the 21st of March, 1733.

"Mr. Hunn married Ruth, a sister of Col. Read.\* He was pastor of the church sixteen years. During this time he received about ninety-two members into the church, the most of them by letter of recommendation from neighboring churches. He performed thirty-five marriages and one hundred and ninety-two baptisms. He died while on a journey, and was buried in Boston in 1749. His widow, Ruth Hunn, died in 1766, and was buried near her brother, Col. John Read, in the cemetery west of the parsonage.'

"Mr. Hunn's administration seems to have been a happy and prosperous one, and few events of importance occurred during its continuance.

"In 1738 it was voted 'to finish glassing the meting hous, and to finish seating the meting hous as is begun, and do something to the pulpit.' In 1739, 'Voted, That Sergt. Joseph Lee shall get Mr. Hun's wood, and have seven pounds for it.' 'Voted, That the place for putting up warnings for society meet-

ings be changed from Umpawaug to the mill door.' In 1740, 'Voted, To rectifie the meting hous in the following articles,—viz., to put in new glass where it is wanting, and to mend the old. To lay some beams in the gallery and double floor. To fasten the meting hous doors; to make stairs up the gallery; to put a rail on the foreshide of the gallery,' and 'that the place for parish meeting shall be at the school house, by the meting hous for the future.' In 1741, 'Voted, To seat the meting hous in the lower part with plain strong seats.' In 1742, 'Voted, To impower the parish committee to agree with a person to beat the drum as a signal to call the people together on the sabbath.' Again Feb. 15, 1743-44, it was 'Voted, That the timber and boards provided for seating the meeting-house shall be improved to that end for the use of the Parish.'

"Mr. Hunn died in the summer or fall of 1749, and for the four following years the church was without a pastor. A call was extended to Mr. Solomon Mead in March, 1751, without success, and in November of the same year to the Rev. Izrahiah Wetmore, with a like result. The interim was improved by the people, however, in building a new church, which stood nearly on the site of the present edifice.

"It was probably completed and ready for use early in the summer of 1752, as on the 22d of June of that year a call was extended to the Rev. Mr. Tammage to be their preacher, and the old meeting-house was sold to Jehu Burr for thirty-four pounds. The copy is from the records of a society-meeting held at Widow Sanford's, June 23, 1763:

"Put to vote whether the meeting-house of s'd society shall be seated in ye form following viz. a com'te being appointed to Dignify ye pews and other seats in s'd Meeting House the Respective members of s'd society shall sit in s'd pews and seats according to their Rank and Degree to be computed by their several lists and age. viz. upon ye two last years lists, and to allow three pound per year to be added to a person's List for his advancement in a seat, and all at ye discretion of s'd com'te who shall be appointed to Dignify s'd pews and seats, and to inspect the Respective lists and ages of s'd members.'

"The committee appointed was Joseph Sanford, Ebenezer Couch, and Stephen Burr; but, Messrs. Sanford and Burr declining to act, Ephraim Jackson and Joseph Banks were chosen in their place. This committee was unable to settle the question satisfactorily, and a meeting was held Aug. 11, 1763, at which the following action was taken:

"It was put to vote whether the Dignity of ye pews and seats in ye meeting-house should be in the following manner viz. ye pew adjoining ye pulpit stairs first in Dignity: ye Pew adjoining the grait doors, west side, second in dignity: the fore seat third in Dignity, the second pew west of ye pulpit, fourth, the second seat, fifth: the second pew north from the west door sixth: the fifth pew north of ye west door, seventh: the third pew north of the west door, eighth: the second pew west of ye grait doors, ninth: the first pew south of ye west door, tenth: the third seat, eleventh: the second pew south of the west door, twelfth: the fourth seat, thirteenth: the front seat in ye gallery, fourteenth: the fore seat on ye side of the gallery, fifteenth: the pews and seats upon ye east end of ye meeting-house of Equal Dignity with those upon the west side in the same manner and order as they are above mentioned. Passed in the negative.'

\* She was a daughter of the Hon. John Read, who settled at Lunetown in 1714. Both Mr. Law and Mr. Barber are in error in supposing that the original John Read lived and died in Redding. He removed to Boston in 1722, and his son John succeeded to his title and to the manor at Lunetown. The latter is the one mentioned in these records.



"Three months later another meeting was called, and adopted the following plan :

"The respective members of the society shall sit in ye pews and seats of the meeting house of s'd society according to their rank or degree, to be computed by their respective lists and ages, viz. upon the lists given in upon the years 1751 and 1761 and 1762, and to allow three pounds per year to be added to a person's list for his advancement in a seat or pew the Respective lists and ages of s'd members are to be inspected, also to give the committee chosen at this meeting power to seat those that are new comers, and have not . . . in s'd society, to seat them at said committee's discretion.

"Likewise to seat ye Widows in s'd Society at the best of ye Committee's judgment, which method of seating s'd meeting house shall continue until s'd Society at their meeting shall order otherwise.

"Also voted, That s'd com'te shall seat those women whose husbands belong to the Church of England at their discretion."

"The Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett, the second pastor of the church, was ordained May 23, 1753, the next year after the church was built.

"Mr. Bartlett came to Redding when a young man, and continued pastor of the church for fifty-seven years. In the War of Independence Mr. Bartlett's sympathies were entirely with the patriot cause; two of his sons entered the army, munitions of war were stored in his house, and he himself frequently officiated as chaplain during the encampment of Putnam's division in the town in the winter of 1779. Mr. Bartlett died Jan. 11, 1810, and was buried in the old cemetery west of the church. The inscription upon his tombstone reads as follows :

"THE REV. NATHANIEL BARTLETT.

"Died January 11, 1810, aged 83 years.

"I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.—JESUS CHRIST."

"During the entire period of Mr. Bartlett's ministry we have in the church records but one entry of importance, and that is of interest as marking the organization of the Episcopal Society in the town. This entry is as follows :

"To Seth S. Smith of Redding, in Fairfield Co. Greeting, Whereas by law the Episcopal Church in said Redding is become a distinct society whereby the members of the Presbyterian church in said Redding have become the first society in said town. These are therefore by authority of the State of Connecticut to command you to warn and give notice to all the members of said first society, and all others who by law are obliged to contribute towards the support, and the worship, and the ministry with the same, to meet at the meeting-house in said Redding on Monday the 20th of December at 12 in order to choose a moderator and necessary officers.

"REDDING, December 14, 1785."

"The Rev. Jonathan Bartlett, third minister of the church, was ordained as colleague with his father, Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett, in 1796. The first of the church records in his handwriting is as follows :

"Feb. 3, 1796. I was separated to the work of the ministry and ordained as colleague with my father Nathaniel Bartlett over the Congregational Church in Redding in Gospel order and form. The ministers who performed the work were as follows, viz.,—the Rev. Israhel Wetmore chosen Moderator, Robert Ross made the ordaining prayer, Elisha Rexford made the introductory prayer, David Ely preached the sermon. Imposition of hands by N. Bartlett, R. Ross, and Rexford. John Ely gave the right hand of fellowship, Samuel W. Stebbins made the concluding prayer."

"Rev. Daniel Crocker, of Bedford, N. Y., was called in August, 1809, as colleague with Rev. Na-

thaniel Bartlett. He was a good man and a successful pastor, and served the church fifteen years, being dismissed in 1824. The Rev. Charles De Witt Tappan was called, but not settled. The next pastor chosen was Mr. William C. Kniffen, in 1825; he was dismissed in 1828. The Rev. Burr Baldwin was next called, but not settled. The next pastor was the Rev. William L. Strong, formerly pastor at Somers, Tolland Co., Conn.; he was installed June 23, 1830, and dismissed Feb. 26, 1835. In September, 1835, following Mr. Strong's dismissal, a subscription was commenced for the erection of the present church edifice, which was built in 1836. The expense was not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars, with the old meeting-house. In December of the same year a unanimous call was extended to the Rev. David C. Comstock, but was not accepted at that time. In March, 1837, Rev. Daniel E. Manton was called, but not settled. In June of the same year the Rev. Jeremiah Miller was called, and was installed July 12, 1837; Mr. Miller was dismissed in 1839. In the following year, 1840, Mr. David C. Comstock was ordained and installed pastor of the church; he was dismissed in 1845. After him Daniel D. Frost, after preaching as stated supply for eighteen months, was ordained Dec. 30, 1845; he continued pastor ten years, being dismissed Oct. 13, 1856. In 1857 the pulpit was supplied by the Rev. Mr. Root. In 1858 the Rev. Enoch S. Huntington supplied the pulpit one year; he presented the communion-service to the church, for which he received its thanks. In 1859 the church was remodeled and painted, receiving the beautiful fresco which still adorns it. In 1860, Rev. W. D. Herrick became pastor, and so continued until 1864. After him Rev. E. B. Huntington, and also Rev. Mr. Barnum, preached for a short time. Rev. S. F. Farmer supplied in 1865. Rev. K. B. Glidden was installed Sept. 12, 1866; resigned December, 1868. In 1869 the Rev. Charles Chamberlain became acting pastor. He resigned in September, 1871.

"Rev. Sidney G. Law, acting pastor, June 1, 1872, and after a prosperous ministry of six years resigned in 1878.

"Rev. W. J. Jennings, the present pastor, was installed Dec. 17, 1879.

"The complete list of those who have served it as pastors, with the date of their ordination and dismissal, is as follows: Nathaniel Hunn, settled March 21, 1733, died 1749; Nathaniel Bartlett, settled May 23, 1753, died Jan. 11, 1810; Jonathan Bartlett, settled Feb. 3, 1796, dismissed June 7, 1809, died March 22, 1858; Daniel Crocker, settled Oct. 4, 1809, dismissed Oct. 24, 1824; William C. Kniffen, settled June 8, 1825, dismissed Dec. 17, 1828; William L. Strong, settled June 23, 1830, dismissed Feb. 26, 1835; Jeremiah Miller, settled July 12, 1837, dismissed July 23, 1839; David C. Comstock, settled March 4, 1840, dismissed April 8, 1845; Daniel D. Frost, settled Dec. 30, 1846, dismissed Oct. 15, 1856; Enoch S. Hunting-

ton, settled 1858, dismissed 1859; W. D. Herrick, settled 1860, dismissed 1864; K. B. Glidden, settled Sept. 12, 1866, dismissed December, 1868; Charles Chamberlain, settled 1869, dismissed September, 1871; Sidney G. Law, settled June 1, 1872, dismissed June 1, 1878.

"Deacons: Stephen Burr, appointed 1733; Theophilus Hull, appointed 1733; Lemuel Sanford, appointed 1740; Daniel Mallory, appointed 1740; Joseph Banks, appointed 1776; Simon Couch, appointed 1776; Lemuel Sanford, appointed 1785; Stephen Betts, appointed 1785; Lemuel Sanford, appointed 1808; Aaron Read, appointed 1808; Joel Foster, appointed 1820; Lemuel Hawley, appointed 1832; Samuel Read, appointed 1832; Charles D. Smith, appointed 1854; Rufus Meade, appointed 1854; Thaddeus M. Abbott, appointed 1854.

"The present membership of the church is 119,—males, 40; females, 79."

#### CHRIST CHURCH.\*

"The present town of Redding is one of the few places in the old colony of Connecticut where the Episcopal ministry is entitled to the distinction of having been first on the ground, laying foundations and not building upon those already laid. The Church of England was not planted in New England without strenuous and bitter opposition from the Puritans, who were first in the field. By old English law, indeed, that church was established in all the plantations; yet it is manifest from the records of the colonial legislation of the charter government of Connecticut that previously to 1727 the church of which the king was a member was not recognized as having a right to exist. Congregationalism was the established religion, 'in opposition to which there could be no ministry or church administration entertained or attended by the inhabitants of any town or plantation, upon penalty of fifty pounds for every breach of this act;' and every person in the colony was obliged to pay taxes for the support of this establishment.

"In this uncongenial soil the Anglican Church of Connecticut was planted,—strange to say, not by foreign-born missionaries, but by seceders from the ministry of the Congregationalists. The pioneers in this movement were Timothy Cutler, rector of Yale College; Daniel Brown, tutor; James Wetmore, of North Haven; and Samuel Johnson, of West Haven, a former tutor in the college. These gentlemen, after a professedly careful and prayerful examination of the subject of church order, discipline, and worship, which resulted in a conviction that the English Church followed most closely the teaching of the Scriptures and the practice of the church of the first ages, sent to the trustees of the college a formal statement of their views and declared for Episcopacy,—to the no small surprise and consternation of their col-

leagues in the college and church. The four went to England for episcopal ordination, where Brown died. The three survivors returned in 1722, as missionaries of the 'Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts,' Johnson only being sent to Connecticut. The ante-Revolutionary history of the church at Redding Ridge is mostly to be found in the archives of this society, as published in the 'Documentary History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Connecticut,' and the Rev. Dr. Beardsley's 'History of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut,' from which sources, mainly, this sketch has been compiled.

"A letter was addressed to the secretary of the S. P. G., dated Oct. 19, 1722, signed by John Glover and twelve other heads of families in Newtown, Thomas Wheeler, of Woodbury, and Moses Knapp, of Chestnut Ridge, thanking the society for the services of the Rev. George Pigot, missionary at Stratford, and earnestly soliciting the appointment of a missionary for themselves at Newtown.

"The next year, 1723, Mr. Pigot was transferred to Newport, R. I., and the Rev. Samuel Johnson, his successor at Stratford, 'accepted all his missionary duties in Connecticut.'

"In 1727 the Rev. Henry Caner [pronounce *Canner*] was sent to Fairfield, of which town Chestnut Ridge was a part. After having named in his report the several villages or hamlets in the vicinity of his station, he says, 'Besides these, there is a village northward from Fairfield about eighteen miles, containing near twenty families, where there is no minister at all, of any denomination whatsoever; the name of it is Chestnut Ridge, and where I usually preach or lecture once in three weeks.' In 1728 he says there are four villages 'about Fairfield,'—Green Farms, Greenfield, Poquannuck, and Chestnut Ridge, three of them about four miles distant, the last *about sixteen*. The same year the name of Moses Knapp appears as a vestryman of the church at Fairfield.

"In 1729, 'Moses Knapp, Nathan Lion, and Daniel Crofoot' objected, in a meeting of the [Presbyterian] 'Society of Redding' 'against' the 'hiring' any other than a minister of the Church of England. These three names appear again in the list of Mr. Beach's parishioners in 1738. The Rev. Dr. Burhams [*Churchman's Magazine*, 1823] says, 'The first churchman in Reading was a Mr. Richard Lyon, from Ireland, who died as early as 1735.' He also says, on the authority of 'an aged member of the Church in Reading,' that 'Messrs. [Richard?] Lyon, [Stephen] Morehouse, [Moses] Knapp, [Joshua] Hall, [William] Hill, [Daniel] Crofoot, and [Lieut. Samuel] Fairchild appear to have composed the first Church in Reading.' Nathan Lyon died in 1757, in the fifty-fourth year of his age. Mr. Caner reported in 1728 seven families at Chestnut Ridge, the number reminding us of the 'House of Wisdom' with its 'Seven Pillars,' as the first Puritan organization at New Haven was named.

"Mr. Caner was succeeded at Chestnut Ridge,

\* Contributed to Todd's history by Rev. Alanson Welton.



in 1732, by the Rev. John Beach, a pupil of Johnson in Yale College, and afterwards Presbyterian minister at Newtown for several years. As Mr. Beach was a resident of East Redding for about twenty years, and pastor of this church full half a century, his history is substantially that of the parish, or mission, over which he presided. His pastorate was the longest of all the ante-Revolutionary clergy. He was born in Stratford, Oct. 6, 1700; graduated from Yale at the age of twenty-one, and licensed to preach soon afterwards. He is said to have been selected for the Presbyterian pastorate at Newtown as a 'popular and insinuating young man,' well fitted to check the growth of Episcopacy, which was there thriving under the ministry of Caner and Johnson. Many churchmen must have 'joined in settling him with Presbyterian ordination,' for in 1722 they claimed to be a majority of the population, whereas, for some time *after* his 'settlement,' Mr. Johnson ministered to only about five families. 'From these visits . . . frequent and earnest discussions resulted between the two teachers, the influence of which was soon evident to Mr. Beach's congregation.' After two or three years of patient study and meditation he alarmed his congregation by his frequent use of the Lord's Prayer, and still more by reading whole chapters from the Word of God. Next he ventured to condemn a custom, common in their meetings, of rising and bowing to the minister as he came in among them, and instead of which he begged them to kneel down and worship God. At length (in January, 1731), 'after he had been a preacher more than eight years, he told them from the pulpit that "from a serious and prayerful examination of the Scriptures, and of the records of the early ages of the church, and from the universal acknowledgment of Episcopal government for fifteen hundred years, compared with the recent establishment of Presbyterian and Congregational discipline," he was fully persuaded of the invalidity of his ordination, and of the unscriptural method of organizing and governing congregations as by them practiced. He therefore, "In the face of Almighty God," had made up his mind to 'conform to the Church of England, as being apostolical in her ministry and discipline, orthodox in her doctrine, and primitive in her worship.' He affectionately exhorted them to weigh the subject well, engaged to provide for the due administration of the sacraments while absent from them, and spoke of his intended return from England in holy orders. So greatly was he beloved that a large proportion of his people seemed ready to acquiesce in his determination. But the others, in evident alarm and consternation at this 'threatened defection from their ranks,' held a town-meeting 'to consult' as to 'what was possible to be done with the Rev. Mr. John Beach, under present difficulties;' 'voted to have a (day of) solemn fasting and prayer; . . . to call in the Ecclesiastical Council of Fairfield to direct and do what they shall think

proper, under the . . . difficult circumstances respecting the Rev. Mr. Beach, and the inhabitants of the town of Newtown; also that the first Wednesday of February (1732) be appointed for the fast.'

"The council met, and in spite of Mr. Beach's remonstrances proceeded to depose him from the ministry. 'From this resulted a printed discussion' between him and his deponents, which ultimately helped rather than hindered the Church of England.

"Mr. Beach returned from England in Episcopal orders, and took charge of the Newtown and Redding mission in the autumn of 1732. From this period his history and that of his mission may be more accurately told in the language of his own letters to the secretary of the S. P. G.

"NEWTOWN IN CONNECTICUT, August 7th, 1735.

"REVEREND SIR: I think it my duty to acquaint the venerable Society with the present state of my parish, although the alteration since my last has not been very considerable. I have baptized twenty-nine children and admitted twenty-five persons more to the communion, so that the number . . . now at Newtown, Reading, and the places adjacent is ninety-five. I preach frequently and administer the Sacrament at Ridgefield, . . . about eighteen miles distant, . . . where there are about fourteen or eighteen families of very serious and religious people who have a just esteem of the Church of England, and are very desirous to have the opportunity of worshiping God in that way. I have constantly preached one Sunday at Newtown, and the other at Reading; and after I have preached at Reading in the day-time, I . . . preach at Newtown in the evening; and although I have not that success I could wish for, yet I do, and hope I always shall, faithfully endeavor (as far as my poor ability will allow) to promote that good work that the venerable Society sent and maintained for me. I am, Rev. Sir,

"Your most humble servant,  
"JOHN BEACH."

"As a specimen of his manner of defending himself against personal attacks we have the following from a controversial pamphlet, in reply to John Dickinson, of New Jersey, in 1736:

"I have evened the scale of my judgment as much as possibly I could, and to the best of my knowledge I have not allowed one *grain* of worldly motive on either side. I have supposed myself on the brink of eternity, just going into the other world to give up my account to my great Judge; and must I be branded for an antichrist or heretic, or apostate, because my judgment determines that the Church of England is most agreeable to the Word of God? I can speak in the presence of God, who knows my heart better than you do, that I would willingly turn Dissenter again, if you or any man living will show me reason for it. But it must be reason (whereby I exclude not the Word of God, which is the highest reason), and not sophistry and calumny, as you have hitherto used, that will convince a lover of truth and right."

"In 1739 he says,—

"I have one hundred and twenty-three communicants, but they live so far distant from each other that commonly I can administer to no more than about fifty at once, which occasions my administering it the more frequently; and, though I meet with many discouragements, yet I have this satisfaction, that all my communicants (one or two excepted) do adorn their profession by a sober, righteous, and godly life."

"In 1743, some three years after Whitefield began his famous 'revival of Puritanism,' Mr. Beach says,—

"My people are not at all shaken, but rather confirmed, in their principles by the spirit of enthusiasm that rages among the Independents roundabout us; and many of the Dissenters, observing how steadfast our people are, . . . while those of their own denomination are easily carried away with every kind of doctrine, have conceived a much better opinion of our Church than they formerly had, and a considerable number in this colony have lately conformed, and several churches are now building where they have no minister. . . . Were there in this

country but one of the Episcopal order to whom young men might apply for ordination without the expense and danger of a voyage to England, many of our towns might be supplied which must now remain destitute.\* My people are poor, and have but few negro slaves, but all they have, I have, after instruction, baptized, and some of them are communicants.'

"In October of the same year he says,—

"I beg the venerable Society's direction in an affair I am just now perplexed with. There are about twenty families . . . at New Milford and New Fairfield, which are about fifteen miles hence. I preach to them several times a year, but seldom on the Lord's day. They frequently come to church at Newtown; but, by reason of the distance, they can't attend constantly, and their families very seldom, and when they can't come to church they meet together in their own town, and one of their number reads some part of the common prayer and a sermon. They are now building a church. . . . But the Independents, to suppress the design in its infancy, . . . have lately prosecuted and fined them for their meeting to worship God according to the common prayer. . . . The case of these poor people is very hard; if, on the Lord's day, they continue at home, they must be punished; if they meet to worship God according to the Church of England in the best manner they can, the mulct is much greater; and if they go to the Independent meeting, . . . they must endure the mortification of hearing the Church vilified.'

"After the death of the Rev. Joshua Honeyman, missionary at Newport, R. I., in 1750, the church of which he had the care petitioned the society that Mr. Beach might be sent to them as their minister. The petition was granted, but Mr. Beach felt constrained, on account of feeble health, to decline the appointment, fearing, as he said, that 'the people might complain that a worn-out man was imposed upon them.'

"The first church on Redding Ridge, which was built in 1733 and was quite small, was in 1750 replaced by another on the same site, fifty feet long and thirty-six wide, surmounted by a turret, which in 1797 was replaced by a steeple, in which was placed the first bell. This church, according to the style of the period, was furnished with square, high-backed pews, with seats on their four sides; so that some of their occupants had to sit with their backs to the minister. And though others doubtless besides Bishop Jarvis 'could see no necessary connection between piety and freezing,' there was no heating-apparatus in the churches until considerably past the beginning of the present century. 'Trinity church, New Haven, had no means of being warmed until 1822, and none of the rural churches were supplied with stoves until a much later period.' Many persons in the rural districts were in the habit of walking several miles, barefooted, to church in summer, and probably did not feel the lack of shoes a great privation. So common was it for men to go to church without their coats that the first time Bishop Seabury preached in New Haven a dissenting hearer reported that 'he preached in his shirt-sleeves.' Often the family was mounted, the parents with a child in arms to be christened, upon one horse, and the older children upon another. Sometimes the whole family were clustered together upon the ox-cart or sled, and thus they went up to the house of God.

"In 1759, three years after the breaking out of the 'Old French War,' Mr. Beach, writing from 'Reading, Connecticut, in N. England,' says,—

"My parish is in a flourishing condition, in all respects, excepting that we have lost some of our young men in the army; more, indeed, by sickness than by the sword, for this countrymen do not bear a campaign so well as Europeans.'

"Dr. Johnson's playful remark to his son, that 'Mr. Beach had always these seeming inconsistencies, to be always dying, and yet relishing mundane things,' would seem to indicate that his friend was not really so near death's door as he often imagined himself; for example, in 1761, when he says, 'My painful and weak state of body admonishes me that, although this may not be the last time of my writing, yet the last cannot be far off;' and he had supposed himself a 'worn-out man' several years before.

"Writing from 'New-Town, Oct. 3, 1764,' he reports,—

"My congregation at Reading has increased very little for some years past, by reason that many who were wont to attend there, though living at a distance of 6, 8, or 10 miles, have lately built [each] a small church near them, where they can more conveniently meet; viz., at Danbury, Ridgbury, North Fairfield, and North Stratford; which has very much retarded the growth of the congregation at Reading, which . . . now consists of about 300 hearers at one time.'

Under date of April, 1765, he says,—

"I am now engaged in a controversy with some of the Independent Ministers about these absurd doctrines, the sum of which is contained in a thesis published by New Haven College last September. . . . They expressly deny that there is any law of Grace, which promises eternal life upon the condition of faith, repentance, and sincere obedience; and assert justification only by the law of innocence and sinless obedience. Though my health is small, and my abilities less, I make it a rule never to enter into any dispute with them unless they begin, yet now they have made the assault, and advocate such monstrous errors as do subvert the Gospel, I think myself obliged by my ordination vow to guard the people as well as I can against such strange doctrines.'

"Again he writes in October of the same year, after the publication of that precursor of Revolution, the memorable 'Stamp Act' of 1765,—

"My parishes continue much in the same condition as in my last. I have of late, taken pains to warn my people against having any concern with seditious tumults with relation to the stamp duty enjoined upon us by the Legislature at home; and I can with truth and pleasure say, that I cannot discover the least inclination towards rebellious conduct in any of the Church people.'

"A year later he says,—

"For some time past I have not been without fear of being abused by a lawless set of men who style themselves the Sons of Liberty, for no other reason than that of endeavoring to cherish in my people a quiet submission to the civil government. . . . It is very remarkable that in part of this Colony, in which many missions and Church people abound, there the people are vastly more peaceable and ready to render obedience to the Government of England; but where there is no mission and few or no Church people, they are continually caballing, and will spill the last drop of blood rather than submit to the late Act of Parliament.'

"In 1767 he says,—

"It is some satisfaction to me to observe that in this town [Newtown] of late, in our elections, the Church people make the major vote, which is the first instance of this kind in this Colony, if not in all New England.'

"Again in 1769,—

"There are in these two parishes about 2400 souls, of whom a little more than half profess the Church of England. Here are about fifty negroes, most of whom after proper instruction have been baptized. . . .

\* This letter is dated at "Reading, in New England," as all his published reports are, between 1740 and 1760.



Here are no heathens or infidels. I commonly baptize about 100 children in one year, among them some black children. My actual communicants are 312. Here are no Papists or Deists.'

"In 1771 he writes,—

"In Reading, my hearers at once are about 300. There is a meeting of Presbyterians about two and a half miles from our Church, in which the congregation is not so large as ours. In a manner all . . . who live near the Church, join with us; scarce any go by the Church to meeting.' 'The Church' (he says in 1774) 'stands not in the centre of the town, but on one side to accommodate the Church people, who live near, though out of the bounds of Reading.'

"One of the most interesting of his reports is that of May 5, 1772:

"It is now forty years since I have had the advantage of being the venerable Society's Missionary in this place. . . . Every Sunday I have performed divine service, and preached twice at New Town and Reading alternately; and in these forty years I have lost only two Sundays through sickness, although in all that time I have been afflicted with a constant choleric which has not allowed me one day's ease, or freedom from pain. The distance between the Church . . . is between eight and nine miles, and no very good road; yet I have never failed . . . to attend at each place according to custom, through the badness of the weather, but have rode it in the severest rains and snow-storms, even when there has been no track, and my horse near sinking down in the snow-banks, which has had this good effect on my parishioners, that they are ashamed to stay from Church on account of bad weather. . . . I have performed divine service in many towns where the Common Prayer had never been heard, nor the Holy Scriptures read in public, and where now are flourishing congregations of the Church of England; and in some places where there never had been any public worship at all, nor sermon preached by any teacher, of any denomination.

"In my traveling to preach the Gospel, once was my life remarkably preserved, in passing a deep and rapid river. The retrospect of my fatigues, lying on straw, &c., gives me pleasure; while I flatter myself that my labor has not been quite in vain; for the Church of England people are increased more than 20 to 1, and, what is infinitely more pleasing, many of them remarkable for piety and virtue; and the Independents here are more knowing in matters of religion than they who live at a distance from the Church. We live in harmony and peace with each other, and the rising generation of Independents seem to be entirely free from every pique and prejudice against the Church.'

"In a previous report he said,—

"They who set up the worship of God according to our Liturgy, at Laneshoro', at Nobletown, and Arlington, proceed chiefly from my parishes. But notwithstanding these frequent emigrations, my congregations increase.'

"His last report, which was made about six months before his death, is dated Oct. 31, 1781, and is as follows:

"It is a long time since I have done my duty in writing to the venerable Society, not owing to my carelessness, but to the impossibility of conveyance from here. And now I do it sparingly. A narrative of my troubles I dare not now give. My two congregations are growing, that at Reading being commonly about 300 and at New Town about 600. I baptized about 130 children in one year, and lately 2 adults. New Town and the Church of England part of Reading are, I believe, the only parts of New England that have refused to comply with the doings of Congress, and for that reason have been the butt of general hatred. But God has preserved us from entire destruction.

"I am now in the 82d year of my age; yet do constantly, alternately, perform and preach at New Town and Reading. I have been 60 years a public preacher, and, after conviction, in the Church of England 50 years; but had I been sensible of my inefficiency, I should not have undertaken it. But now I rejoice in that I think I have done more good towards men's eternal happiness, than I should have done in any other calling.

"I do most heartily thank the venerable Society for their liberal support, and beg that they will accept of this, which is, I believe, my last bill, viz.: £325, which, according to former custom, is due.\* At

this age I cannot well hope for it, but I pray God I may have an opportunity to explain myself with safety; but must conclude now with Job's expression: "Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends!"

"Tradition has preserved a few incidents in his experience during the war of Independence.

"In the autumn of 1775 several officers of the militia, having collected a number of soldiers and volunteers from the different towns in Western Connecticut, undertook to subdue the Tories. They went first to Newtown, where they put Mr. Beach, the selectmen, and other principal inhabitants under strict guard, and urged them to sign the Articles of Association prescribed by the Congress at Philadelphia. When they could prevail upon them neither by persuasion nor by threats, they accepted a bond from them, with a large pecuniary penalty, not to take up arms against the colonies, and not to discourage enlistments into the American forces.

"Shortly after the declaration of independence—i.e., July 23, 1776—the Episcopal clergy of the colony, fearing to continue the use of the Liturgy as it then stood,—praying for the king and royal family,—and conscientiously scrupulous about violating their oaths and subscriptions, resolved to suspend the public exercise of their ministry. 'All the churches were thus for a time closed, except those under the care of Mr. Beach. . . . He continued to officiate as usual' (as himself testifies) during the war. 'Though gentle as a lamb in the intercourse of private life, he was bold as a lion in the discharge of public duty: and when warned of personal violence if he persisted, he declared that he would do his duty, preach, and pray for the king till the rebels cut out his tongue.'

"Whether the following were separate incidents, or are but different versions of one and the same, is uncertain. It is related that a squad of soldiers marched into his church in Newtown and threatened to shoot him if he prayed for the king; but when, regardless of their threats, he went on, without so much as a tremor in his voice, to offer the forbidden supplications, they were so struck with admiration for his courage that they stacked their arms and remained to listen to the sermon.

"A band of soldiers entered his church during service, seized him, and declared that they would kill him. He entreated that, if his blood must be shed, it might not be in the house of God. Thereupon they took him into the street, where an ax and block were soon prepared. 'Now, you old sinner,' said one, 'say your last prayer.' He knelt down and prayed: 'God bless King George, and forgive all his enemies and mine, for Christ's sake.' One of the mob then pleaded to 'let the old fellow go, and take some younger man instead.'

"The following is familiar to the people of Redding Ridge parish. The old church of 1750 had a single door in the centre, and the pulpit and chancel were at the west end, opposite the door. A squad of

\* Probably at £50 per annum for six years and a half, or from 1775.

soldiers, seven in number (hired, it is said, by 'Squire Betts, with a gallon of French brandy to shoot Mr. Beach), gathered before the open door of the church, and from one of them a bullet was fired which lodged in one of the ribs of the sounding-board, a foot or more above the head of the venerable preacher. As the congregation sprang to their feet in unfeigned consternation to rush from the church, he quieted them by saying, 'Don't be alarmed, brethren. Fear not them that kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell;' and then proceeded with his discourse as if nothing had happened.

"The 'History of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut' informs us that 'the Redding Association of Loyalists was a strong body whose secret influence was felt throughout the mission of the venerable pastor;' but how or in what way that influence was exerted does not appear. The 'Sons of Liberty' have been already mentioned in Mr. Beach's reports.

"After the death of Mr. Beach, in 1782, the Revs. Richard Samuel Clarke and Andrew Fowler officiated here alternately for a short time. Clarke emigrated to Nova Scotia with others of the missionaries, and many of the members of their flocks, in 1784 or 1785. He returned on a visit in October, 1786. The discontinuance of the stipends of the missionaries by the S. P. G., whose charter restricted its benefactions to the British provinces and plantations, was a severe blow to the Episcopal churches, which had been already greatly weakened by the effects of the war of the Revolution. Mr. Beach's congregations were exceptions to the general rule, in that they increased while others diminished in numbers; but whether few or many of the Redding churchmen formed a part of the thirty thousand loyalists who, Hawkins says, emigrated to the British provinces from New England and New York, it is impossible to ascertain. It is not probable, however, that there were half that number of churchmen in all New England at the close of the war.

"The next name on the list of ministers of this parish is that of Truman Marsh, in 1785, who 'visited the Parish every third Sunday;' but, as he was not ordained till 1790, he must have been only a licensed lay-reader, though it is not improbable that he *preached*, as some of that class did in those days, when there was a dearth of ordained ministers. In 1794 the Rev. David Perry, M.D., minister of the parishes of Redding, Ridgefield, and Danbury, in consequence of some reports to his disadvantage as a clergyman and of some errors in regard to baptism, was suspended from the ministry, and the next year, at his own request, deposed. He returned to the practice of medicine in Ridgefield.

"The revenues of the church were gathered after the Revolution much as they were before. 'The Episcopal parishes were taxed to build churches and to sustain religious services, and the Diocesan Conven-

tion assessed the parishes to provide for the bishop's fund. Each parish was required to make an annual return of what was called the 'grand levy,'—that is, its taxable list according to its last enrollment,—and upon this return rested the right of a lay delegate to his seat in the Convention. The resolution which fixed this rule was adopted in 1803. The first published grand levy appeared in the journal of 1806, and from that time onward for fifteen years the roll of the lay delegates was accompanied by the taxable list of the several parishes which they represented. If the list of any parish exceeded ten thousand dollars, such parish was entitled to . . . two delegates.' The grand levy of the Redding parish in 1806 was twelve thousand nine hundred and sixty dollars.

"It is interesting to note the changes since that period in the relative wealth of the church in Connecticut. In those early days, as reported, Litchfield was stronger than Waterbury or Hartford, Woodbridge was stronger than Meriden, Huntington than Derby, Redding than Bridgeport, and Newtown than New Haven.'

"The longest pastorate since Mr. Beach was that of his great-grandson, the Rev. Lemuel B. Hull, who resigned his charge in 1836, after twelve years' service. 'In 1815 a fund of a little more than three thousand dollars was raised.'

"On the second Tuesday in October, 1833,—the year in which the present church edifice was built,—the Annual Convention of the diocese at Norwich failed to organize for want of two more lay delegates to form a quorum. 'On the morning of that day, at three o'clock, the steamboat "New England," on her passage from New York to Hartford, having on board seventy-one persons, burst both her boilers near Essex, and eight persons were immediately killed and thirteen seriously injured. Among those who were fatally injured were Mr. John M. Heron and Dr. Samuel B. Whiting, lay delegates from Christ Church, Redding; and they were within a mile of their landing-place at the time of the accident.'

"In the spring of that year several members of the parish withdrew by certificate; among these was John Meeker, clerk.

"At a parish meeting, Oct. 25, 1834, the vestry were instructed 'to take proper [legal] steps to procure the Records of the Parish from the hands of the late Clerk, without delay.' At another meeting in December following, the agents of the parish (James Sanford, Jr., and Charles Beach) were authorized to 'prosecute to final judgment such suits as they should deem necessary for the recovery of the books, records, funds, or other property of the Society, before any Court proper to try the same.'

"In October, 1835, fifty dollars were appropriated from the parish treasury 'to enable the agents to carry on the suit commenced against the heirs of John Meeker, deceased.' Some money was thus recovered, but the records have never yet been found.



"In 1847 the old parish debt of eight hundred and seventy dollars (incurred in the building of the church in 1833) was paid by subscription.

"In 1850 the parish fund, about two thousand seven hundred dollars, which before had been held as a loan by members of the parish, was by a considerable effort, and against the desire and judgment of the minority, collected and invested in the stock of the Fairfield County Bank. The same year the church edifice was altered and repaired at an expense of three hundred and eighty dollars and twenty-five cents.

"On Advent Sunday' of this year, 'the last Sunday of my ministry' (says the Rev. Joseph P. Taylor), 'the sum of six hundred dollars was collected at the offertory for the purpose of building a new parsonage.'

"The above-named sum,' says the Rev. Orsamus H. Smith, his successor, 'having been put upon the plate in written pledges, there remains of them unredeemed in April, 1853, from fifty to one hundred dollars,' which being 'part of the money relied upon for the building, . . . the Vestry were obliged to borrow it, and it remains a debt upon the parish.' The new house was finished in October, 1851, and immediately occupied by the family of Mr. Smith.

"In 1858 says the Rev. W. W. Bronson, 'The glebe lot was very much improved by the purchase of a strip of land [on the west side] and the erection of a suitable fence, mainly through the exertions of the ladies of the parish.'

"In 1863 the organ was repaired, and the broken bell replaced by a new one of a similar tone, from Meneeley's, at Troy.

"In 1873 the church-spire was repaired, and the old [English] weathercock, a relic of colonial times (one of whose legs had been shot off by one of Tryon's soldiers in 1777), having persistently refused to remain upon his perch, was excused from further duty, and a gilded cross erected in his place. The venerable bird, however, is still to be seen on one of the outbuildings of the great-grandson of the Rev. John Beach, in East Redding. The parsonage was adorned in 1874 with a new and spacious veranda, in 1876 with a set of blinds.

"The noticeable incidents of the present year (1879) are the destruction of the church-sheds by fire on the evening of the 12th of May, and the acquisition of a baptismal font of Italian marble, purchased with contributions of the Sunday-school and other members of the parish, collected during the rectorship of the Rev. Mr. Kelley. The number of nominal communicants is sixty-five; of baptized persons, about one hundred and twenty.

"The following is a list of ministers officiating in the parish of Christ Church, Redding: Rev. Henry Caner, 1727 to 1732; Rev. John Beach, October, 1732, to March 19, 1782; Rev. R. S. Clarke, Rev. Andrew Fowler (alternates), 1782; Rev. Truman

Marsh, 1785; Rev. David Belden, 1786;\* Rev. Ambrose Hull, 1789 to 1791; Rev. David Perry, M.D., 1791;† Rev. David Butler, Jan. 20, 1799, to 1804; Rev. Elijah G. Plumb, Jan. 30, 1806, to 1811; Rev. Reuben Hubbard, 1812 to 1818; Rev. Ambrose S. Todd, D.D., 1820 to 1823; Rev. Lemuel B. Hull, 1824 to Feb. 23, 1836; Rev. Edward J. Darken, M.D., August, 1836, to Dec. 25, 1837; Rev. Charles Jarvis Todd, June, 1838, to Easter, 1842; Rev. William Atwill, May 8, 1842, to 1845; Rev. David H. Short, D.D., Easter, 1845, to 1846; Rev. Abel Nichols, 1846 to 1847; Rev. Joseph P. Taylor, Easter, 1847, to December, 1850; Rev. Orsamus H. Smith, Nov. 29, 1850, to March 31, 1853; Rev. Abel Ogden, July 10, 1853;‡ Rev. James Adams, autumn, 1854, to October, 1856; Rev. Wm. White Bronson, 1857 to 1860; Rev. Alfred Londerback, May 25, 1861, to Aug. 5, 1862; Rev. Henry Zell, March 12, 1863;§ Rev. Wm. L. Bostwick, Easter, 1864, to June 15, 1867; Rev. John W. Hoffman, Dec. 6, 1868, to Nov. 30, 1871; Rev. Charles W. Kelley, Jan. 5, 1873, to April 30, 1876; Rev. Xenenus Alanson Welton, July 1, 1877.

"The number of communicants belonging to Christ Church, Redding, as reported at different periods, was: 1809, 55; 1810, 63; 1811, 67; 1815, 61; 1817, 61; 1845, 42; 1851, 60; 1854, 56; 1856, 57; 1858, 58; 1859, 56; 1860, 47; 1863, 55; 1866, 45; 1869, 37; 1873, 40; 1874, 55; 1875, 61; 1877, 59; 1878, 64; 1879, 65."

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

"When Jesse Lee left New York on the mission which was to quicken and vitalize the New England churches, his first resting-place was at Norwalk, where he preached on the highway under a spreading elm, no house being opened to him. From Norwalk he proceeded to Fairfield and New Haven, and from the latter place to Redding. He reached this town on Wednesday, the 24th of June, 1789, and from this period we are to date the origin of the Methodist Church in Redding, although some six months elapsed before it was formally organized. Mr. Lee thus narrates some of the incidents of this first visit:

"I traveled a stony road to Redding, and according to directions called on Esquire Benedict, but he was not at home; so I got my horse and rode to Mr. Rogers to consult him about the matter. While I was talking to him Mr. Bartlett, a Congregational minister, rode by, and, being informed who I was, asked me home with him. After I had been there a while he asked me some questions relative to doctrines, and I endeavored to inform him what kind of doctrines we preached. He said he could not invite me into the meeting-house, because I held what he thought was contrary to the gospel. I told him I did not expect an invitation to preach in the meeting-house, but if I was asked I should not refuse. However, Mr. Rogers sent his son down in a little time to let me know that there was a school-house that I could preach in, so I made the appointment for the people at six o'clock. Having met at that hour, I preached on Isa. lv. 6: "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found," etc. I bless God that I had some liberty in preaching.'

\* Officiated a short time only, on account of ill health.

† Suspended November, 1794. ‡ Died May 8, 1854.

§ Died Nov. 5, 1863.

"The school-house where this first sermon was delivered probably stood on the common, near the old meeting-house. The few and simple doctrines that Mr. Lee preached were the witness of the Spirit, the entire efficacy of the atonement, and the possibility of falling from grace, and they were presented with so much force and earnestness as to produce a deep impression on those who heard them; yet he had no time to remain and note the effect produced, but rode away the next day, carrying his tidings to other communities. Twice again Lee visited Redding—July 8th and September 16th of the same year—without seeing any fruits of his efforts; for, although many were impressed with the truth of his doctrines, they hesitated about coming out openly and joining the new sect. At length, on his fourth visit, Dec. 28, 1789, he 'joined two in society for a beginning. A man who has lately received a witness of his being in favor with the Lord led the way, and a woman who I hope was lately converted followed.' This was the second Methodist society organized in New England, the first being at Stratford. The two first members mentioned above were Aaron Sanford and his mother-in-law, Mrs. William Hawley. Mr. Sanford by this act became the first male member of the Methodist Church in New England. He was at once appointed leader of the class thus formed, and its meetings were held for years at his house. After its organization the growth of the society was very rapid, chiefly through the class-meeting, and that agency so effectively used by Methodism, the lay-preachers.

"It is unfortunate that, owing to the loss of the early records of the church, we can give the names of but few of its original members. From the records of the First Society I copy the following certificate, dated Dec. 15, 1789:

"I hereby certify that Aaron Sanford, of Reading, has constantly attended the Methodist meetings in this town, and pays his part towards my support as a minister of the gospel.

"JESSE LEE."

"Similar certificates were given, Feb. 9, 1790, to Hezekiah Sanford, and August 6th of the same year to Isaac Sherwood and S. Samuel Smith.

"From the church book of baptisms, which has been preserved, we learn that prior to 1794 the early preachers had baptized children of Daniel and Anna Bartram, Silas and Huldah Merchant, Jonas and Lucy Platt, Paul and Mary Bartram, Jabez and Sarah Gorham, Elijah and Menoma Elder, Aaron and Mary Odle, John and Sarah Sherman, Uriah and Hannah Mead, Benjamin and Elizabeth Knap, Chester and Elizabeth Meeker, Charles and Lucy Morgan, Ezekiel and Easter Bartram, Jesse and Martha Banks, Isaac and Betty Platt, and Aaron and Eunice Hunt, and we may safely reckon them as members of the church at that time.

"Early in 1790, Lee organized his first circuit in New England; it was called the 'Fairfield Circuit,' and embraced Norwalk, Fairfield, Stratford, Milford,

Redding, Danbury, Canaan, and intermediate places. The first regularly-appointed minister whose name appears on the society records was John Bloodgood, who was here as early as Jan. 21, 1791,—perhaps earlier. He was a native of the South, and after serving on the Fairfield Circuit one year was transferred to the Baltimore Conference, to which his ministerial labors were chiefly confined. He died in 1810. Like most of his colleagues, he preached in the school-houses, under trees, sometimes in the barns, but always so fervently, and with such native eloquence, that multitudes flocked to hear him. He was succeeded at the May (1791) session of the Conference by Nathaniel B. Mills and Aaron Hunt.

"Mr. Mills is described by his colleague, Mr. Hunt, as 'a man small in stature, intelligent, sound, an able preacher, and rather inclined to dejection.' He was born in New Castle Co., Del., Feb. 23, 1766. He entered the Baltimore Conference in the spring of 1787, and after a laborious ministry of forty-two years, both in New England and the South, was compelled in 1835 to retire to the ranks of the superannuated, where he remained until his death, in 1844. His colleague, Rev. Aaron Hunt, was born in Eastchester, Westchester Co., N. Y., March 28, 1768, and entered the Methodist ministry in 1791, making some of his first essays at preaching on the Redding Circuit.

"In 1793, while preaching in Redding, he married Miss Hannah Sanford, daughter of the Mr. Aaron Sanford before mentioned, and shortly after 'located' in Redding, where he continued to reside for many years, and where most of his large family of children were born. Mr. Hunt was prominent among the early Methodist preachers, and was well known throughout the State. During his pastorate the church had been encouraged by a visit from the eminent Bishop Asbury, who passed through Redding in June, 1791, during his hasty tour through New England, and preached here 'with much satisfaction,' as he remarks in his journal. The church received another and longer visit from him in September, 1796. 'The society in that village,' says Mr. Stevens, the historian of Methodism, 'had been gradually gathering strength. They assembled to greet him at Mr. Sanford's, where he gave them an encouraging discourse from 1 Peter i. 13-15.' From this time until 1811 the record of the church is one of continued growth and prosperity; revivals were frequent and accessions many; classes were early formed at Lontown, Redding Ridge, Sanfordtown, Boston, and at Long Ridge, the latter some years later becoming a separate church organization.

"Still the society was without a house of worship, and the want was beginning to be severely felt. In 1803 they first leased the town-hall for a place of public worship, as appears by the following extract from the town records: 'At a town-meeting held Dec. 12, 1803, it was voted "that the Town House be leased to the Methodist Society for \$15 per year,



to be used as often and as much as they please for public worship, and said Society to repair all damage done to the Town House while they are assembled therein for public worship." This lease was continued from year to year at varying rates, until the erection of the first church, in 1811. Of the building of this edifice we have no data except such as is contained in this extract from the society records:

"At a Society meeting of the Methodists, duly warned and held at the house of William Sanford in Redding, on Tuesday the 30th day of October, 1810,

"*Voted*, That Seth Andrews, William Sanford, and John R. Hill be a committee to said society for the ensuing year, to do and transact all temporal business.

"*Voted*, That our said committee carry around a subscription paper immediately to raise money for the purpose of building a Meeting-House in said Redding, for the purpose of Divine Worship.

"AARON SANFORD,

"*Clerk*."

"The church was built the succeeding summer. It stood on the site of the present residence of Deacon Charles Smith, on land purchased of Jonathan R. Sanford, Esq. His deed conveying the land, dated June 6, 1811, was given to Seth Andrews, William Sanford, and John R. Hill, trustees for the Methodist Church and Society in Redding, the consideration being one hundred and thirty dollars. No actual description of the first church is preserved to us, except that it was built after the usual fashion of Methodist churches in those days. It had no steeple or tower, no ceiling except the roof, and there were no means of warming it except by foot-stoves carried in by the female worshipers. With the above exceptions, the following description of an early Methodist church would probably apply to this in every particular:

"The building was as unpolluted by paint within and without as when its timbers were standing in their native forest. A gallery extended around three sides. At the extreme end of the left gallery was a small room partitioned off for class-meetings. The pulpit was elevated about six feet above the floor, and in form resembled a large dry-goods box, the breastworks so high as almost to conceal the preacher, if small of stature, from view. From the pulpit extended a staircase conducting to the class-room in the gallery, to which the preacher and the members repaired at the close of the public services.\*

"None of the incidents in the history of the old church are so vividly remembered and described as the Quarterly Meetings which were held there. The Quarterly Meeting to the early Methodist was the most important of all the institutions of the church, and those held in Redding were especially noteworthy; it was a sort of home-coming to the mother-church, and at such times all the Methodist homes in town were open to the brethren from abroad. The presiding elder and the two preachers on the 'circuit' were always present on these occasions, and the membership was gathered from Danbury, Ridgefield, Easton, and Newtown, as well as from places more remote. The exercises on these occasions began at nine o'clock on Sabbath morning with the 'love-feast'

and the passing of bread and water, of which all partook, as a token of their brotherhood in Christ. At half-past ten a sermon was preached by the elder. At twelve M. the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered. At one P.M. another sermon was preached, generally by one of the preachers in charge. At the conclusion of this discourse the genial elder would proceed to designate to the guests their respective places of entertainment. The day was usually concluded by a series of prayer-meetings, held in the different districts and conducted with great warmth and fervor.

"The old church seems to have been intended for a temporary structure, and was succeeded in 1837 by the present neat and commodious edifice. A brief account of the erection of the present building will be interesting and probably new to many, though little more than forty years have elapsed since its timbers were standing in the forest.

"We find on the society records the following entries:

"The members of the Methodist Episcopal Society of Redding are hereby notified and warned that a society's meeting for said society will be held on Tuesday, the 26th day of instant January, at one o'clock P.M. at the Methodist Church in said Redding, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of building a new church in said society, and locating the same near the intersection of the roads near the town-house, appointing a building committee to superintend and carry said object into effect, make arrangements to dispose of the old house if thought proper, and to do any other business proper to be done at said meeting.

"SHERLOCK TODD,

"JESSE BANKS,

"AARON MALLETT,

"*Trustees*."

"REDDING, Jan. 20, 1836."

"A society-meeting was held at the appointed time, Rev. H. Humphreys being chairman, and Thomas B. Fanton clerk. It was then voted 'to approve of the proposed plan in the caption of the subscription paper to raise subscriptions and build a new house. . . .'

"It was also further provided 'that the said House shall be located somewhere near the four corners that intersect at Redding Town House, but the said object not to take effect unless the sum of Two thousand Five hundred Dollars be subscribed, and the said House be built within eighteen months from the date hereof.'

"*Voted*, To build a House agreeable to the above caption, provided a place be obtained that is approved by the committee appointed for that purpose.

"*Voted*, To appoint a Building Committee of three persons to superintend, and take charge, and contract for the same House, viz.: Thomas B. Fanton, John R. Hill, and Gershom Sherwood.

"*Voted*, To add two more to the building Committee,—Jesse Banks and David Duncomb.

"*Voted*, To adjourn the meeting two weeks from this day at one P.M.

"THOMAS B. FANTON,

"*Clerk*."

"No account of the adjourned meeting is to be found in the society records. The twenty-five hundred dollars needed was specially subscribed, and the building was erected in the summer of 1837 and ded-

\* Sermon of Rev. J. L. Gilder before the New York East Conference.

icated in December of the same year, Rev. C. K. True preaching the dedication sermon.

"In 1868, during the pastorate of Rev. William T. Hill, the church was thoroughly remodeled and refurnished. The pulpit was cut down and the antique pews exchanged for the present neat and comfortable ones. The rededication service at this time was perhaps the most interesting occasion in the history of the church. Bishop Janes was present, and preached the dedication sermon to an audience that filled every nook and corner of the building, and many old pastors and friends of the church added by their presence to the interest of the occasion.

"In September, 1870, Rev. Aaron Sanford Hill gave to the church some ten acres of land lying in the northerly part of the town, the income from which was to be appropriated to the use of the church. This gift Mr. Hill supplemented by another of four thousand dollars in 1871, of which the interest only was to be used in meeting the expenses of the church. This fund is known as the Sanford Hill Fund. In 1877 another benefaction of five hundred dollars was given by William A. Sanford, Esq., to be applied in the same manner as the preceding.

"Revivals in the church have been frequent and attended with gratifying results,—notably in 1815, under the preaching of Rev. Reuben Harris; in 1822, during the pastorate of Aaron Hunt; in 1838, under that of Rev. John Crawford; in 1855, under Rev. E. S. Hebbard; and in 1867, under Rev. William T. Hill.

"According to the minutes of the Annual Conferences, the following ministers were appointed to Fairfield Circuit (which included Redding), beginning with its organization, in 1790: 1790, John Bloodgood; 1791, Nathaniel B. Mills, Aaron Hunt; 1792, Joshua Taylor, Smith Weeks; 1793, James Coleman, Aaron Hunt; 1794, Zebulon Kankey, Nicholas Snethen.

"Those appointed to Redding Circuit were: 1795, Daniel Dennis, Timothy Dewey; 1796, Elijah Woolsey, Robert Leeds; 1797, David Buck, Augustus Jocelyn; 1798, William Thatcher; 1799, David Brown; 1800, Augustus Jocelyn; 1801, Samuel Merwin, Isaac Candee; 1802, James Coleman, Isaac Candee; 1803, James Campbell, N. U. Tompkins; 1804, Peter Moriarty, Sylvester Foster; 1805, Peter Moriarty, Samuel Merwin; 1806, Nathan Felch, Oliver Sykes; 1807, James M. Smith, Zalmon Lyon; 1808, Noble W. Thomas, Jonathan Lyon; 1809, Billy Hibbard, Isaac Candee; 1810, Nathan Emory, John Russell; 1811, Aaron Hunt, Oliver Sykes, and John Reynolds; 1812, Seth Crowel, Gilbert Lyon, S. Beach; 1813, Aaron Hunt, Henry Eames; 1814, Ebenezer Washburne, Reuben Harris; 1815, Elijah Woolsey, Reuben Harris; 1816, Samuel Bushnell, John Boyd; 1817, Samuel Bushnell, Theodocius Clarke; 1818, James M. Smith, Theodocius Clarke; 1819, J. S. Smith, Phineas Cook; 1820, Laban Clark, Phineas Cook; 1821, La-

ban Clark, Aaron Hunt; 1822, Samuel Cochrane, Aaron Hunt; 1823, Samuel Cochrane, John Reynolds; 1824, Elijah Woolsey, John Reynolds.

"To Redding and Bridgeport Circuit: 1825, Marvin Richardson, H. Humphreys, Frederic W. Siger; 1826, Marvin Richardson, H. Humphreys; 1827, Henry Stead, John Lovejoy, J. C. Bontecue.

"To Redding Circuit: 1828, Henry Stead, Gershom Pearce; 1829, Ebenezer Washburn, Gershom Pearce; 1830, Ebenezer Washburn, Oliver V. Ammerman; 1831, James Young, Josiah Bowen; 1832, Nicholas White, Jesse Hunt; 1833, Jesse Hunt, John B. Beach; 1834, Josiah Bowen, John B. Beach.

"To Redding and Newtown Circuit: 1835, Humphrey Humphries, Josiah L. Dickerson, John Davies; 1836, Humphrey Humphries.

"March 28th, 1837, the society, 'after due deliberation, existing circumstances being considered, voted to try a station the ensuing year,' which was accordingly done, and the Rev. Humphrey Humphries became the first stated pastor. Since then the church has enjoyed the undivided care of its pastors, and has been generally prosperous and aggressive.

"The list of pastors since 1837 comprises many well-known names and will be read with interest. They are as follows: 1838, John Crawford (2d), Morris Hill; 1839-40, Paul R. Brown; 1841-42, Daniel Smith; 1843, Phillip L. Hoyt; 1844-45, William F. Collins; 1846-47, Joseph D. Marshall; 1848-49, Jacob Shaw; 1850-51, John L. Gilder; 1852-53, Friend W. Smith; 1854-55, E. S. Hibbard; 1856-57, Hart F. Pease; 1858, George C. Crevey; 1859, William H. Gilder; 1860-61, John W. Horne; 1862-63, George Hollis; 1864-66, David Nash; 1867-68, William T. Hill; 1869, Alexander Graham; 1870-72, Theodore C. Beach; 1873, William R. Webster; 1874-76, Joseph Smith; 1877-78, John Dickinson; 1879, John Haugh.

"Of the above list, but one, Rev. Jacob Shaw, died and was buried in Redding. Of the laymen who nobly aided these clergymen in their ministry many will be held in grateful remembrance by the church.

"The names most familiar to the early membership, perhaps, were those of the lay-preachers, Aaron Sanford, Hawley Sanford, Rory Starr, and Walter Sanford; the class-leaders, John R. Hill, Abraham Couch, Urrai Meade, Sherlock Todd, and Bradley Burr; and the official members, Thomas B. Fanton, David S. Duncomb, Aaron Sanford, Jr., Charles Gorham, Eben Treadwell, and John Edmonds.

"The present membership of the church is 149,—males, 57; females, 92."

#### THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT LONG RIDGE.

"The origin of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Long Ridge, as narrated by Rev. Paul R. Brown, pastor of the church in 1842, was as follows:

"One evening, as Father Coleman (a Methodist preacher) was passing through Starr's Plain on his way to Danbury, he saw a man sitting on the fence by the wayside, and inquired the distance to town. The man



told him, and added, "Are you a doctor?"—"No, sir."—"Are you a lawyer?"—"No, sir."—"Then," said the man, following up the question, "what are you?"—Father Coleman answered, "I am a Methodist preacher."—"Methodist preacher! What's that?" replied the man.—"If you will open your house and invite in your neighbors, I will let you hear a Methodist preacher the next time I come this way," was the reply. The offer was accepted, and Father Coleman preached to them on his next visit. He soon organized a class, and among the members of that class was the man who sat upon the fence and questioned the preacher. After that the class grew into a society, and in due time a small church was built in Long Ridge, which gave way to a larger edifice in the course of a few years.<sup>1</sup>

"The first church was built when the society consisted of but eleven members, under the following circumstances: They were assembled for the weekly class-meeting at the house of one of their number, and were speaking of their need of a church, when Uriah Griffin remarked that if he had a hundred dollars in hand he would build them a church. David Osborne, the youngest member present, at once agreed to furnish the required sum, and the church was built the same year. This was in 1820-21, during the pastorate of Rev. Laban Clark. The little society at once became connected with Redding Station as an auxiliary, the preacher in charge there having the care of its temporal concerns and filling its pulpit once in four weeks. In the interim the pulpit was supplied by the lay-preachers, Aaron Sanford, Morris Hill, Aaron S. Hill, of Redding, Rory Starr, of Danbury, and others. The society's connection with Redding ceased in 1848, and the same relation was formed with the church in Bethel. For several years past it has been a separate station. The pastors of the church from 1820 to 1848 were the same as those of Redding, and are given in the history of the Redding Church. The pastors since 1848 have been as follows: 1848-49, Morris Hill; 1850, Elias Gilbert; 1851-52, Charles Bartlett; 1853-54, George Stillman; 1855-56, Samuel H. Smith; 1857-58, John Crawford; 1859, David Osborn; 1860-61, Sherman D. Barnes, local preacher; 1862-63, Elias Gilbert; 1864, William H. Adams; 1865, J. W. Bramblee; 1866-67, G. W. Polley, local; 1868, Stephen J. Stebbins; 1869, James H. Crofut, local; 1870, Frank F. Jorden, local; 1871, William P. Armstrong, local; 1872, Frank F. Jorden, local; 1873, Joseph W. Pattison, local; 1874-75, William Cogswell, local; 1876, Joseph W. Pattison, local; 1877-78, Charles A. Wilson, local; 1879, Henry A. Van Dalsem.

"The membership at present is sixty.\*

"A few yards from Redding Station, on the banks of the Saugatuck River, is situated the old camp-ground, noted for being the place where the first camp-meeting of the Methodists in New England was held. Just when this event occurred we are unable to state, but it was about 1810, probably under the leadership of Nathan Bangs. The tents of this first assemblage were of the most primitive kind, many of

them being constructed of the branches of trees, and others of blankets stretched over a frame-work of poles. Meetings continued to be held in this grove every year for over sixty years.

"About 1860, owing to some difficulty in leasing the grounds and from other causes, the meetings here were discontinued, and another camp-ground opened at Milford, Conn., on the line of the Naugatuck Railroad.

"This grove was, however, soon abandoned, never having been popular with the Methodist public. In 1878, after the lapse of nearly twenty years, the old camp-ground at Redding was reopened, and that year a very successful and well-attended meeting was held there.

"It was supposed then that the grove would be purchased and continue to be used for camp-meeting purposes, but this desirable consummation was not effected."

#### THE BAPTIST CHURCH IN GEORGETOWN (NOW EXTINCT).

"That there was a society of Baptists in Redding as early as 1785 appears from an entry in the records of the First Society, dated Dec. 9, 1785, wherein Michael Wood has a certificate given him by John Lee, deacon, as a member of the Baptist Church in Redding.

"Similar certificates were given to John Couch, Micayah Starr, and Jabez Wakeman, but we have no evidence of the existence of a church here until 1833. On the 28th of January of that year an ecclesiastical council was held at the house of Timothy Wakeman, in Redding, and a church formally organized. The record of the proceedings of this meeting constitutes the first entry in the church book of records, and is as follows:

"Chose Elder Thomas Lascombe Moderator, and Elder Nathan Wildman Clerk. Invited Brethren present to a seat with the Council. Proceeded to hear the Articles and Covenant, also reasons why they wished to be constituted into a Church. The Council unanimously voted to proceed to the constitution. Repaired to the meeting-house. Introductory prayer and sermon by Elder Nathan Wildman. Right hand of fellowship in behalf of the Council, and closing prayer by Elder Thomas Lascombe.

"NATHAN WILDMAN,  
"Clerk."

"There were but eighteen original members,—four males and fourteen females. For some years there was no settled pastor, and the pulpit was supplied alternately, once in four weeks, by Elders S. Ambler, of Danbury, and Stephen B. Bray, a licentiate, from Southbury, Conn. Elders N. Wildman, of Weston, Erastus Doty, of Colebrook, Conn., and Chandler Curtis also preached occasionally. June 3, 1837, the church extended a unanimous call to Rev. William Bowen, of Mansfield, Conn., which was accepted, and he became the first pastor of the church. He continued to sustain this relation to the church until November, 1838, when he was dismissed, owing to the inability of the society to meet his salary. The

\* The present church edifice is situated in Danbury, a few yards from the Redding line, but, as the church was so long identified with Redding, it was thought proper to preserve its history here.

same month the church edifice was nearly destroyed by mob-violence,—the only instance of the kind that ever occurred in this staid and conservative town.

"It was 1838, the period of the slavery excitement, when abolitionist and pro-slavery men engaged in almost daily conflict, and men thought to stifle with shot-gun and bludgeon the first faint stirrings of the national conscience. A few pithy entries in the church records thus refer to the affair:

"Nov. 26th. Rev. Nathaniel Colver lectured on slavery in our meeting-house; was disturbed by unruly persons.

"27th. Another lecture on Slavery molested as night before.

"28th. Meeting-house blown up by a mob, but not entirely destroyed."

"This is all the information the church records give us on the subject, but from the files of the *Norwalk Gazette* for that year we glean a full account of the affair. This article is interesting, as showing the manner in which even the Whigs handled the question of slavery at that time:

"HIGH-HANDED OUTRAGE.—We learn that Judge Lynch has been exercising his summary proceedings in this vicinity within the week past. Colver, the abolitionist lecturer, has been holding forth, as we understand, for a number of evenings, on the subject of immediate emancipation, in the Baptist church in Redding, and in the course of his lectures had taken occasion to exhibit before his audience the *practical amalgamationism* of the Vice-President of the United States, the Hon. Richard M. Johnson. We are informed that he accused this distinguished personage of making merchandise of the offspring of his own loins, of selling his own sons and daughters into slavery. This so enraged some of his political partisans that they determined to *abolish* the walls which had echoed the nefarious libel upon "Dick the Tecumseh-Killer." So, after the lecture was concluded, a keg of gunpowder was deposited under the church which had been profaned by these abolition orgies, and about two o'clock on the morning of the 29th ult. the church was blown "sky-high," as John Randolph used to say. It was a small building of one story, and not worth more than five hundred dollars. But notwithstanding the provocation, and notwithstanding the comparatively trifling amount of damage occasioned by this wanton outrage, we most sincerely deprecate the prevalence of a spirit which does violence to the dearest rights of every freeman in the land,—the freedom of speech and of opinion. We are no apologists for the intemperate and fanatic zeal of the abolitionists, but we deem it the duty of every press in the land to cry out against such violations of the Constitution and laws. And, though we would denounce in the severest terms the exasperating conduct of the abolitionists, we would at the same time do our utmost to bring the trespassers upon the rights which the Constitution guarantees to every citizen and the violators of the public peace to condign punishment."

"This action of the mob, with the dissensions engendered by it, proved a sad blow to the church, one from which it never fully recovered, although it continued in existence for several years. Elder John H. Waterbury served the church as pastor for some months in 1839, and was succeeded in 1841 by Elder John Noyes, of North Haven.

"Mr. Noyes' letter of dismissal from the Baptist Church in North Haven is as follows:

\* A resident of Georgetown at the time gives the following additional particulars: About two o'clock on the morning following Mr. Colver's lecture the inhabitants of Georgetown were startled by a tremendous report and rumbling noise, which jarred the houses and broke the windows in the immediate neighborhood. In the morning this unusual disturbance was found to have been caused by the explosion of a keg of powder which had been placed directly under the pulpit, a portion of the underpinning of the church having been removed for that purpose. The pulpit was demolished, the front of the building displaced several feet, the windows broken out, and the walls destroyed.

"The Baptist Church in North Haven to the Baptist Church in Redding:

"DEAR BRETHREN,—This certifies that Rev. John Noyes and his wife Ann are members of this church in good standing, and as such we commend them to your Christian affection and fellowship. We have voted that when they are received by you, we shall consider their connection with us dissolved.

"In behalf of the church in North Haven.

"M. F. ROBINSON,  
Clerk.

"May 1, 1841."

"April 2, 1842, Mr. Noyes was dismissed to Philipstown, N. Y. Rev. George Crocker, of Danbury, supplied the pulpit for the succeeding twelve months. Elder David Pease was the next preacher, he being called Feb. 11, 1844. His connection with the church was short and uneventful. There is no record of any other preacher being called; in fact, the society was becoming too weak to support an organization, and shortly after, in October, 1847, was dissolved by the unanimous vote of its members."

#### THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH IN GEORGETOWN (NOW THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH).

"The Methodist Protestant Church in Georgetown had its origin in a small schism in the Methodist Episcopal Church, commencing about 1818, in the New York Conference.

"Among the ministers who seceded from the church at this time was the Rev. William M. Stillwell, who in 1820 organized a small class of persons in Georgetown, sharers in his peculiar ideas of church polity, but who still retained the name of Methodist, though called by their opponents Stillwellites. In 1829 a convention was held and adopted the name of Methodist Protestant, and in 1839 the church at Georgetown was formally organized as the Methodist Protestant Church and Society of Wilton Circuit. The first members of the class, so far as can be ascertained, were Ebenezer Hill, Banks Sherwood, David Nichols, Isaac Osborne, and Benjamin Gilbert and wife. The first minister was Rev. William M. Stillwell. The first entry in the church records is as follows:

"The first Methodist Protestant church in Redding was organized in the year of our Lord 1839, on the 15th of the 9th month, at a regular warned meeting held at the house of Sturges Bennett. The following officers were chosen: David Nichols, chairman; John O. St. John, secretary. John O. St. John was duly elected clerk of said society, and the oath was administered by Walker Bates, Esq. John O. St. John was also elected treasurer of said society."

"Aaron Osborne was the first sexton. He was to open the church thirty minutes before service, sweep the house, make the fires, and attend to the lights, for a yearly salary of six dollars.

"The present house of worship had been built in 1839, prior to the organization of the church, by John O. St. John and Charles Scribner. For a number of years the church records show only the ordinary routine of business. In 1851, March 10th, a society's meeting passed the following resolutions:

"Resolved, 1st, That we take into consideration the amount of Damage sustained by the society, by the Danbury and Norwalk R. R. crossing the society's grounds near this house of worship. 2nd, That the assess-



ment of damages by crossing the society's grounds be left to three men,—one chosen by the trustees, one by the Rail Road contractors, and those two to choose a third. 3rd, That the trustees be instructed to hold the contractors or Rail Road Company responsible for all damage to the society's house of worship.'

"To these resolutions a meeting held Dec. 27, 1851, added the following: '*Resolved*, by vote of this meeting, that the society's committee be authorized to give by deed to the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad Company a right of way across said society's ground, for the consideration of one hundred and fifty dollars.' At a meeting held Feb. 19, 1853, 'on motion, S. M. Main and Hiram St. John were appointed a committee to circulate a subscription to raise money to build a parsonage-house.' A meeting held Nov. 17, 1853, voted 'that the society's committee be authorized to circulate a subscription-paper, to raise money to the amount of six hundred dollars for the purpose of purchasing Mr. Weed's house for a parsonage; and at a subsequent meeting, held November 26th, the committee were authorized to purchase Mr. Weed's house so soon as six hundred dollars is pledged for that purpose.' It was also voted that the 'horse-sheds be located 40 feet south of the butternut tree in the yard, provided the ground can be obtained for one dollar.'

"At a meeting held Dec. 7, 1867, Messrs. John R. Sturges, J. O. St. John, and Sturges Bennett were appointed a committee to ascertain the denominational preferences of all the members of the church, 'with a view to a change of name to that of Congregational, or that of letting it be the Methodist Protestant Meeting.'

"This committee reported to an adjourned meeting, held December 14th, in favor of a change of name, and by a unanimous vote the name of the church was changed from Methodist Protestant to Congregational. It was also voted to petition the next Legislature to change the name of the society in accordance with the above vote, and to secure to the Congregational Society the property now held by the Methodist Protestant Society. The committee appointed for this purpose were Messrs. David E. Smith, Hiram St. John, and E. G. Bennett.

"From October, 1865, to May, 1875, the church was supplied by Rev. Samuel St. John, of Georgetown. He was succeeded by Rev. Albert H. Thompson, of Yale Theological Seminary, who supplied the pulpit until November, 1876. Mr. Thompson's successor was Rev. C. B. Strong, of Hartford Seminary, who remained until the close of 1877. The present pastor, Rev. C. A. Northrop, began his labors with the church Jan. 6, 1878, and was ordained and installed as pastor Oct. 2, 1878.

"The present membership of the church is 79,—males, 30; females, 49.

"The records of the Methodist Protestant Church give no data of the settlement or dismissal of pastors. From old members of the church, however, I

gain the following names of those who served the church in this capacity (the list is probably complete, though the names are not given in the order of succession): William M. Stillwell, Stephen Treadwell, Abram Glasgow, Stephen Remington, — Shemeall, — Vredenburg, James Summerbell, Aaron G. Brewer, Richard K. Diossy, James Rolliston, William McCutcheon, William H. Bosely, William Cliff, Samuel M. Henderson, Jacob Timberman, — Wade, Elizur W. Griswold, Merwin Lent, William H. Johnson, John L. Ambler, Joseph J. Smith, Joshua Hudson, Thomas K. Witsel, John H. Painter, M. E. Rude, William C. Clarke."

## CHAPTER LX.

### REDDING (Continued).

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Masonic—Ark Lodge, No. 39, F. and A. M.—Lynch Chapter, R. A. M.—Odd-Fellows—Anti-Slavery Society—Schools, Public and Private—Manufacturing Interests—Murder and Suicide—Biographical.

#### MASONIC.

##### ARK LODGE, NO. 39, F. AND A. M.

THE first Masonic body organized in this town was Ark Lodge, No. 39, F. and A. M. The petition for the lodge was presented Oct. 19, 1796, but the prayer of its petition was not granted until May 17, 1797. The first Master was William Heron. The lodge continued to work until May 12, 1839, when its charter was surrendered. It was reorganized Dec. 23, 1869, with the following charter members: David H. Miller, Charles A. Jennings, Charles H. Canfield, Lewis Northrup, Charles O. Olmstead, David E. Smith, H. R. Osborn, E. Thompson, Aaron H. Davis, Tuzon Jelliff, Seth P. Beers, and Waterman Bates.

The present officers of the lodge are as follows: Mervin D. Keeler, W. M.; Augustus W. Merwin, S. W.; Henry M. Taylor, J. W.; Aaron H. Davis, Treas.; David H. Miller, Sec.; Rev. Edward L. Bray, Chap.; Nathan Perry, S. D.; Henry Hohman, J. D.; Lewis Quien, S. Stew.; Eli B. Godfrey, J. Stew.; Waterman Bates, Tiler.

##### LYNCH CHAPTER, R. A. M.

On Aug. 8, 1801, a meeting of sundry Royal Arch Masons was held at the residence of Andrew L. Hills, when it was voted to present a petition to the Grand Chapter in New York praying for a warrant to hold a chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the towns of Redding and Weston. Said petition was heard and a warrant granted. The name "Lynch Chapter and Heron Mark Lodge" was adopted. The following officers were installed: High Priest, Jesse Beach; King, William Heron; Scribe, Nathan Wheeler. This chapter met alternately in Redding and Weston, and continued its labors until Feb. 4, 1828, when its charter was surrendered.

The following names appear on the record: Joshua Adams, Jr., Jesse Beach, William Bennitt, Platt Bennitt, Gabriel Baldwin, Henry Bardsley, Eli Bardsley, Ebenezer Beach, Noah W. Bradley, Hyatt Banks, Ezra Bennett, Isaac Beach, Burr Davis, Thomas N. Couch, Nathan Couch, Jonathan Couch, Isaac Coley, Hezekiah Couch, Simon A. Couch, Edward Couch, Jonathan Crofut, Preston Durant, Andrew Fairchild, Sturges Fanton, Lemuel Judson, Beach Jennings, Ezra Lewis, Samuel M. Munson, Enoch Merchant, Daniel Marsh, Ebenezer Merritt (2d), John B. Merritt, David A. Marsh, William Morrows, Benjamin Meeker, Jos. Oakley, Jr., Peter C. Oakley, Daniel Odle, G. H. Osborn, Charles Dart, Hezekiah Read, Jr., John R. Read, Hezekiah Summers, Eli Sanford, Silas M. Shepard, Jos. S. Shelton, Asahel Sanford, Samuel Thorp, Wakeman Thorp, Turney Roberts, Nathan Wheeler, 'Squire Winton, Levi Wheeler, Calvin Wheeler, Jr., Ephraim Wheeler, Seth Wheeler, Alden Winton, Jos. D. Winton, Edwin Wheeler.

A lodge of Odd-Fellows was at one time in operation at Redding Ridge, but was long since disbanded.

#### ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

One of the earliest anti-slavery societies in the State was organized in Georgetown in December, 1838. Dr. Erasmus Hudson and Rev. Nathaniel Colver were appointed by the Connecticut Anti-Slavery Society agents for the evangelization of the State, and in October, 1838, entered Fairfield County in the furtherance of their mission. They lectured at Sherman, Danbury, Redding, Georgetown, and Norwalk, being driven from each place in succession by mobs, who abused and threatened, and in some cases stoned, them. At Norwalk they were burnt in effigy and assailed with brickbats and all manner of missiles. At Weston they organized the first society in the county. In November a call was issued for a convention to be held in Redding (Georgetown), Dec. 12, 1838. On November 29th, Messrs. Colver and Hudson went to Georgetown to hold meetings. They met on Monday night in the Baptist church, but the mob was so violent that the meeting was adjourned until Tuesday evening. All through Tuesday there was great commotion among the enemies of the cause, and this culminated in the evening, when a mob composed of men and boys, some with painted faces and some wearing masks, surrounded the church and assailed it with stones, clubs, and hideous outcries. Being dispersed by the citizens, the band betook itself to quieter forms of mischief. Dr. Hudson drove to the meeting a beautiful milk-white horse, and on that night his tail was sheared so closely that it resembled a corn-cob, and other outrages were committed. At this meeting a society was organized, called the Georgetown Anti-Slavery Society. The constitution of this Society bears date Dec. 4, 1838; its officers were: President, Eben Hill; Secretary, William Wakeman; Treasurer, John O. St. John.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first reference in the town records in regard to schools is under date Dec. 26, 1737, when it was voted to have a parish school. It was also voted that said school be divided into three parts,—that is to say, "five months in that quarter called the Ridge, five months on the west side of the parish near the mill, and two months at Lonetowne, understanding that the centre of division is the meeting-house, and that Stephen Burr belongs to the west side." The first school committee consisted of John Read, Joseph Lee, Joseph Sanford, John Hull, Nathan Lion, Stephen Morehouse, and Daniel Lyon.

Dec. 19, 1792, appears the following vote: "That the school money be lodged with the treasurer, and he to collect the interest arising on the school-bonds annually by the first day of April, the interest already arisen and unpaid to be collected forthwith; and in failure of payment of back interest, he to send the bond, or bonds, and collect principal and interest, and to conduct in the same manner on neglect of annual payment of interest on said bonds, and to pay said interest and school money to the school committee as it may be appropriated by the committee of the districts annually."

"As to the source or origin of these school bonds," says Mr. Todd, "or by whom taken, I am unable to give a positive answer. The town of Redding has a school fund of four hundred dollars, distinct from the State fund, and which dates back to a period beyond the reach of memory or tradition. It is more than probable, however, that it was the sum realized from the sale of lands in Litchfield County in 1733, called western lands, and which was divided among the several towns in proportion to their poll-list and ratable estate for that year, and to be secured and forever improved for the use of the schools kept in said towns according to law. Redding, unlike most of her sister towns, has preserved this fund inviolate, and still uses its proceeds in support of her schools. In 1795 came the sale of the Western Reserve and Connecticut's munificent grant to her common schools, which has put them in the front rank of educational forces and contributed so much to the material prosperity of the State. In October of that year the inhabitants of Redding met and formed themselves into a school society, in order that they 'might have the advantage of the moneys arising from the sale of western lands.' Peter Sanford, James Rogers, and Simeon Munger were the first committee chosen by this society. Prior to 1870 the cost of supporting the schools above that derived from the school funds was borne by the parents or guardians of the scholars, but in that year the Legislature passed a law compelling the towns to maintain free schools, and this plan has since been pursued."

The town is organized into school districts as follows: District No. 1, Centre; District No. 2, Ridge; District No. 3, Couch's Hill; District No. 4, Diamond



Hill; District No. 5, Boston; District No. 6, Hull; District No. 7, Umpawaug; District No. 8, Lonetown; District No. 9, Pickett's Ridge; District No. 10, Foundry; District No. 11 (half-district), Georgetown; District No. 12 (half-district), Florida; District No. 13 (half-district), Rock House.

For present condition of schools, see General History.

*The Hill Academy* was incorporated in 1878 with the following trustees: Francis A. Sanford, Aaron Treadwell, John Todd, X. Alanson Welton, Stephen Sanford, Thaddeus M. Abbott, and Arthur B. Hill. The officers of the corporation are as follows: President, Francis A. Sanford; Vice-President, T. M. Abbott; Secretary, Arthur B. Hill; Treasurer, Aaron Treadwell; Auditor, Stephen Sanford. This school was founded by Rev. Aaron S. Hill, of New Haven, who donated the sum of five thousand dollars for its endowment. The first principal was T. M. W. George, of Hartford, who remained until July 1, 1879. At present no school is being held, and the fund is left to accumulate.

#### SELECT SCHOOLS.

From a very early period to the present time Redding has had many very excellent select schools. Among the earliest were those kept by S. Samuel Smith, Esq., at the centre, and Rev. Jonathan Bartlett, in the present dwelling of Mr. Lemuel Sanford. This latter school attained a high reputation. The first boarding-school was opened by Mr. Walker Bates in about 1825. A few years later a school was commenced at the centre by Eli Gilbert, and in 1836 two schools were established at Redding Ridge,—one by John Osborne, and the other by Aaron B. Wilson.

*The Redding Institute* was founded by Daniel Sanford, A.M., in 1847. It was a successful school, and Mr. Sanford remained in charge until 1867, when he retired, and Edward P. Shaw became principal, remaining as such until 1873, when the institution was discontinued. A boarding-school was opened by Burton Bradley in 1850, and also one by Miss Polly Selleck in 1844 for young ladies, both of which were quite successful.

*The Misses Sanford's School.*—The school for young children conducted by the Misses Sanford is the only select school now in the town. This is an excellent and very successful school, where not only young children but more advanced scholars are pupils.

#### MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

Although Redding is an inland town, and prior to 1850 was crossed by no railway, still some of the earliest manufacturing establishments in the county were located here. Here were the iron-smelting works of Oliver Sanford, at Sanfordtown, which were destroyed by the great freshet in 1805. Abraham Fairchild had a fulling-mill as early as 1742, on the Saugatuck, near Nobb's Crook. Comstock, Foster & Co. erected a woolen-mill in 1812, near the site of the old fulling-

mill; this was burned in 1843 or 1844. Ephraim Sanford commenced the manufacture of carriages in about 1800, which was continued by various persons with varying success and finally discontinued.

"Subsequently," says Todd's "History," "Mr. E. A. Sanford formed a partnership with Charles Duncomb, and later with G. A. Sanford, by whom the business was conducted with varying success. In its palmiest days this firm did a large business, employing from twenty-five to thirty men, and maintaining a depot for their goods in New York. Mr. Aaron Bartram built a carriage-factory in 1840 (now standing), and in company with Mr. Eben Wilson did a large business for a term of years. Mr. Bradley Sanford began the manufacture of carriage-axles in Sanfordtown in 1833, and continued it until 1838, when he was succeeded by Mr. G. A. Sanford.\*

"Hat-making was at one time a prominent industry in Redding. To Mr. Billy Comstock is due the credit of erecting the first hat-manufactory, which stood near his house in the Boston District. Mr. Daniel Gould had a large hat-shop in Lonetown, and later Mr. Jesse Banks carried on the business somewhat extensively in Sanfordtown. He employed at one time from twenty-five to thirty men, and supplied the Southern and West India market. Mr. Milo Lee also carried on the business for a number of years, first with Mr. Banks, and afterwards in a factory near his house. Bricks were made at one time by Mr. Alanson Lyon on Redding Ridge, and in the same district a large shirt-manufactory was once in successful operation under the management of Mr. Curtis Fanton and his son, Henry Fanton. In 1856 the Redding Manufacturing Company was organized in Sanfordtown for the manufacture of pins and other small articles in brass. The large building in Sanfordtown still known as the pin-factory was built by this company; for a time its prospects for a successful career were excellent, but, owing to some mismanagement on the part of the directors, it soon proved a failure.

"The Hill Limekiln in Lonetown is perhaps the oldest lime-burning establishment in the State. It was probably opened at an early day by Col. John Read, who was the owner of the tract of land in which the quarry is situated. In 1810 it came into the possession of John R. Hill, a grandson of Col. Read, who conducted an extensive business and acquired a fortune. Mr. Hill retired in 1823, and was succeeded at different periods by his sons Aaron S. Hill, Moses Hill, William Hill, and John L. Hill. These gentlemen conducted the business with the same energy and success that had characterized their father's management. Since Mr. John L. Hill's retirement the business has been conducted successively by Messrs. Ames & Osborne, Barnes, Smith, and Philo Wood.†

\* This branch of business is discontinued.

† It is now conducted by Mr. Wood, and is an extensive business.

"In 1842, 'Squire James Sanford built a foundry on the Aspetuck River, in the Foundry District, and entered largely into the manufacture of agricultural implements. He had before invented an improved hay-cutting machine, in which the cutting was done by revolving cylinders furnished with knives, which he manufactured here, and which had an extensive sale throughout the country. This foundry is almost the only one of the old-time industries of Redding that remains in successful operation to this day.

"The Aspetuck River, dashing through a gorge in this district, furnishes abundant water-power, and this the skill and energy of the Sanford brothers has utilized in the manufacture of buttons. Their three button-factories have a capacity of between three hundred and four hundred gross of buttons per day. They employ twenty-eight hands, and have made this district one of the busiest and most prosperous localities in the town."

THE GILBERT & BENNETT MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

The works of the Gilbert & Bennett Manufacturing Company are located partly in this and partly in the adjoining town of Wilton, in the village of Georgetown. They manufacture iron and galvanized wire, iron, brass, galvanized, and painted wire-cloth, sieves, riddles, coal-screens, cheese- and meat-safes, ox-muzzles, galvanized twist wire netting, etc.

This concern is one of the oldest in its line in the country. The business was established by Benjamin Gilbert in 1818. Some years after, a copartnership was formed by Wm. J. Gilbert, Sturges Bennett, E. O. Hurlbutt, and E. Gilbert, under the name of Gilbert, Bennett & Co., under which name the business was conducted until May, 1874, when the upper mills were destroyed by fire, causing a loss to the concern of over one hundred thousand dollars. At this time there were one hundred and twenty-five persons employed by the company. Immediately after the fire the concern was incorporated under the name of the Gilbert & Bennett Manufacturing Company (capital, one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars), with Sturges Bennett as president, David H. Miller secretary, and W. W. Beers treasurer.

The main factory, situated in Redding, and built on the ground formerly occupied by the one destroyed by fire, is a stone and brick building three hundred and thirteen by fifty-six and a half feet, three stories high, with a galvanized iron roof. The power used is a fifty horse-power water-wheel and a seventy-five horse-power steam-engine. In this building are the power-looms for weaving shade wire-cloth, twisting-machines for making wire netting and fencing. In the centre of the building is a powerful saw-mill, where all the lumber used in the manufacture of sieves, safes, etc., is cut up and prepared.

The two mills owned by the company situated in the town of Wilton are used for drawing wire, weaving wire, and galvanizing. The power is improved by

two water-wheels of seventy horse-power. The force of mechanics employed at present is one hundred.

The officers are: President, Sturges Bennett; Secretary, David H. Miller; Treasurer, E. Gilbert; Superintendent, Samuel J. Miller.

BIOGRAPHICAL, Etc.\*

"John Barlow, the poet and statesman, was born in Redding, March 24, 1754. He received his early education first from the Rev. Mr. Bartlett, pastor of the Congregational Church in Redding, and second at Moor's preparatory school for boys, near Hanover, N. H. He entered Dartmouth College in 1774, at the age of twenty, and shortly after removed to New Haven and was entered at Yale. His college course was a highly creditable one in many respects. During the college terms he was a faithful student, especially winning distinction for literary attainments; and during the long summer vacations he joined the Continental army as a volunteer and aided in fighting the battles of his country. He graduated in 1778. From 1779 to 1783 he was chaplain of one of the Connecticut regiments in the Revolutionary army. Shortly after leaving the army, in 1783, he married Miss Ruth Baldwin, daughter of Michael Baldwin, Esq., of New Haven, and in 1785 settled as a lawyer in Hartford, Conn.

"In Hartford, Mr. Barlow appears as lawyer, journalist (editor of the *American Mercury*), bookseller, and poet. In the latter capacity he produced a revision of Dr. Watts' 'Imitation' of the Psalms, and also, in 1787, his famous poem, 'The Vision of Columbus.'

"In 1789 he accepted from the Sciota Land Company the position of foreign agent for the sale of their lands in Europe, and went to England, and later to France, for this purpose; but shortly after his arrival the company made a disgraceful failure, and he was again thrown on his own resources. Fortunately, his literary reputation had made him quite a lion in the French capital, and he easily succeeded in obtaining work on the French journals. Later he embarked in some mercantile ventures, which proved successful and brought him a competence. He at first participated actively in the French Revolution, which broke out soon after his arrival in France, but, becoming disgusted with the atrocities of the Jacobins, he withdrew and went over to England.

"In London, in 1791, he published his 'Advice to the Privileged Orders,'—a work which drew out a formal eulogium from Fox in the House of Commons. This was succeeded in 1792 by his 'Conspiracy of Kings,' a poem so bitterly hostile to royalty that he found it prudent to leave England for France immediately on its publication. On his return to France at this time the privileges of French citizenship were conferred on him, before accorded to but two Americans, Washington and Hamilton.

\* The following is chiefly from Todd's "History of Redding."



"In 1793 he accompanied Gregorie, former Bishop of Blois, and other dignitaries, to Savoy, and aided in organizing that country into a department of the republic. While here he wrote his 'Hasty Pudding,' the mock-heroic, half-didactic poem which has chiefly endeared him to his countrymen.

"In 1795, President Washington appointed him consul to Algiers, with instructions to ratify the long-pending treaty with the Dey and to liberate the American prisoners there. Col. Humphreys, American minister to Portugal, an old friend of Mr. Barlow, himself came to Paris to urge him to accept; and, proving successful, the two friends left Paris on the 12th of September, 1795, for Lisbon. From Lisbon, Mr. Barlow proceeded to Algiers *via* Alicant, and after a year and a half of effort succeeded in ratifying the treaty and in liberating the captives. He then returned to France. During the succeeding eight years he resided in an elegant villa near Paris, formerly the property of the Count Clermont Tonnere, enjoying the friendship of the chief men of the nation, as well as that of all Americans of eminence who visited the capital.

"But in 1805 the desire to once more revisit the land he had left seventeen years before became too strong to be resisted longer, and, disposing of his estates in France, he returned in July of this year to America. He was warmly received in his native land, and after an extensive tour, extending into the Western country, he returned to Washington, where he built an elegant mansion called 'Kalorama,' and which was widely famed in its day for its beauty and elegance and as being the resort of all the famous men of the times. At Kalorama, Barlow gave his chief attention to the cultivation of the Muses and to philosophical studies. Here, in 1808, he finished his great poem, 'The Columbiad,' which was printed at Philadelphia, and was one of the most elegant volumes ever issued from the American press. He also busied himself with collecting materials for a general history of the United States.

"In 1811, President Madison offered him the responsible position of minister to France, in the hope that his reputation and his influence with the French government might secure for us a treaty giving indemnity for past spoliations on our commerce and security from further depredations. Barlow accepted the position from motives of the purest patriotism, in the belief that his talents and position might be made useful to his country. He sailed from Annapolis in July, 1811, in the historic frigate 'Constitution,' Capt. Hull, which had been placed at his disposal by the government. His negotiations with Napoleon while on this mission were conducted through the Duke de Bassano, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and covered a space of nearly a year and a half. Napoleon acknowledged the justice of the claims of the United States, and expressed a willingness to ratify a treaty of indemnity; but he was so absorbed in directing the campaign against Russia, and in his other operations on

the European field, that it was very difficult to bring the matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

"At length, on the 25th of October, 1812, Mr. Barlow received a letter from the Duke de Bassano, written at Wilna, Poland, saying that the emperor had deputed the business of the treaty to him, and that if Mr. Barlow would come to Wilna he had no doubt but that the treaty might be speedily ratified. Barlow, on receipt of the note, at once set out, and, traveling night and day, reached Wilna about December 1st, only to find the village filled with fugitives from Napoleon's retreating army, while the duke was out on the frontiers hurrying forward reinforcements to cover the emperor's retreat. Disappointed in his mission, he hastened to retrace his steps; but at Zarniwicka, an obscure village in Poland, he was seized with an acute attack of pneumonia, the result of privations and exposure, which terminated his life Dec. 26, 1812. He was buried in the little village where he died, and a marble pillar was erected by Mrs. Barlow to his memory. No friendly pen has ever written the poet's biography, and his memory has pretty much faded from the minds of his countrymen; but there were few men of his day more widely known, or who did deeds more worthy of grateful recognition by the American people.

"Stephen Russell Mallory, second son of Charles Mallory, of Redding, Conn., was born in the West Indies in 1814, and came to the United States when but three months old. In 1819 he accompanied his father to Florida, and was placed at an "old field school" near Mobile, from whence he was removed to the academy at Nazareth, Pa., where he spent several years. He returned to Florida in 1830, and established his residence at Key West, where he embraced the profession of law. Mr. Mallory has filled many important trusts under the State and general governments, and was collector of the customs and superintendent of the revenue at Key West under Mr. Polk. In 1850 he was elected to the United States Senate for the term of six years.' The above is from Gleason's *Pictorial Companion* for 1853. Mr. Mallory's subsequent career as Secretary of the Confederate Navy is familiar to the reader.

"Dudley Sanford Gregory, mayor of Jersey City, N. J., and prominently identified with the early history of that city, was a native of Redding.

"Maj.-Gen. Darius Couch was born of Redding parents, in South East, New York, July 25, 1822. The following sketch of his career, taken largely from Cullum's 'History of the Officers and Graduates of the United States Military Academy,' will be read with interest:

"Darius N. Couch, born in New York, appointed from New York, cadet at United States Military Academy from July 1, 1842, to July 1, 1846, when he was graduated and promoted in the army to brevet second lieutenant, Fourth Artillery. Served in the war with Mexico in 1846-48, being engaged in the battle of Buena Vista, Mexico, as second lieutenant in Capt. Washington's Battery, light artillery, for which he was brevetted first lieutenant for gallant and meritorious conduct. Participating in

occupation of the Seminole country in 1852-53, he planned and executed at his own expense a scientific expedition into Central and Northern Mexico, the results of which were very creditable to his enterprise. He married, in 1854, a daughter of Hon. S. L. Crocker, of Taunton, Mass., and granddaughter of Isaiah Thomas, founder of the Antiquarian Society of Worcester, Mass., and author of the "History of Printing." The next year he resigned from the army. At the breaking out of the Rebellion, being settled in Taunton, Mass., he raised the Seventh Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, and proceeded to Washington in July, 1861. Was made brigadier-general in August, and assigned to the command of a brigade in the defense of that city. In McClellan's campaign on the Peninsula, Gen. Couch commanded the First Division, Fourth Army Corps, holding the left of the line at the siege of Yorktown. At the battle of Fair Oaks his brave division held their ground for more than two hours against the combined attack of the Confederate troops. With part of his division he reinforced Hooker in the hot action of Oak Grove, June 25, 1862, and was in various skirmishes during the Seven Days until July 1st, on which morning Gen. McClellan posted him on the main road leading to Richmond, where was fought the successful battle of Malvern Hill.

"Being promoted to the rank of major-general, July 4, 1862, he joined Pope with his division on the retreat from Manassas, in the Northern Virginia campaign. October, 1862, in command of the Second Army Corps, campaign of the Rappahannock. At Fredericksburg, December 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th, it fell upon Gen. Couch to assault Marye's Heights, in which desperate work that brave magnificent Second Army Corps lost more than four thousand men. The loss of his corps at the disastrous battle of Chancellorsville, where he was second in command, was very heavy. In November, 1864, he joined Thomas, who was besieged at Nashville, and was assigned by the commander to the command of an army corps. In the battle which followed he commanded a division, turned Hood's left, and captured several pieces of artillery and many prisoners. In North Carolina, March, April, and May, aiding Sherman in closing the war. Resigned in June, 1865, the Rebellion having been crushed out.

"The general has for several years resided at Norwalk, Conn., having been quartermaster-general at Hartford during the years 1877-78."

"Hon. Gideon H. Hollister, of Litchfield, is a descendant of two of our Redding families. He was born Dec. 14, 1818, in Washington, Conn., and graduated at Yale College in 1840; studied law in Litchfield, and was admitted to the bar in April, 1842. He practiced law in Litchfield until 1859, when he opened an office in New York. He went as United States *chargé d'affaires* to Hayti when that country was under the administration of Salnave. In 1855 he published a 'History of Connecticut' in two volumes, of which two editions, of two thousand copies each, have been exhausted. He is the author of three historical dramas, one of them bearing the title 'Thomas à Becket.' He has also written a legal treatise on the law of eminent domain. Mr. Hollister is now engaged in writing a history of Hayti.

"Attorney-Gen. Bates, of Missouri, was of Redding ancestry.

"Judge Strong, of the United States Supreme Court, spent his childhood and youth in Redding, and made his maiden plea here before a justice court."

"Mrs. Dora Goodale, a writer for *Scribner's*, is a native of Redding, being a descendant of Col. John Read, one of the earliest settlers. She is the mother of Elaine and Dora Goodale, the child-poets, whose

charming verses have been so warmly welcomed by the American public.

"In the several professions Redding has been well represented. Dr. Asahel Fitch, the first physician who settled in the town, is remembered in Fairfield County as a worthy man, and one of its most respectable practitioners of medicine. He was among the principal pioneers in the formation of the county society, but died soon after its organization. His death occurred in 1792, or about that period. I understand that he was the grandfather of Professor Knight, of Yale College.

"Among the physicians of Fairfield County who enjoyed a long and successful practice was Dr. Thomas Davies of Redding. He removed to Redding in 1793, on the decease of Dr. Fitch, and there continued in the duties of his profession until his death, which occurred in 1831. Mr. Davies possessed the reputation of being among the first of the physicians of the county who assumed regular obstetrical duties, and so successful were his labors that he became particularly eminent in that department.

"The doctor was once summoned as an important witness to appear before the court in Fairfield, and, not appearing, the sheriff was sent to compel his attendance. Being absent, and learning on his return that the officer was waiting at a public-house in the vicinity, he without notice to the official rode to Fairfield and appeared before the court. On the question occurring with the court regarding the costs attending the *capias*, he requested one or two of his legal friends to excuse the delinquency. The judge decided, notwithstanding, that the law must be observed, and that the doctor must bear the expenses. Dr. Davies then requested a hearing in his own behalf; which being granted, he remarked, 'May it please the court, I am a good citizen of the State, and since I was summoned to attend this court I have introduced three other good citizens into it.'

"The court replied that for so good a plea he would leave the parties to pay the expenses.

"Rev. Thomas F. Davies, Sr., formerly pastor of the Congregational Church at Huntington, Conn., now editor of the *Christian Spectator*, published in New Haven, and minister of the Congregational Church in Green's Farms, Conn., was his only son.

"L. Sanford Davies, Esq., who at one time was settled at Waterbury, was mayor of the city, and held the office of judge of Probate and other prominent positions, is a son of the Rev. Thomas F. Davies. Another son is the Rev. Thomas F. Davies, D.D., now of Philadelphia, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church in that city.

"Among the later practitioners of the town, Dr. Charles Gorham was very widely known and respected. He was the son of Meeker Gorham and Elizabeth Hubbell of Greenfield Hill, in the town of Fairfield. He began the study of medicine with Dr. Jehiel Williams, of New Milford, and afterwards pur-

\* He was a son of Rev. William L. Strong, former pastor at this place. Rev. Edward Strong, formerly of New Haven, and of Pittsfield, Mass., was another son, and spent a portion of his early days in this town.



sued his studies at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. He settled in Redding in 1816, at the age of twenty-one years, and practiced as a physician and surgeon in Fairfield County forty-two years. He married Mary, daughter of William King Comstock, of Danbury. Dr. Gorham is described as a man of more than ordinary strength of character, with a well-balanced mind and sound judgment. He was fond of scientific investigations, and was remarkable for close observation and power of analysis. He died at his residence, Redding Centre, Sept. 15, 1859.

"Dr. Moses H. Wakeman came to this place for the practice of his profession in 1858, and still continues here in the enjoyment of an extensive and lucrative practice. He has been, and is, considered one of the most successful and skillful physicians of the day.

"Anna M. Reed, who located a few years since at Redding Ridge, has a large and still-increasing practice not only in this but adjoining towns.

"Among clergymen may be enumerated the following: Rev. Justus Hull, Rev. Lemuel Hull; Rev. Thomas F. Davies, of Philadelphia; Rev. William T. Hill, presiding elder of New Haven District; Rev. Aaron K. Sanford, presiding elder of Poughkeepsie District, New York Conference; Rev. Aaron S. Hill, of New Haven; Rev. Morris Hill, of New Haven; Rev. Moses Hill, of Norwalk; Rev. Hawley Sanford, of Iowa; Rev. Morris Sanford, of Iowa; Rev. Platt Treadwell; Rev. Albert Miller, of Iowa; Rev. Leroy Stowe, of Milford, Conn.; and Rev. A. B. Sanford, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

"The following State senators have been natives or citizens of Redding: Thomas B. Fanton, elected in 1841; Lemuel Sanford, 1847; Cortes Merchant, 1855; Francis A. Sanford, 1865; James Sanford, 1870; Jonathan R. Sanford, 1877.

"Thomas Sanford, former high sheriff of the county, and at one time nominee of the Democratic party for comptroller of the State; Henry Sanford, of New York, superintendent of Adams' Express Company; Aaron Sanford, of Newtown, present high sheriff of Fairfield County; and Albert Hill, city engineer of New Haven, are natives of Redding."

## CHAPTER LXI.

### REDDING (Continued).

#### CIVIL, MILITARY, AND DOCUMENTARY HISTORY.

Organization of the Parish—Organization of the Town—List of Representatives—Probate Judges—Extracts from Town Records—Origin and Orthography of Name of Town—Military Record—List of Soldiers.

#### CIVIL HISTORY.

##### THE PARISH.

In the year 1723 a petition was presented to the General Court praying that the settlement might be organized into a parish, but the opposition of Fair-

field defeated the project, and, although the matter was agitated from time to time, it was not until 1729 that the parish of Redding was constituted.\* The first meeting of the parish was held June 5, 1729.

##### THE TOWN.

The town was incorporated in May, 1767, and on the 15th of the following month the first town officers were chosen, as follows (Col. John Read was chosen moderator of the meeting, and Lieut. Stephen Mead was elected clerk for the ensuing year): Selectmen, Stephen Mead, Ephraim Jackson, Daniel Hill; Constables, David Lyon, Asahel Fitch, Daniel Hall; Fence-Viewers, Benjamin Hamilton, Zalmon Read; Listers, Peter Fairchild, Lemuel Sanford, Jr., David Jackson; Grand Jurymen, Thomas Fairchild, Jonathan Couch; Treasurer, Gurdon Merchant; Tithingmen, Paul Bartram, Thomas Fairchild, Eleazer Smith, Jr.; Pound-Keepers, Ebenezer Williams, Ebenezer Couch; Sealer of Leather, Gershom Morehouse; Sealer of Weights, Benjamin Meeker, Jonathan Mallory. Ephraim Jackson, Capt. Henry Lyon, and Gurdon Merchant were made a committee to take all proper and lawful methods to clear the highways. The town by vote made the pound by Elizabeth Sanford's the "town pound," and voted "to use the school-house by the old meeting-house for ye place for holding ye town-meetings in ye future."

##### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1767 TO 1881.

1767, Col. John Read; 1768, Capt. Stephen Mead; 1769, Col. John Read, Capt. Henry Lyon; 1770, Capt. Stephen Mead, Lemuel Sanford, Col. John Read; 1771, Col. John Read, Lemuel Sanford, Hezekiah Sanford; 1772, Col. John Read, Hezekiah Sanford; 1773, Col. John Read, Hezekiah Sanford, Lemuel Sanford, James Rogers; 1774, William Hawley, Peter Fairchild, Lemuel Sanford; 1775, William Hawley, Lemuel Sanford; 1776, Hezekiah Sanford, Seth Sanford, Samuel Sanford, Jr., Stephen Betts, Jr.; 1777, Lemuel Sanford, Daniel Sanford; 1778, Seth Sanford, Lemuel Sanford, William Heron; 1779, Seth Sanford, William Hawley, William Heron; 1780, William Hawley, William Heron, Lemuel Sanford, Seth Sanford; 1781, Capt. William Hawley; 1782, Stephen Betts, Lemuel Sanford; 1783, Stephen Betts, Thaddeus Benedict, Lemuel Sanford; 1784, Hezekiah Sanford, Thaddeus Benedict, Lemuel Sanford, William Heron; 1785, Hezekiah Sanford, William Heron; 1786, William Hawley, Hezekiah Sanford, William Heron; 1787-89, Lemuel Sanford, William Heron; 1790, Thaddeus Benedict, William Heron, Andrew L. Hill; 1791, Hezekiah Sanford, Andrew L. Hill; 1792, Hezekiah Sanford, Andrew L. Hill, Aaron Barlow; 1793, Hezekiah Sanford, Andrew L. Hill, Simeon Munger; 1794, Thaddeus Benedict, Aaron Barlow; 1795, Thaddeus Benedict, Aaron Barlow, William Heron, Andrew L. Hill; 1796, William Heron, James Rogers; 1797-98, Simeon Munger, Seth Samuel Smith; 1799, Simeon Munger, Stephen Jackson; 1800, Simeon Munger, Seth Samuel Smith, Andrew L. Hill, Stephen Jackson; 1801, Andrew L. Hill, Stephen Jackson, Simeon Munger, Peter Sanford; 1802, S. Samuel Smith, Andrew L. Hill, Aaron Sanford, Joshua King; 1803, Seth S. Smith, Andrew L. Hill; 1804, Seth S. Smith, Simeon Munger, Peter Sanford; 1805, Seth Samuel Smith, Andrew L. Hill, Simeon Munger, Peter Sanford; 1806, Andrew L. Hill, Simeon Munger; 1807, Andrew L. Hill, Simeon Munger, Seth Samuel Smith, Lemuel Sanford; 1808, Andrew L. Hill, Lemuel Sanford; 1809-10, Andrew L. Hill, Lemuel Sanford; 1811, Samuel Whiting, Peter Sanford, Andrew L. Hill; 1812, Andrew L. Hill, Lemuel Sanford; 1813, Lemuel Sanford, Samuel Whiting; 1814, Lemuel Sanford, Samuel Whiting, John Meeker; 1815, Jonathan R. Sanford, Samuel Whiting, Simeon Munger, Hezekiah Read, Jr.;

\* See Colonial Records, vol. vii. pp. 231, 232.

1816, Isaac Beach, Hezekiah Read, Jr., Samuel Whiting; 1817, Isaac Beach, Benjamin Meeker, Jonathan Meeker, John R. Hill; 1818, Billy Comstock, Aaron Sanford, Jr., William Sanford, John Meeker; 1819, Billy Comstock, Hezekiah Read, Jr.; 1820, Isaac Coley, Jonathan R. Sanford; 1821, Daniel Barlow, Seth Wheeler; 1822, Billy Comstock, John R. Hill; 1823, John R. Hill, Aaron Sanford, Jr.; 1824, Ephraim Sanford, Rowland Fanton; 1825, Benjamin Meeker, William Sanford; 1826, Joel Merchant, Michael Jennings; 1827, Thomas B. Fanton, Gershom Sherwood; 1828, John M. Heron, William Sanford; 1829, Aaron Sanford, Daniel Barlow; 1830, Gershom Sherwood, Gurdon Bartram; 1831, Jonathan R. Sanford, Jared Olmstead; 1832, Ralph Sanford, Walker Bates; 1833, Jacob Wanzer, Thaddeus B. Read; 1834, Thomas B. Fanton, Bradley Hill; 1835, Thomas B. Fanton, Walker Bates; 1836, Ralph Sanford, Burr Meeker; 1837, Timothy Parsons, Jesse Banks; 1838, Thomas B. Fanton, Aaron Perry; 1839, Thomas B. Fanton, Benjamin Meeker; 1840, Walker Bates, David S. Duncomb; 1841, Thaddeus M. Abbott, Morris Hill; 1842, Hezekiah Davis, John W. Sanford; 1843, Edward Starr, Jr., Barney Bartram; 1844, Charles Beach, Charles D. Smith; 1845, Peter S. Coley, Aaron R. Bartram; 1846, James Sanford, Harry Meeker; 1847, Bradley Hill, Samuel S. Osborn; 1848, Burr Bennett, Floyd Tucker; 1849, Daniel C. Rider, Henry Couch; 1850, Matthew Gregory, Rufus Mead; 1851, Milo Lee, Frederick D. Dimon; 1852, Aaron Burr, Aaron B. Hull; 1853, Ebenezer Wilson, Turney Sanford; 1854, Jonathan R. Sanford, Walker Bates; 1855, Cortes Merchant, Gurdon B. Lee; 1857, Thomas Sanford, Milo Lee; 1857, John O. St. John, David B. Sanford; 1858, James Sanford, Benjamin S. Boughton; 1859, John Edmond, Matthew Gregory; 1860, Jacob Shaw, Daniel S. Sanford; 1861, Edmund T. Dudley, Matthew Gregory; 1862, Walker Bates, George Osborn; 1863, John Edmond, David H. Mead; 1864, Walker Bates, Aaron Treadwell; 1865, Thomas B. Fanton, William Hill; 1866, Charles Osborne, Edward P. Shaw; 1867, David S. Johnson, William B. Hill; 1868, Francis A. Sanford, B. S. Boughton; 1869, Aaron H. Davis, William H. Hill; 1870, John S. Sanford, J. R. Sanford; 1871, E. F. Foster, Luzon Jelliff; 1872, Henry S. Osborn, Arthur B. Hill; 1873, Stebbins Baxter, Moses Hill; 1874, J. R. Sanford, Edward P. Shaw; 1875, Turney Sanford, Henry Burr Platt; 1876, James Sanford, Orrin Platt; 1877, Thomas Sanford, George F. Banks; 1878, Azariah E. Meeker, Daniel Sanford; 1879, Harvey B. Rumsey, George Coley; 1880, David S. Bartram, Azariah Meeker.

PROBATE JUDGES.

The town was made a Probate district in 1839. The judges have been as follows: Thomas B. Fanton, Jonathan R. Sanford, Thaddeus M. Abbott, and Lemuel Sanford, present incumbent.

SELECTMEN.

The present selectmen are Samuel S. Osborn, Stephen Sanford, and George Coley; clerk and treasurer, Lemuel Sanford.

TOWN-HOUSE.

The first town-house was built in 1798, and stood in the centre of the common, near the present building. It was thirty-six feet long by thirty in width, "twelve-foot posts." It was "covered with long cedar shingles, the sides with pine." Peter, Ezekiel, and Aaron Sanford, Samuel Jarvis, Andrew L. Hill, and Simon Munger were chosen a committee "to receive proposals and contract for building the aforesaid town-house." The present town-house was erected in 1834.

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY.

The following extracts from the town records will prove of interest:

Oct. 6, 1768, it was voted to "present a memorial to the General Assembly praying that Redding be made a county town."

March 6, 1771, it was "voted and agreed, that

whereas a Plan hath been proposed of moving to the General Assembly in May next for the erecting a new county, to consist of the towns of Danbury, Newtown, Ridgefield, Redding, and New Fairfield, we are willing and desirous that said towns shall be erected a county, and that we will assist them to endeavor to have said county established." The committee appointed for this purpose were David Lyon, Gershom Morehouse, and James Rogers.

In October, 1773, the General Assembly passed a resolution, "to assert, and in some proper way support their claim to those lands contained within the limits and bounds of the charter of this Colony westward of the Province of New York."

The voice of Redding on this matter is found under date of March 14, 1774: "Whereas it is the opinion of many of the freemen and other inhabitants of this Colony (and of this meeting in particular) that if the abovesaid Resolve be carried into execution it will inevitably involve the inhabitants of Connecticut in a long, expensive, and fruitless Litigation with Mr. Penn; therefore this meeting appoints as delegates Messrs. William Hawley and Peter Fairchild to attend a meeting to be held at Middletown on the last Wednesday of Instant March to concert some proper methods in order to put a stop to so disagreeable a procedure."

THE NAME OF THE TOWN.

A difference of opinion has prevailed for many years in regard to the origin and the proper way of spelling the name of this town. There can be no doubt but that the spelling was "Reading" when formed into a parish, and Mr. Hoadley, State librarian, who is good authority, says, "In the original bill for making the town, in 1667, the name seems to have been written 'Reading,' but altered to 'Redding.' In sundry editions of our statutes before 1849 the name has been spelled both ways,—one way when the name occurs as forming a part of the county, and the other as forming a part of a Probate district. Since 1849 the spelling in the statutes is 'Reading.'"

In the Eighteenth Connecticut Reports, in the trial of Sherwood against the town of Weston, where the name of Redding occurs, Mr. Day has the following foot-note: "I am glad of this opportunity, as I am of every opportunity that occurs, of restoring, as far as my example will have the effect, the original and correct orthography of the name of this town. The prevalent corruption (Redding) is not very flattering to the memory of Col. *Read*, whose contemporaries deemed his services and benefactions to the new corporation worthy of being held in grateful remembrance by giving it a name derived from him."

Whether, as Mr. Day, Mr. Barber, and others have asserted, and as tradition maintains, it derived its name from Col. John Read, or whether, as others suppose, it took its name from Reading, in Berkshire, England, it should be spelled "Reading."

Mr. Todd, in his "History of Redding," gives it as



his opinion, after a thorough investigation, that "the original name of the town was Reading, and that if historical precedents are to be followed, it should be so named now." He also gives Rev. Moses Hill as authority, from information that he derived from his father, that "at the time of its incorporation a meeting was held, at which it was voted that the name of the new town should be Redding." This is confirmed by the statement of persons contemporary with Capt. Ebenezer Hill, who made this statement; but, as no record of such a vote is found, the doings of that asserted meeting cannot be considered valid.

Mr. Todd shows good judgment in spelling it Redding in his "History," because the people of the town prefer it, and it has been written that way so long that it would not be advisable to adopt the original spelling.

#### MILITARY RECORD.

Redding responded promptly to the call of our imperiled country during the late war of the Rebellion, and, from official returns in the adjutant-general's office, it appears that the town furnished one hundred and eight men for the service. The following is the list:

##### SECOND REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

Andrew H. Sanford, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; died in hospital in Philadelphia, June 5, 1864.

##### *Company C.*

Morris H. Sanford, second lieutenant; com. July 21, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant, Aug. 1, 1863; pro. to captain; wounded at battle of Fisher's Creek.

##### THIRD REGIMENT.

##### *Company G.*

George W. Gould, must. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

##### FIFTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company A.*

John H. Bennett, must. July 12, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 1, 1863.

Rufus Mead, Jr., must. July 12, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863.

Hezekiah Sturges, must. July 12, 1861; died Oct. 14, 1861.

Arthur M. Thorp, must. July 12, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 1, 1863.

Benjamin F. Squires, must. July 12, 1861; served three years, and was honorably discharged.

##### SIXTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company B.*

John Foster, must. Oct. 28, 1863.

##### *Company C.*

Francis De Four, must. Oct. 28, 1863.

##### *Company G.*

John Murphy, must. Oct. 28, 1863.

##### SEVENTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company D.*

Andrew B. Nichols, must. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enlisted; killed at battle of Drury's Bluff, Va., May 16, 1864.

Oscar Byington, must. Sept. 5, 1861.

William Nichols, must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 3, 1863.

##### *Company I.*

George W. Peck, enl. Nov. 4, 1862.

Henry Clark, enl. Oct. 30, 1863.

Jerome Dufoy, enl. Nov. 6, 1863; killed at Olustee, Fla., Feb. 20, 1864.

Emil Durand, enl. Nov. 2, 1863.

H. R. Chamberlain, enl. Nov. 4, 1863.

Henry D. Harris, enl. Oct. 29, 1863.

Peter Hill, enl. Oct. 31, 1863; trans. to U. S. Navy, April 28, 1864.

Robert Hoch, enl. Nov. 3, 1863.

John Miller, enl. Nov. 4, 1863.

John H. Thomas, enl. Nov. 3, 1863.

Antoine Vallori, enl. Oct. 29, 1863.

William Wilson, enl. Nov. 6, 1863.

William Watson, enl. Nov. 2, 1863; trans. to U. S. Navy, April 28, 1864.

#### EIGHTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company H.*

Aaron A. Byington, corporal; must. Sept. 25, 1861.

Lewis Bedient, must. Sept. 25, 1861.

Thomas Bigelow, must. Sept. 25, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863.

William Hamilton, must. Sept. 25, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863.

William H. Nichols, must. Sept. 25, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 5, 1864.

##### *Company I.*

Franklin Paine, must. Sept. 25, 1861; died March 8, 1862.

Albert Woodruff, must. Sept. 25, 1861; disch. for disability May 11, 1862.

Charles M. Platt, must. Sept. 25, 1861; enl. Feb. 24, 1864.

#### NINTH REGIMENT.

Michael Dillon, enl. Feb. 17, 1864.

#### TENTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company D.*

Francis H. Grumman, must. Sept. 21, 1861; died April 1, 1864.

#### ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company A.*

Nathan Cornwall, sergeant; must. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; pro. to first lieutenant; prisoner at Andersonville.

Samuel B. Baxter, must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. for disability Dec. 4, 1862.

Charles O. Morgan, must. Oct. 24, 1861; wounded; disch. for disability June 3, 1864.

##### *Company K.*

George Sherman, enl. Feb. 16, 1864.

#### TWELFTH REGIMENT.\*

##### *Company B.*

George Green, died June 11, 1863, of wounds received at Port Hudson.

#### FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company A.*

George Lover, must. June 16, 1862.

##### *Company E.*

Wesley Banks, must. Oct. 1, 1863; died Feb. 12, 1864, of wounds received at Morton's Ford, Va.

#### SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.†

##### *Company A.*

Waterman Bates, disch. for disability Dec. 18, 1863.

##### *Company D.*

Edmund Treadwell, taken prisoner in Florida.

##### *Company G.*

George W. Banks, sergeant; disch. Sept. 15, 1862.

David S. Bartram, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant May 8, 1863; participated in battle of Chancellorsville; taken prisoner at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863; paroled March 1, 1865.

Morris Jennings, disch. for disability March 26, 1863.

James M. Burr, disch. for disability March 9, 1863.

Martin Costello, taken prisoner.

Andrew D. Couch, killed at Chancellorsville May 2, 1863.

John W. De Forrest, disch. for disability April 4, 1863.

Edmund Godfrey, disch. for disability March 9, 1863.

George Hull.

Burr Lockwood.

John Lockwood.

Aaron Peck.

John M. Sherman, disch. for disability Dec. 10, 1862.

George Whalen.

\* Date of muster, from Nov. 20 1861, to Jan. 1, 1862.

† Date of muster from July 14 to Aug. 14, 1862.

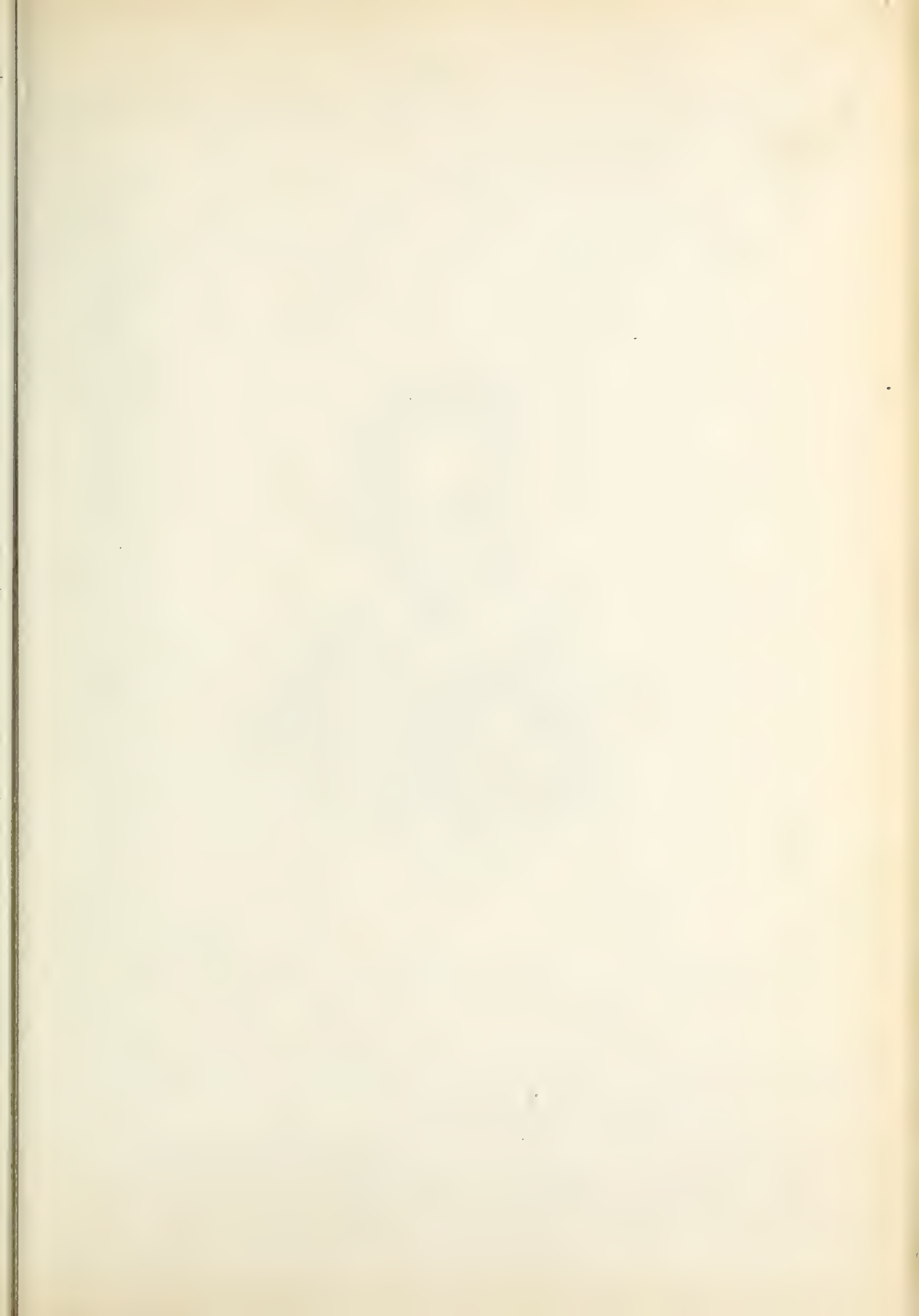






Photo. by J. H. Folsom, Danbury.

Thomas Sanford

**TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.\***

David H. Miller, major; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company D.*

Obadiah R. Coleman, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Charles A. Gregory, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company E.*

Seth P. Bates, sergeant; pro. to first lieutenant; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

George W. Gould, corporal; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Azariah E. Meeker, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Frederic D. Chapman, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Henry H. Lee, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Charles Albin, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Edward Banks, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Henry W. Bates, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Charles H. Bates, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Smith Bates, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Lemuel B. Benedict, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Peter W. Birdsall, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

William F. Brown, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Henry F. Burr, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

M. V. B. Burr, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Aaron Burr, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Ammi Carter, died Aug. 12, 1863.

William Coley, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Cyrus B. Eastford, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

William Fanton, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Charles A. Field, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Samuel S. Gray, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

James F. Jelliff, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Charles Lockwood, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Elihu Osborne, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

John Osborne, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Henry Parsons, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Henry Platt, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Sanford J. Platt, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

James J. Ryder, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

George E. Smith, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Anton Stommel, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Jacob B. St. John, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company G.*

Ralph S. Meade, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Henry Wheelock, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

George S. Tarbell, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Almon S. Merwin, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company K.*

Lyman Whitehead, disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

**TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT (COLORED).**

*Company A.*

John H. Hall, must. March 8, 1864.

*Company E.*

John M. Coley, must. March 8, 1864.

Theodore Nelson, must. March 8, 1864; died April 6, 1864.

Lafayette S. Williams, must. March 8, 1864.

Edward Voorhies, must. March 8, 1864.

*Company G.*

Joseph F. Butler, corporal; must. March 8, 1864.

Henry B. Pease, must. March 8, 1864.

Cato Johnson, must. March 8, 1864.

Feb. 4, 1862, a meeting was held in Georgetown for the purpose of electing officers for Company E, Eighth Regiment, Second Brigade, Connecticut State Militia, the company being known as Company E, National Guard.

David H. Miller, Redding, was elected captain; Hiram St. John, Wilton, first lieutenant; George M. Godfrey, Wilton, second lieutenant; John N. Main, Redding, first sergeant; James Corcoran, Wilton, second sergeant; Lewis Northrop, Weston, third sergeant; David S. Bar-

tram, Redding, fourth sergeant; Aaron O. Scribner, Wilton, fifth sergeant; William D. Gilbert, Wilton, first corporal; Aaron H. Davis, Redding, second corporal; Alonzo Dickson, Redding, third corporal; Jeremiah R. Miller, Wilton, fourth corporal; Edward Thompson, Redding, fifth corporal; Seth P. Bates, Redding, sixth corporal; George W. Gould, Redding, seventh corporal; Albert D. Sturges, Wilton, eighth corporal.

*Privates.*—John W. Mead, Ridgefield; Moses Comstock, Wilton; James Lobdell, Wilton; James F. Jelliff, Weston; Hezekiah B. Osborn, Redding; Joseph R. Lockwood, Wilton; Henry Parsons, Redding; William H. Canfield, Redding; Minot S. Patrick, Redding; Charles A. Jennings, Wilton; Edwin Gilbert, Redding; David E. Smith, Redding; Hiram Colclough, Redding; Samuel A. Main, Redding; Anton Stommel, Redding; George L. Dann, Wilton; Jonathan Betts, Weston; Charles Olmsted, Wilton; Charles Albin, Redding; Frederick D. Chapman, Redding; Henry Hohman, Redding; William B. Smith, Redding; William E. Brothwell, Wilton; Azariah E. Meeker, Redding; Charles S. Gregory, Redding; Charles S. Meeker, Redding; Charles H. Downs, Redding; William Coley, Redding; Lorenzo Jones, Redding; Henry F. Burr, Redding; Obadiah P. Coleman, Redding; Charles H. Canfield, Redding; John L. Godfrey, Wilton; Sylvester Albin, Redding.

The company uniformed itself and drilled until August, 1862. When Governor Buckingham called for troops to serve for nine months, the entire command volunteered its services, and was accepted. The company was immediately recruited up to one hundred and eight men, and reported for duty at Camp Terry, New Haven, where it was mustered into the United States service as Company E, Twenty-third Regiment Connecticut Volunteers. On the formation of the Twenty-third Regiment, Capt. Miller was promoted to be major of the regiment. George M. Godfrey was elected captain of Company E, to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Capt. Miller, and John N. Main promoted to second lieutenant, to fill vacancy caused by the promotion of Lieut. Godfrey.

The company was sent with the regiment from New Haven to Camp Buckingham, on Long Island, and from thence by steamer "Che Kiang" to New Orleans, where it was embodied in the Nineteenth Army Corps, under Gen. Banks. It was engaged at La Fourche Crossing, La., on June 21, 1863, with a superior force of the rebels, but came out victorious. It was mustered out of the service at New Haven, Sept. 3, 1863, after serving nearly thirteen months.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### THOMAS SANFORD.

Thomas Sanford was born in Redding, Fairfield Co., Conn., Sept. 27, 1823. He is the youngest of the children of Jonathan R. Sanford, and was named for his grandfather, Thomas Davies, M.D., one of the early practitioners of medicine in Redding. His early educational advantages were very limited, being confined to an attendance upon the public schools of the town, and upon them, after an early age, only during the winter term; and two or three terms in a private school in his native place. It was his expect-

\* Date of muster from Aug. 15 to Sept. 20, 1862.



tation to be a farmer, and it was thought that there was need of little study of books, but of much work for that pursuit. He followed his chosen business on the paternal estate till 1850, when he was appointed deputy sheriff, continuing in that office six years. In 1860 he was elected sheriff of the county. This office he held for three years to the great satisfaction of his constituents, being a favorite of the members of the bar of the county. At the expiration of his term he declined a renomination.

He represented the town in the State Legislature in 1856 and 1877. The latter time he was chairman of the committee on the part of the House on the school fund, and also served on other important committees. During this session he took some part in the debate upon measures under consideration, and was very favorably regarded by the members of both political parties in the Legislature. After its adjournment, the *Hartford Courant*, opposed to Mr. Sanford in politics, in an article remarking upon the leading members of the House, paid a tribute of respect to him as one of the foremost men of that body on the Democratic side. At this session he was appointed by the Legislature a member of the committee, to take into consideration increased accommodations for the indigent insane.

Mr. Sanford has served on several important commissions appointed by the Governor. To one of these was committed the duty of revising and condensing the pauper laws of the State. The existing statutes on this subject are the work of this committee, in which he took a prominent part. He has also acted frequently as a member of a committee of the Superior Court in the trial of cases and in the assessment of damages where lands have been taken for railroads and other purposes.

He was one of the selectmen of the town for ten consecutive years until, in 1879, he declined a renomination. He was also at various times one of the assessors, and a member of the board of relief and agent of the town. At one time he received the nomination for comptroller of the State by the Democratic party, but failed of an election.

It is proper here to remark that Mr. Sanford never sought office. His extensive information, excellent knowledge of public affairs, sound judgment, sturdy honesty, kindly heart, and affable manners caused the offices to seek him, and he has never disappointed expectations.

Since his retirement from the sheriffalty, Mr. Sanford has been largely engaged in the settlement of estates. He has also held many funds in trust for children. While he has pursued the work of cultivating the ancestral acres, his time is mainly occupied in attending to business intrusted to him by his fellow-citizens, who have entire confidence in his ability and trustworthiness.

He resides in the old home in Redding where his father and grandfather dwelt. He is a member of

the Congregational Church, and takes a lively interest and active part in the affairs of the Ecclesiastical Society therewith connected, and is an efficient supporter of the same.

Mr. Sanford has fine social qualities, is a good conversationalist and a genial companion, and has the esteem of a very extensive circle of acquaintances in the town, county, and State, and is a worthy descendant of an honored ancestry.

#### JUDGE LEMUEL SANFORD.

Judge Lemuel Sanford was born in Redding, Conn., Sept. 18, 1816.

His father, Jonathan R. Sanford, through a long life enjoyed in an eminent degree the confidence and respect of the community in which he lived. Having been appointed in 1808 to the office of town clerk and treasurer, he held them by consecutive annual appointment till his decease, in 1858. He frequently represented his town in the State Legislature, filled the office of Probate judge, and discharged the duties of various trusts, both of a private and public nature, and exhibited in all his acts a stern integrity and purity of purpose seldom equaled.

His mother, a woman of more than ordinary intelligence and strength of mind, was a daughter of Dr. Thomas Davis, long a leading physician of Fairfield County.

The early days of Lemuel Sanford were spent with his father, aiding him in the cultivation of his farm, and frequently assisting him in the discharge of his official duties. Laboring on the farm in summer for several seasons, he taught the winter school. While yet a young man he was elected a justice of the peace, and still holds that office. During the time his father was judge of Probate, Lemuel was Probate clerk, and when Mr. Sanford the elder reached the age of seventy, Lemuel was appointed to succeed him in the office of Probate judge in 1858, which office, with the exception of one year, he has held till the present time. At the annual town-meeting immediately succeeding his father's death he was appointed town clerk and treasurer, and has ever since held the same with the exception of one year. He served his district (Eleventh Senatorial), in the State Senate in 1847 with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. Since the retirement of his father, in 1856, he has been clerk and treasurer of the Congregational Society of Redding, having been appointed at that time. He has also filled the office of selectman and other town offices.

#### JAMES SANFORD.

James Sanford was born in 1799, in the town of Redding. His occupation was first that of a tanner, which he followed for some years, when he turned his attention to farming. Inventing a straw- and hay-







Photo. by J. H. Folsom, Danbury.

*Sennet Linsford*



HON. JAMES SANFORD.



STEPHEN SANFORD.











*Jonathan Russell Sanford*



*J. W. Sanford*









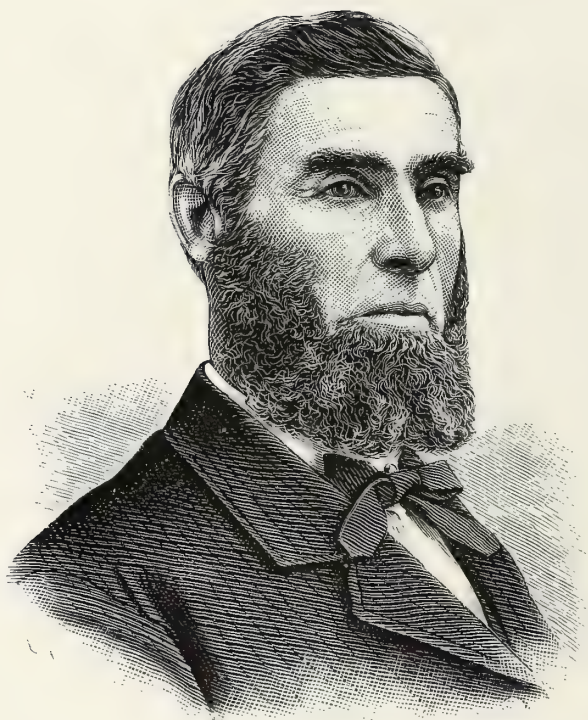


Photo. by J. H. Folsom, Danbury.

Jesse L Sanford

cutter in 1843, he built a foundry for their manufacture which he continued for about fifteen years. He married early in life Eliza, daughter of John French, of Easton. Their children have been eleven, nine of whom are still living, namely: Turney, Scenah, James, Sarah, Stephen, Betsey, Abbie, Henry, and Charles, John (deceased), and Perkins (deceased).

Mr. James Sanford has probably devoted more time to public service than any man now living, and quite as much as any man who has ever lived in the town of Redding. He has been State Senator, representative, and selectman. He has been a member of the Episcopal Church in Redding since a very young man, and its senior warden for a great many years.

Stephen Sanford, the fourth son, was born in Redding, Conn., March 28, 1835; received his education at the district school, after leaving which worked on his father's farm until he attained the age of twenty-two, when he engaged in business for himself, carrying on the foundry and machine-shop which up to this time had been conducted by his father. This business he sold at the end of five years to engage in the manufacture of horn buttons, which, with farming, has been his business ever since. His residence and factory are situated in the eastern part of the town of Redding, known as Sanfordville.

Mr. Sanford gives employment to about twenty operatives, and manufactures about fifteen thousand great gross of buttons annually. His establishment was burned in the winter of 1874, but was rebuilt the following spring. He was married Nov. 23, 1864, to Miss Mary S., eldest daughter of Francis B. and Almira Sherwood Banks, of Fairfield. Their children are Emory, Perkins, and Stephen Ernest.

Mr. Sanford united with the Episcopal Church when quite young, of which he has always been a consistent member and of which he is senior warden.

In politics he is a staunch Democrat; has been selectman a number of years and is one of the present board.

#### JONATHAN RUSSELL SANFORD.

Jonathan Russell Sanford, son of Jonathan R. Sanford, was born in the town of Redding, Oct. 25, 1819. What education he received was at the district school.

He was married May 16, 1847, to Clarrissa, daughter of the late Deacon Samuel Read, a descendant of Col. John Read. But one child was born to them, a daughter, who died without a moment's warning at the age of twenty-five.

Mr. Sanford's occupation has always been that of farming, with the exception of two years in the earlier part of his life spent in mercantile pursuits.

He was a member of the Connecticut House of Representatives for the town of Redding in the years 1854, '70, '74, and senator from the Eleventh Senatorial District in 1878-79. He has repeatedly held

the office of assessor, member of the board of relief of the town of Redding, and registrar of marriages, births, and deaths, retiring from the latter office in 1864. Mr. Sanford has often acted as appraiser and commissioner in estates, and holds at the present time the office of clerk of Probate for the district of Redding, having held the same continuously since 1851, with the exception of one year. He has also frequently held the office of selectman.

A Meriden paper, in commenting upon the Legislature, the qualifications of its members, etc., at the close of the first session of Mr. Sanford's service, although opposed to him in politics, paid him this tribute:

"Senator Sanford, representing the Eleventh District, is one of the most popular and deserving members of the upper House. He has represented the town of Redding three terms in the lower House, and has correct views regarding the duties of a legislator. He intuitively grapples with the most difficult problems of State legislation, and very readily comes to a correct conclusion whether a pending measure is for the public good, or whether it is being advanced by the lobby in the interest of a select few. He is an energetic worker in the committee room, and although modest and retiring in his manner, making no ostentatious display on the floor of the capitol, he exerts a wide influence in a quiet, effective way, and his vote is always given in the direction of the greatest good to the greatest number. This is Mr. Sanford's first term as senator, he holding over from last year under the new *regimé*. We hope to see him re-elected under biennial reform which is to be."

#### JOHN WHEELER SANFORD.

John Wheeler Sanford was born at Weston, Fairfield, Co., Conn., May 21, 1799. His father and grandfather were both named John. The former, a farmer by occupation, was a man possessed of considerable mechanical ingenuity, and was engaged at various times in the manufacture of lasts, plows, etc. He married Lydia Wheeler, daughter of John Wheeler, of Weston. His children were Betsey (now Mrs. Aaron Lyons, a widow, living in Redding, over ninety), Ruth (now Mrs. David Duncomb, over eighty-eight), Margaret (deceased), Sally (deceased), John W., Eli (deceased), and Lydia Ann (deceased). His mother dying when he was but eight years old, John W. remained with his father until he was eleven, when he was put out to labor with Daniel Holmes, of Weston, living with him four years. The next year he spent on a farm and the following he went to learn the carpenter's trade, serving an apprenticeship of five years. The next year he worked as journeyman in Orange Co., N. Y. In the spring of 1822, March 5th, he was married to Altha, daughter of Capt. Abel and Jerusha (Sturges) Fanton, of Weston. The children born to them have been Mary



Ann, George W. (deceased), Harriet S. (deceased), Flora M., Edward J., and Georgiana.

For two years after Mr. Sanford's marriage he devoted himself exclusively to his trade. At this time he purchased the place on which he lives. At the time of its purchase by Mr. Sanford it consisted of an old house and out-buildings, and thirty acres of land. The contrast must, indeed, be striking between its appearance then, to those who remember its old tumble-down, unpainted buildings, its irregular stone fences carelessly thrown together, offering no barrier to the free ingress and egress of cattle and swine, and the rock- and stump-covered and ill-defined field, to its present thrifty appearance, its commodious, well-painted house and snug out-buildings, its regular fields protected by mathematically correct built walls, its well-tilled fields and luxuriant orchards; not a post of the original structures remains, and to the original purchase has been added from time to time until the farm contains one hundred acres of excellent land.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanford and all the children are members of the Episcopal church of Redding.

In politics Mr. Sanford was formerly Whig, now Republican. He represented his town in the Legislature in 1842. He is now living with his consort of fifty-eight years, both in the enjoyment of excellent general health. Their son Edward J. is of the firm of Sanford, Chamberlain & Allen, wholesale druggists of Knoxville, Tenn.

#### JESSE LEE SANFORD.

Jesse Lee Sanford was born Jan. 4, 1831, in Redding, Fairfield Co., Conn. His father, Aaron Sanford, was probably as prominent a man as the town of Redding has produced. For many years of his life he did virtually the town business. He held all the town offices at various times; was either selectman or justice of the peace for nearly fifty years. He died at the age of eighty-six.

Jesse L. Sanford was the fifth son of Aaron and Fanny (Hill) Sanford. His education was derived from the common school and Amenia Seminary, in Dutchess Co., N. Y., at which institution he spent a year and a half. He remained with his father on the home farm until his marriage, March 19, 1863, to Miss Fanny M., only daughter of George and Sarah (Goodsel) Osborn, of Redding, when he took up his residence on the farm joining his father's on the north, a portion of which consisted of a part of the homestead, and devoted his entire time to farming. His father-in-law, the late Mr. Osborn, was a prominent man in his town. An extensive farmer and cattle-dealer, he found time to do considerable business for his town, representing it in the Legislature during two sessions.

The children of Jesse L. and Fanny Sanford are Marshal D., Jessie O., Samuel H., Sarah E., Fannie O., and George O.

#### WILLIAM H. HILL.

William H. Hill was born May 1, 1845, in the town of Redding, Fairfield Co., Conn. He comes of a long line of ancestry, tracing his descent from William Hill, the name of his earliest ancestor in this country, who arrived here about 1632, twelve years after the "Mayflower." "He settled for a while at Dorchester, Mass., and then after a time removed to Windsor, on the Connecticut River, above Hartford, where he bought land and set out an orchard. From there he very early removed to Fairfield, where he lived and died, and his last will and testament is recorded in an ancient volume of the records of the 'Particular Court' for Fairfield County, in the above-named library." (From "Genealogy of the Hill Family.")

John L. Hill, father of the subject of this memoir, was born June 15, 1810, in Redding. He was married to Miss Harriet N., eldest daughter of David and Ruth (Sanford) Duncomb, of Redding, May 4, 1840. Their children were William H. and Josephine E. The latter married Rev. E. W. Burr, of the Newark Conference. Their children are Harriet and Eugene W. William H. Hill is married to Mary A., daughter of Frederick A. and Caroline (Parsons) Hotchkiss, of Sharon, and their children are John R., Carrie L. (deceased), Frederick H., and Ernest W.

John L. Hill carried on the business of lime-making for a number of years, but about ten years before his death he turned his attention to farming, purchasing the place on which his family now lives. The lime-kiln which the late Mr. Hill operated was probably the oldest in the State, having been built by Col. John Read, his great-grandfather. The farm purchased by the elder Hill was known as the Read place, and at the time of its purchase was in a most dilapidated condition; but before his death, by his energy, he brought it into the present snug and thrifty condition, which his son has since maintained. He also built the beautiful residence which still graces the place. He died in his seventieth year. His son, William H. Hill, had every advantage of district school and academic education, finishing his education at Mr. Selleck's, in Norwalk. On reaching his majority he took entire charge of the extensive farm, and enjoys the enviable reputation of being one of the best farmers of his town.

In politics he is Republican, and has filled many town offices. In 1869 he represented his town in the Legislature. His mother has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Redding for more than forty years, and to this church the family has attached itself as they have reached years of discretion.

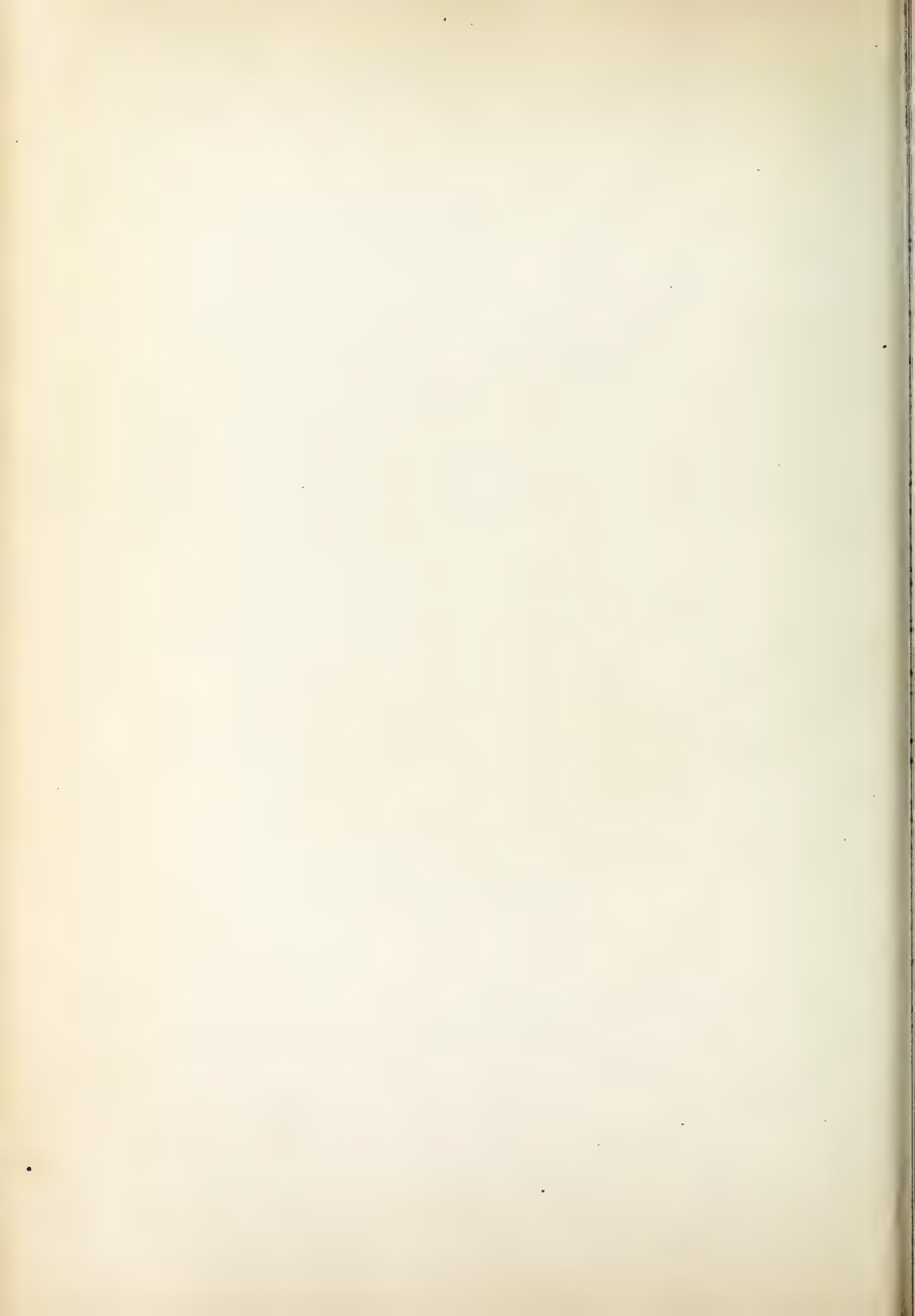
#### WALKER BATES.

Walker Bates was born in Redding, Fairfield Co., Conn., June 4, 1796, and was the son of Elias Bates, an esteemed citizen of the town. He obtained his early education in the common school of his district and



*Wm H. Hill.*



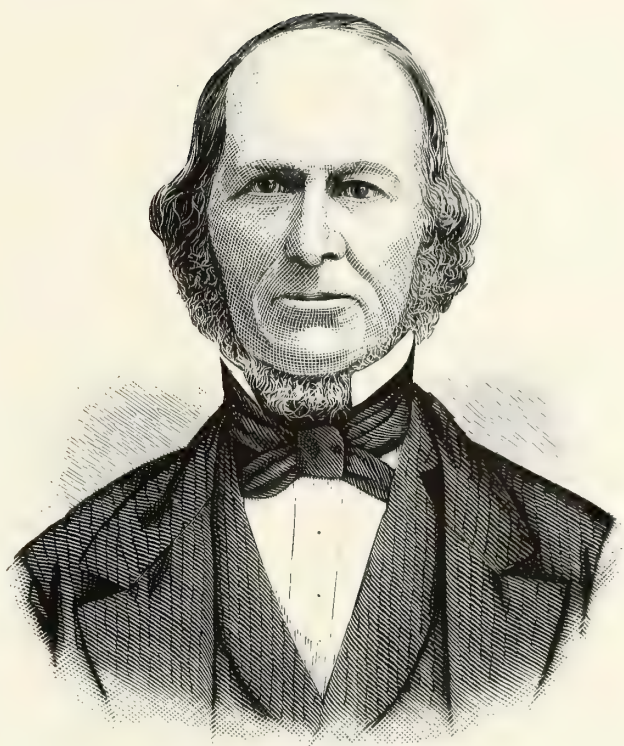








*Walker Butts*



*John Marshall*





under the instruction of Rev. Jonathan Bartlett, who was a native of Redding and for thirteen years pastor of the Congregational Church there, and after his pastorate prepared many persons for the work of teaching. When still young Mr. Bates commenced teaching, and pursued that avocation for several years in the common schools of this and adjoining towns. In 1825 he opened a boarding- and day-school for boys, and continued it for many years. At the same time he engaged in agriculture on a somewhat scientific plan. His school was a great success, as he was well fitted for the work by his mental acquirements and discipline, and by an intense interest in the young, as well as by his genial manners and a happy faculty of imparting knowledge, thus stimulating the youthful mind for the work of an educator. Not a few who have occupied and are now filling important and honorable stations in life enjoyed his faithful tuition. He was an enthusiast in the pursuit of knowledge, and his pupils caught something of his spirit. His powers of conversation were so good and his manners so affable that the youth gathered around him with eager interest, and enjoyed greatly their intercourse with him. He was also an author, and wrote in poetic numbers. He had a Bible-class in the Sunday-school, and had no lack of members. He was a great favorite with the young.

Mr. Bates has filled most of the offices in the town, and was for a number of years the moderator of the town-meetings, over which he presided with efficiency. He often acted as executor and administrator in the settlement of estates, performing the various trusts reposed in him to the satisfaction of those concerned.

He represented the town in the General Assembly in 1832, 1835, 1840, 1854, 1862, and 1864, taking, too, quite a prominent part in the business of the Legislature. In several instances, when a member of that body, he was called by the Speaker to the chair during his absence.

It may be well said of him that in all the acts of his life, both public and private, he exhibited a sense of honor and integrity rarely surpassed.

Mr. Bates is a member of the Congregational Church in his native town, and for a number of years was the leading committee of the Ecclesiastical Society therewith connected.

He is now in his eighty-fifth year, confined mostly to the house, and is obliged generally to keep his bed, being a great sufferer from mental and physical disease.

#### CORTES MERCHANT.\*

The first record we find of the Merchant family figuring to any extent in matters of public interest connected with the town of Redding appears in the person of Gurdon Merchant, who was the first town

treasurer and held many other offices of local trust and importance. He married Eleanor Chauncy, a sister of Admiral Chauncy and daughter of the first Episcopal minister in Newtown. Joel Merchant was the sixth child of Gurdon and Eleanor Merchant. The first twenty years of his life was passed in dissipation and idleness. After squandering the whole of his patrimony he became disgusted with his mode of life, and making a resolve, as he said, never to return to Redding until he could bring back with him as much money as he had squandered, left his birth-place and went to New Jersey in pursuit of employment. He was so successful as to be able in a short time to return to his native town, his end accomplished.

He then erected the old stone house now standing near Redding Station, and within sight of the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad, fashioning it after the models of the early Dutch settlers which he had seen while laboring to replace his lost fortune in New Jersey.

He married Molly Sanford, daughter of David Sanford, an old Revolutionary soldier. They had eight children, of whom Cortes, the third child, was the eldest son.

Cortes Merchant was born June 9, 1797. His early education was obtained in the public schools which the town afforded; but having drank to the dregs the cup of knowledge which they offered, he received instruction from the Rev. Daniel Crocher, then resident pastor of the Congregational Church.

Commodore Chauncy (when on a visit to his nephew, Joel Merchant) offered young Cortes, then fifteen years of age, a midshipman's berth on board the admiral's ship. This advantageous offer, though at first accepted, was declined by the young aspirant upon witnessing the excessive grief his mother evinced at parting from her eldest son.

Arrived at manhood, he, in partnership with his brother Orton, erected a factory for the manufacture of woolen goods. But a disastrous fire soon took possession of both building and stock, and the business was discontinued never to be resumed. He married Rebecca Rockwell, daughter of Thomas and Deborah Rockwell, of Ridgebury, Oct. 1, 1828, after which he purchased the farm on Umpawaug, where he resided at the time of his death.

He first figures in public matters in the year 1830, as selectman, which office he continued to hold at intervals, with various others of public trusts and importance, until the year 1866, when he was disqualified by age from office-holding.

He was elected by the Democratic party in 1854 to a seat in the State Senate. While there the Nebraska bill was pending, and he was the only member who cast a negative vote. The *Republican Farmer* of May 23, 1854, says, "All the members of the Connecticut Senate but five are Whigs. The Hon. Cortes Merchant, who gave the only negative vote, is a Democrat,

\* This name is sometimes spelled Marchant.



from Redding, in Fairfield County,—a brave and noble man, we have no doubt. We wish we had the honor of his acquaintance. We would introduce him to another honest and good man who in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, a few years ago, gave the only *No* in opposition to a series of resolutions in favor of the Wilmot Proviso. The latter is proud of his vote to this day, and Mr. Merchant, we have no doubt, will feel a similar pleasure in reflecting upon the position he has now taken.”—*Journal Courier*.

“All that the *Journal* says of Mr. Merchant is true. He is ‘one of the men’ who stand firm when the timid waver in the presence of an unscrupulous majority. Mr. Demning, of Litchfield County, another senator, though not present when the vote was taken, afterwards recorded his name against the nullification doctrines avowed in the resolutions of the majority.”—*New Haven Register*.

The next year (1855) he was elected a member of the House of Representatives.

In politics he was an active worker and a staunch Democrat. It was his boast that he had never in his life cast any but a Democratic vote, and that he never “scratched” a ticket, however personally obnoxious or incompetent to fill the nomination he might deem the candidate to be.

Personally, we can, without exaggeration, call him a wonderful man. He was one of the few mighty who, step by step, inch by inch, fought and conquered in the battle of life, and, by vanquishing all of the follies and temptations which assail man in this world of ours, lived up to the golden rule. His word, once spoken, carried conviction with it as far as his name was known. He died Nov. 25, 1874, leaving a spotless name and sincerely mourned by all who knew him. He was what the poet Burns very correctly styles “the noblest work of God, an honest man.”

#### EDWARD MERCHANT.

Edward Merchant was born in the town of Redding, where he resided during a long life, and where he died Sept. 24, 1877, in his seventy-first year.

His father, Joel Merchant, was a farmer, but, besides tilling the soil, he carried on to some extent the manufacture of clothing. Edward Merchant received his education in the district school. He was married April 14, 1839, to Betsey, daughter of Azariah and Sarah (Coley) Andrews, of the town of Redding. The children of this union were Sarah J., Annie, and Elizabeth.

Edward Merchant followed the calling to which he was reared, that of a farmer, through a long and eventful life, enjoying in the fullest the respect of all who knew him.

#### THADDEUS M. ABBOTT.

Deacon Thaddeus M. Abbott is descended from George Abbott, who came from England, and was one of the first settlers of Norwalk. He was a land-owner, and his name is in the earliest town records of 1653. His will, made in 1689, was recorded March 11, 1690.

Deacon T. M. Abbott was born Sept. 3, 1812, in Redding. He was the youngest of a family of six. His father, also named Thaddeus, a blacksmith by trade, moved to Redding soon after his marriage, in 1788. His wife was Rebecca, daughter of ——— Marvin, of Norwalk. After thirty years Thaddeus, Sr., turned his attention to farming, which he followed during the remainder of his life. At his father's death, which occurred when he was in his twentieth year, young Abbott had attended only the district and select schools of his town. After the above-mentioned event he taught a district school in Ridgefield one term, and then attended Mr. S. S. St. John's school in Ridgefield for one year, when he taught a term in his native town. This was the last of his teaching, and he again turned his attention to farming.

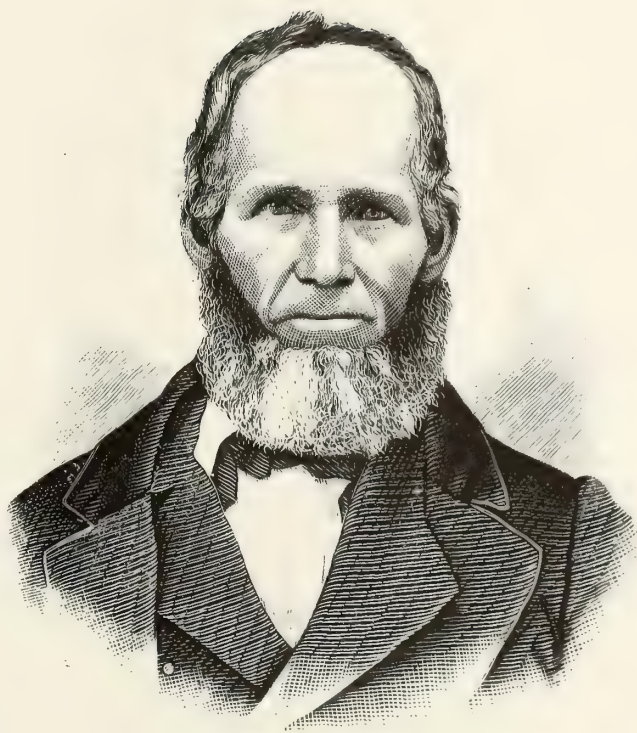
In 1836 he was married to Miss Mary J. Frost, of Poughkeepsie. Their children have been Frances J. (deceased), Ezra M. (deceased), and Charles M. Soon after his marriage Mr. Abbott entered the mercantile business, in connection with his brother-in-law, E. M. Frost, in Redding. This he followed for five years, leaving it to engage in farming. About this time there occurred one of those incidents which seem to be pure accident, but which tend to shape our lives. Wanting a sleigh of peculiar make, such as he could not procure nor find any one to build, he determined to make one for himself. His first effort did not suit him exactly, and he made another. This was the beginning of a protracted apprenticeship to himself extending over a period of many years.

In politics Mr. Abbott started as a Whig, and by that party was elected to various town offices, besides representing his town in the State Legislature. In 1847 he was appointed to the office of Probate judge, filling it again in 1864, after it became an elective office. In 1852, Mr. Abbott united with the Congregational Church of Redding, his wife joining at the same time. In 1854 he became one of the deacons, which position he has since held.

#### NASH COUCH.

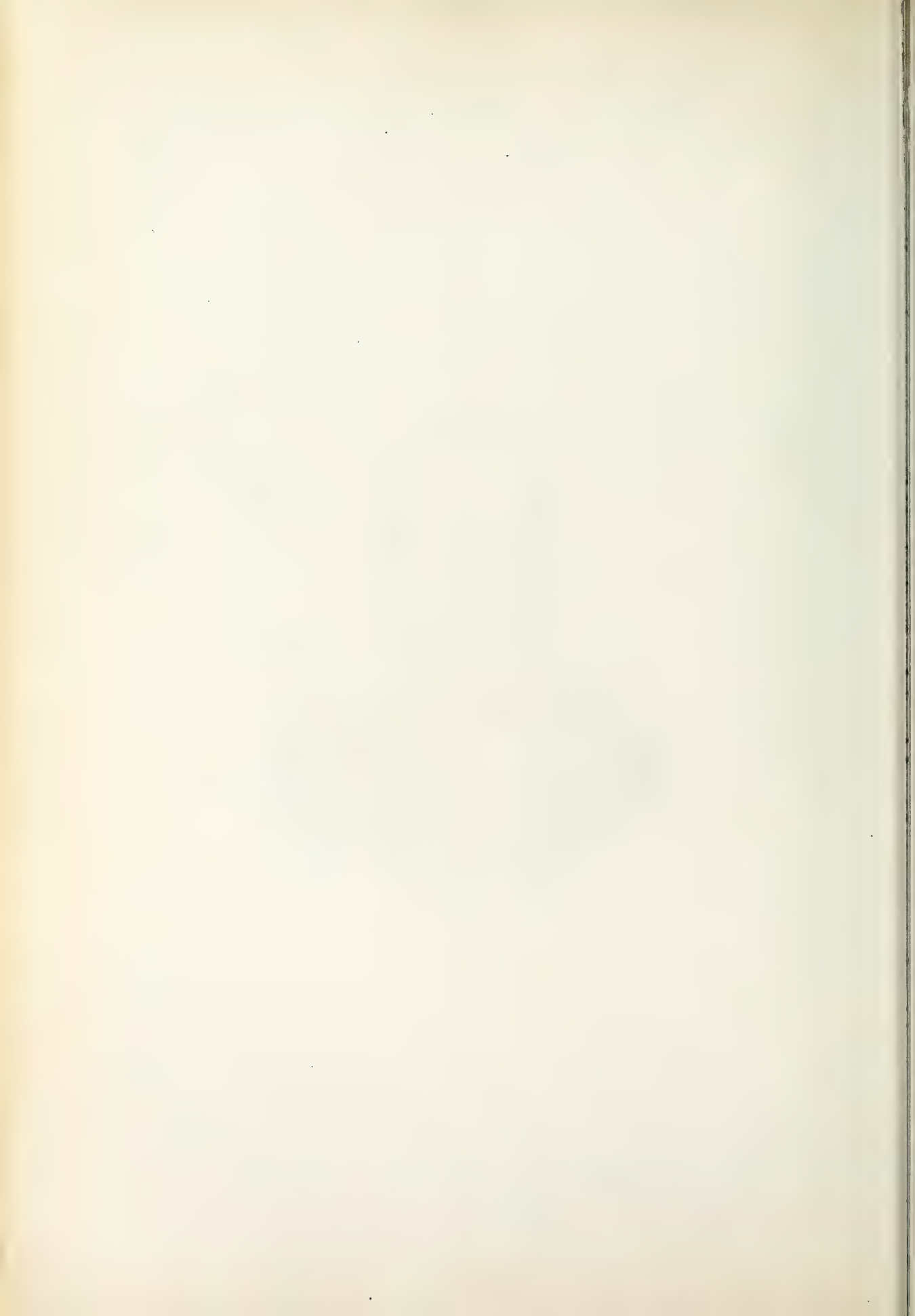
Nash Couch was born Oct. 17, 1794, in Redding, Fairfield Co., Conn., on the homestead purchased by his ancestors from the Indians. His grandfather, Simon Couch, and his father, Thomas Couch, were both farmers, and quite naturally young Nash was reared to the same pursuit, which he followed throughout a long life.

Nash Couch was married early in life to Polly, daughter of Isaac and Sarah (Morgan) Gorham, of



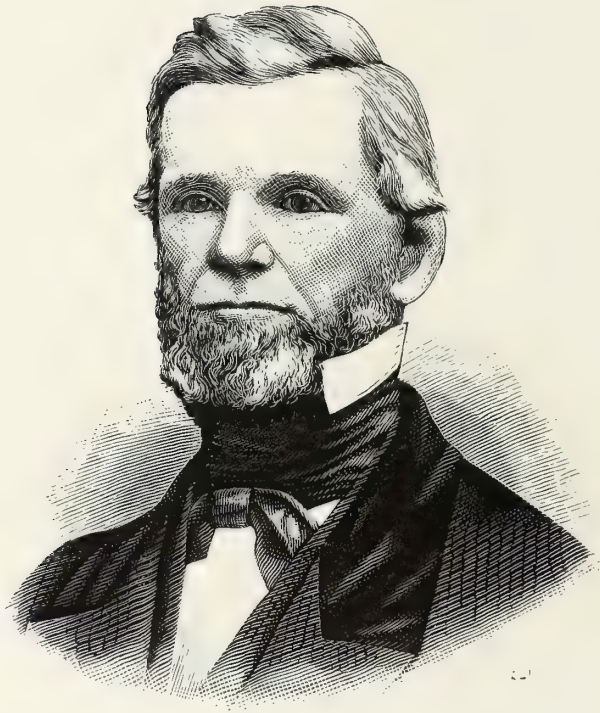
EDWARD MERCHANT.



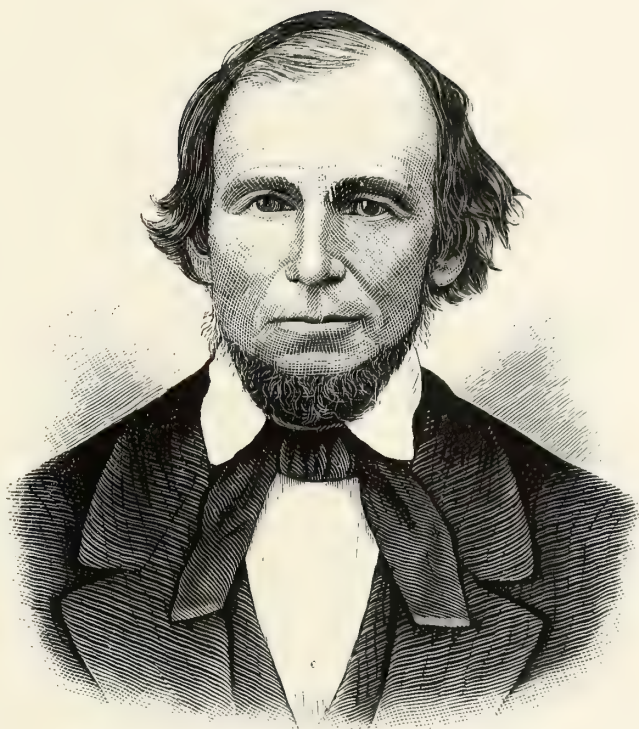






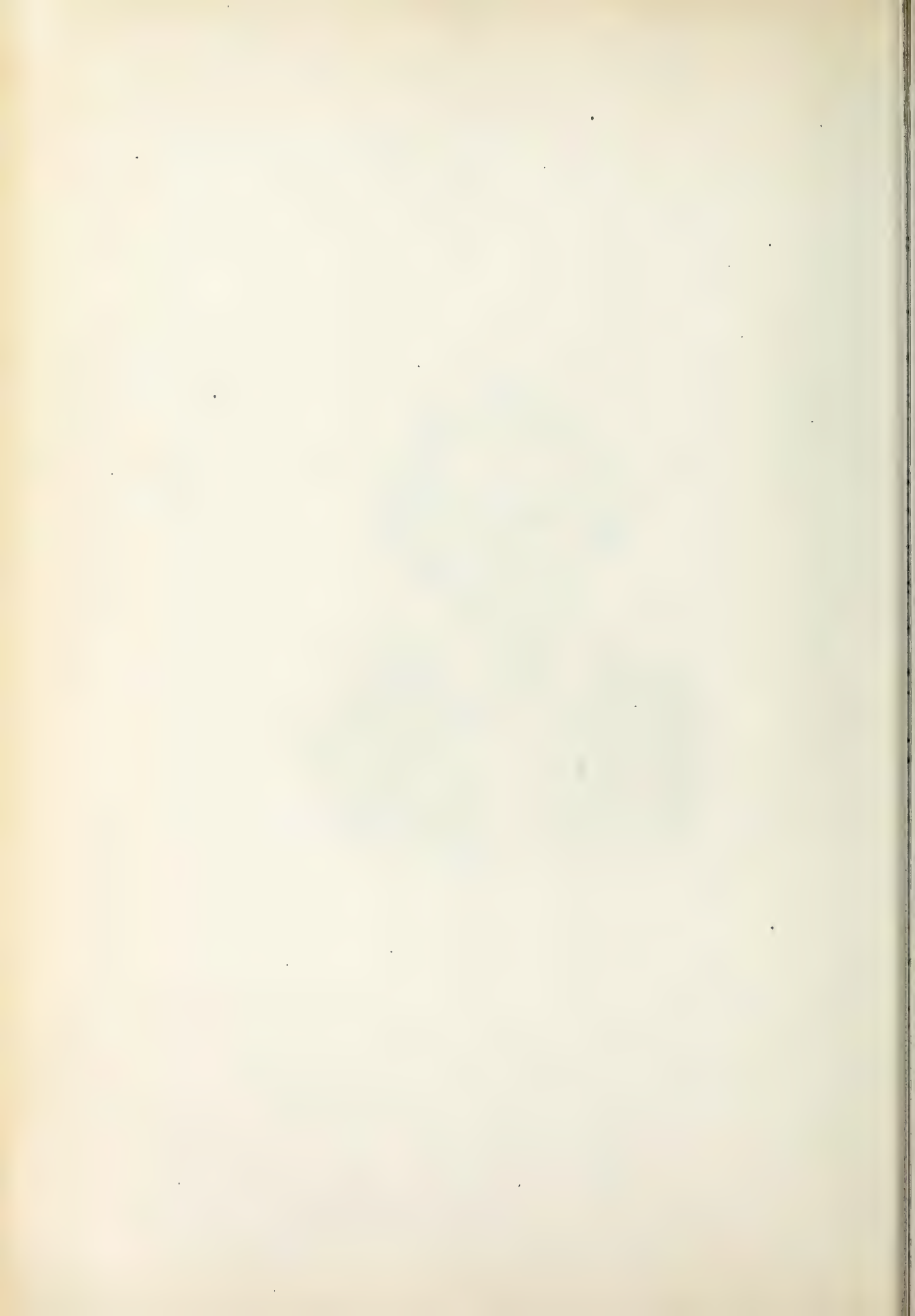


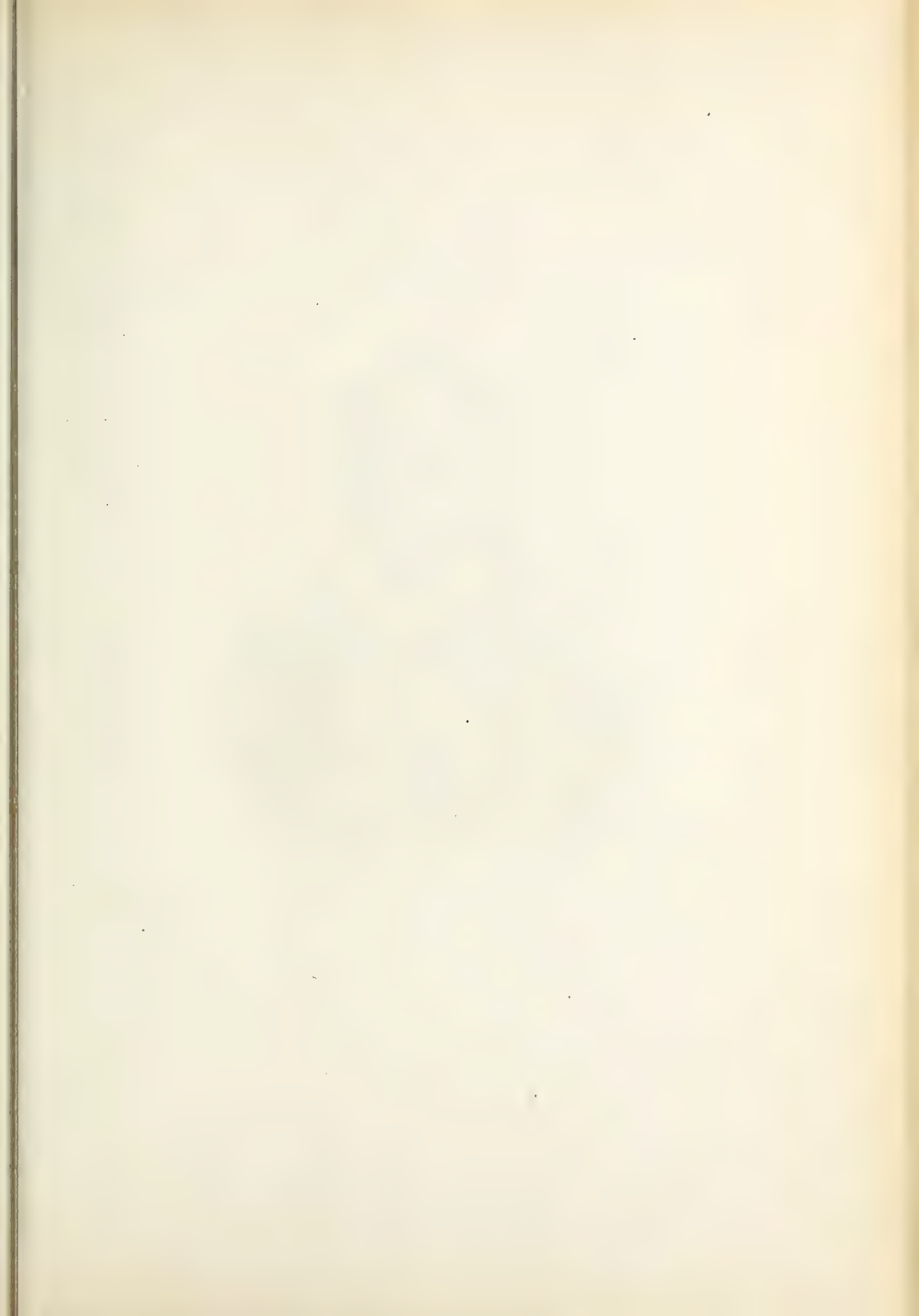
T. M. ABBOTT.



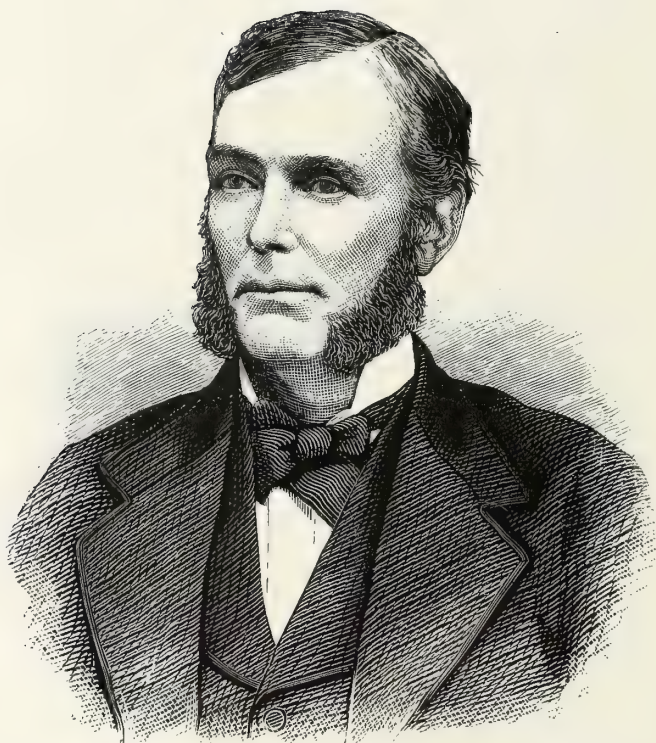
NASH COUCH.











*W. B. Rensdy*



Photo. by J. H. Folsom, Danbury.

*M H Wakenan M.D.*





Redding, and the children born to them were Henry, Jane A., and William.

Nash remained with his father, assisting in the tillage of the paternal acres, until the death of the latter, when he came into possession of the same. The district in which the family reside is known as Couch District, from the family. At the age of sixty-five Mr. Couch lost the use of his limbs and remained an invalid the remainder of his life. He was known and respected by his fellow-townsmen as an upright man and good citizen.

#### HARVEY BASSETT RUMSEY.

Harvey Bassett Rumsey was born in Monticello, Sullivan Co., N. Y., June 11, 1832.

His father, Lewis Rumsey, also a native of Monticello, was a farmer by occupation, was a Whig in politics, as were his ancestors before him, and was prominent in the politics of his town and county. He was married at the age of twenty-five to Nancy Bassett, of his town, but who was a native of Washington Co., N. Y. Their children were Harvey B. and S. Louisa.

The early life of our subject was spent in New York, assisting his father and attending school. He enjoyed educational advantages of the common school and academy, leaving the latter institution at the age of nineteen to go to the Sacramento valley under the following circumstances: His mother's youngest brother went to California among the earliest pioneers to that State. Losing his health in the mines, he was advised to cross the plains to recover it. He went to New Orleans, purchasing there four hundred and fifty head of cattle and about twenty horses. With these he started overland to California. Losing his foreman by drowning, he wrote to his nephew's parents asking that he be allowed to go by steamer and meet him at Sacramento, to assist him on his arrival there with the stock. The nephew, Harvey B., nothing loath, thus found himself, at a very tender age, in the then Eldorado of the world. He remained with his uncle two and a half years, returning only when his presence was imperatively demanded by the condition of affairs at home, caused by his father's death, which had occurred eighteen months before. During his uncle's mining career, he and a partner took from a place called Rattlesnake Bar eighty thousand dollars within a month. Mr. Rumsey resided with his mother until one year after his marriage, after his return from California, when he removed to Redding. He was married Jan. 10, 1867, to Adeline Briggs, daughter of George and Emeline Briggs, of Sherman. Mr. Briggs was a large farmer, and one of the most successful raisers and feeders of cattle in Connecticut. The children of Mr. Rumsey have been Emma and Louie C. Mr. Rumsey resides on what was formerly known as the Dudley Place, a farm of

two hundred and sixty-six acres, and devotes himself to cattle-raising, feeding, and farming, also dealing in real estate. He is Republican in politics, and has represented Redding in the Legislature since taking up his residence in the town.

#### DR. MOSES H. WAKEMAN.

Dr. Moses H. Wakeman is of English descent, and his ancestors were among the earliest settlers of Fairfield and New Haven Counties.

His paternal grandfather, Asahel Wakeman, settled in the parish of Greenfield and followed the vocation of farming.

His maternal grandfather, Nathan Wheeler, also a native of Fairfield, was a militiaman in the Revolution, and was present at the burning of Fairfield. He barely escaped capture by the enemy, who attempted to decoy him by taking off their red coats and calling to him to come towards them, as he could have a better view from where they stood. Mr. Wheeler held the rank of sergeant.

Silas Wakeman, third son of Asahel, was born in 1804, in Fairfield. He was married early in life to Abbey, eldest daughter of Nathan and Clarine (Bradley) Wheeler, of Easton, Fairfield Co. Their children were Moses H., Polley (deceased), Betsey, Clarine (deceased), and Abbey B.

Dr. Moses H. Wakeman, then, was the eldest son, and was born in November, 1829. His childhood and youth were spent on his father's farm, attending district school during the winter months. At the age of seventeen he commenced a course of preparatory studies at the old Easton Academy. These he concluded in about three years, and at the suggestion of his uncle, Dr. Nathan Wheeler, of Patterson, N. Y., entered his office the following spring and began the study of medicine. He remained with his uncle three years, during which period he attended two full courses of lectures at the New Haven Medical College, receiving his diploma from that institution with the degree of M.D. Immediately on his graduation he began practicing with his uncle, and in the fall of that year removed to Milltown, Putnam Co., N. Y., where he practiced four years. On invitation of Dr. Charles Gorham, in the fall of 1858, Dr. Wakeman came to Redding and entered into partnership with him. This copartnership continued until the death of Dr. Gorham, in 1859.

May 31, 1864, Dr. Wakeman was married to Harriet White, youngest daughter of Samuel and Mary (Sanford) Collins, of Redding. The children born to them have been Mary Collins, Henry W. (deceased), and Harriet Wheeler. Mr. Collins was own cousin to Sir Garnet Wolseley, and during the latter years of his life was a merchant in Redding.



## WILLIAM BURR HILL.

William Burr Hill was born Jan. 6, 1826, in Redding, Fairfield Co., Conn.

His father, Bradley Hill, was a native of Fairfield, coming to Redding when a very young man. He married Betsey, eldest daughter of Zalmon and Martha (Jackson) Banks, early in life, and the children born to them were Abbey M., William B., Mary E. (deceased), Martha (deceased), Albert B., Arthur B., and Sarah M.

William B., the eldest son, remained with his father until his twenty-eighth year, when he was married to Katy, only daughter of Nathaniel B. and Eunice (Hull) Selleck, of Danbury, after which event he moved on the farm next west of his father's, where he still resides engaged in farming. The children of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Hill are Helen S., Nathaniel B., Celia F., Eunice P., Mary E., and William B.; besides two deceased.

At the age of twenty-one Mr. Hill was elected constable and collector, serving three years, and after an interval of one year was re-elected to the same offices; he was elected justice of the peace for four consecutive years, and in 1864 he was elected to represent his town in the Legislature, and again two years after. In politics he has been Republican since the organization of that party, having previously been a Whig.

## DANIEL C. RYDER.

Daniel C. Ryder was born in Redding, Feb. 16, 1819. His grandfather, John Ryder, a native of Danbury, was a carpenter by trade, and at the time of his death was a wealthy landowner. His wife was Mary Jarvis, and their children were nine, of whom Ralph, father of the subject of this sketch, also a carpenter, was the eldest. He was killed at the early age of forty-five, by falling from a building, leaving a large family of small children.

Daniel C. Ryder was the eldest of the family, and upon him devolved the entire support of the family. At the age of eighteen he began farming, which he followed but a short time, and then engaged in the business of lime-burning. This business he followed with varied success for some years, abandoning it finally and giving his whole attention to farming. In 1838 he was married to Charlotte A., youngest daughter of Charles and Sarah (Crane) Prindle, of Roxbury, Conn. Of their children, Charles C. is living in Brooklyn, and is married to Margaret Bennett,

daughter of Burr and Sally A. Bennett, of Redding; James J., married to Mary E., daughter of Anson and Huldah Fields, of Redding; Charlotte A.; and Stella (deceased). Mr. Ryder lives on the farm which has been owned and on which have lived three generations of his mother's family named Chapman. His great-grandfather, Daniel Chapman, was a soldier in the Revolution; was at Fairfield during Tryon's invasion; was taken prisoner there and carried to New York and thrust into the prison-ship, where it is supposed he died, as his family never after heard of him. Daniel C. Ryder inherited the homestead from his grandfather, Daniel Chapman, having lived with him for many years previous to his death. Mr. Ryder has always been a Democrat, representing his town in the Legislature in 1849. He is a regular attendant at the Congregational Church of Redding, a member of its society, and contributes liberally to the support of the church.

## EBENEZER F. FOSTER.

Ebenezer F. Foster was born in Ridgefield, Fairfield Co., Conn., March 8, 1826. His father, Jonah Foster, was a clothier, and followed his calling in his native town of Ridgefield. His wife was Timothy and Elizabeth (Whitney) Hunt's daughter Sally, and by her he had the following children: Mary, Elizabeth, Ebenezer F., Susan, Esther A., Joel G., John B. (deceased), Timothy H., and Martin W.

The youthful days of E. F. Foster were spent in Ridgefield, at the common school, at which place he laid the foundation of that education which found its superstructure in the school of the world. At the age of seventeen he went to learn the wheelwright trade of one Sunderland, of Sommerstown, N. Y. Here he remained three years, and then went to work for George Crofutt, of Danbury, in the same business, remaining with the latter gentleman more or less steadily for eight years, going thence to Birmingham, into the employ of the iron company of that place.

The next event in our subject's life was his marriage, in 1852, to Harriet, only daughter of David and Elizabeth (Keeler) Platt, of Redding. Mr. Foster, after his marriage, took up his residence in Redding, where he has since continued to live engaged in farming. In politics he is a Democrat, and has often been called to fill town offices. In 1871 he was elected to the Legislature, where he served with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents, and in 1874 he was elected county commissioner for three years.

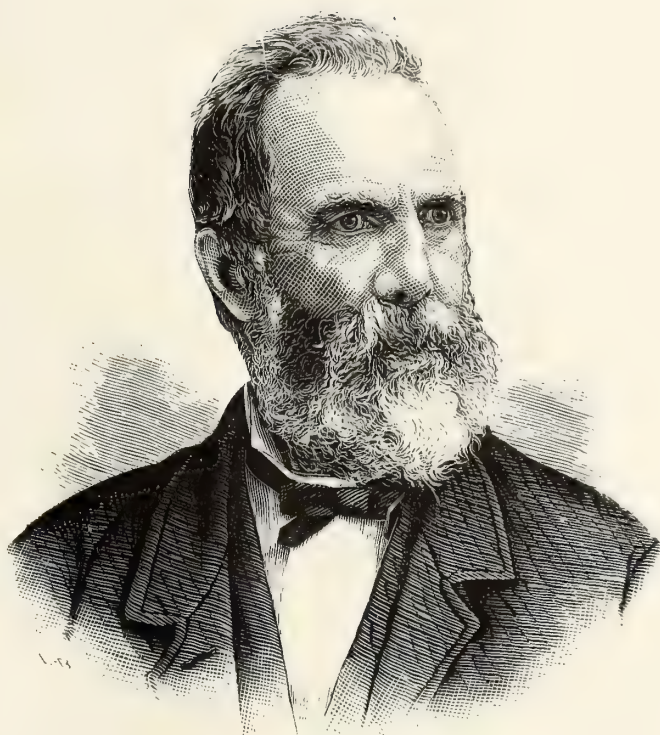
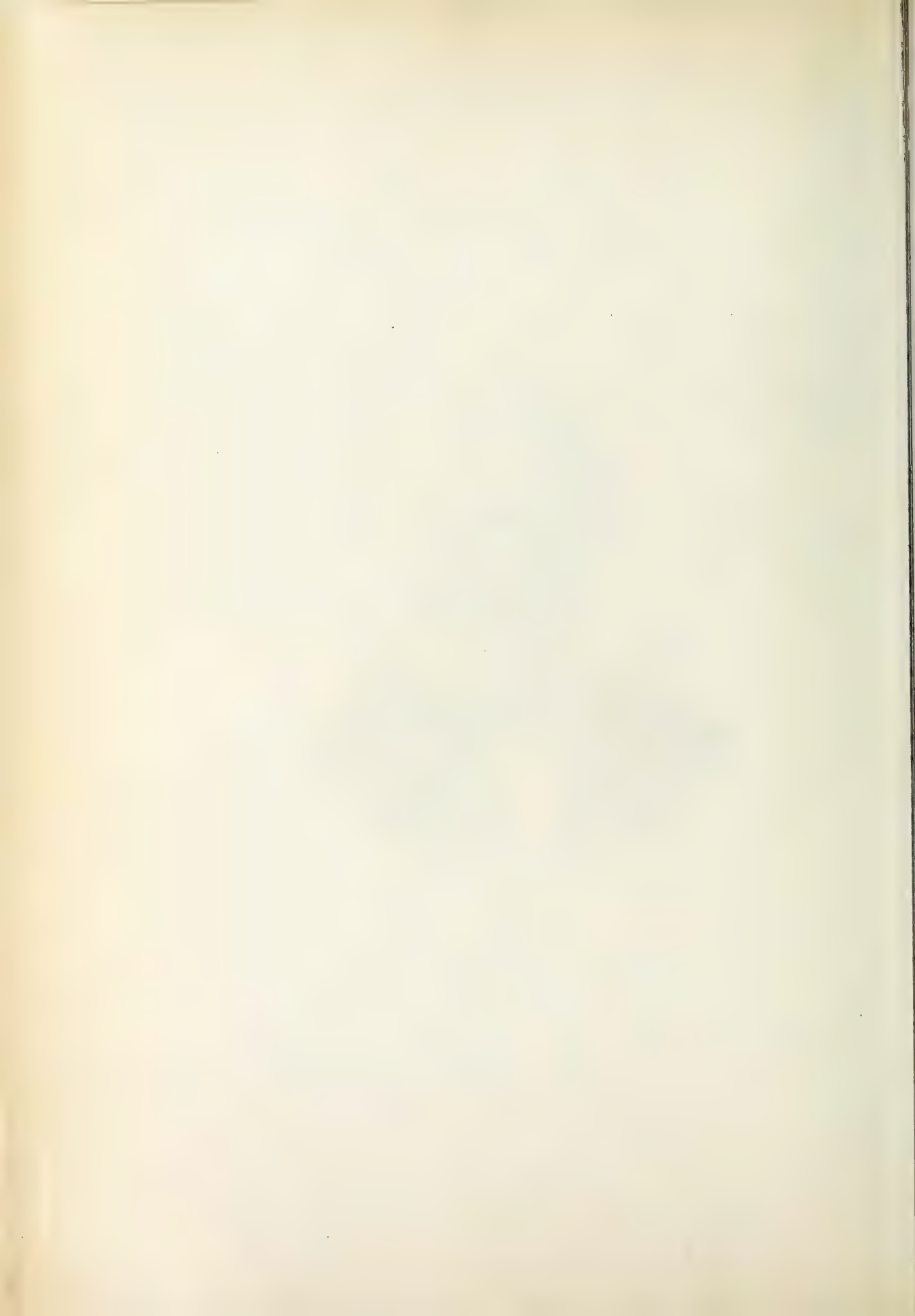


Photo. by J. H. Folsom, Danbury.

Wm B Hill











*D. L. Ryder*



Photo. by J. H. Folsom Danbury

*Schuyler F. Foster*





CHAPTER LXII.

RIDGEFIELD.

Geographical—Topographical—Original Name Candatowa—Petition for Purchase of Lands—First Indian Deed—First Grant of Lands—The Settlement—Names of Pioneers—Acts Relating to Home-lots—The Pioneer Blacksmith—The First Grist-mill—Further Purchase from the Indians—Exemption from Taxation—The Perry Family.

RIDGEFIELD lies on the west border of the county of Fairfield, and is bounded as follows: On the north by the town of Danbury; on the east by the towns of Danbury and Redding; on the south by the town of Wilton and the county of Westchester, N. Y.; and on the west by Westchester and Putnam Counties, in the State of New York. Its surface is diversified by hills and valleys, and the soil is fertile.

ORIGINAL NAME.

Prior to 1708 the territory embraced within the present bounds of the town of Ridgefield was in the undisputed possession of the red man, and called by him *Candatowa*, meaning "high land."

In May of that year (1708) a petition was presented to the General Assembly by a number of the inhabitants of the town of Norwalk for the purchase of these lands. The petitioners asked "libertie to purchase of the Indians a certain tract of land bounded south on Norwalk bounds, north-east in Danbury, and west upon York-line."

The General Assembly granted the prayer of the petitioners, "provided it doth not prejudice any former grant; this Assembly reserving to themselves a power for the settlement and allotment of the land so to be purchased among the petitioners, and such others as the said General Assembly shall judge meet."

THE FIRST INDIAN DEED.

The tract was purchased for one hundred pounds, and on Sept. 30, 1708, a deed was executed by Catoonah, sachem of the Ramapoo Indians, of which the following is a copy:

"To all people to whom these presents shall Come Greeting &c. Know ye that I Catoonah Sachem of Ramapoo Indians and Associates within her Majesties province of New York in America. For & in Consideration of ye sum of One Hundred Pounds as current money of said province. To us in hand before the ensembling hereof well and Truly Paid by John Belden, Samuell Keeler Senr, Matthew Seamor James Brown Benjamin Wilson, Joseph Birchard, John Whitne Senr, Matthias Saint John Benjamin Hickcock, John Beebe Samuel Saint John, John Bouten Joseph Keeler, Samuel Smith Junior, Jonathan Stevens, Daniell Olmsted, Richard Olmsted, John Stirdevant, Samuel Keeler Junr, Joseph Bouton, Jonathan Rockwell, Edmond Wareing, Joseph Whitne, Daniel Hait, Thomas Hyott, James Benedick, Joseph Crampton, Ebenezer Sension, Matthew Saint John, all of the Town of Norwalk in ye County of Fairfield, within her Majesties Colony of Connecticut in New England, and Thomas Smith Thomas Canfield, & Samuell Smith, of the Town of Milford in ye County of New Haven & Colonie aforesaid. The Receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge, and our selves therewith fully Satisfied, and Contented, and thereof and of every part and percell thereof Do Exonerat Acquitt & discharge the said John Belden, Samuel Keeler Senr, Matthew Seamor,

James Brown, Benjamin Wilson, Joseph Birchard, John Whitne Senr, Matthias Saint John, Benjamin Hickcock, John Beebe, Samuell Saint John, John Bouton, Joseph Keeler, Samuell Smith, Jonathan Stevens, Daniel Olmsted, Richard Olmsted, John Stirdevant, Samuel Keeler Junr, Joseph Bouton, Jonathan Rockwell, Edmond Wareing, Joseph Whitne, Daniell Hait, Thomas Hyott, James Benedick, Joseph Crampton, Ebenezer Sension, Matthew Saint John, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, and Samuel Smith, their heirs executors, administrators forever by these presents. Have given, granted bargained, sold Allowed Conveyed and Confirmed, and by these presents Do freely fully and absolutely give grant bargain sell, Aliene Convey and Confirm unto them the said John Belden, Samuell Keeler Junr, Matthew Seamor, James Brown, Benjamin Wilson, Joseph Birchard, John Whitne Senr, Matthias Saint John, Benjamin Hickcock, John Beebe, Samuel Saint John, John Bouton, Joseph Keeler, Samuell Smith, Jonathan Stevens, Daniell Olmsted, Richard Olmsted, John Stirdevant, Samuell Keeler, Joseph Bouton, Jonathan Rockwell, Edmond Wareing, Joseph Whitne, Daniel Hait, Thomas Hyott, James Benedick, Joseph Crampton, Ebenezer Sension, Matthew Saint John, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, and Samuel Smith, their Associates heirs and assigns forever. A Certain Tract of Land Situat Lying and being so esteemed within her Majesties Colony of Connecticut aforesaid Butted and Bounded as followeth, at a Rock with stones Lay'd thereon that lyeth upon ye west side of Norwalk River about twenty rod northward of the Crossing or where Danbury old Cart path Crosseth the River which said Rock is the South East Corner and from said Corner a line Runneth upwards unto Umpewange pond to a White Oak Tree, Standing by the Northwest Corner of said Pond, the said tree being marked and Stones Lay'd about it and is the North East Corner, and from the said Corner Tree, another line Running near Two points to the North of West into a pond Called Nesopack and Continues ye Same Coarse untill it meets with a second pond Called Aokkeels, Crossing by ye south End of both ponds, and from thence Running Near West untill it Extends to a place Called Mamanasquag, where is a Oak Tree Marked on ye North Side of the outlet of water that Comes out from a sort of a grassy pond, which is known and Called by Said Name, which tree is the North West Corner, and from said Tree another line Running South bearing to ye East About one mile and a half. Running by ye East side of another Mountain Called Asquatah untill it meets Stanford Bound line, about a quarter of a mile to ye Eastward of Cross River pond, where stands a Marked White Oak tree with Stones about it, and is ye South West Corner, and from said Marked tree a long by Stanford line untill it Comes to Norwalk purchase and so by Said Purchase Bounds to the Said Rock at the South East Corner. Containing by Estimation Twenty Thousand Acres, be it more or less. The Four Corners of Said Tract of Land being Called by the following Indian Names South East Corner 'Wheer Cock' North East Corner 'Wononpkakoonk' North West Corner 'Mamanasquag' South West Corner 'Narabawnis.'

"To Have and to Hold the Said granted and bargained premises, with all the appurtenances, priviledges, and Comodities to the same, belonging or in anywise Appertaining to them ye Above Named persons, their Associates, heirs, and assigns forever, to them and their only proper Use, bennefitt, and behoof forever. And I the Said Catoonah and Associates, for ourselves, our heirs, Executors, administrators, Do Covenant, promise, and grant to and with the above Said persons, their associates, heirs, and assigns, that before the Ensembling hereof. We are the true, Sole, and Lawfull Owners of ye above bargained premises and by Native Right Seized and possessed of the Same in our own proper Right as a Good, perfect, and Absolute Estate of Inheritance in fee Simple, and have in Ourselves good Right, full power, and Sufficient Authority to grant, bargain, Sell, Convey, and Confirms said Bargained premises in manner as above said, and that the said John Belden and the rest above said, their Associats, heirs, and assigns, Shall and may from time to time and at all times forever hereafter, by force and virtue of these presents Lawfully and peaceably and quietly Have, Hold, Use, Occupie, possess and enjoy the said Demissed and bargained premises.

"With the appurtenances free and Clear, and freely and Clearly Acquitted, Exonerated & Discharged of from all and all Manner of former and other gifts, grants, bargains, Sales, Leases, Mortgages, Wills, Intails, Joynters, Dowries, Judgements, Executions, Incumbrances & Extents.

"Furthermore, I the said Catoonah and Associates, for ourselves, our heirs, Executors, administrators, Do Covenant and Ingage ye above Demissed premises to them the said John Belden and the rest above said, their Associates, heirs, and assigns, against the Lawfull Claims or Demands of any person or persons whatsoever, forever hereafter to Warrent, secure, and Defend.

"In Witness whereof, we have hereunto Sett our hands and Seals this Thirtieth Day of September, in the Seventh year of the Reign of



our Sovereign Lady Ann, Queen of England, &c., and in y<sup>e</sup> year of our Lord God, 1708.

"Signed, Sealed, and Delivered in y<sup>e</sup> presence of

"JOHN HOLMES, JR.

"JOSEPH SEELEY.

"JOHN COPP.

"GOOTQUAS.



his mark.

"GOOTQUAS.



his mark.

"MAHKE.



his mark.

"TAWPOZNICK.



his mark.

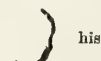
his mark.

"CATOONAH.



y<sup>e</sup> Sachems.

"WOQUACOMICK.



his mark.

"WASPANCHAIN.



his mark.

"WAWKAMAWWEE.



his mark.

"NARANKEA.



his mark.

"CAWWEHORIN.



his mark.

"This Above Written Bill of Sale is Acknowledged by y<sup>e</sup> Grantors this 30<sup>th</sup> Day of September, 1708.

"Before me,

"SAMUEL HAIT,  
"Justice of Peace.

Recorded February 3<sup>d</sup>, 1709-10.

"JOHN COPP,  
"Recorder."

The next step in the enterprise was to survey the land and lay it out into a town-plot, which was accordingly done in 1709 by Maj. Peter Burr, of Fairfield, John Copp, of Norwalk, and Josiah Starr, of Danbury. This committee reported to the General Assembly, and that body, under date Oct. 13, 1709, made the following grant:

#### FIRST GRANT OF LANDS.

"WHEREAS, the Generall Assembly of this Colony, Holden at Hartford, May 13<sup>th</sup> 1708—Upon the petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the town of Norwalk praying for liberty to purchase of the Indians a certain Tract of Land lying within this Colony Bounded Northerly and Northeasterly with the Town of Danbury, Southerly with the Said Town of Norwalk and West or Westerly with y<sup>e</sup> line or boundary between this

Colony & y<sup>e</sup> province of New York, to the end they might make a Plantation there, and settle upon the Same— Did Grant to the said Petitioners a liberty to purchase the same Tract of Land.

"And pursuant thereto y<sup>e</sup> said Petitioners did buy and purchase of Catoonah a Sachem—and other Indians the aforesaid tract of Land as by their Deed of Conveyance thereof under their hands and Seals bearing Date September 30 1708 now laid before this Assembly had been made to appear. And whereas the General Assembly of this Colony Holden at Hartford, May y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>, 1709. Did desire and Impower Major Peter Burr M<sup>r</sup> John Copp, and M<sup>r</sup> Josiah Starr to make a Survey of the said tract of Land and to lay out a Town Platt there and to Make Return of their doings therein to this Assembly at this time, and the said Peter Burr & John Copp in pursuance thereof, having taken a view of the said Tract of Land, & have thereupon made a Return or Report thereof to this Assembly which hath been read and Considered.

"This Assembly Do now give and Grant to the said petitioners, that is to say to the Persons hereafter named viz John Belden Samuel Keeler Sen<sup>r</sup>, Matthew Seamor Matthias St John, Benjamin Wilson Samuel St John James Brown Benjamin Hickcock Joseph Keeler, Samuel Keeler J<sup>r</sup> Samuel Smith Matthew St John Jonathan Stevens Daniel Olmstead John Sturdevant Jonathan Rockwell Joseph Whitney Thomas Hyatt James Benedict Joseph Crampton & Richard Olmstead of the said Town of Norwalk and Thomas Smith Thomas Canfield Samuel Smith & Ebenezer Smith of y<sup>e</sup> Towp of Milford, and to their heirs and assigns forever, All the afore Mentioned Tract or Parcel of Land Butted & Bounded as followeth, that is to say, On the South or Southerly with the said Town of Norwalk, On the West or Westerly with the line or boundary between this Colony and the Province of New York, On the East or Easterly partly with the line to be continued and Run like unto the line between y<sup>e</sup> said Town of Norwalk and the Town of Fairfield from the North End thereof unto a certain black Oak tree marked with Letters and having Stones layed about the Same Standing upon the Mountain, commonly caled the West Cedar Mountain and partly with a direct and Strait line to be run from said Black Oak Tree to a certain Large White Oak Tree marked and having Stones layed about it Standing at or near the North West Corner of Umpewange pond. And on the North or Northerly with a direct Strait Line to be run from the said White Oak Tree to the South Westerly Corner of the Town of Danbury and continued unto the Said Line or Boundary between this Colony and the Province of New York be the said Tract of Land more or Less, With all and Singular the rights Members and appurtenances thereof. And this Assembly do hereby Enact & Grant That the said Tract of Land shall be an Intire Township of it self, and shall be Called and Known by the name of Ridgfield, and shall be held and enjoyed by the said John Belden Samuel Keeler Sen<sup>r</sup> Matthew Seamor Matthias St John Benjamin Wilson, Samuel St John James Brown Benjamin Hickcock Joseph Keeler Samuel Keeler J<sup>r</sup> Samuel Smith Matthew St. John Jonathan Stevens Danel Olmstead John Sturdevant Jonathan Rockwell Joseph Whitney Thomas Hyatt James Benedict Joseph Crampton and Richard Olmstead of Norwalk and Thomas Smith Thomas Canfield Samuel Smith and Ebenezer Smith of the Town of Milford and their heirs and Assigns in Equal and Even Shares, & be divided accordingly into lots and parcels from time to time by the Order of the Major Vote of them, to be accounted by the Major part of interests therein. Provided that this act shall not be construed to the prejudice of any former Grant of this Court and provided always —nevertheless that if the said John Belden Samuel Keeler Sen<sup>r</sup> Matthew Seamor Matthew St. John Benjamin Wilson Samuel St John James Brown Benjamin Hickcock Joseph Keeler Samuel Keeler J<sup>r</sup> Samuel Smith Matthew St John Jonathan Stevens Danel Olmstead John Sturdevant Jonathan Rockwell Joseph Whitney Thomas Hyatt James Benedict Joseph Crampton and Richard Olmstead Thomas Smith Thomas Canfield Samuel Smith and Ebenezer Smith their heirs assigns or associates. Do not or shall not within four Years next after the date of this act or Grant, Settle or Dwell upon the said tract of Land to y<sup>e</sup> number of twenty Eight families, and after continue and Dwell there for the Space of four Years next following, that then it shall be in the Liberty and power of this Assembly to grant of the said Tract of Land Settlement to any other persons as they shall see cause."

"A true copy of Record.

"Test

"CALEB STANLY,  
"Secretary.

#### THE RIDGEFIELD PATENT.

The following is a copy of the patent issued in 1714:

"WHEREAS the Governour, Council and Representatives of Her Majesties Colony of Connecticut in New England in General Court assembled, Did by an Act bearing Date Octobr 13<sup>th</sup> Anno Domini 1709, Grant unto John Belden, Samuel Keeler Senr, Matthew Seamore, Matthias Saintjohn, Benjamin Willson, Samuel Saintjohn, James Brown, Benjamin Hickcock, Joseph Keeler, Samuel Keeler, Junr, Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith, Matthew Saintjohn, Jonathan Stevens, Daniel Olmsted, John Sturdevant, Jonathan Rockwell, Joseph Whitne, Thomas Hyatt, James Benedict, Joseph Crampton, and Richard Olmsted, all of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Norwalk, in y<sup>e</sup> County of Fairfield in y<sup>e</sup> Colony aforesaid, and Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, Samuel Smith, and Ebenezer Smith of the Town of Milford in y<sup>e</sup> County of New Haven, in y<sup>e</sup> Colony aforesaid, One Certain Tract of land, as by the said act doth full appear, the same tract of land, being situate, butted, and bounded as in the said act and Grant is Expressed, Viz, On y<sup>e</sup> South or Southerly with y<sup>e</sup> said Town of Norwalk, On the West, or westerly with the line or boundary between this Colony and the Province of New York, On the East or Eastwardly partly with a line to be Continued and run like unto the line between the said Town of Norwalk and the Town of Fairfield, from the North end thereof unto a black Oak tree mark't with letters & having stones laid about the same, Standing upon the mountain Commonly Called y<sup>e</sup> west Cedar mountain, and partly with a direct and straight line to be run from the said black Oak tree to a Certain large white Oak Tree mark't, and having stones laid about it. Standing at or Near the Northwest Corner of Umpawaug Pond, and on the North or Northely with a direct Strait line to be run from y<sup>e</sup> said white Oak Tree to the Southwest Corner of the Town of Danbury and Continued unto the said line or boundary between this Colony, and the Province of New York, be the same Tract of land more or less, all which appears by the aforesaid Act, And Whereas they, the said John Belden, Samuel Keeler Senr, Matthew Seamore, Matthias Saintjohn, Benjamin Willson, Sam<sup>l</sup> St. John, James Brown, Benjamin Hickcock, Joseph Keeler, Sam<sup>l</sup> Keeler Junr, Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith, Matthew Saintjohn, Jonathan Stevens, Daniel Olmsted, John Sturdevant, Jonathan Rockwell, Joseph Whitne, Thomas Hyatt, James Benedict, Joseph Crampton, and Richard Olmsted, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, Samuel Smith, and Ebenezer Smith pursuant to the law Title, the Tenure of Our lands, have made application for a Patent, for the Confirmation of the said Tract of land to them, their heirs and assigns, Know all men Therefore by these presents, that the Governour and Company of Her Majestie To Colony of Connecticut by Virtue of the Power Granted to them, by our Late Sovereign Lord King Charles the Second, of blessed memory in and by his said Majesties Lett<sup>r</sup> Patents under the Great Seal of England bearing Date the Twenty third day of Aprill in the fourteenth year of his Reign; Have Given, Granted, Ratified and Confirmed, and by these presents, Do Give Grant, Ratifie and Confirm both for themselves, their heirs and Successors, unto the said John Belden, Samuel Keeler Senr, Matthew Seamore, Matthias St John, Benjamin Willson, Sam<sup>l</sup> St John, James Brown, Benjamin Hickcock, Joseph Keeler, Sam<sup>l</sup> Keeler Junr, Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith, Matthew St John, Jonathan Stevens, Daniel Olmsted, John Sturdevant, Jonathan Rockwell, Joseph Whitne, Thomas Hyatt, James Benedict, Joseph Crampton, and Richard Olmsted, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, Sam<sup>d</sup> Smith and Ebenezer Smith and to their heirs and Assigns for ever all, and singular the above mentioned Tract of land and Every part thereof, with all and Singular rights profits, privileges Commodities, Emoluments and appurtenances what forever To the said Tract of land belonging or in any wise appertaining, To Have And To Hold the said Tract of land, and every part thereof unto them the said John Belden, Samuel Keeler Senr, Matthew Seamore, Matthias St John, Benjamin Willson, Sam<sup>l</sup> Saintjohn, James Brown, Benjamin Hickcock, Joseph Keeler, Samuel Keeler Junr, Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith, Matthew Saintjohn, Jonathan Stevens, Daniel Olmsted, John Sturdevant, Jonathan Rockwell, Joseph Whitne, Thomas Hyatt, James Benedict, Joseph Crampton and Richard Olmsted, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, Samuel Smith and Ebenezer Smith and To their heirs and assigns forever and to their Only proper benefit and behoof, from the day of the date hereof, and from time to time and at all times forever hereafter as a good, sure, lawful, absolute, and Indefeasible Estate of inheritance in Fee Simple, without any Condition Limitation use or other thing to alter, or make void the same. And in such Shares and in such proportions, as they either already have or hereafter shall agree for y<sup>e</sup> Division and partition of the same, To Hold of her Majestic, Her heirs and Successors, as of her Majesties Mannor of East Greenwich in the County of Kent, in the Kingdom of England in free and Common socage, and not in Capitee, Nor by Knights service Yielding and paying therefor to Our Sovereign Lady the Queen her heirs and Successors forever, Only y<sup>e</sup> fifth part of all the Our of Gold and Silver which from Time to Time and at all times forever hereafter Shall be there Gotten had or obtained,

in Lieu of all Services, Duties and demands what forever according to Charter. In Witness whereof we have caused the Seal of the Colony to be hereunto affixed in Hartford y<sup>e</sup> Twenty second day of May in the Thirteenth year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lady Anne, by the Grace of God, Queen of Great Brittain France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith &c Anno Domini 1714.

"G. SALTONSTALL,  
Governor.

"By His Hon<sup>d</sup> Command  
"HEZ. WYLLYS,  
Secy.

"Recorded in y<sup>e</sup> Publick records of y<sup>e</sup> Colony of Connecticut Second book of entries of Patents and Surveys of lands Folio 52, 53, 54.

"P<sup>r</sup> HEZ. WYLLYS,  
"Secrett."

#### THE SETTLEMENT.—NAMES OF PIONEERS.

The preliminary steps having now been taken, the pioneers were next to decide upon the location of their future home; and the first settlement was made upon the site of the present village of Ridgefield. A street running east and west, with the generous dimensions of six rods in width, was at once surveyed along the eastern declivity of the ridge. On either side of this street were located the home-lots, of two and one-half acres each. In the rear of these lots additional lots of five acres were laid out.

In the early days the lottery system was in vogue for almost all purposes of raising money for public improvement. Manufacturing establishments were founded in this way, money raised for churches, etc., and the good people of Ridgefield drew their home-lots in a lottery. In various records in New England it was styled "pitching for land."

#### ACTS RELATING TO HOME-LOTS.

The following interesting extracts are taken from the town records:

"The several Acts Relating to y<sup>e</sup> Home Lots & the addition made to the Same is as followeth.

"Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 1708 Voted by said proprietors that a Committee shall be chosen to Lay out the Town Plott.

"At the Said Meeting the said proprietors by a Major Vote appointed and made Choise of Mr Samuel Keeler Senr Matthew Seamer, Joseph Bouton with John Copp to Lay out the Town Plott.

"At the said Meeting Voted by said proprietors that the Home Lots now to be Lay'd out by said Committee shall be Two Acres and one half acre.

"At the said Meeting y<sup>e</sup> Said Proprietors by a Major Vote Resolves and agrees that there shall be a Division of Land added to the Rear of the Home Lots to the Number of five acres to Each Division. And the said Committee is Impowered to act their best Skill & Judgement to Equalize the Want of quality by adding or allowing quantity to such Home Lots & Division of Addition as they in judgement may find wanting.

"At a Meeting of the said Proprietors Convened in Norwalk Nov y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1708.

"The above said Committee makes a Return of their doings in and about the Home Lots & y<sup>e</sup> addition made to y<sup>e</sup> Rear of y<sup>e</sup> same. With an account of such Disproportion of their quality, that by all that they had done in y<sup>e</sup> matter of equalizing them there still needed a further Allowance to some Lots as they were by them Layd out with the Division added to y<sup>e</sup> Rear of them.

"Upon which Return made by said Committee The said proprietors at y<sup>e</sup> said meeting by a Major Vote Impower said Committee to Regulate that matter according to y<sup>e</sup> best of their judgements to add to such Home Lots & Division annexed. Or to any other Division of Lands to be Lay'd out to any such proprietor, to whom such Home Lott with y<sup>e</sup> anext Division shall fall to when Drawn, that by said Committee shall be Judged Wanting in quality with the Generality of y<sup>e</sup> best of the Home Lots and annext Divisions.



"At a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> said Proprietors Convened in Norwalk November y<sup>e</sup> 25 1708,

"Voted by Said proprietors that the Lotterie prepared for y<sup>e</sup> Distribution of the Home Lotts with y<sup>e</sup> anex<sup>t</sup> Division, unto the said proprietors Shall at this time be Drawn, Which Lottery is methodized as followeth :

"Beginning on the East Tear of Lotts, y<sup>e</sup> southernmost Lott joining to the Land Lay'd out for a burying Yard—Calling that Lott the first in Number, & sucseively Northward to the 12<sup>th</sup> Lott and then begining at y<sup>e</sup> Northernmost Lott on the West tear numbering said Lott y<sup>e</sup> thirteenth Lott and so sucseively Southward to the Twenty fifth Lott.

"The Draught of which Lottery was as followeth.

No.	No.
1 Samuel Saint John	14 John Sturdevant
2 Samuel Keeler Jun <sup>r</sup>	15 Thomas Hoyt
3 Jonathan Rockwell	16 Benjamin Wilson
4 Thomas Caufield	17 Benjamin Hickock
5 The Proprietors Reserve	18 Matthew Saint John
6 Matthias Saint John	19 Joseph Keeler
7 Joseph Whitney	20 Matthew Seamer
8 Samuel Smith of Milford	21 James Bennedick
9 James Brown	22 Joseph Crampton
10 John Belden	23 Samuel Smith
11 Richard Olmsted	24 Daniel Olmsted
12 Thomas Smith	25 Samuel Keeler Sen <sup>r</sup>
13 Jonathan Stevens	

The following location of the home-lots was made by the Rev. D. W. Teller :

Lot No. 1 was where Mr. John S. Keeler now resides.

No. 2 was immediately north of this, and lying between it and the corner south of Mr. Abraham Holmes'.

Nos. 3 and 4 extended from Mr. Abraham Holmes' to the present residence of Mrs. Mary Hatch.

No. 5 was the one now owned and occupied by Mrs. Irad Hawley.

No. 6 extended from the south side of Mr. Henry E. Hawley's residence to the north side of Mr. Joshua I. King's garden.

No. 7 extended from the north side of Mr. King's garden to the corner of the street north of Mr. Sereno Hurlbutt's residence.

No. 8 was the lot now owned and occupied by Phineas Lounsbury, Esq.

No. 9 is now occupied by Philip L. Barhite, Esq., and Dr. William S. Todd.

No. 10 extended from the fence south of Mrs. Hyatt's house to the fence north of Mr. Samuel J. Barlow.

No. 11 embraced the town-house lot, Mr. L. C. Seymour's house and store, and Mrs. Wescott's house.

No. 12 extended from the residence of the late Josiah Danchy, Esq., to the road north of Mr. Isaac Osborn's.

No. 13 included the present residences of Mr. Henry Mead, Mr. Elijah L. Thomas, and Mr. Keeler Danchy.

Nos. 14, 15, 16, 17 extended from the fence north of the Episcopal church to the corner south of the residence of J. Howard King, Esq.

Nos. 18, 19, 20, 21 extended from the road north of Mrs. Sarah Jewitt's to the one south of Mr. David K. Hoyt's.

Nos. 23, 24, 25 extended from the corner now occupied by the carriage-manufactory of Mr. Ebenezer

Jones to the fence south of the residence of Mr. William Benedict.

It will be observed that lot No. 22 is omitted in this reckoning, the reason for which is found in the fact that it nowhere appears on the town records after it was numbered and drawn. The inference is that it was thrown out, for we find Mr. Joseph Crampton, who drew the lot, located on the land now owned by Mrs. Shaw and Mr. L. O. Northrop.

The next spring, after the division of the home-lots, the proprietors proceeded to divide such parts of the outlying lands as would be most suitable for grazing, plowing, and mowing, sharing equally in each.

The following will show the method of such division :

"At a Meeting of said Proprietors Convened March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1708<sup>9</sup>,

"The proprietors, by a Major Vote do agree upon a Division of Plow Land to be Lay'd out as soon as may be.

"At the said Meeting the Proprietors by a Major Vote have chosen Mr Samuel Keeler Sen<sup>r</sup> Matthias Saint John and Samuel Smith for their Committee—To take a view of what Lands are suitable to Lay out for a Division of Plow Land within the Limits of One Mile and a half from the Center of the Town Plott, and Lay out what Land they so find into such Divisions as the Land will allow according to the number of proprietors."

"At a meeting Convened of said Proprietors March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1709,

"The said Committee make Return of their Doings on the Land found within y<sup>e</sup> limits stated in y<sup>e</sup> Vote passed March the 1<sup>st</sup> as above said, fixing upon six acres to a Division, and accordingly to their best skill and Judgement have Lay'd out a number of Divisions equal to the number of proprietors, allowing to some Divisions more measure than y<sup>e</sup> fixt quantity to equalize them with the better Divisions."

It will be observed in every instance that the quality of the land determined the quantity. No home-lot fell below two and one-half acres, but it might consist of three or three and one-half acres if it was deemed of poor quality. So also the five-acre lots in the rear might have five acres or more in them. Then there would be sections of land not reckoned, and these might lie between two divisions, afterwards to be appropriated to some new-comer. This would apply to the outlying lands rather than to the village lots.

In the spring of 1709, on the 22d of April, Ebenezer Smith, of Milford, by a major vote of the proprietors, was permitted to come in and share equally with the twenty-five. He settled on the lot where George Smith, Esq., now resides. This property has never passed out of the Smith family.

Joseph Benedict, of Norwalk, was admitted in like manner on the 31st of the following October. He settled on the lot lying between Mr. William Benedict's and Mr. L. O. Northrup's, and, as originally designated, between Mr. Samuel Keeleins and Mr. Joseph Crampton's.

#### THE PIONEER BLACKSMITH.

The pioneers evidently anticipated the necessities of the little settlement, for under date of May 6, 1712, appears the following vote in relation to a blacksmith :

"At a meeting of the Proprietors of Ridgefield at Ridgefield May the 6<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1712

"The said proprietors by their Major Vote Do Grant to Mr. Benjamin Burt now resident of Norwalk, a certain Right of Lands, Reserved by

them for a Blacksmith, which Right of land contains one twenty-eighth part of all the purchased Land contained within the limits of their granted propriety or township. With also a privilege to purchase with them a like part or proportion of the unpurchased lands that lyeth within y<sup>e</sup> granted Bounds of their Township (of the Native proprietors thereof) with al the Several Divisions already Layed out under said Right.

"To be to him, his heirs and assigns absolutely and as fully to have To Have Hold, use occupie possess and enjoy in as full and free a manner, with the rest of the proprietors of said Granted Township, Provided he the said Benjamin Burt, pay to Joseph Keeler of said Town of Ridgefield y<sup>e</sup> sum of nine pounds in money according to the agreement now made with him. And with all convenient speed dwell as an inhabitant among them in order to carry on the trade of a Blacksmith among them, And forthwith Supply them with an able hand, to perform such Smith work for them, that they stand in need of untill he shall remove with his family among them and be thereby able to perform such work for them himself, or by others under his care and Command, And it is to be understood that if the said Burt (shall at any time before the full Termination of four Years from May the Ninth 1712) have a Mind to remove from them, he shall not give, grant, bargain, sell Directly nor Indirectly make any Alienation of said Right of Land granted to him, but to such a person as shall be found capable to carry on the work of a Blacksmith among them. And further the said Burt doth hereby promise and Oblidge himself faithfully to use his utmost endeavour to settle a Blacksmith on said Right. If he shall incline to remove from them after his continuance among them y<sup>e</sup> term of Years above said.

"The above said y<sup>e</sup> original Draught of said act.

"Test RICHARD OLMSTED,  
Town Clerk.

"Recorded November 28, 1712.

"Per me JOHN COPP,  
"Recorder."

Mr. Burt settled on the lot now occupied by the Methodist church.

#### THE FIRST GRIST-MILL.

One of the greatest inconveniences experienced by the early settlers was the want of mills for grinding grain. The pioneers of Ridgefield early took this matter into consideration, and under date Jan. 30, 1716, the following agreement was entered into for the erection of a grist-mill:

"To all Christian People to whom these Presents shall Come Greeting Know Ye that I Daniel Sherwood of Ridgfield in the County of Fairfield and Colony of Connecticut in New England, For and in Consideration of a bill of sale of Lands received of the Proprietors of Ridgfield and bearing date with these presents, which is to my full satisfaction. For and upon which consideration aforesaid I the said Daniel Sherwood for myself heirs and assigns, Do by these presents engage unto and Covenant with y<sup>e</sup> said Proprietors of Ridgfield their heirs assigns, and associates for the faithfull punctual, universal fulfilment of this Covenant, following in every Condition Clause and article hereof viz.

"Imprimis, I y<sup>e</sup> said Daniel Sherwood do engage for myself heirs and assigns to erect a good sufficient Grist Mill on the Outlet of Mamasnagog Pond so called and known by the Proprietors of Ridgfield.

"2dly I declare myself bound hereby to maintain y<sup>e</sup> same and uphold it (or another in the same place) always in good rigg, and order for grinding.

"3dly I covenant for myself heirs and assigns upon y<sup>e</sup> Teusdays and Fridays of every week (when ever water may be had by y<sup>e</sup> use of means) to grind for said Proprietors, their heirs, assigns, and associates, all sorts of their grain, well and sufficiently, making good and well-conditioned meal, and to take but, and no more, than three quarts out of each bushel of Indian corn, and two quarts out of each bushel of wheat or rye, and one quart of each bushel of malt (that I, my heirs, or assigns, shall grind) for toll.

"Fourthly What was of grain shall be brought to y<sup>e</sup> said Mill by the said proprietors, their heirs, assigns, or associates on the forementioned grinding days, more than can be ground on said days, that it shall on the next following week days be ground without delay, and the said Sherwood do hereby bind and oblige myself, heirs, and assigns, that

whatever grain shall be brought on or before any of the said grinding days (on any day) more than the mill grinds on said days, shall be ground out of hand, whether men wait and attend on the grinding thereof or not.

"Furthermore (according to the original intent of both parties). I y<sup>e</sup> said Sherwood do bind and Oblige myself, heirs, and assigns, by virtue of this Covenant (in case of failure and non-performance of every clause, article, and condition, according to plain intent, or upon neglect of due means, and all thorough, seasonable, and faithfull endeavours upon any breaches whatsoever, to rectify, keep, and maintain, y<sup>e</sup> same with every thing necessary and essential thereunto, in good trim and order, for the ends before, covenanted and accordingly improve it) I, the said Sherwood, by virtue hereof, do bind myself, heirs, and assigns, to forfeit and deliver up y<sup>e</sup> said Mill and Stream unto the said proprietors with all its properties and appurtenances and privileges whatsoever in anywise thereunto, shall at the time of forfeiture appertain, hereby Covenanting not to export or carry away any part property or utensil whatsoever thereunto belonging and do upon condition of failure in covenant for myself, heirs, and assigns, give unto the said Proprietors of Ridgfield their heirs and assigns all full power and authority to enter upon, possess, and enjoy the same; and to convert and improve it to what end and use soever they please by virtue of these presents. In Testimony whereof I do bind myself, heirs, and assigns, set to my hand and seal this thirtieth day of January anno Dominis 1716<sup>17</sup>

"DANIEL SHERWOOD [SEAL]

"In presence of us  
JOSEPH PLATT  
EBENEZER BARNUM

"Ridgfield Jan<sup>y</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1716<sup>17</sup> Personally Appeared Daniel Sherwood y<sup>e</sup> subscriber to this instrument and did acknowledge it for to be his free act and deed before me

"JOSEPH PLATT,  
"Justice.

"Received to Record and Recorded }  
Jan<sup>y</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1716<sup>17</sup> per me }  
"THOMAS HAULEY,  
"Register."

Mr. Daniel Sherwood erected his mill, as designated, on the outlet of Mamasasco Lake, and was appropriated a home-lot immediately north of Mr. Benjamin Burt's.

Rev. Thomas Hauley was doubtless here prior to 1713; in that year his signature is annexed to a deed as a witness.

#### OTHER PURCHASES FROM THE INDIANS.

On the 18th of March, 1715, the proprietors made a second purchase of lands from the Indians, as the following deed will show:

"Know all men by these presents that I Tackora alias Oreneca, indian, one of the native proprietors and owners of these tracts of unpurchased lands Lying above Ridgefield in y<sup>e</sup> County of Fairfield and Colony of Connecticut in New England for and in consideration of four pounds Current money of y<sup>e</sup> Colony of Connecticut to me in hand paid, or secured to be paid by y<sup>e</sup> proprietors of the Town of Ridgfield in the County and Colony aforesaid viz Mr Richard Osburn Samuel Saint John Benjamin Wilson Thomas Smith Thomas Hauley Jonah Keeler, Timothy Keeler Nor<sup>k</sup> Samuel Smith Daniel Olmsted, Jonathan Rockwell Benjamin Hayt Henry Whitne Joseph Northrup Mill<sup>d</sup> Samuel Smith Joshua Lobdell Moses Northrup Benjamin Benedict, Richard Olmsted, Ebenezer Smith James Wallace Daniel Sherwood, Benjamin Burt David Scott John Sturdevant Joseph Platt Milford Thomas Hyatt y<sup>e</sup> Heirs of Thomas Rockwell deceased Matthew Saint John Matthias Saint John Joseph Keeler Matthew Seamer Daniel Arrus James Benedict Joseph Benedict James Northrup Joseph Crampton and Jonathan Wood, Have and do by these presents freely crearily and absolutely Grant Sell and Confirm unto the above named proprietors of the Town of Ridgefield and their heirs and assigns for ever a certain tract or parcel of Land belonging unto me y<sup>e</sup> said Oreneca Lying Situate being bounded as followeth viz beginning at a White Wood tree standing about four rods west of y<sup>e</sup> Mill and stands on the north side of the outlet running out of Mamasnagog pond on



which the Mill now stands and from thence running by y<sup>e</sup> said Outlett till we come to a small Elm Saddle marked on each side and standing on the East side of y<sup>e</sup> Mill outlett, and from thence over Titicus to a butternutt tree, and from thence under the Mountain as tis bounded by marked trees till we come to a black Oak tree marked on each side, thence Elbowing till we come to a marked Bass tree Lying by a brook, near the lower end of Moppos Ridge, thence immediately across y<sup>e</sup> brook to a black Oak tree a little below the Lower End of Moppos Ridge, thence over Titicus near a Northwest line as tis bounded by trees, to a small black Oak Staddle standing by a small brook, running out of the West hills, thence Directly over the brook near a southwest line to a white Oak tree under y<sup>e</sup> mountain with stones laid about the same which is a corner boundary and from hence a South or South East line as tis bounded to a Small Walnut Staddle standing on a heap of rocks, thence something South East down towards y<sup>e</sup> pond; thence something Eastward between the mountain and Mamanasquogg pond to the lower end thereof, over a small run then named punch Brook, thence about forty rods South East to a white Oak tree marked and stones Lay'd about the same which was the lower corner meeting with the Old Purchase, all which quantity or parcel of Land, I the said Oreneca Have Sold and Confirmed unto y<sup>e</sup> above named proprietors their heirs and assigns for ever to enjoy y<sup>e</sup> same in quantity and quality, according to each mans interest or propriety of Lands in Ridgefield, immediately before the purchase hereof i.e. a half right man shall have but half so good an interest in the bargained premises as a whole right man shall, (the said James Wallace excepted To Have and to Hold unto them y<sup>e</sup> said proprietors their heirs and assigns for ever, y<sup>e</sup> said bargained premises with all the privileges and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, to the only use benefit and behoof of the said proprietors their heirs and assigns for ever, without any Let Claim or molestation from me the said Oreneca, alias Tackora or my heirs Executors administrators or assigns for ever, or from any person or persons, Indian or English or any other by from or under me or them whatsoever Laying and Demand Challenge or Claim thereunto and I the above named Oreneca do bind myself my heirs Executors and administrators firmly by these presents to free and exonerate all the above bargained premises from any former and other Grants, bargains mortgages or any other incumbrances Whatsoever. In Witness whereof I the said Oreneca have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March anno Domini 1715.

his  
"ORENECA  $\times$  alias TACKORA.  
mark

"Signed sealed and delivered  
in presence of us  
ELIPHALET LOCKWOOD  
JOSEPH PLATT  
OCOMOYWA  $\times$  mark  
Consent.

"Norwalk within the County of Fairfield March 18<sup>th</sup> day anno Domini 1715. Personally appeared Tackora, alias Oreneca, indian the subscriber to this instrument and did acknowledge it to be his free act and deed before me.

"JOSEPH PLATT,  
"Justice Peace."  
"THOMAS HAWLEY,  
"Register."

"Received to Record April 1715 and recorded by me.

Again, on the 22<sup>d</sup> day of November, 1721, a third purchase was made. The following is the deed:

"Know all men by these Presents, that I Tackore, otherwise Called Norreneca Indian do for and in consideration of the Sum of Six Pounds in Money to me in hand paid or secured to be paid by the Proprietors of Ridgefield, whose names hereafter follows viz Thomas Hawley Richard Osburn Samuel Saint John Benjamin Benedict Benjamin Burt Benjamin Stebbins Ebenezer Smith Thomas Smith Richard Olmsted Joshua Lobdell Milford Samuel Smith Nathan Saint John Henry Whitney Jonathan Rockwell Benjamin Hayt Now<sup>k</sup> Samuel Smith Daniel Olmstead Timothy Keeler Jonah Keeler Matthew Seamore Moses Northrup Jonathan Abbott Alexander Resseguie Jonathan Wood, Joseph Benedict James Benedict James Northrup Joseph Northrup Joseph Keeler Matthew St John Thomas Rockwells Heirs, Benjamin Wilson Thomas Hyatt, John Sturdevant Heirs, Joseph Platt Gideon Platt Henry Dwight David Scott James Scott Daniel Sherwood, Do Give Grant bargain Sell and by these presents have given Granted Bargained Sold and fully confirmed unto the aforesaid Proprietors viz Thomas Hawley Richard Osborn Samuel Saint John

Benjamin Burt Benjamin Benedict with all the rest before named and to their heirs and assigns for ever, a certain parcel or tract of Land lying within y<sup>e</sup> Pattend bounds and supposed Township of said Ridgefield lying and Described as follows viz Beginning upon y<sup>e</sup> north side of the Brook at the South End of Titicus or Tomspring mountain (so called) at a great Tree marked in the Old purchase line. Thence South West to the South End of y<sup>e</sup> long swamp marking trees, Thence to the East side of Round pond, and by said Pond to the North West side of it. Thence Norwest across the Hills to a brook running into the east end of the Long Pond marking Trees from thence a direct course over the brook to a Hemlock tree standing on Titicus River by the Sand Bank near a brook running into Titicus on the West side of said Tree which tree is thus marked B and thence as the river runs to said Tackore's Old House to a white Oak Tree marked near a horse pond, thence crossing the River to a Tree marked just on the River Thence across y<sup>e</sup> south end of Moppos Ridge to a great White Oak tree standing at the northernmost part of a swamp thence crossing the end of the swamp to another marked tree crossing the end of a plain Ridge of Land over Moppos brook coming from the north to a white Oak tree marked standing on y<sup>e</sup> East side of a brook by the bank.

"Thence easterly to the range of Asproom Mountain and southerly down under the mountain to the head of Mamanasco hill to a white Oak tree standing on the East side of the River near the Watering place. Thence under Asproom mountain at the foot thereof to Copps Mountain and down to the Old line and by said line Westerly to the Mill at the old boundary, and from thence to the first mentioned place in the boundaries in computing their former purchased called the New purchase.

"To Have and To Hold said Granted and bargained premises with all the privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining I Norreneca say I have sold and fully made over y<sup>e</sup> same unto the said Thomas Hawley Richard Osborn Samuel Saint John &c with the above named proprietors and to their heirs and assigns for ever, who shall and may for ever hereafter by virtue hereof Enter upon possess and Enjoy y<sup>e</sup> same Convey Convert alienate and improve the same according to their Several Interests in what way and manner, to what use and end soever, they the above named proprietors their heirs and assigns shall find convenient. Furthermore I the said Norreneca do hereby Covenant and Engage to Warrant and Defend y<sup>e</sup> same for ever to y<sup>e</sup> above said proprietors, their heirs and assigns from me my heirs Executors or Administrators or any Indian or Indians, whatsoever Laying any Lawfull Claim or Challenge thereunto. In Testimony Whereof I do hereunto Set my hand and Seal this 22<sup>d</sup> day of November Anno Domini 1721.

his  
"NORRENEKE  $\times$  Indian. [SEAL.]  
mark

"Signed Sealed and Delivered  
in presence of us  
BENJAMIN STEBBINS  
TIMOTHY CANFIELD

"On the 22<sup>d</sup> of November anno Domini 1721 Norreneca indian personally appeared and acknowledged the above written Instrument to be his free act and deed before me.

"RICHARD OSBORN,  
"Justice."  
"Received to Record November 22<sup>d</sup> 1721 and recorded pr me  
"THOMAS HAWLEY,  
"Register."

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 1727, a fourth purchase was made. The following is the deed:

"Know all men by these presents That We Japorneck & Moses, Indians belonging to Wepack or long pond so Called & Richard and Samm Indians belonging to ammawogg do For and in Consideration of eighteen pounds in money or goods Equivalent, two guns, Eighteen Shillings in hand received, and Three bottles Rhum, paid by y<sup>e</sup> propriet<sup>r</sup> of Ridgefield, Whose Names hereafter Follow, Viz, Thomas Hawley, Richard Osburn, Sam<sup>l</sup> Saintjohn, Benjamin Benedict, Benjamin Burt, Benjamin Stebbins Ebenezer Smith, Thomas Smith, Richard Olmsted Joshua Lobdell, Milf Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith, Nathan Saintjohn, Henry Whitne, Jonath<sup>n</sup> Rockwell, Benjamin Hayt, Jonathan Abbott Sen<sup>r</sup>, Alexand<sup>r</sup> Resseguie, Titus Wood, Joseph Benedict, James Benedict, James Northrup, Joseph Northrup Joseph Lee, Joseph Keeler, Benjamin Heacock Benjamin Wilson, Thomas Hyatt, John Sturdevants heirs, Joseph Platt, Gideon Platt, David Scott, James Scott, Dan<sup>l</sup> Sherwood, Norw Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith, Daniel Olmsted, Timothy Keeler, Jonah Keeler, Matthew Seamore, Joseph Hobart,

Moses Northrup, Give, Grant bargain Sell, and by these presents do freely fully, and absolutely Sell Convey and Confirm unto y<sup>e</sup> said Proprietors<sup>s</sup> above named, according to your sever<sup>l</sup> interests in the Proprietyship of Ridgefield, a Certain tract, or parcel of land hereafter described, and mentioned, Namely, all y<sup>e</sup> lands included within y<sup>e</sup> lines hereafter mentioned, beginning at a large White Oak tree mark't, Standing about twenty miles three hundred and five rods from Cortlands point the line agreed upon by the Commission and from thence a line Southerly parallel to y<sup>e</sup> line Call'd twenty miles from Hudson River, till it meet y<sup>e</sup> former purchase made by Cottoona: and again from y<sup>e</sup> fore mentioned white Oak Tree a line Northerly parallel also to said Twenty mile line till it meet y<sup>e</sup> purchase made of Takore, Comprehending all y<sup>e</sup> land, Eastward of said lines, till it come to y<sup>e</sup> old purchase lines, to have and to hold y<sup>e</sup> said Granted and bargained premises with all y<sup>e</sup> privileges and Commodities to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining, We said Indians have sold and fully made over y<sup>e</sup> same unto y<sup>e</sup> above Named Proprietors and to their heirs and assigns forever, in such proportion as above, according to their sever<sup>l</sup> interests to them and theirs, Sole and proper use and benefit, who shall and may forever hereafter by virtue hereof enter upon, possess and enjoy y<sup>e</sup> same, Convey, Convert, alienate and improve it in what way and manner, to what use and soever, they the above named proprietors<sup>s</sup> their heirs and assigns Shall See Convenient.

"Furthermore we the said Japorneck, Richard Moses and Samm, indians, do for ourselves and heirs hereby Covenant and Engage to warrant and defend y<sup>e</sup> same forever unto y<sup>e</sup> proprietors<sup>s</sup> of Ridgefield aforesaid and to their heirs and assigns forever, from us and our heirs or any persons what forever, whether English or indians laying any lawful claim Challenge or demand thereunto.

"In Testimony whereof we do hereunto set our hands and Seals this 4<sup>th</sup> day of July Anno Domini 1727.

"JAPORNECK, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 RICHARD, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 MOSES, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 SAM, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 WETT HAMS, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 AMMON, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]

"Signed Sealed and delivered

In presence of us

JOHN BOLT, his  $\times$  mark.

PETER RANDALL.

"July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1727 then appeared y<sup>e</sup> persons of Japorneck Moses, Richard, Sam, Wett Hams, and Ammon. Ind ans, and did acknowledge the above written Instrument to be their free act and deed. Before me

"RICHARD OSBURN  
 "Juste."

"Received to record July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1727 and recorded pr me

"THOMAS HAULEY,  
 "Register."

Two other purchases were made in the year 1729, —the first on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March, the second on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April. Below are the deeds:

"Know all men by these presents that we Japorneck, Ammon and Wett hams, Samm Moses, Pawguenongi and Crow all indians belonging to long pond or Wepack for and in Consideration of a valuable reward paid or to be paid by y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors of Ridgefield Have Given, Granted, bargained Sold and by these presents do freely fully and absolutely Sell, Convey, and Confirm unto y<sup>e</sup> proprietors of Ridgefield their heirs and assigns forever, according unto their several interests or proprieties a Certain Tract or parcell of land Supposedly in ye Township of Ridgefield Lying Situate and Butted and bounded as Followeth, Namely, Beginning West at an Oak Staddle standing on y<sup>e</sup> west side of y<sup>e</sup> Outlett of long pond about six rods west of said Outlett, Near y<sup>e</sup> lower fishing place, from thence Southward along y<sup>e</sup> line which Mr. Lewls run, and down to y<sup>e</sup> old purchase line; and from said Staddle Northward by said line of Mr. Lewis To Titicus river, and bounded East by y<sup>e</sup> former purchase made of Japorneck and by y<sup>e</sup> purchase made Tackora being in breadth, about three hundred and five rods.

"To Have and To Hold said Granted and bargained premises with all y<sup>e</sup> liberties and privileges to y<sup>e</sup> same belonging or in any wise appertaining.

"We say we have sold and fully made over y<sup>e</sup> same unto y<sup>e</sup> said proprietors<sup>s</sup> of Ridgefield according to their proportionable interests and properties as above, and to their heirs and assigns forever, who shall and may forever hereafter by virtue hereof, Enter upon possess and Enjoy y<sup>e</sup>

same Convey Convert alienate and improve it, in what way and manner, to what use and end forever they the said proprietors their heirs, or assigns shall See Convenient.

"Furthermore We the said Japorneck Ammon and Wett Hams, Moses, Samm Pawquenongi and Crow do for ourselves heirs, and assigns, hereby Covenant and Engage to warrant and defend y<sup>e</sup> above Granted, and bargained premises unto y<sup>e</sup> said proprietors, their heirs and assigns, from us Our heirs, Executors, administrators, or any manner of persons or persons what forever, English or indians laying any manner of Claim Challenge or demand thereunto from by, or under us, or Ours. In Testimony whereof we do hereunto set our hands and Seals this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March Anno Domini 1729.

"JAPORNECK, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 MOSES, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 SAMM, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 AMMON, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 WETT HAMS, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 PAWQUENONGI, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 CROW, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]

"Signed Sealed and Delivered

In presence of us

JOSIAH GILBERT,

WILLIAM DRINKWATER.

"March y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>, 1729, then appeared personally y<sup>e</sup> Subscribers Namely Japorneck, Moses, Samm, Ammon, Wett Hams, Pawquenongi, Crow, and did acknowledge y<sup>e</sup> above written Instrument to be their free act and deed, Before me

"RICHARD OSBURN,  
 "Justice.  
 "THOS HAULEY,  
 "Regist."

"Received to record March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1729, and recorded pr me

"Know all men by these presents, that we Ahtopeer Moheus Neshucawpo Tawquantose Wawsachim all Indians belonging unto Hoopacks, and Jacob Turkey Indian belonging to Narrahawtong. For and in consideration of a valuable Sum or reward paid by the proprietors of Ridgefield which is to our full satisfaction, have given Granted bargained Sold, and by these presents do freely fully and absolutely Sell Convey and confirm unto said proprietors their heirs and assigns forever according to their several interests the following Tract or parcell of Land—viz Beginning at Danbury South West Corner Continuing Our patten line till it meets y<sup>e</sup> 20 mile line between the Government, and then Southwardly by said 20 mile line, till it cross Titicus River and thence Eastwardly to Danbury South West Corner, Bounded all along Southerly by our former purchase.

"To Have and To Hold said granted and bargained premises with all the privileges and appurtenances to y<sup>e</sup> same belonging or in any wise appertaining we say we have sold, and fully made over the same unto y<sup>e</sup> said proprietors and to their heirs and assigns forever, in proportion to their several interests, who shall and may forever hereafter by virtue hereof enter upon possess and enjoy the same, Convey Convert alienate and improve it in what way and manner, to what use and end soever, they y<sup>e</sup> said proprietors their heirs and assigns shall see Convenient.

"Furthermore we the indians above named do for ourselves and heirs hereby Covenant and engage to Warrant and Defend the same forever unto the proprietors of Ridgfield as above from us Our heirs or successors or any manner of person whatever English or Indians lawing any lawful claim Challenge or Demand thereunto.

"In Testimony whereof we the above named Indians do hereunto Set Our Hands and Seals this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April Anno Domini 1729.

"JACOB TURKEY, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 AH TOPPEER, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 MOKENS, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 NESHUCAWPO, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 TAUQUATOOSE, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 WAW SACHIM, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 WAW CALI, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]  
 CAPT JACOB, his  $\times$  mark. [SEAL.]

Two boys

"Signed Sealed and delivered

in presence of us

ISRAEL MEAD

CALEB STRONG

MOSES indian his  $\times$  mark.

Crow, his  $\times$  mark."



Two other purchases were subsequently made of the Indians,—one on the 28th of February, 1738, and the other on the 6th of December, 1734,—but they were of lands lying within the limits of the State of New York, on the oblong; and although the deeds are recorded on the town records, they are not deemed of sufficient interest to be given a place here.

The eighth and last purchase of lands by the proprietors of the Indians was made on the 19th of December, 1739. The following is the deed then given:

"Know all men by these presents that we Betty y<sup>e</sup> mother of Jacob Turkey, Capt Jacob Turkey Mokquaroose, for and in consideration of y<sup>e</sup> sum of six pounds five shillings money to us in hand paid, or secured to be paid by Lt Eben<sup>r</sup> Smith, Capt Daniel Olmsted, & Matthew Seamore of Ridgefield in y<sup>e</sup> County of Fairfield and Colony of Connecticut in New England and which is to our full Satisfaction, Do Give Grant Bargain Sell and by these presents Have Given Granted, Bargained Sold and fully confirm unto y<sup>e</sup> above S<sup>d</sup> Lt Eben<sup>r</sup> Smith Capt Daniel Olmsted & Matthew Seamore and their associates, and to their heirs & assigns forever a certain parcell or tract of Lands Lying within y<sup>e</sup> new Patent Bounds Called in y<sup>e</sup> Township of Ridgefield, as it is Butted & Bounded on y<sup>e</sup> east by Danbury Township, north by New Fairfield, on y<sup>e</sup> west by y<sup>e</sup> Government Line Southerly by Our former Purchase made of Jacob Turkey. To Have and to Hold said Granted & Bargained premises with all y<sup>e</sup> privileges & appurtenances to y<sup>e</sup> Same belonging or in any wise appertaining, We y<sup>e</sup> said Betty, Jacob Turkey, Mokquaroose, say we have sold and Fully made over y<sup>e</sup> same unto y<sup>e</sup> said Lt Eben<sup>r</sup> Smith Capt Dan<sup>l</sup> Olmsted and Matthew Seamore, their Associates, and their heirs and assigns for Ever, who shall and may for Ever hereafter, by virtue hereof Enter upon Possess and Enjoy y<sup>e</sup> Same Convey, Convert, Alienate, and improve y<sup>e</sup> same according to their Severall interests, in what way, and manner to what use & end So Ever they y<sup>e</sup> above named Lt Eben Smith, Capt Daniel Olmsted, and Matthew Seamore, their Associates, or their heirs and assigns Shall See Convenient.

"Furthermore we y<sup>e</sup> said Betty, Jacob, Turkey, Mokquaroose, Defend y<sup>e</sup> same for ever to y<sup>e</sup> abovesaid Lt Eben<sup>r</sup> Smith, Capt Dan<sup>l</sup> Olmsted, & Matthew Seamore their associates heirs and assigns from us, our heirs Executors administrators, or any Indian or Indians Whatsoever, or any manner of persons, Laying any Lawfull Claim Challenge, or Demand thereunto. In Testimony whereof we do hereunto Set our hands & Seals this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December A.D. 1739.

BETTY, her  $\times$  mark."

This deed was also signed by other Indians, whose names and marks are fully recorded on the town records.

#### EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION.

Although the early settlers of Ridgefield were a hardy and industrious people, and exerted every effort to improve their store of worldly goods, still it is evident that their task was not any easy one, and that for many years the financial condition of the town was at a low ebb, for, in 1725, we find them petitioning the General Assembly for exemption from taxation, as the following shows:

"The towns of Ashford, Hebron, Ridgefield, New Town, and New Milford shall proceed to take and make a list of all the polls and ratable estate by their listers, this present year, as other towns in this colony do. And if either of the said towns are destitute of listers as the law directs, to do the work, that then, in such case, such town so destitute shall sometime in the month of June next meet together and choose a suitable number of their inhabitants to be listers, who shall be sworn to that office accordingly, who shall take the said list and transmit the same to this Assembly to be holden at New Haven in October next."

The petition exempting them for two years from public taxes was granted, with the provision that the town should draw no money out of the treasury for

the schools nor send no representative to the Assembly during the exemption.

At the expiration of the two years they found it necessary to again request the same clemency, which was granted "for the term of two years next to come."

We find no repetition of this request, or anything that would seem to indicate financial depression, until 1740, when Ridgefield, together with Litchfield, was fined and censured for not sending "the sum total of the list of the polls and ratable estates" to the General Assembly. This doubtless may be attributed to neglect rather than financial depression.

The following is the act of the General Assembly:

"Forasmuch as by one law of the colony entitled, An Act directing listers in their duty and office, it is provided that if the listers in the respective towns in this colony shall not annually send the sum total of the list of the polls and ratable estates of the inhabitants of such towns to this Assembly at their sessions in October, such town shall be doomed by this Assembly; and whereas the listers of the towns of Ridgefield and Litchfield respectively have not sent the sum total of such lists of the polls and ratable estates in the respective terms to the sessions of this Assembly in October last, according as it is in said act provided; this Assembly do sentence and doom the inhabitants of the town of Ridgefield to pay into the public treasury of this colony the sum of twenty-nine pounds fifteen shillings, and the inhabitants of the town of Litchfield the sum of twenty-seven pounds, six shillings, and four pence; and the Treasurer is ordered and directed to send forth his warrant to the constables of the said towns, respectively, to levy and collect the said sums of the inhabitants of the towns to which they belong, and to pay in the same to the public treasury; and the said constables are hereby impowered, respectively, to levy the said sums of the inhabitants, and required to pay in the same to the public treasury, as is by law required in cases where the lists are orderly returned to this Assembly."

#### THE PERRY FAMILY.

One of the old families of Ridgefield is the Perry family.

Dr. David Perry, son of Micah Perry, of Fairfield, practiced medicine in this town from 1772 to 1822, the time of his death. In 1791 he became ordained and filled the office as rector of St. Stephen's Parish for four years, on horseback with saddle-bags, practicing on week-days and preaching Sundays.

His son, Nehemiah Perry, M.D., succeeded him in the town, and practiced for the term of fifty-five years. His practice was extensive, being a circuit of forty to fifty miles. As a physician and surgeon he was one of the most eminent and skillful of his day, the last ten years of his life being exclusively consultation practice.

His son, the present Nehemiah Perry, M.D., succeeded him, and is the third of his family who have practiced here for the last one hundred and thirty years.

CHAPTER LXIII.

RIDGEFIELD (Continued).

RIDGEFIELD IN THE REVOLUTION.

Extracts from Town Records—Detailed History of the Invasion—The Battle at Ridgefield—Wooster Mortally Wounded—Revolutionary Incidents.

TRYON'S INVASION.

In the beginning of the Revolutionary struggle Ridgefield was inclined to remain true to the British standard, as will be seen by the following resolutions :

"First. Whereas application hath been made to the Select Men of the Town of Ridgefield in Connecticut Colony by several of the inhabitants of sd Town, to call a Special Town Meeting in order to take into consideration the Resolution Entered into by the Late Continental Congress ; and the Inhabitants being accordingly met the 30<sup>th</sup> day of January A.D. 1775 Mr. Nathan Olmstead was chosen Moderator. The Meeting then proceeded to take into Consideration the said Resolutions, and after mature Deliberation in said meeting the question was put, Whether this Town will adopt and Conform to the Resolves contained in y<sup>e</sup> association of the Continental Congress or not. Resolved in the Negative 9 Desent.

"Second. Resolved, N C D That we do acknowledge his Most Sacred Majesty King George the 3<sup>d</sup> to be our rightfull Sovereign and do hereby publicly avow our allegiance to him & his Lawfull successors—And that we will to the utmost of our power, Support his throne & Dignity against Evry Combination in the Universe.

"Third. Resolved N C D, That we do acknowledge that the three branches of y<sup>e</sup> Legislation (to wit) the King, the House of Lords and the House of Commons Convening and acting together have a constitutional Right of Government over the whole and Every part of the British Empire.

"Fourth. Resolved N C D that the Governour Council and Representatives of this Colony being Indulged with and having an Established Right of Legislation (tho' restricted) in and over this Colony, We do hereby acknowledge & avow their Right of Government and Legislation in and over this Colony And are confident that they are the Rightfull & Constitutional Rulers Directors and Guardians of our persons, properties Rights Liberties and priviledges and We desire no other political Guides or Guardians than Said Assembly and the Officers Constitutionally appointed by them, to keep the peace & Order of y<sup>e</sup> Colony and to Superintend the Execution of the Colony Laws.

"Fifth. Resolved N C D That it would be dangerous and hurtfull to the Inhabitants of this Town to adopt the said Congress measures ; and we do hereby publicly disapprove of and protest against said Congress and the measures by them directed to as unconstitutional—as subversive of our real Liberties—and as countenancing Licentiousness Resolved N C D That the Town Clerk be directed to make out a true copy of y<sup>e</sup> above sd votes & transmit them to one or more of the printers in New York, that they may be published to the world.

"Test

STEPHEN SMITH.

"Register."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield by adjournment April 10<sup>th</sup> 1775 from March 7 1775.

"The Question was put Whether y<sup>e</sup> Town will Explain their resolves of the 30<sup>th</sup> of January Lasts, Resolved in the Negative, The above Meeting is dismissed.

"Test

STEPHEN SMITH,

"Register."

A CHANGE OF SENTIMENT.

At a town-meeting held Dec. 17, 1775, the following action was taken :

"On Motion made Whether Said Meeting upon Reconsideration do disannul the resolves April 10<sup>th</sup> entered into and passed on the 30<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1775, And adopt and approve of the Continental Congress and the measures Directed to in their association, for securing and Defending the Rights and Liberties of y<sup>e</sup> United American Colonies.

"Resolved in the Affirmative Nem Con.

"Said Meeting voted that the Town Clerk make out a Copy of the above, Resolve and transmit the same to one of the printers in New York, in Order that the same may be made public in the News Papers.

"Question put Whether sd Meeting will choose of a Committee of

Inspections agreeably to the 11<sup>th</sup> article of y<sup>e</sup> association of the Continental Congress.

"Resolved in the Affirmative.

"And Samuel Olmsted Esq<sup>r</sup> Col<sup>l</sup> Philip Burr Bradley Daniel Coley Esq<sup>r</sup> Jacob Jones Stephen Smith Timothy Keeler, Capt Jonah Foster Nathan Olmsted William Forester, John Benedict James Scott, Ebenezer Jones Abraham Betts, Matthew Keeler, Timothy Benedict Nathan Stevens Samuel Gates David Platt Bartholomew Weed John Jones Daniel Smith, Ichabod Doolittle Abraham Gray Abraham Nash, Silas Hall and Azor Hurlbut were chosen Committee as abovesaid.

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield April 4<sup>th</sup> 1777 Timothy Keeler was chosen Moderator of Said Meeting. Said Meeting by a Major Vote is adjourned to the Meeting House.

"Said Meeting Pursuant to a request and Resolve of the Governor and his Committee of Safety, Chose James Scott Matthew Keeler, Timothy Benedict & Samuel Gates, a Committee to provide for the families of such soldiers as shall enlist into the Continental Army with necessaries at the prices stated by Law.

"Voted also that this Town will Give to each man that shall Inlist as a Soldier into the Continental Service (for three years or during the war being an Inhabitant of this Town, till the Quota of the Town to fill the Continental Army be Completed) Six pounds Lawfull money for every Year they are in said Service, to be paid as follows viz Six pounds at the time of their Inlistment.

"The next Six pounds to be paid within the second year & so on Yearly During their Continuance in Service.

"And those that engage, that have families, if they die in Service by Sickness or y<sup>e</sup> Sword to be paid to their Widows or Children one year after their death.

"Also the Town by their Major Vote do agree to adhere to the Law of this State, Regulating the prices of the Necessaries of Life.

"Voted that the Select Men procure Money in Loan or Otherwise, on the Town Credit or in the Towns behalf for the purpose of Encouraging Soldiers to Enlist into the Continental army And when the sum necessary for that purpose is known, said Meeting vote, agree and grant a Tax on the polls & Rateable Estate of the Inhabitants of this Town, on the List of 1776, in order to repay the money that is or may be so procured and Laid Out and either of the Select Men for the time being, or any other person that the Select Men shall nominate & Depute, Shall be fully Authorized to collect the said tax &c and the same apply to the use aforesaid.

"Said Meeting is Dismissed.

"Test

STEPHEN SMITH

"Register."

The following extracts relating to the war of the Revolution are also from the town records :

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield Nov 17<sup>th</sup> 1777 Capt Jonah Foster was chosen Moderator of sd meeting.

"Said Meeting by their Major Vote Chose David Olmstead, Samuel Olmsted 3<sup>d</sup>, Timothy Keeler 2<sup>d</sup>, Ebenezer Jones, John Waterous, Silas Hull, Ichabod Doolittle, Daniel Rockwell, Bartholomew Weed to be a Committee to procure Cloathing, for the Soldiers in the Continental Army (that the Assembly of this State, hath Required the Town to provide for).

"Test

STEPHEN SMITH,

"Register."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield January 8<sup>th</sup> 1778, Lient Nathan Olmsted was chosen Moderator of said Meeting,

"The Question was put in said Meeting, Whether the Articles of confederation and perpetual Union, Drawn up and published by the Honourable, Continental Congress be approved. Resolved in the Affirmative.

"Test

STEPHEN SMITH,

"Register."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield March 3<sup>d</sup> 1778 Samuel Olmstead Esq<sup>r</sup> was chosen Moderator of said Meeting.

"By a Major Vote said Meeting made choice of John Benedict, Esq<sup>r</sup> and Timothy Keeler 2<sup>d</sup> to be a Committee to distribute the Salt, belonging to this Town as follows viz One Quart thereof to each person of the several families of the men or that are Inhabitants of this town that have taken the Oath of fidelity to the State of Connecticut, and likewise to each person of the families of the Widows in this Town that are accounted friendly to the United States of America, and likewise to each person of the families of those men in this town that are in the Conti



mental Army; and said Committee are to take 6d Lawfull money per Quart for the same, of the persons they deliver the salt to; and that said Committee attend upon y<sup>e</sup> business of Delivering the salt, on the afternoon of each Thursday and Monday in this month till the whole be delivered out, and also Keep and Render true accounts of their doings in the premises to the Select Men by the first of April next.

"Voted also that the Committee appointed to take care and provide for the families of the Men in the Continental Army, Receive or draw out of the Town Treasury £6 0<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup> agreeable to the Vote of the Town, and lay the same out for the use and benefit of the Widow and family of Elisha Gilbert deceased.

"Test STEPHEN SMITH,  
"Register."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield 9 Aug 1779 Samuel Olmsted Esq<sup>r</sup> was chosen Moderator of said meeting. Said meeting was adjourned from the Town House to the Meeting House.

"Samuel Olmsted Esq<sup>r</sup> and M<sup>r</sup> Robert Edmond were chosen Delegates for the Town in order to meet in County Convention at Redding on the 10<sup>th</sup> Instant at the Dwelling House of Lieut Stephen Betts at 8 O'clock in the morning in order to consult and adopt suitable measures to prevent the further Depreciation of the paper Currency and Raise its value.

"In said Meeting the Question was put Whether any person that was an inhabitant in this Town, and hath Absconded and gone over to or joined the Enemy of the United States (and hath returned or shall return unto the Town) be admitted to dwell in the Town, without the Liberty & approbation of the Town first had and obtained by such person or persons. Resolved in the negative.

"Test STEPHEN SMITH,  
"Register."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield June 29 1780.

"Daniel Coley Esq<sup>r</sup> was chosen Moderator of said meeting.

"Said Meeting Granted a Tax of six pence Lawfull money on the pound on the Town List of 1779 to be collected by the first day of August next and put into the Town Treasury.

"Said Meeting granted to each able bodied effective man that shall voluntarily, Enlist or hath lately been detach'd to fill up this Towns quota in the Continental Army thirty Shillings Lawfull money per month during the time they are in said service. Also to each Soldier that shall or hath lately been Detach'd for this state service (as a soldier) Thirty Shillings Lawfull money per month for all the time they shall be in said service over and above one month and the money to be drawn out of the Town Treasury and paid to them respectively. Daniel Coley Esq<sup>r</sup> and David Scott was by said meeting appointed a Committee for that purpose."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield Aug 23<sup>d</sup> 1780.

"Timothy Keeler was chosen Moderator of said Meeting.

"Said Meeting by their Major vote Revoked the vote of the Town whereby a tax was granted of six pence on the pound on the List of 1779 in a Town Meeting held June 29 1780.

"Said Meeting Voted that they would raise money by Tax on the List of 1779 and give to the Soldiers and non Commissioned officers that have been or shall be in the Service of the Continental and this State from the first of last March during this years campaign.

"Said Meeting made choice of Benjamin Smith, William Forester, Timothy Keeler Esq<sup>r</sup> Stephen Smith and Stephen Norris a Committee to prepare a Memorial to be preferred to the General Assembly. Requesting that for the future the method of Raising and procuring Soldiers for the Continental and State Service the present war, may be by classing men, viz. all the men from sixteen and upward—and each class to procure a man for said service.

"Test STEPHEN SMITH,  
"Register."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1780 Daniel Coley Esq<sup>r</sup> was chosen Moderator of said Meeting,

"Said Meeting Voted that a Committee should be chosen and as soon as may be to make Enquiry and Obtain the number of the Men that the Town is Deficient respecting their Quota of Soldiers in the Continental Army And Thaddeus Rockwell and William Forrister were chosen for the purpose aforesaid.

"Also said Meeting by their Major vote made Choice of Nathan Smith and William Forrister to receive the salt necessary for putting up the Provisions required of this Town to be provided for the Army and to perform every part respecting said Provisions agreeable to an Act of the General Assembly of this State in their last session."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield Feby 8<sup>th</sup> 1781 Capt Jonah Foster was Chosen Moderator of said Meeting.

"Said Meeting Voted that the method for raising and procuring five Men for this State Service to serve as Soldiers in Col Beebes Regiment at Horsesneck for the term of one year, be by classing the Inhabitants into five classes.

"And that three of the classes divided out to procure Soldiers for filling up the Continental Army be formed into one class. And the three committee men living in the southern three classes that were appointed to class the Inhabitants as above expressed be a committee for the class in the southern part of the Town and so successively through the Town to the North end thereof.

"And Samuel Olmsted Esq, Nathan Olmsted and Robert Edmond be a committee for the Southern class, And John Benedict Esq Benjamin Smith and John Jones a committee for y<sup>e</sup> second class.

"And Col Bradley Stephen Smith and Silas Hull a committee for the third class.

"And Daniel Smith, Matthew Northrop, and Jonah Foster a committee for y<sup>e</sup> fourth class.

"And Daniel Coley Esq, W<sup>m</sup> Forrister and Capt Sears a committee for the fifth class.

"Also said meeting Resolved that the Representatives of this town be and they are hereby Instructed to use their Influence in the Honorable General Assembly in remonstrating to Congress against a late resolve of Congress respecting the setting of half pay on the supernumerary Officers lately belonging to the Continental Army."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield March 23<sup>d</sup> 1781.

"Col. Philip Bradley was chosen Moderator of said meeting.

"Said Meeting made choice of Capt David Olmsted, Col Bradley, Ebenezer Olmsted William Forrister and Stephen Norris a committee to procure Soldiers to complete the Towns Quota for filling up the Continental Army and this States service.

"Said Meeting Resolved and Ordered that the several classes that have procured Recruits for the Continental Army deliver their said Recruits to the Selectmen at the houses of Clements Smith and Daniel Coley Esq On Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of this Instant at ten o'clock in the morning in order to be taken to Danbury to be Mustered and delivered to an Officer and forwarded to the Continental Army."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield April 13<sup>th</sup> 1781,

"Capt Jonah Foster was chosen Moderator of said Meeting.

"Said Meeting made choice of John Benedict Samuel Olmsted Esq, Col Bradley and William Forrister a committee (In Behalf of the Town) to make a settlement with the Men that were in service the last campaign either Continental or State that were Inhabitants of or counted for the Towns Quota; Or with a committee by them appointed respecting two Grants they say was made them by y<sup>e</sup> Town at their Town Meetings held in Ridgefield on y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> day of June 1780 and on y<sup>e</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> of August 1780 and make report to a future Town Meeting."

The following account of the invasion of Connecticut by the British in 1777 is taken from "Hollister's History of Connecticut:"

"Sir William Howe had been informed that the Americans had large depositories of military stores in Danbury and its neighborhood. He determined to destroy them without delay, and in casting about him for a faithful operator in this most invidious of all employments who would be remorseless in the use of the torch he hit readily upon His Excellency Governor Tryon, of New York. He could hardly have made a more admirable selection.

"Howe was a shrewd judge of character, and knew well that nothing so effectually calls out the latent energies of a man of genius as a sudden appeal to old and cherished recollections. Now, there was no part of the world that could awaken in the mind of William Tryon so many lively and searching associations as Connecticut. The name of the little republic made His Excellency's hair bristle with certain sensations that a soldier ought not to entertain. From the time when that irreverent company of Connecticut dragoons had scattered the type belonging to

the administration's organ through the streets of New York, and driven one of his pets, Rivington, with hundreds of Tories that were worthy of being elevated to the dignity of governor's horse-guards, he had felt the liveliest emotions at the very sound of the word 'Connecticut.' In some way it was inseparably connected in his mind with that charming society called the 'Sons of Liberty.'

"Gen. Howe showed his shrewdness not only in selecting his agent for this work, but also in sending along with him, to see that he did not lose himself in his explorations into a land that was so dear to him, those excellent advisers, Gen. Agnew and Sir William Erskine. Those gentlemen furnished intellectual resources for the major-general, and he added the warmth of his nature to give soul to the enterprise. Accordingly, a detachment of two thousand men were selected from the choice spirits of the British army, and nominally placed under Tryon's command. They embarked at New York, and, under the convoy of a fine naval armament of twenty-five vessels, passed over the waters of Long Island Sound in such high spirits as the warmth of an April sun and the pleasing anticipations of the business that was to employ them were calculated to inspire. They had chosen a time when Connecticut was almost entirely deserted by her male population, who had gone out to defend the soil of other States and stay up the trailing banner of the noble Washington.

"They had left their homes to be guarded, with the exception of a few gallant troops, by the crutches of the grandfathers and the distaffs of the grandmothers who had two generations of descendants in the field hundreds of miles away. On this account His Excellency, who was the very antipode of Gunpowder Percy, had nothing to dampen his mood or cloud his brow. As the ships skimmed past the coast-towns of Western Connecticut the people gazed at them with mingled curiosity and anxiety. Perhaps some of them called to mind the doings of Wallace, master of the 'Rose,' at Stonington; but no particular alarm appears to have been excited until the heads of the ships began to point towards the island that stands out from the Norwalk shore.

"At about four o'clock they cast anchor in Saugatuck Harbor, and, with such haste as is consistent with a picnic-excursion into the country, two thousand men, consisting of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, went ashore in boats, and under the superintendence of Tryon, with two Tory guides to show them the way, moved forward towards Danbury. They marched about eight miles that night, and encamped in the township of Weston.

"On the morning of the 26th, at a very seasonable hour, Tryon arrived at Redding Ridge, where was a small hamlet of peaceful inhabitants, almost every one of them patriots and most of them farmers, who had crowned the high hill where they had chosen to build their Zion with a tall, gaunt church, which

drew to its aisles, one day in seven, the people that dwelt upon the sides of the hills and in the bosom of the valleys within the range of the summons that sounded from its belfry. By way of satisfying his hunger with a morning lunch until he could provide a more substantial meal, he drew up his artillery in front of this weatherbeaten edifice, that had before defied everything save the grace of God and the supplications of his worshipers, and gave it a good round of canister and grape, that pierced its sides through and through and shattered its small-paned windows into fragments. The only spectators to this heroic demonstration were a few women and little children, some of whom ran away at the sight of the red-coats, and others faced the invaders with a menacing stare.

"The British commander now resumed his march for some distance without meeting with the least opposition, until he began to ascend Hoyt's Hill, when the figure of a single mounted horseman appeared upon the summit of the eminence, with his face turned backward, and his gestures and whole action indicating that he was issuing orders to a large army that was climbing the side of the hill. 'Halt!' shouted the leader of the opposition in a voice of thunder, while he flourished his sword in the air, 'Halt, the whole universe! Wheel into kingdoms!' Now, there was nothing that Gen. Tryon had such a dread of as dying. He prudently commanded his men to halt, in imitation of the order given by the leader of the supposed army that was advancing, and sent out detachments on the right and left to reconnoitre, and got his two field-pieces that were consecrated by the mutilation of the old church in readiness to give such feeble battle as he could to this more than Persian array. The reader can judge how much His Excellency was relieved when the videttes returned and informed him that the wretch who had thus disturbed his valor was the only mortal in sight, and that no part of him was visible except his back as he rode towards Danbury with the speed of a shooting-star.

"They arrived in Danbury about two o'clock. There were a few Continental soldiers in the place, but they could not make a stand against this large invading-party, and were obliged to withdraw. Gen. Tryon selected the house of one Dibble, a faithful Tory, for his headquarters, who lived at the south end of the main street, close by the spot where the military stores had been deposited. As Gens. Erskine and Agnew were advancing under the protection of a corps of light infantry to take up their quarters at the other end of the same street, the party was fired upon by four young men from the house of Maj. Starr. This brave but rash act cost the young patriots their lives. They were instantly pursued and shot. A poor negro who was caught near them without weapons in his hands was also murdered, and the five bodies were thrown into the house, which was instantly set on fire.



"A man named Hamilton had on deposit at a clothier's in the lower part of the village a piece of cloth, which he was determined at all hazards to rescue from sequestration. He accordingly rode to the shop, and, having secured one end of the cloth to the pommel of his saddle, galloped rapidly away. He was seen by the enemy's light-horsemen, who followed hard upon him, exclaiming, 'We'll have you, old daddy; we'll have you.'—'Not yet,' said Hamilton as he redoubled his speed. The troops gain upon their intended victim; the nearest one raises his sabre to strike, when fortunately the cloth unrolls, and, fluttering like a streamer far behind, so frightens the pursuing horses that they cannot be brought within striking-distance of the pursued. The chase continues through the whole extent of the village to the bridge, where finally the old gentleman and his cloth made good their escape.

"A large quantity of the public stores had been deposited in the Episcopal church, and the first work of the soldiers was to remove them into the street and burn them. Some of the provisions were also stored in a barn belonging to Dibble. This building was treated with the same respect, as its proprietor had the honor to entertain Gen. Tryon as a guest. Another barn, belonging to a friend of American liberty, which had been appropriated to the same use, was set on fire and consumed with its contents. In a few hours eighteen hundred barrels of pork and beef, seven hundred barrels of flour, two thousand bushels of wheat, rye, oats, and Indian corn, clothing for a regiment of troops, and seventeen hundred and ninety tents were burned. The smoke arising from the destruction of this property was strangulating and filled the whole air, while the streets ran with the melted pork and beef.

"There was also a large quantity of liquors in some of the buildings. These the soldiers were most reluctant to destroy, and did not do so until after they had drank so freely of them that when the labors of the day were ended only a few hundred were fit for duty. While the imbruted soldiers piled the fuel around the flour and beef and stirred up the laggard flames to a fiercer glare, the women and little children could see by the fitful light the mark of the white cross that had been distinctly drawn upon the Tory dwellings to signify that the destroying angel about to go through the town would stay his hand at their door-posts and pass them by unharmed. The same dingy light now disclosed a scene of loathsome drunkenness that surpasses description. Hundreds lay scattered at random wherever the palsy demon had overtaken them,—some in the streets with their faces blackened with smoke and soiled with earth, others sprawling in the door-yards, and others still, wild with excitement, holding themselves up by fences and trees or grasping fast hold of each other, called loudly with oaths and curses to be led against the rebels.

"In this horrible condition the Revolutionary pa-

triotsof Danbury saw the shades of night gather around their dwellings, and in sleepless apprehension did they count the hours as they dragged slowly on. Nor did the brigand who led this band of incendiaries pass the night in sleep. The faithful few who had resisted the temptations of the cup were on the alert, and brought him from time to time the unwelcome intelligence that groups of patriot farmers were fast dropping in from the neighboring villages and towns, and were beginning to form into organized companies. What if Wooster or Parsons or Huntington or Arnold should prove to be at the head of them, and should steal upon him while his troops were in that defenseless condition? The thought was horrible!

"Thus heavily passed the watches of that gloomy Saturday night. At last the day began to approach, and reason, unsettled for a while in the dull brains of the British soldiers, returned to them again. The marks of the late dissipation still appeared in their swollen faces and bloodshot eyes, but they were now able to stand upright, to grasp a musket and defend themselves against the farmers who were gathering, ill-weaponed and undisciplined as they were, to oppose them. Then the British general began to breathe more easily and to exhibit in a more striking manner the remarkable traits of his genius. He drew up his forces in order of defense; he attended to all the arrangement, and presided over every detail of the preparations that he was making to usher in, with ceremonies worthy of the occasion, another Sabbath-day. On a sudden, as if by the pulling of a wire upon the stage, the curtains of darkness were withdrawn from the village, and like a will-o'-the-wisp, and wandering zigzag from street to street, from house to house, passed the flaming torch of the incendiary. The Congregational meeting-house, the largest and most expensive building in the place, is soon discovered to be on fire, and one after another the dwellings, stores, and barns of that peaceful community add their tributary lamps to that great centre beacon of the town, until every house, save those that have the mystic sign upon them, is in a broad blaze. Meanwhile, by the light of their own homes, mothers, screening their babies from the bleak air with the scanty clothing that they had snatched up in haste and denied to themselves, crippled old men and palsied women, and little boys and girls clinging to their feeble protectors, made such haste as they could to save their lives from the fire, taking care to avoid the jeers of their comfortable Tory neighbors, who looked out from the doors and windows where the white cross glared in mockery alike of God and of humanity, and to shun at the same time the unhallowed contact of the soldiers, they ran, crawled, or were carried upon their beds into lonely lanes, damp pastures, and leafless woods. Having witnessed the destruction of the meeting-house, nineteen dwelling-houses, twenty-two stores and barns, and great quantities of hay and grain that belonged to the inhabitants of the place, and having feasted his eyes with

the fear and anguish of the women against whom he waged this glorious war, Maj.-Gen. Tryon, taking a last fond look of the scene of his exploits, and noting doubtless the artistic effect of the faint blue smoke-wreaths as they curled upward to stain the blushing forehead of the morning, withdrew his troops and resumed his march towards the sea-shore. When the invader was fairly out of sight, the poor fugitives from their several hiding-places returned, and, cowering over the charred timbers of the homes that they had fled from, warmed their shivering frames and trembling hands over the ruins of Danbury.

"In the mean time, the news of Tryon's arrival flew along the whole coast. Early on the morning of the 26th, Gen. Silliman with about five hundred militia—such as he had been able to gather upon a sudden call—pursued the enemy, and not long after the venerable Wooster, who had started off at a moment's warning to defend the soil of his native State from insult, joined him with Arnold and another handful of militia. A heavy rain retarded their movements so much that they did not reach Bethel till late at night. It was therefore decided to attack the enemy on their return.

"On the morning of the 27th the American troops were astir at a very early hour. Gen. Wooster detached Gens. Silliman and Arnold, with about five hundred men, to advance and intercept the enemy in front, while he undertook with the remainder, amounting to only two hundred half-armed militia, to attack them in the rear. About nine o'clock he overtook Tryon's army, some three miles above Ridgefield, on the Norwalk road, and, taking advantage of the uneven ground, fell upon a whole regiment with such impetuosity as to throw them into confusion and break their ranks. Before they could be restored to order he had succeeded in taking forty prisoners,—a number equal to one-fifth part of his whole force. He continued to hang upon their skirts and harass them for some time, waiting for another favorable opportunity to make an attack. A few miles from Ridgefield, where the hills appeared to offer a chance of breaking their ranks a second time, he again charged furiously upon them. The rear-guard, chagrined at the result of the former encounter, now faced about, and met him with a discharge of artillery and small-arms.

"His men returned their shot resolutely at first, but, as they were unused to battle, they soon began to fall back. Wooster, uniting all the fire of youth with the experience of an old soldier who had seen hard service in more than one field, sought to inspire them with his own courage. Turning his horse's head and waving his sword, he called out to them in a brisk tone, 'Come on, my boys; never mind such random shots.' Before he had time to turn his face again towards the enemy, a musket-ball aimed by a Tory marksman penetrated his back, breaking the spinal column and lodging in the fleshy parts of his body.

He instantly fell from his horse. His faithful friends stripped his sash from his person and bore him upon it from the field.

"Arnold and Silliman made a forced march to Ridgefield, and arrived there about eleven o'clock. They threw up a temporary barricade across the road on the rising ground, and stationed their little party in such a manner as to cover their right flank by a house and barn, and their left by a ledge of rocks. Here they quietly awaited the enemy. As soon as Agnew and Erskine saw what position the Americans had taken they advanced and received their fire, and, though they sustained considerable loss, they returned it with spirit. The action lasted about ten minutes, when the British gained the ledge of rocks, and the Americans were obliged to retreat. The American officers behaved with great spirit. Arnold was shot at by a whole platoon of soldiers, standing not more than thirty yards from him. His horse was killed under him, but no other ball took effect. Snatching his pistols, he shot dead a soldier who was making up to him to run him through with his bayonet, and thus made his escape. The Americans kept up a scattering fire till nearly night, when Gen. Tryon encamped at Ridgefield. In the morning he set fire to the church, but he probably did not superintend this piece of work himself, as it was so inartistically done that it proved to be a failure. He was more fortunate with four dwelling-houses, which he soon had the satisfaction to see wrapped in flames.

"He now resumed his march, but Arnold followed him up so closely that he soon crossed the Saugatuck River and marched on the east side of it, while the Americans kept pace with him on the left. Thus they advanced, cannonading each other whenever they could find a convenient opportunity. About three o'clock in the afternoon the gallant Col. Deming, with a little party of Continental troops, forded the river where it was about four feet deep, and, unperceived by the enemy, attacked them with desperate violence upon the rear and upon the left flank, pursuing them and keeping up a galling fire that did them very serious harm. Arnold pushed forward towards the mouth of the river, and, drawing his men up in good order upon a hill, opened a heavy fire upon the right flank of the enemy's rear. The Americans could follow them no farther on account of the dangerous proximity of the ships. The British troops who were marching in the van immediately embarked, while the centre and rear formed on a hill. While Arnold was discharging his cannon at the boats, and while Deming was plying the major-general in the rear, Col. Lamb, who was from New York, and, of course, one of His Excellency's own subjects, crept with about two hundred men behind a stone wall, and gave him a parting salute at the distance of about one hundred yards.

"Glad enough was Tryon to get aboard his good ship once more, and it is believed that he cherished



to his dying day the recollection of his first visit to Connecticut."

Rev. Mr. Tellers says,—

"It would be a matter of interest to many to know just what kind of a report was made of this raid by Gen. Tryon to his superior officers, and through them to the British government.

"In the June number of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, printed in London in 1777, we have the following:

"Gen. Howe has transmitted to Lord George Germaine the following particulars of a recent successful enterprise for the destruction of stores at the village of Danbury, in Connecticut.

"The troops landed without opposition in the afternoon of the 25th of April, about four miles to the eastward of Norwalk, and twenty miles from Danbury.

"In the afternoon of the 26th the detachment reached Danbury, meeting only small parties of the enemy on their march, but Gen. Tryon having intelligence that the whole force of the country was collecting to take every advantage of the strong ground he was to pass on his return to the shipping, and finding it impossible to procure carriages to bring off any part of the stores, they were effectually destroyed, in the execution of which the village was unavoidably burned.

"On the 27th, in the morning, the troops quitted Danbury, and met with little opposition until they came near to Ridgefield, which was occupied by Gen. Arnold, who had thrown up intrenchments to dispute the passage, while Gen. Wooster hung upon the rear with a separate corps. The village was forced, and the enemy drove back on all sides.

"Gen. Tryon lay that night at Ridgefield, and renewed his march on the morning of the 28th.

"The enemy, having been reinforced with troops and cannon, disputed every advantageous situation, keeping at the same time smaller parties to harass the rear until the general had formed his detachment upon a height within cannon-shot of the shipping, when, the enemy advancing seemingly with an intention to attack him, he ordered the troops to charge their bayonets, which was executed with such impetuosity that the rebels were totally put to flight, and the detachment embarked without further molestation.

"Return of the forces, ordnance, provisions, etc., as nearly as could be ascertained, found at the rebels' stores, and destroyed by the king's troops, at Danbury, etc., in Connecticut, April 27, 1777:

"A quantity of ordnance stores, with iron, etc., four thousand barrels of beef and pork, one thousand barrels of flour, one hundred large tierces of biscuit, eighty-nine barrels of rice, one hundred and twenty puncheons of rum.

"Several large stores of wheat, oats, and Indian corn, in bulk the quantity thereof could not possibly be ascertained, thirty pipes of wine, one hundred hogshheads of sugar, fifty hogshheads of molasses, twenty casks of coffee, fifteen large casks filled with medicine of all kinds, ten barrels of saltpetre, one thousand and twenty tents and marquees, a large quantity of hospital bedding, etc.; engineers', pioneers', and carpenters' tools; a printing-press complete; tar, tallow, etc.; five thousand pairs of shoes and stockings.

"At a mill (Smith's mill) between Ridgebury and Ridgefield, 100 barrels of flour and a quantity of Indian corn.

"At the bridge at the west brace of Norwalk River, and in the woods contiguous: 100 hogshheads of rum; several chests of arms; paper cartridges; field forges; 300 tents.

"Return of the killed, wounded, and missing:

"One drummer and fifer, 23 rank and file, killed; 3 field officers, 6 captains, 3 subalterns, 9 sergeants, 92 rank and file, wounded; one drummer and fifer, 27 rank and file missing.

"(Signed)

W. HOWE.

"The following is an additional list of the wounded:

"Capt. Thorne, Capt. Durmas, Lieut. Hastings, Major Conran, Capt. Rutherford, Ensign Menichin, Second Lieut. Price, Volunteer Vale, Major Hope, Capt. Calder, Ensign Mercer, Prince of Wales, American volunteer, Col. Browne, Capt. Lyman, Capt. Secon, and Capt. Simon Frazer.

"Return of the rebels killed: General Wooster, Gen. Gould, Col. Lamb, of the Artillery, Col. Herman, Dr. Atwater, a man of considerable influence, Capt. Cove, Lieut. Thompson, and 100 privates.

"List of rebel wounded: Col. Whiting, Capt. Benjamin, Lieut. Cove, and 250 privates.

"Taken prisoners, 50 privates, including several committee men."

#### REVOLUTIONARY INCIDENTS \*

"There is a prevailing impression among the inhabitants of the town that Gen. Wooster's forces first attacked the rear of Gen. Tryon's army on the flat immediately north of Mr. Lewis C. Hunt's house. Facts will not justify this opinion. Gen. Wooster made his *first* attack on the enemy after they had ascended the hill commonly known as Scott's Ridge, and probably while a part were still engaged at their morning meal, for it was at this point that Tryon's army breakfasted.

"The battle was fought immediately north of Mr. Samuel Scott's house, and in front of the school-house. It was here that Gen. Wooster took forty prisoners, and it was doubtless here that the two Hessian soldiers were mortally wounded who died on their way to the village and were hastily buried in the sand-knoll north of Mr. Zalmon Main's.

"After securing and disposing of the prisoners taken, Gen. Wooster again overtook the British on the flat north of Mr. Lewis C. Hunt's, and about two miles north of the village of Ridgefield.

"It was here that the gallant general was wounded, at the very beginning of the engagement. Indeed, tradition says that Gen. Wooster was wounded by a Tory in ambush, and *not* by the enemy proper; however this may be, it is certain that the attack had but just commenced. We are not able to learn that a single life was lost.

"About this time in the morning, Gen. Arnold arrived at Ridgefield with five hundred men, and began at once to throw up a barricade across the road at the north end of the village, between the northwest corner of Miss Sarah Stebbins' door-yard and the ledge of rocks upon which the house of Mr. William Lee now stands. This was about eleven o'clock in the morning. An hour later, or at twelve o'clock, Gen. Tryon had reached the place, and a general engagement took place.

"An eye-witness says that sixteen British and eight Americans were killed in this engagement, and that they were buried in two graves near the hickory-tree which now stands just inside the fence, east of the road, in the open lot between Miss Sarah Stebbins' and Mr. Abner Gilbert's. The sixteen British were buried in one grave, and the eight Americans in another.

"The wounded were taken into the house now occupied by Miss Sarah Stebbins and tenderly cared for. The blood-stains are said to be still seen on the oaken floors. The house itself is a standing monument to the battle. The path of one or more cannon-balls is plainly traced.

"The bravery of Gen. Arnold in this engagement amounted almost to recklessness. After the enemy had broken through the temporary barricade, and all

\* The following incidents are taken from Rev. Mr. Teller's history of Ridgefield.

his own soldiers except Capt. Bell had deserted him, he still stood his ground, receiving the undivided fire of a whole company of the enemy.

"His horse fell under him, pierced by nine bullets, and at the moment of its fall his foot became entangled in the stirrup. A soldier, taking advantage of this moment of the general's disability, rushed up to him, exclaiming, 'You are my prisoner!'—'Not yet,' quickly replied Gen. Arnold, and, drawing a pistol from his holster, shot him dead; then, regaining his feet, he hastily retreated amid the repeated fire of the enemy. It is commonly reported that it was a Tory from Milford by the name of Coon who thus attempted to take Gen. Arnold prisoner, as also that Gen. Arnold said as the bullet sped on its fatal mission, 'One live man is worth ten dead ones.'

"Immediately after this action the British marched through the street, occasionally discharging their artillery, a terror to all but a few Tories, who felt that the long-delayed moment of their exaltation had come.

"Halting a little below the village, they proceeded to encamp for the night on the grounds of Mr. Samuel Olmsted, now owned and occupied by Mr. Hiram Seymour, a descendant of the family.

"The selectmen of the town, in their petition to the General Assembly dated May 26, 1777, stated that the enemy, in passing through the town, burned the grist-mill and saw-mill of Isaac Keeler, six dwellings, and two barns, and killed and carried off a number of horses, sheep, and cattle.

"During their stay they also plundered the inhabitants of nearly all their provisions and a large share of their clothing, by which many were reduced to poverty. The town, unable to relieve all the sufferers, applied to General Assembly for help. Nehemiah Beardsley, Increase Mosely, and Lemuel Sanford were appointed a committee to estimate the respective losses of the inhabitants. After a close investigation, the total amount was fixed at £2625 1s. 8d.

"On the exact spot where Gen. Arnold's horse was shot from under him a tamarack-tree now stands; it was placed there to commemorate the event. It is inside Mr. Lee's yard-fence, a little southeast of his house.

"On their way down the street the British soldiers planted a gun in front of the Episcopal church, and shot several balls into the house now owned and occupied by Mr. Abijah Resseguie, one of which was lodged in a post on the northeast corner, and is still to be seen imbedded deeply in the solid wood. Another ball passed between the feet of a man who at the time was ascending the stairs. Frightened by the close proximity of the unwelcome messenger, he exclaimed, 'I'm a dead man, I'm a dead man!' and tradition says that he actually rolled to the foot of the stairs. But upon examination it was found that he was not only *not dead*, but wholly unharmed. The reason for cannonading this particular house was to

dislodge certain parties who were reported to be in the building making cartridges. The house was occupied by Mr. Timothy Keeler, a sturdy Federalist.

"The house a few rods south, on the site of the one now owned by Mr. Thaddeus Keeler, was then occupied by a loyalist by the name of Hoyt. It was through his interposition with Gen. Tryon that Mr. Keeler's house was rescued from the torch of the incendiary, the reason for it being attributed to purely selfish motives. The wind was blowing strongly from the northwest, and his own house would be greatly endangered.

"The story is told that Mr. Keeler's house was actually set on fire after he had retreated to the woods, and that Mr. Hoyt, fearing the effect of the fire on his own buildings, obtained permission from the British officers to extinguish the flames. After the enemy had left, Mr. Keeler, returning from the woods, was met by Mr. Hoyt, who greeted him with the exclamation, 'You may thank me that your house was not destroyed.'—'No, sir,' replied Keeler: 'I will not thank a Tory for anything. I would *rather thank the Lord* for the north wind.'

"Following close in the wake of the left wing of the enemy was a company of half-grown boys, Ebenezer Jones, the son of Capt. Jones, of the number. Coming up to a large rock standing on an eminence in a field now owned by Mr. David Hoyt, a little southeast of Mr. Henry Benedict's, they found a British soldier who had been mortally wounded. Young Jones returned home and related the circumstance to his father, who, in humanity to a fallen foe, saddled his horse, rode down to the spot, and brought the wounded soldier to his own house, where he was carefully nursed until he died. Then Mr. Jones with his own hands made for him a pine coffin, and buried him in the old yard east of Mr. Joel Benjamin's barn.

"Four of the six houses at this time burned by the enemy were as follows,—viz., the house of Isaac Keeler, near Mamasnag Pond; a house on the High Ridge north of Mr. W. O. Seymour's; the house of Benjamin Northrop, a short distance south of Mr. George Haight's, on the opposite side of the road; and a building used by the British for the care of their wounded over-night, previously occupied by Mr. Thomas Seymour. This house stood on the south side of the fair-ground, now owned by the Agricultural Society. The two buildings on High Ridge were probably burned in the evening, the one near Mamasnag Lake in the early part of the day, and the fourth—that on the present fair-ground—on the morning of their departure. The well standing near the house they filled with stones, which have never been removed. Their object in filling this well is not known. It may have been owing to the supposition that valuables were secreted there, or it may have been, as some suppose, that their own dead were thrown in it. This last supposition, however, is scarcely probable, for they are known to have buried



those who had died during the night in the upper part of Flat Rock woods.

"Among those who witnessed this engagement between Gen. Tryon's forces and our own at the head of Ridgefield Street was a young man scarcely seventeen years of age, by the name of Jeremiah Keeler. The scene aroused all the patriotic fire within his soul, and determined his course for the future. At the solicitation of Col. Bradley he eagerly enlisted in the regular army, and by his courage and fidelity reflected great credit upon his native town. With the Connecticut line he shared the fatigues and dangers of the three memorable years that immediately followed; shortly after which, being selected by Baron Steuben, he joined the light infantry commanded by Gen. De la Fayette, under whom he held the post of orderly sergeant. He was frequently appointed to execute difficult and responsible duties; and on an occasion of this kind the marquis presented him with a sword and his thanks as a testimonial of his regard for a faithful and courageous soldier. At the memorable siege of Yorktown, when La Fayette's brigade was employed to storm one of the British forts, Sergt. Keeler was one of the first who in the midst of a murderous fire scaled the breastworks and compelled the enemy to yield. He witnessed the surrender of Cornwallis, which virtually terminated the war, but he remained faithfully at his post until the disbanding of the forces, in 1783. He was mustered out of the service in Virginia, and soon after, with the sword which Gen. La Fayette gave him, for a cane, he walked back to his native town. This sword is still to be seen at his late home in South Salem, N. Y., just over the State line. Mr. Keeler died February, 1853, aged nearly ninety-three years.

"The year following this incursion of the enemy, Gen. Putnam was ordered into this part of the State, just across the Redding line, for the winter, and fears of further invasions all subsided. An incident of his stay we allude to for the purpose of presenting a picture of army-life in that early day, as well as of correcting what seems to be a wrong statement:

"It was late in the autumn of 1778 when Gen. Putnam removed his army from White Plains and Peekskill to Redding, at which place he was to establish his headquarters for the winter. The position thus selected was in many respects an advantageous one. He was enabled to cover the country adjoining the Sound and the southwestern frontier, and at the same time to support the garrison at West Point, if necessary. The house which he occupied as his headquarters is still standing, although in a dilapidated condition, and is situated on the *old* Danbury and Norwalk road, about three miles west of the Congregational church, and is now owned by Mr. Meeker. The northeast room of the same house was also at one time occupied by Joel Barlow, LL.D., who was a native of this town. It was in this room that most of his poetry was written.

"Gen. Putnam had at this time under his orders Gen. Poor's New Hampshire brigade, two brigades of Connecticut troops, the corps of infantry commanded by Col. Hazen, and the corps of cavalry under Col. Sheldon.

"It was while at Redding that the soldiers suffering from the want of proper food and clothing were so strongly tempted to rebel against the authority of their commanding officers and, if necessary, at the point of the bayonet demand of General Assembly what they esteemed their rights.

"We must remember that they were not soldiers by profession; they were simply citizens armed for the defense of their country. They had known and appreciated the endearments of home and all the domestic enjoyments of life. They were men who had been always accustomed to think independently and speak out their thoughts without fear or favor. Therefore they were restless under the iron discipline of the camp and the privations which seemed to them needlessly severe. They were ready to suffer and die, if need be, for their country; there was no lack of courage or patriotism. No thought of insubordination probably ever entered their minds when actually engaged in battle or in the active duties of military life, but now their time was passing in comparative idleness, and they had abundant leisure to brood over their privations and their gloomy prospects. And, as if to fill to overflowing their cup of bitterness, they had thus far been paid off in the depreciated currency of the times, which had proven almost worthless not alone to them, but to their families, left in straitened circumstances behind them.

"It was under such circumstances that the Connecticut brigades formed the design of marching to Hartford, where the Legislature was then sitting, and demand redress. One of the brigades was actually under arms for this purpose when the news for the first reached the ears of Gen. Putnam. Springing into his saddle, he rode to the cantonment, and thus addressed them: 'My brave lads, whither are you going? Do you intend to desert your officers, and to invite the enemy to follow you into the country? Whose cause have you been fighting and suffering so long in? Is it not your own? Have you no property, no parents, wives, or children? You have behaved like men so far; all the world is full of your praises; and posterity will stand astonished at your deeds, but not if you spoil all at last. Don't you consider how much the country is distressed by the war, and that your officers have not been any better paid than yourselves? But we all expect better times, and that the country will do us ample justice. Let us stand by one another, then, and fight it out like brave soldiers. Think what a shame it would be for Connecticut men to run away from their officers!'

"Each regiment received the general with the usual salutations as he rode along the lines. When he had concluded his address he directed the acting major of

brigade to give the word for them to shoulder arms, to march to their regimental parades, and there to lodge their guns. They obeyed with promptness and apparent good-humor. A single soldier only who had been most active in the affair was confined in the quarter-guard, and was shot dead by the sentinel while attempting to escape during the succeeding night.

"During Putnam's stay at Redding two persons were executed,—one a soldier, by the name of Smith, who was shot for desertion; the other a Mr. Jones, of Ridgefield, a royalist, who was hung as a spy: both suffered on the same day. These executions took place on Gallows Hill, a mile or more from Gen. Putnam's headquarters.

"The scene as described by Mr. Barber in his 'Historical Collections' is revolting to every feeling of humanity and degrading to the character of the general in command. He says (page 399), 'The man on whom the duty of hangman devolved left the camp, and on the day of execution could not be found. A couple of boys about the age of twelve years were ordered by Gen. Putnam to perform the duties of the absconding hangman. The gallows was about twenty feet from the ground. Jones was compelled to ascend the ladder, and the rope around his neck was attached to the cross-beam. Gen. Putnam then ordered Jones to jump from the ladder. "No, Gen. Putnam," said Jones, "I am innocent of the crime laid to my charge; I shall not do it." Putnam then ordered the boys before mentioned to turn the ladder over. The boys were deeply affected by the trying scene; they cried and sobbed loudly, and earnestly entreated to be excused from doing anything on this distressing occasion. Putnam, drawing his sword, ordered them forward, and compelled them at the sword's point to obey his orders. The soldier that was shot for desertion was but a youth of sixteen or seventeen years of age. Three balls were shot through his breast; he fell on his face, but immediately turned over on his back; a soldier then advanced, and, putting the muzzle of his gun near the convulsive body of the youth, discharged its contents into his forehead. The body was then taken up and put into a coffin. The soldiers had fired their pieces so near that they set the boy's clothing on fire, which continued burning. An officer with a drawn sword stood by, while every soldier of the three brigades which were out on the occasion was ordered to march by and look at the mangled remains.'

"Mr. Barber says, in a foot-note, that the particulars of the execution of these two persons were derived from an aged inhabitant of Redding who was present on the occasion, and stood but a few feet from Jones when he was executed.

"Mr. Hollister, however, in his 'History of Connecticut,' does not credit the account given by Mr. Barber. The following note, taken from vol. ii., page 375, will explain itself:

"The Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett, who was pastor of the Congl Church in Redding for a period of fifty years, officiated as chaplain to the encampment during the winter, and was present at the execution. He interceded with Gen. Putnam to defer the execution of Smith until Washington could be consulted, the offender being a youth of seventeen years; but the commander assured him that a reprieve could not be granted.

"Mr. Bartlett was an earnest and fearless Whig, and openly talked and preached "rebellion;" so much so that the Tories, who were numerous in the eastern part of the town, threatened to hang him if they could catch him. In consequence of these threats, he often carried a loaded musket with him when on his parochial visits. His son and successor in the ministry at Redding—the Rev. Jonathan Bartlett, now (1855) in his ninety-first year—well remembers the Revolutionary encampment at Redding, and frequently visited it. He is sure that the story in Barber's "Historical Collections" about Putnam's inhumanity at the execution of Smith and Jones is incorrect. Though not present himself, he has often heard his father relate the incidents of the occasion; and, furthermore, he once called the attention of Col. Ashbel Salmon (who died in 1848, aged ninety-one), who was a sergeant in attendance upon the execution, to the statement, and he declared that nothing of the kind took place."

"As further evidence of the incorrectness of Mr. Barber's statement, we would offer the following extract from the notes of a sermon preached in the Congregational church in Green's Farms by Rev. Thomas F. Davies (father of the present Dr. Davies, of Philadelphia), on March 29, 1839.

"Referring to this matter as related by Mr. Barber, he says,—

"Mr. Barber must have been misinformed. Redding is my native town, and from my boyhood I have heard the history of the proceedings on the occasion referred to, and was much surprised at the statements in the "Historical Collections." The Rev. Mr. Bartlett, whose father was chaplain on that occasion, informs me that Gen. Putnam could not have been guilty of the acts there charged.

"That Mr. Barber may have something to substitute for the narrative to which I object, I give the following: When Gen. Putnam occupied the house of which Mr. Barber has given an engraving, a scene occurred which presents the general in a very amiable light. A poor man with a family needing support, and who lived in the neighboring town of Ridgefield, was told by one acquainted with his wants that if he would visit Gen. Putnam and hold a conversation with him, he would, on his return and on proof of the fact, give him a bushel of wheat. The temptation in that time of scarcity and taxes was great, and so also was the fear of intruding upon so distinguished an individual, but the stern necessities of his condition at length induced the poor man to venture. He accordingly presented himself at headquarters and requested the servant to solicit for him an interview with the general. Putnam promptly summoned the man to his presence, directed him to be seated, and listened with interest while the man, with great trepidation, gave the statement which accounted for the liberty he had taken. The general directed the servant to bring some wine, conversed for a time very pleasantly with his needy visitor, and then, calling for pen and ink, wrote a certificate, in which he gave the name of the individual and stated that he had visited and conversed with Gen. Putnam, who signed it in his official character. Thus furnished with the means of giving bread to his family, the distressed individual returned to his humble roof; and this anecdote, which I have on the very best authority, is proof that Putnam was not destitute of those kind and gentle affections which are so desirable an ornament of the most heroic character."

"Among the most familiar names in the town a half-century ago was that of Gen. Joshua King. He was the father of the present Hon. Joshua I. King, who in 1849 represented the Eleventh District in the State Senate, and of the late Rufus H. King, a well-known merchant of Albany.

"When Gen. King was but seventeen years of age he enlisted in the regular army, and served with great bravery and fidelity until the close of the war.



"At the time of Maj. Andre's capture, Gen. King (then lieutenant in the Second Regiment of Light Dragoons, under Col. Sheldon) was stationed in South Salem. The house which was occupied by Lieut. King, and which has been but recently removed, stood about one mile north of the Presbyterian church.

"The morning after the capture of Andre he was brought to Lieut. King's quarters. Lieut. King was at the moment being shaved. After his valet had finished the operation and had dressed his hair, Lieut. King turned to his prisoner and politely inquired if like services would not also be agreeable to him. Lieut. King did not at the time recognize in Maj. Andre so distinguished a personage, but was nevertheless impressed with the belief that, whatever his rank as a soldier might be, he was at all events a gentleman. His dusty and somewhat rusty garments, his soiled and travel-stained linen, could not effectually hide those distinctive marks which always betray refinement and culture.

"Maj. Andre readily accepted the kind offer, and was soon under the careful manipulations of the valet. As soon as the powder began to fly from the prisoner's hair the lieutenant was convinced that he was by no means an ordinary man.

"After being shaved and having his hair dressed, he courteously asked the privilege of retiring to his bed, that he might have his soiled linen washed. Lieut. King assured him that such a step would be unnecessary, as he himself would supply him with whatever change he might desire. The major, with many expressions of gratitude, availed himself of the lieutenant's hospitality, and soon appeared in a much improved condition. The most friendly relations consistent with their respective positions at once sprang up between the two; they walked and talked as inclination led, and at night occupied the same bed.

"The lieutenant and two of his men were detailed to convey Maj. Andre to headquarters. While on their way a dispatch informed Lieut. King for the first who his illustrious prisoner was,—that he was no less a personage than the adjutant-general of the British army; that he was suspected of being a spy and holding a treasonable correspondence with Arnold for the surrender of West Point. So soon as the message was received, Maj. Andre eagerly inquired whether Arnold had actually succeeded in making his escape, evincing, seemingly, more interest in Arnold's safety than in his own.

"After they arrived at headquarters, Lieut. King's relations with the prisoner were no less intimate; although closely confined, he remained with him till his execution, even walking with him to the gallows.

"In relating the circumstances afterwards to a friend, Gen. King said that when Andre first caught sight of the fatal gibbet he gave a sudden start, and exclaimed, 'I am reconciled to death, but not to the mode,' and added, 'it will be but a momentary pang.'

"On arriving at the spot the brave and accom-

plished young officer mounted the cart, adjusted the rope to his neck with his own hands, and paid the penalty of his unsuccessful espionage.

"In the year 1817, Gen. King was written to by a friend who desired to know the exact facts in relation to Maj. Andre's capture, etc. The following letter was written by Gen. King in reply, and, although previously solicited for publication, is now for the first given to the public:

"RIDGEFIELD, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1817.

"DEAR SIR: Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> is before me. I have noted the contents and am sorry to express the indignation I feel at the idea of being obliged to translate a foreign language to obtain a true history of any part of our Revolution. The facts, so far as I am acquainted with them, I will state to the best of my ability or recollection. Paulding, Williams, and Van Wort I never saw before, or since, that event. I know nothing about them. The time and place where they stopped Major Andre seems to justify the character you have drawn of them. The truth is, to the imprudence of the man, and not the patriotism of any one, is to be ascribed the capture of Major Andre. I was the first and only officer who had charge of him whilst at the Headquarters of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Light Dragoons, which was then at Esquire Gilbert's in South Salem. He was brought up by an adjutant and four men belonging to the Connecticut militia under the command of Lieut-Col. Jamison from the lines near Tarrytown, a character under the disguised name of John Anderson. He looked somewhat like a reduced gentleman. His small clothes were nankin, with long white top boots, in part, his undress military suit. His coat purple, with gold lace, worn somewhat threadbare, with a small brimmed tarnished beaver on his head. He wore his hair in a *quieu* with long, black band and his clothes somewhat dirty. In this garb I took charge of him. After breakfast my Barber came in to dress me—after which, I requested him to undergo the same operation, which he did.

"When the ribbon was taken from his hair, I observed it full of powder. This circumstance, with others that occurred, induced me to believe I had no ordinary person in charge.

"He requested permission to take the bed, whilst his shirt and small clothes could be washed. I told him, that was needless, for a change was at his service,—which he accepted.

"We were close pent up in a bedroom with a guard at the door and window. There was a spacious yard before the door, which he desired he might be permitted to walk in with me. I accordingly disposed of my guard in such a manner as to prevent an escape. While walking together, he observed, he must make a confidant of somebody and he knew not a more proper person than myself, as I had appeared to befriend a stranger in distress. After settling the point between ourselves, he told me who he was, and gave me a short account of himself from the time he was taken at St. Johns in 1775 to that time. He requested pen and ink and wrote immediately to Gen<sup>l</sup> Washington, declaring who he was. About midnight the express returned with orders from Gen<sup>l</sup> Washington to Col Sheldon to send Major Andre immediately to Headquarters.

"I started with him and before I got to North Salem meeting-house met another express with a letter directed to the Officer who had Major Andre in charge, and which letter directed a circuitous route to Headquarters for fear of re-capture, and gave an account of Arnold's desertion &c—with directions to forward the letter to Col Sheldon. I did so, and before I got to the end of my journey, I was joined by Captain Hoodgers first, and after by Major Talmadge and Captain Rogers. Having given you this clue, I proceed with the major's own story. He said he came up the North river in the sloop of war Vulture for the purpose of seeing a person by flag of truce. That was not however accomplished. Of course he had to come ashore in a skiff, and after he had done his business, the wind was so high, the Dutchman who took him ashore dare not venture to return him on board. The night following the militia had lined the shore, so that no attempt would be made with safety, consequently he was furnished, after changing his clothes, with a continental horse and General Arnold's pass and was to take a route by Peekskill, Crumpound, Pinesbridge, Sing Sing, Tarrytown, &c to New York.

"Nothing occurred to disturb him on his route until he arrived at the last place, except at Crumpound. He told me, his hair stood erect and his heart was in his mouth on meeting Col Samuel B. Webb of our army plump in the face. An acquaintance of his said that Col Stodert knew him and he thought that he was gone but they kept moving along and soon passed each other. He then thought himself past all



danger and while ruminating on his good luck and hairbreadth escapes he was assailed by three hushmen near Tarrytown, who ordered him to stand. He said to them, "I hope gentlemen you belong to the lower party."—"We do," says one—"So do I," says he, "and by the token of this ring and key you will let me pass. I am a British officer on business of importance and must not be detained." One of them took his watch from him and then ordered him to dismount. The moment that was done, he said he found he was mistaken, he must shift his tone. He says, "I am happy gentlemen to find I am mistaken—you belong to the upper party and so do I,—and to convince you of it here is Genl Arnold's pass," handing it to them. "Damn Arnold's pass," said they. "You said you were a British officer. Where is your money?"—"Gentlemen I have none about me," he replied—"You a British Officer with a gold watch and no money! let us search him." They did so, but found none. Says one, "He has got his money in his boots, lets have them off and see." They took off his boots and there they found his papers, but no money. They then examined his saddle, but found none. He said he saw they had such a thirst for money, he would put them in the way to get it, if they would be directed by him. He asked them to name their sum to deliver him at King'sbridge. They answered him in this way, "If we deliver you at King'sbridge, we shall be sent to the sugar-house and you will save your money." He says, "If you will not trust my honor, two of you may stay with me and one shall go with the letter I will write, name your sum." The sum was agreed upon, but I cannot recollect whether it was 500 or 1000 guineas but the latter, I think, was the sum. They held a consultation a considerable time and finally they told him if he wrote, a party would be sent out and take them and then they should all be prisoners. They said they had concluded to take him to the commanding officer on the lines. They did so and retained the watch until Genl Washington sent for them to Tappan, when the watch was restored to Maj. Andre. Thus, you see, had money been at command, after the imprudent conclusion of Maj. Andre, or any security given that the British would have put confidence in, he might have passed on to Sir Henry Clinton's Headquarters with all his papers and Arnold's pass into the bargain. I do not recollect to have seen a true statement of this business in any history that has fallen into my hands. If my memory serves me, Arnold solicited and obtained the command of West Point in consequence of his being an invalid and the reason why his negotiation was not completed by flag of truce, I will state what Genl Washington told the French ambassador, Lucerne. He stated on his route to Hartford, that he dined with Genl Arnold at Haverstraw at Joshua Smith's, where Arnold and Andre met. Genl Arnold shewed him a letter from Genl Robinson directed to Genl Israel Putnam, or Officer commanding West Point requesting an interview by flag on business of the first importance to the United States. Genl Arnold asked Genl Washington if he should go and hear what he had to say, Genl Washington replied that it would be very improper for the Commander in chief of a post to meet anybody himself—he could send a trusty hand if he thought proper. But, he added, I had no more suspicion of Arnold than I had of myself. This accounts for Maj. Andre's failure to negotiate by flag and his subsequent movements. I have thus complied with your request, giving you such facts, viz, what I had from the mouth of Maj. Andre and what I heard Genl Washington tell the French minister soon after the execution of Andre.

"J. Howard King, Esq., has in his possession the chair used by Maj. Andre while a prisoner in the hands of his grandfather, Gen. Joshua King. Maj. Andre in all probability occupied the chair when he penned his celebrated letter to Washington, for by reference to Irving's 'Life of Washington' it will be seen that this letter was written while at South Salem. Then it was that he was for the first made acquainted with the fact that the papers found secreted in his boots had been forwarded to Gen. Washington.

"He immediately sat down and wrote the following lines:

"I beg your Excellency will be persuaded that no alteration in the temper of my mind or apprehensions for my safety induces me to take the step of addressing you; but that it is to secure myself from the imputation of having assumed a mean character for treacherous purposes, or self-interest. It is to vindicate my fame that I speak, and not to solicit security.

"The person in your possession is Maj. John Andre, adjutant-general of the British army.

"The influence of one commander in the army of his adversary is an advantage taken in war. A correspondence for this purpose I held, as confidential (in the present instance) with his Excellency Sir Henry Clinton. To favor it, I agreed to meet upon ground not within the posts of either army, a person who was to give me intelligence. I came up in the 'Vulture' man-of-war for this effect, and was fetched from the shore to the beach. Being there, I was told that the approach of day would prevent my return, and that I must be concealed until the next night. I was in my regimentals and had fairly risked my person.

"Against my stipulation, my intention, and without my knowledge beforehand, I was conducted within one of your posts. Thus was I betrayed into the vile condition of an enemy within your posts.

"Having avowed myself a British officer, I have nothing to reveal but what relates to myself, which is true, on the honor of an officer and a gentleman.

"The request I have made to your Excellency, and I am conscious that I address myself well, is, that in any rigor policy may dictate, a decency of conduct towards me may mark that, though unfortunate, I am branded with nothing dishonorable; as no motive could be mine but the service of my king, and as I was involuntarily an impostor."

"It was here also that, having a talent for caricature, he amused himself by making a ludicrous sketch of himself and his rustic escort under march, and, presenting it to an officer in the room (probably Lieut. King), said gayly, 'This will give you an idea of the style in which I have had the honor to be conducted to my present abode.'

"Although it is eminently fitting, it is none the less an illustration of the mysterious manner in which an overruling Providence arranges the affairs of this life, that the *chair* occupied by the illustrious prisoner of Lieut. King should, by mere accident seemingly, fall into the hands of his grandson, who a hundred years after the event recorded returns to make for himself a summer home on the exact spot where his grandfather had first resided after his marriage, and within a few miles of the house wherein Maj. Andre was confined.

"The parish of Ridgebury is situated in the northern extremity of the town, and is separated from the village of Ridgefield by a gorge or ravine and a range of rugged hills formerly known as the Asproom ledge. So distinct and well defined is this dividing-line that the two parishes present the appearance of two townships. This is the section granted the town as part compensation for the *oblong* which was set off to the State of New York.

"During the Revolutionary war a goodly number of the inhabitants of this part of the town took up arms in defense of the country. Upon the approach of the British troops under Gen. Tryon, on Sunday, April 27, 1777, after the burning of the military stores at Danbury, most of the people fled through the rain that at the time was falling to a hill about one and one-half miles northwest of the present Congregational church. From their position they could distinctly see the regulars, as they were termed, pass through the village. First came a rude body of light-horse, then three pieces of cannon, followed by the main body, said to be two thousand strong, with three pieces of cannon in the rear. As they passed the house of Capt. Timothy Benedict, standing on the



corner of the road leading to Danbury, they fired two pistol-shots at some person looking out at a window, but without doing any harm.

"As the light-horsemen passed through the outskirts of the village on the west they fired at several persons near the New York State line. About 9.30 A.M., and within half an hour after Tryon's departure, Maj.-Gen. Wooster with a detachment of two hundred men pursued him on the road leading to Ridgefield Village.

"It appears that a raid had for some weeks been expected, and in consequence of a rumor circulated to that effect on Sunday, April 13th, just two weeks previous, the inhabitants, after secreting many of their valuables in wells and caves, fled with such articles as they could conveniently carry with them to a place of safety on a neighboring hill.

"The late Hon. Benjamin Lynes, then a lad of some sixteen years, and a resident of Redding, was taken prisoner by Gen. Tryon, and compelled to accompany him several miles towards Danbury, when, on account of his youth, he was set at liberty.

"In September, 1780, Gen. Washington having received a communication from Count de Rochambeau, commander-in-chief of the French forces then at Newport, requesting an interview at Hartford, Conn., he left Verplanck's Point, on the Hudson, on the 18th of the month, passed through Peekskill, and spent the night in Ridgebury, at the hotel of Ensign Samuel Keeler. Mrs. Rebecca Boughton, daughter of Daniel Coley, Esq., then about twelve years of age, often spoke of having seen him and his aid on that occasion.

"On the 23d of May, 1781, Washington again interviewed Count de Rochambeau,—this time at Wethersfield, Conn., for the purpose of settling upon a definite plan of campaign. It is probable that at this interview arrangements were made to remove the French army to a point in the State near the York State line, so that they could at short notice join the American army; for during the following month Rochambeau and Duke de Lauzun (Lauzun-Biron) marched from Newport across the State of Connecticut and took post at Ridgebury.

"During their stay in Ridgebury the main body of Rochambeau's army encamped on the ridge just east of the main street, on land now owned by Samuel S. St. John, Esq. One division took post on a hill about one mile south of the church, near the school-house. At this point the army was about equally distant from Long Island Sound and the Hudson River. Count de Rochambeau and suite are said to have made their headquarters at Ensign Keeler's hotel.

"Several carts loaded with specie were placed, under strong guard, on the premises and near the dwelling of Daniel Coley, Esq., midway between the two divisions. The supplies for the whole French army were transported in carts,—eight hundred and ten in number,—most of them drawn by two pairs of

oxen and a horse, then designated as a five-cattle team.

"The late Thomas Boughton, at that time too young to join the regular army, hired as teamster to the French, driving his father's team. He accompanied the supply-train from Connecticut to Virginia, and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. In after-years he often spoke of the magnificent display made by Rochambeau's army on that occasion.

"On the 2d of July, 1781, Duke de Lauzun left his encampment and marched his forces to East Chester, N. Y., where he arrived on the morning of the 3d, his purpose being the capture or destruction of Delancy's corps of refugees at Morrisania.

"Count de Rochambeau, with the main body of his army, probably broke camp at Ridgebury on the 4th of July, 1781, as they joined Gen. Washington at Dobb's Ferry on the 6th.

"A liberty-pole erected by the Whigs about the commencement of the war was in the night cut down by the Tories. This exasperated the former, who at once raised another, filling it for several feet with spikes and pieces of old iron to protect it against a similar disaster. About the year 1860 some two feet of this pole was dug up by William M. Lynes, Esq. It was in a fair state of preservation, and still contained many of its iron protectors.

"During the war several families residing in Ridgebury improved every opportunity to aid King George in his efforts to subdue the colonies, or, in other and plainer words, were Tories. In some instances they converted their cellars into places of concealment and security, where such as had made themselves particularly obnoxious to the Whigs by their loyalty to the Crown could be safely secreted. These hiding-places were approached by trap-doors made in the floor beneath beds. Through these doors the occupants were supplied with food by the less objectionable Tories. In some instances they were arrested by the government officers and imprisoned. One went back to England, but returned after the war, and was supported by and buried at the expense of the town."

## CHAPTER LXIV.

### RIDGEFIELD (Continued).

Ridgefield List in Ye Year 1746—Ridgefield in 1800—Sketch of the Town in 1855.

THE town gradually increased in wealth and population, and in 1746 it had one hundred and fifty-six taxable inhabitants, and the "listable estate" amounted to nine thousand and one pounds one shilling and sixpence. The following is the list taken from the old town book:

## RIDGEFIELD LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Abbott, Jr., Jonathan.....	55	7	6
Abbott, David.....	22	0	0
Abbott, Daniel.....	22	0	0
Abbott, Lemuel.....	76	14	0
Benedict, Matthew.....	114	2	0
Burt, S.....	53	17	0
Benedict, Timothy.....	75	10	0
Burt, C.....	33	4	0
Brown, John.....	71	2	0
Benedict, Cyril Benj.....	70	1	6
Benedict, Sr., James.....	123	12	0
Benedict, Amos.....	34	0	0
Brooks, Jonathan.....	41	15	0
Bennit, Jr., Samuel.....	47	16	0
Bennit, Ephraim.....	49	0	0
Bennit, Sr., Samuel.....	61	18	0
Burt, Benjamin.....	105	17	0
Brooks, J., Ebenezer.....	7	17	0
Benedict, Daniel.....	47	19	6
Bennett, Gershom.....	7	9	0
Bennett, Abraham.....	43	12	0
Benedict, Jr., James.....	60	12	0
Benedict, John.....	63	0	0
Crawford, Israel.....	35	0	0
Carley, Joseph.....	47	5	0
Cole, Ichabod.....	36	0	0
Cole, Timothy.....	33	0	0
Dancy, Virus.....	106	1	6
Chapman, Albert.....	15	4	6
Eliens, Harmonious.....	24	0	0
Foster, Timothy.....	32	0	0
Foster, Josiah.....	49	14	0
Foster, Jr., Josiah.....	34	0	0
Farquhar, Robert.....	24	0	0
Follate, Joseph.....	51	18	0
Gates, Samuel.....	45	12	0
Gilbert, Samuel.....	11	4	0
Gilbert, Ebenezer.....	28	0	0
Grunman, Ebenezer.....	42	10	0
Hawley, Thomas.....	51	15	0
Hoyt, Benj.....	116	18	0
Hawley, Elijah.....	51	15	0
Hobart, Joseph.....	53	8	0
Hobart, Jr., Joseph.....	86	0	0
Hyatt, Sr., Thomas.....	70	8	0
Hyatt, Jr., Thomas.....	72	7	0
Hyatt, Jr., Benjamin.....	28	0	0
Hawley, Joseph.....	137	0	0
Hawley, Nathan.....	31	7	0
Jones, Jacob.....	77	16	0
Isaacs, Samuel.....	66	0	0
Keeler, Jr., Timothy.....	63	2	0
Keeler, John.....	27	0	0
Keeler, Jonah.....	74	1	0
Keeler, Lot.....	53	5	0
Keeler, Silas.....	35	10	0
Keeler, Martin.....	48	12	0
Keeler, Isaac.....	79	2	9
Keeler, Jr., Joseph.....	66	2	0
Keeler, Samuel.....	64	0	0
Keeler, Jr., Timothy.....	52	17	6
Keeler, Elijah.....	18	0	0
Lobdell, John.....	38	8	0
Lobdell, Caleb.....	64	14	0
Lobdell, Ebenezer.....	29	0	0
Lobdell, Samuel.....	64	12	6
Morehouse, Samuel.....	124	0	6
Marsha I, Gregory.....	47	18	0
Marshall, Jabez.....	37	0	0
Meed, Israel.....	64	4	0
Northrup, Jr., Joseph.....	62	4	0
Northrup, Jr., James.....	40	7	0
Northrup, Eli.....	67	17	3
Northrup, Gabriell.....	123	3	0
Northrup, John.....	58	14	0
Northrup, David.....	89	16	0
Northrup, Sr., James.....	64	3	0
Northrup, Jabez.....	34	2	0
Northrup, Sr., Joseph.....	42	6	6
Northrup, Aaron.....	61	14	0
Northrup, Abraham.....	37	13	6
Northrup, Isaac.....	24	17	0
Northrup, Nathan O.....	0	10	0
Northrup, Jr., Nathan.....	38	0	0
Osborn, Jonathan.....	42	14	0
Osborn, Joseph.....	11	8	0
Osborn, Nathan.....	67	14	0
Osborn, Richard.....	16	5	0
Osborn, Jeremiah.....	40	14	0
Olmstead, Samuel.....	66	12	0
Olmstead, Capt. Richard.....	77	16	0
Olmstead, John.....	36	8	2
Olmstead, Jr., Richard.....	50	10	0
Olmstead, Thomas.....	23	0	0
Olmstead, Ambrose.....	48	8	0
Olmstead, Capt. Daniel.....	78	16	0
Olmstead, Jonathan.....	32	0	0
Olmstead, Stephen.....	28	2	0
Portman, Richard.....	1	10	0
Rockwell, Benjamin.....	64	6	0

	£	s.	d.
Rockwell, Jonathan.....	19	6	0
Rockwell, Thomas.....	106	12	0
Rockwell, John.....	92	16	0
Rockwell, Daniel.....	54	12	0
Rockwell, Jabez.....	44	6	0
Rossguie, Alexander.....	47	2	0
Rossguie, Jacob.....	73	0	0
Rossguie, Abraham.....	37	2	0
Stebbins, Benjamin.....	268	12	6
Smith, Stephen.....	53	16	0
Sherwood, Daniel, Sr.....	100	4	0
Smith, Jonah.....	104	16	0
St. John, Samuel.....	3	8	0
Smith, Gideon.....	163	16	0
Smith, Thomas.....	58	0	0
Storker, Joseph.....	27	0	0
Smith, Ebenezer.....	86	10	6
Smith, Daniel.....	58	13	0
Smith, Job.....	59	6	0
Smith, Samuel.....	143	10	0
Smith, John.....	73	8	6
Smith, Samuel ye 3d.....	67	12	9
Sherwood, Daniel, Jr.....	41	12	0
Smith, Samuel.....	114	9	6

Smith, Samuel ye 4th.	Whitlock, Jonathan.
Seamore, Mathew.	Whitlock, Adams.
Seamore, Mathew, Jr.	Whittson, Thomas.
Street, Timothy.	Whitson, Jr., Benjamin.
St. John, Nathan.	Whitnee, John.
Smith, Isaac.	Whitnee, Richard.
Smith, David.	Whitlock, John.
Smith, Jabez.	Wood, David.
Sherwood, Nathan.	Whitlock, Abraham.
Scott, David.	Wittson, Daniel.
Stebbins, Jr., Benjamin.	Whitnee, Daniel.
Stebbins, Ebenezer.	Wood, Obadiah.
Reivinge, Thomas.	Wood, Jr., Obadiah.
Ventrus, Benjamin.	Tongue, James.
Whitne, Henry.	Barnum, Joshua.
Whitlock, Nathaniel.	Nash, Ebenezer.

The Sum Total of the Listable Estate of ye Town of Ridgefield in ye year 1746 is £9001 1s. 6d.

SAMUEL SMITH, ye 3d.  
JAMES NORTHROP,  
JONATHAN OLMSTEAD,

Trustees.

Received to record January 23, 1746-47, and Recorded p<sup>r</sup> me  
TIM<sup>o</sup> KEELER,  
Register.

## RIDGEFIELD IN 1800.\*

"In consequence of the exchange made by this State with the State of New York, in 1733, for part of Stamford and Greenwich, of what is commonly called the Oblong, one mile and three-quarters in width, the whole length of the first patent was cut off from Ridgefield; the whole town therefore contains but two located Societies, being the first or old society and Ridgebury. The town in its present form is nearly in the common figure of a coffin. The First Society contains about sixteen thousand acres, and Ridgebury Society, in this town, about eleven thousand. The whole township is about fifteen miles in length, the width at south end about three miles and three-quarters; at about one-third of the length northward it is about five miles wide, and at the north end only half a mile; bounded south by Norwalk, east by Redding and part of Danbury, north by Danbury and New Fairfield, and west by the State of New York. There

\* The following is a highly-interesting sketch of Ridgefield as it appeared eighty years ago, and is from the pen of the Rev. Samuel Goodrich, being extracts from a manuscript work in the Hartford Athenæum entitled, "A Statistical Account of Ridgefield, in the County of Fairfield, drawn up by Rev. Samuel Goodrich from Minutes furnished by a Number of his Parishioners, A.D. 1800."



were in the year 1799 ten schools kept in the First Society by masters in as many school-houses built for that purpose, and the number of scholars taken by the visiting committee were four hundred and thirty-three.

"There are three foreigners in the town who are paupers,—viz., two men and one woman. One of the men, named Yabecomb, was from Wales; the other, named Jagger, is an old man about ninety-five years, an Englishman, who served under the Duke of Cumberland at the battle of Culloden in 1745, and was in Flanders with the regiment previous to that battle.

"There is the appearance of sundry Indian graves at a place commonly called Nooricus Ridge. There is one mountain which retains its Indian name, *Asproom* ('high or lofty'), and there are several ponds, as Mammenusquah, Nisopack, Aokeets, and Umperwauge. There are no Indians at present living in the town, except one, who has learned the mason trade and has married a white woman. One died in the town about two years since at a great age, not certainly known, but supposed ninety-six or more.

"The general face of the land is gently swelling ridges, extending from north to south, though there are some broken, abrupt, rocky precipices and a considerable quantity of very stony land, which is yet, and probably will be, reserved to grow wood and timber upon. The soils on the ridges are generally composed of loam and clay, and there is a considerable quantity in some parts of the town of a light limestone soil, but little of gravel. The lowlands, or swamps, of which there are several, are generally a deep black soil, made by the fallen timber and leaves and the wash from the ridges, but they suffer much for the want of drainage. The soil was originally very fertile and produced plenty of excellent wheat, which has generally failed since the appearance of the Hessian fly, though now and then it does well in some favorite spots.

"It at present produces good rye and Indian corn,—a considerable more than for the consumption of the inhabitants,—flax, large quantities of oats, buckwheat, beans, and peas. Onions grow as well in some open gardens as in any part of the State. The land is very good for grass.

"The middle of the township lies about fourteen miles from the landing at Norwalk, and is equally distant on the highest land between the rivers Hudson and Ausatonuck, and in particular the hill or ridge lying west of and near the town street is by way of eminence called the High Ridge (Indian name, *Candoto*), from which, in clear weather, the mountains west of the Hudson, and the West Rock, near New Haven, may be clearly seen, and the Sound for fifty or sixty miles. The waters rise at the foot of this hill and run in different directions, discharging into the Sound at Fairfield, Norwalk, and Stamford, and into the river Hudson by the river Titicus, and through the river Croton. The waters also which

rise in this town discharge into the Ousetonuck at the great falls in New Milford. There are, therefore, no streams of any considerable magnitude or consequence before they leave the limits of the town, and thus all are frequently during the summer months too small to carry mills. There are, however, some ponds in the town that have by improvement been made sufficient to answer the necessities of the inhabitants and more. The town, being a hilly country, furnishes a number of excellent small springs of water, which is light or heavy according to the soil from which they flow. Some of the springs have in the course of ten or fifteen years changed the quality of the water, and some few wells, from what cause is not certainly known; it is, however, in one well, attributed to its being not longused. The most remarkable spring is in the southerly part of the town, and is commonly called Silver Spring; the water is very cold and heavy. It discharges about one-fourth water sufficient to carry a grist-mill, and is not materially affected by the freshet or drought. The wells on the height of the ridges are commonly from thirty to forty feet, those in the valleys from twelve to thirty; but in time of severe drought many wells fail of water. There have been but two instances of aqueducts in the town, and those only to supply a single family each, which experiments have been made in the course of this summer, and are likely to answer their design. The expense by the rod is about four shillings. There are a great many small streams in all parts of the town, but most of them in a dry season fail, except near the springs which produce them.

"There are in most of the mountains, amongst the rocks and stones, appearances of sulphur and iron. There has not yet any bed been opened that promises to pay the expenses of working. There has been several attempts to dig after the precious metals, and a considerable quantity of the ore has been carried away; but to collect any quantity of the metal has proved impracticable. There are several beds of limestone of good qualities, and some quarries of a grayish and sky-blue stone which is serviceable in building, but no freestone.

"The original timber consisted of the several sorts of walnuts and oaks. Butternuts are plenty, with maple, beech, ash, dogwood, elm, sassafras, and a number of shrubs, as whortleberries, bayberries, etc., stately spruce-trees. In the first settlement of the town the inhabitants annually burnt over the high rough land for the benefit of the wild feed that grew on them, which was a great injury to the old trees and entirely prevented the young from growing; but since that practice has ceased our rough lands have a most beautiful thriving young growth coming on, which promises plenty of timber and fuel. There is a considerable number of the sugar-maple trees growing, but no more sugar made than is consumed by the makers. The common method of perforating the tree

is either with a twist-auger or a narrow chisel. Our woods yield lumber for our maple-tubs, etc., and some small quantity for exportation, as heading, staves, and hoops. It is probable with prudent management this town will produce sufficient wood for fuel for the inhabitants for a century to come. The price of wood for fuel has not yet been more in the street than one dollar per load, containing half a cord. There have been several forges set up in the town and near it within a few years past, but it is probable that they will soon cease on account of the extraordinary consumption of wood, having in a short time more than doubled the price of woodland in the extremities of the town. There are five grist-mills in the town, two fulling-mills, and several saw-mills carried by water, which answer for the inhabitants, but carry on no business on an extensive scale.

"The price of land has gradually increased since the first improvement, but is not so high as in the neighboring towns, for the reasons that there are no gatherings of the people for or on account of the public business in the town, and our rivers are so small, being at the head of them, that no water-works can be carried on to profit on an extensive plan. There are but few mechanics and manufacturers, traders, or men in the learned professions, to the number of people who follow agriculture, and most of the inhabitants raise provisions for their own consumption and some for exportation, for which reason the price of labor or provisions is not generally so high as it is in more populous places.

"The people generally manufacture their own linen and woollen cloths in their families, using all their wool and most of their flax.

"It is supposed that the quantity of flaxseed annually sent from this town is from five hundred to one thousand bushels, according as the season is more or less productive. The old people love turnips yet better than potatoes, and there are considerable quantities used every year,—from two thousand to four thousand bushels a year; they make good feed for sheep and cows that give milk. Potatoes are very much used, and increased attempts are making to raise them for market; but the distance from market is so great that it is not expected the practice will be general.

"Our teams used for transportation and the several branches of industry and husbandry have been generally composed of oxen and horses together, and our vehicles for carriage have been carts and sleds; but within a few years past wagons drawn by horses have greatly multiplied, and the cart, harrow, and plow are more frequently drawn by oxen alone. The increase of cattle is doubtless an advantage to so rough a country as ours, and the increase of horses, except for sale and exportation, a disadvantage to us, if not to every country.

"Pleasure-sleighs and those for lumber have greatly multiplied since the Revolution. Our grain

is universally thrashed with flails and cleaned with a fan and riddled.

"The town being originally much covered with chestnut timber, that was for about fifty years chiefly used for fencing; since that time the post fences have gradually been replaced with stone, and at present there is but very little timber cut for that purpose except for posts and bars, and there is probably movable stone enough for the purpose of fencing.

"This town, by the mode of laying it out at first, was cut into small pieces or tracts of land, and, the people being generally husbandmen, scarce any man has more than he and his family want to improve, and of course we have no tenanted lands. There are some people who crop it, as is termed with us,—that is, plow and sow for a certain share; the common custom is to the labor two-thirds and to the land one.

"There has been for the last forty years a constant emigration of the people born in the town to the different parts of the United States.

"In our Revolution many of our young people left the town, and some of them now reside in the British dominion; some have returned, and several are dead. The people of this place have hitherto been so favored with the grace of God that there has never been one convicted of any crime punishable by laws of the land with death.

"There have been two instances of suicide, natives in the prime of life, one male and the other female; both were married and had families.

"Until about the year 1760 there was a considerable number of good sheep in the town, and they were kept by a shepherd in the summer months, and regularly twice in the week let to the highest bidder to lay on his plow-land during the night season, which method of manuring caused the worn land to produce excellent crops of wheat of the best quality, and great quantities of the land belonging to the proprietors was kept for the sheep to feed upon; but about that time (1760) the proprietors agreed to divide their interests in said several lands, and they were soon fenced up, since which time the sheep have gradually decreased, and would have become extinct but for the encouragement and protection of the Legislature.

"There are probably about half as many sheep in the town as there are people. It would be but a venture to guess the number of swine; there may be not far from fourteen hundred or fifteen hundred, and there are from one hundred and fifty to two hundred barrels of pork annually carried out of the town, and about as much beef. There may be from two hundred and fifty to three hundred firkins of butter exported and half the weight of cheese (nine thousand), and about one hundred head of fat cattle driven to market on their legs to New York.

"The making of butter has much increased within twenty years. As it can now be carried fresh to New York market, the price is more than three times than it was then.



"There is a good tan-work in this town, in which about fifty vats are occupied. It has, however, been the custom for almost all the farmers to tan their own leather, and do many other parts of mechanical business. There is also a hatting-manufactory, in which about five or six workmen are employed to good advantage; it furnishes the inhabitants with hats and sends abroad work to a handsome amount. There are likewise two boot- and shoe-factories, which will probably send abroad five thousand pairs of boots and shoes; the materials they work are chiefly brought from New York or abroad. Cabinet-work is done in town, for the inhabitants and some of the neighboring towns. It has already been observed that the inhabitants manufacture all the wool they raise, and a considerable quantity is brought from abroad.

"A large quantity of ducking (not for sale, but for the Southern market), perhaps three thousand yards, at one shilling per yard, is annually made and sold. The great quantities of cotton cloths, as muslins, etc., imported and sold at a low price, has a tendency to discourage making American cloth, though many make linen and exchange with the shopkeepers for cotton goods.

"There are no breweries in this town, and the general custom, which used formerly be practiced, of making small-beer for family use, is almost entirely neglected, except for sake of the lees to make bread.

"There were formerly deer, bears, wolves, panthers, and wild-cats in our woods, and beaver in our ponds, but they are now extinct. We have red and gray foxes, some few raccoons, woodchucks, gray and striped squirrels. There were at the first settlement great numbers of rattlesnakes and snakes equally poisonous, but they are almost destroyed. One method for their destruction was the turning of swine among them, which devoured them. About the year 1780, and for several succeeding years, the canker-worm destroyed our apples and apple-trees in many of our orchards to a very alarming degree; but about the year 1794, in the spring season, soon after the leaves and worms made their appearance, there came into the orchards several flocks of uncommon birds, a little larger than a blue-bird, of a brown color, and picked the worms from the trees, as was also the case with a number of flocks of pigeons, which greatly checked them, and the frost which happens sometimes the latter end of May entirely destroyed them, so we have not one canker-worm since that has been heard of.

"Respecting the bird, it has never been seen with us since, except it be the one that appears in the winter, which, if it is the same, is considerably changed in its color.

"There were a few barberry-bushes in town that were for a long time kept for medical purposes; the great blast of wheat about the year 1775 induced people totally to destroy them.

"It is an undoubted fact that a bunch of those bushes, not more than an armful, blasted several fields

of wheat, so as totally to destroy some and much injure others, at half a mile's distance. As to the cause of their blasting, it is conjectured that it is their sourness, as it is observed that wheat delights in light sweet soils, which naturally produces the white and red clover. It has also been observed that wheat-fields lying near swamps producing cranberries have been blasted by them; but it is necessary, in order to produce this destructive effect, that the weather be moist and the wind blow in a direction from the bushes or swamp to the fields of grain, when the noxious effluvia which the bushes emit fills the air, and being of such a nature that as soon as it comes in contact with the straw it poisons it, and destroys it so as to afford no nourishment to the kernel.

"There are two places or houses built for public worship in the First Society and two in Ridgebury, one of which, the Episcopal, has gone to decay. One of the houses in the old society is used by the Congregationalists, and the other by the Episcopalians. Mr. Thomas Hawley, from Northampton, was settled in the first society soon after the town was settled, in the year 1714, and was their first pastor and continued till the year 1739, when he deceased in the prime of life. He was an able divine, a man of great frankness and sociability, an excellent scholar, and was very useful to the town, not only as a minister but in a civil capacity, serving them as their town clerk, and doing almost all their writing business until his death.

"As an encouragement for his settlement in the ministry, in the then infant state of the town, he received one twenty-ninth part of the land to himself and his heirs. Some of his descendants are now living in the town. His salary was small at first, but increased gradually as the people became more able; but it may be remarked as a capital error in the original proprietors of this town, as in many others, in giving away the right of soil. It is probable that had what was given to Mr. Hawley been appropriated to the ministry and for religious purposes, that the interest at this day would have defrayed all the expenses of the society. Some may perhaps think it best, and that it endears a people and their minister supporting him by tax. Mr. Jonathan Ingersoll succeeded Mr. Hawley in the ministry. He was from Milford. He was ordained in the year 1740, and fulfilled for many years his duty with ability, ingrafting himself in the affections of the people, and was universally beloved and esteemed. Some years before his decease a shock of the palsy weakened his body and mind, but he continued to do his duty in office until near the time of his death, which was on 2<sup>d</sup> October, 1778, after which time there was a succession of temporary preachers until 6<sup>th</sup> of July, 1786, when Mr. Samuel Goodrich, of Durham, was ordained, and is the present pastor. It is worthy of remark that the people in this town have always been attached to their ministers, and great harmony and peace has subsisted between them.

"The Episcopalians built their first house of public worship in the year 1740; they never had a clergyman to themselves steadily, but have successively employed a number,—first, Mr. Caner, then Mr. Beach, Mr. Fowle, Mr. Townsend, Mr. De Lancey, Dr. Perry, and lastly Mr. Butler, who is esteemed a worthy man and gives good satisfaction to his people.

"Ridgebury Society was set off in the year 1763, and Mr. Samuel Camp was ordained to the pastorate care of the Congregational Church in the year, who still continues their minister. He is a man of a feeble bodily constitution, a critical scholar, a sound and orthodox divine, retentive memory, and great logical abilities. There has been in years past a number of people who call themselves Baptists, who showed much zeal in religion and met in private houses for worship. At the present they are much on the decline. A few have joined the Methodists, whose preachers, though very zealous, have made but little impression on the minds of the people in this town. Almost all the people attend public worship with the Congregationalists or Episcopalians, and there is and has been for a long time past the utmost harmony and friendship prevailing between the several denominations of Christians here, who frequently worship together and evince the efficacy of that spirit whose leading character is charity. A spirit of litigation has also greatly abated, and it is worthy of remark that at a late session of the County Court for this county there was not one man from the town during the whole term except one of the judges, and we never had any man living in the town who was a lawyer by profession.

"The church under the care of Mr. Goodrich consists of one hundred and thirty members.

"The whole number of inhabitants belonging to the congregations is eight hundred and fifty.

"There have been seventeen hundred and fifty baptisms since the year 1743, and one hundred and seventy pay taxes to the Congregationalists.

"About the time that Paine's 'Age of Reason' came abroad, Infidelity presented itself to view, and, like Milton's description of Death, 'Black it stood as night, fierce as ten furies, terrible as hell;' the horror of its features digusted the people to such a degree that it has not yet had one advocate in this town.

"The salary given Mr. Ingersoll was seventy-five pounds; to Mr. Goodrich one hundred and fifteen pounds and twenty cords of wood annually. The list of the town, fifty-one thousand doll<sup>s</sup>; of the First Society twenty-two thousand doll<sup>s</sup>. Public worship is here maintained by tax only.

"Schools in this town are maintained, 1<sup>st</sup>, in part by the produce of the sale of lands in Litchfield County by the State; and appropriated to the school; 2<sup>d</sup>, by the produce of an excise duty laid on rum and tea, but the act, proving unpopular, was never carried into general execution. The money paid in by this town was returned and appropriated for the benefit of

schools. 3<sup>d</sup>, by the forty shillings on the thousand, as it is commonly called; 4<sup>th</sup>, by the produce of the sales of the Western lands; and lastly, in case of deficiency, by a tax on the scholars.

"The wages given to masters is from fifteen to eight dollars per month, according to number of scholars and the ability of the teachers. There is taught in our schools reading, writing, arithmetic, and grammar, some catechising, and a little manners. It has been remarked that since the visiting committee have attended to their duty, our schools are under better regulation and our scholars make greater proficiency. There are a number of young people who have been taught in our schools who have gone into other parts and taught with applause. Board for children is from seventy-five cents to one dollar per week, and tuition from fifty cents to one dollar per quarter.

"The number of poor who receive aid from the town do not exceed ten or twelve, of which number not more than two or three receive their whole support. Those that do are foreigners, being those mentioned before, one of which was a laborer and the other a soldier who wrought jet-work in cedar since he has been in this country till he was near eighty years old, and he will to this day, being in the ninety-sixth year of his age, sing a martial air he learned in Flanders and cry 'God save King George!' Those who receive partial aid do some work, and receive some assistance from relations and particular friends. The old soldier has been bid off to the lowest bidder for several years from seven shillings sixpence to six shillings per week. We have no poor that are chargeable but what became so by bodily imbecility.

"We had the last year not more than five taverns in town, though in years past we have had double that number; they are not much frequented by the inhabitants of the town. The grog-drinkers and brandy-tiplers have found a way to be supplied at a cheaper rate than they can obtain at licensed inns, and it is necessary that they should be prudent.

"In regard to climate, the height of our situation in the atmosphere and the descent of the land to the north renders the air, though cold, exceedingly salubrious. Different disorders have prevailed in different seasons, owing to different causes. The main street in the town, being on the highest land or near it, has ever been healthy; near the lowlands and ponds in the skirts of the town the fever and ague and other fevers have prevailed. There are some instances of nervous fevers almost every year, which generally proves mortal. The dysentery sometimes visits us, but has never made great ravages. Symptoms of putridity have appeared in some fevers, and have in some instances proved suddenly fatal, yet never been alarming. The smallpox has been familiar, and has in a great measure left its terrors since the practice of inoculation, which has been generally adopted by almost all the inhabitants. Three or four hundred have had it in a season, out of which



number from one to two have died; it is a very small expense. People here generally marry young, and are very prolific; in six families a number of years since, all living in one neighborhood, there were seventy-five children.

"The number of births greatly exceed the number of deaths. There may have been four thousand since the settlement of the town. The annual number of deaths, on an average for ten years past, will not exceed twenty,—about one in a hundred of the inhabitants. There has been one instance of a man who deceased in town one hundred and two years old; he was born at Eastchester, in the State of New York, and came into this town in his forty-fourth year, by name Richard Osborn. He was a very religious man, slender in body, had been a justice of the peace and deacon in the prime of life, was temperate in his habits and diet, but animated in his passions. There have been many instances of persons living over ninety, and great numbers who survive eighty, and considerably active. There are now living in the town three over ninety, and twenty who are eighty or more.

"In October a remarkable thunder-gust, tornado, or hurricane passed through the northerly part of this society and the south part of Ridgebury, destroying everything in its course in this and the neighboring towns. Eleven buildings were nearly destroyed, and three or four entirely. Several dwelling-houses were damaged in a surprising manner, but none of the inhabitants were destroyed or very materially injured.

"Our elevated situation occasions the earth to be covered much deeper and longer with snow than the neighboring towns, but we are not exposed to inundations, being so near the head of the streams. There have been for several years great swarms of insects (especially the rosebug) moving to the northward and northwest; some have supposed them to be the Hessian fly. For several years past a sort of caterpillar worm has prevailed upon the trees, both fruit-trees and forest-trees. In the latter part of summer, especially, the wild cherry-tree, many of the red and black ash-trees have been destroyed in the swamps and low grounds, and if not checked in their progress by Providence threaten wide destruction.

"Our little town has not much to boast of superior genius or intellects, though nature has been by no means niggardly to us in the distribution of her powers. The natives of the town are undoubtedly endowed with as good natural capacities as any people on earth, though few of them have any great degree of acquired learning. The person who happens to be most employed by his fellow-freemen in public business soon claims and has the most notice. And we have many persons who never mounted the public stage of business, who only want to be called up and employed to exhibit talents which by experience would shine.

"Our various mechanics and artificers improve

gradually in the beauty if not in the strength of their various manufactures. In regard to the vices of the people, though it might be prudent to draw a curtain to hide them, yet they will in one occasion or another become public. Robbing orchards and gardens in the season of fruit is the most prevalent, and other indulgence of fleshly appetites frequently cause repentance. The amusements commonly in vogue are ball, chess, quoits, and dancing. The people, by frequently stirring up, are attentive to their civil privileges and religious institutions. In liberality the people are not deficient, and have always furnished their quota for the public service. We have a small library of about one hundred and fifty volumes, established about five years since, and annually augmented."

#### SKETCH OF RIDGEFIELD IN 1855.

The following racy sketch of this town is from the pen of S. C. Goodrich, familiarly known as "Peter Parley," being a letter addressed to his brother:

"DEAR BROTHER,—I greatly regret that you could not continue your journey with us to Ridgefield. The weather was fine, and the season—crowning the earth with abundance—made every landscape beautiful. The woods which, as you know, abound along the route spread their intense shade over the land, thus mitigating the heat of the unclouded sun, and the frequent fields of Indian corn, with their long leaves and silken tassels, all fluttering in the breeze, gave a sort of holiday look to the scene. Of all agricultural crops this is the most picturesque and the most imposing. Let others magniloquize upon the vineyards of France and the olive-orchards of Italy: I parted with these scenes a few weeks since, and do not hesitate to say that, as a spectacle to the eye, our maize-fields are infinitely superior. Leaving New Haven by rail, we reached Norwalk in forty minutes; an hour after, we were at Ridgefield, having journeyed three miles by stage, from the Danbury and Norwalk station. Thus we performed a journey in less than two hours which cost a day's travel in our boyhood. You can well comprehend that we had a good time of it.

"As I approached the town I began to recognize localities,—roads, houses, and hills. I was in a glow of excitement, for it was nineteen years since I had visited the place, and there was a mixture of the strange and familiar all around which was at once pleasing and painful,—pleasing because it revived many cherished memories, and painful because it suggested that time is a tomb into which man and his works are ever plunging, like a stream flowing on only to disappear in an unfathomable gulf. The bright village of to-day is in fact the graveyard of the past generation. I was here like one risen from the dead, and come to look on the place which I once knew, but which I shall soon know no more. All seemed to me a kind of dream, half real and half imaginary,—now presenting some familiar and cherished remembrance, and now mocking me with strange and baffling revelations.

"Nevertheless, all things considered, I enjoyed the scene. The physiognomy of the town—a swelling mound of hills rising in a crescent of mountains—was all as I had learned it by heart in childhood. To the north the bending line of Aspen Ledge, to the east the Redding Hills, to the west the Highlands of the Hudson, to the south the sea of forest-crowned undulations sloping down to Long Island Sound, all in a cool but brilliant August sun, and all tinted with intense verdure, presented a scene to me—the pilgrim returning to his birthplace—of unrivaled interest.

"In general, the whole country seemed embowered in trees,—fresh and exuberant, and strongly in contrast with the wornout lands of the old countries,—with openings here and there upon hillside and valley, consisting of green meadow, or pasture, or blooming maize, or perhaps patches of yellow stubble, for the smaller grains had been already harvested. As I came within the precincts of the village I could not but admire the fields, as well on account of their evident richness of soil and excellent cultivation as their general neatness. The town, you know, was originally blessed or cursed, as the case may be, by a most abundant crop of stones. To clear the land of these was the Herculean task of the early settlers. For many generations they usurped the soil,

obstructed the plow, dulled the scythe, and now, after ages of labor, they are formed into sturdy walls, neatly laid, giving to the entire landscape an aspect not only of comfort, but refinement. In our day these were rudely piled up with frequent breaches,—the tempting openings for vagrant sheep and loose yearling cattle. No better evidence can be afforded of a general process and improvement than that most of these have been relaid with something of the art and nicety of mason-work. The Mat Olmsteads and Azor Smiths of the past half-century, who laid stone wall for Granther Baldwin and Gen. King at a dollar a rod, would be amazed to see that the succeeding generation has thrown their works aside in disgust and replaced them by constructions having somewhat of the solidity and exactitude of fortifications.

"As we passed along I observed that nearly all the houses which existed when we were boys had given place to new, and for the most part larger, structures. Here and there was an original dwelling. A general change had passed over the land: swamps had been converted into meadows; streams that sprawled across the path now flowed tidily beneath stone bridges; little shallow ponds, the haunts of muddling geese, had disappeared; the undergrowth of woods and copses had been cleared away; briars and brambles once thick with fruit or abounding in birds' nests, or perchance the hiding-place of snakes, had been extirpated, and corn and potatoes flourished in their stead. In one place where I recollected to have unearthed a woodchuck I saw a garden, and among its redolent pumpkins, cucumbers, and cabbages was a row of tomatoes,—a plant which in my early days was only known as a strange exotic producing little red balls which bore the enticing name of love-apples.

"At last we came into the main street. This is the same,—yet not the same. All the distances seemed less than as I had marked them in my memory. From the meeting-house to 'Squire Keeler's'—which I thought to be a quarter of a mile—it is but thirty rods. At the same time the undulations seemed more frequent and abrupt. The old houses are mostly gone, and more sumptuous ones are in their place. A certain neatness and elegance have succeeded to the plain and primitive characteristics of other days.

"The street, on the whole, is one of the most beautiful I know of. It is more than a mile in length and a hundred and twenty feet in width, ornamented with two continuous lines of trees,—elms, sycamores, and sugar-maples,—save only here and there a brief interval. Some of these, in front of the more imposing houses, are truly majestic. The entire street is carpeted with a green sod soft as velvet to the feet. The high-road runs in the middle, with a footwalk on either side. These passages are not paved, but are covered with gravel, and so neatly cut that they appear like pleasure-grounds. All is so bright and so tasteful that you might expect to see some imperative sign-board warning you, on peril of the law, not to tread upon the grass. Yet, as I learned, all this embellishment flows spontaneously from the choice of the people, and not from police regulations.

"The general aspect of the street, however, let me observe, is not sumptuous, like Hartford and New Haven, or even Fairfield. There is still a certain quaintness and primness about the place. Here and there you see old respectable houses, showing the dim vestiges of ancient paint, while the contiguous gardens, groaning with rich fruits and vegetables, and the stately rows of elms in front, declare it to be taste, and not necessity, that thus cherishes the reverend hue of unsophisticated clapboards and the venerable rust with which time baptizes unprotected shingles. There is a stillness about the town which lends favor to this characteristic of studied rusticity. There is no fast driving, no shouting, no railroad whistle; for you must remember that the station of the Danbury and Norwalk line is three miles off. Few people are to be seen in the streets, and those who do appear move with an air of leisure and tranquillity. It would seem dull and almost melancholy were it not that all around is so thrifty, so tidy, so really comfortable. Houses, white or brown, with green window-blinds, and embowered in lilacs and fruit-trees, and seen beneath the arches of wide-spreading American elms,—the finest of the whole elm family,—can never be otherwise than cheerful.

"I went, of course, to the old Keeler's tavern for lodgings. The sign was gone, and though the house retained its ancient form, it was so neatly painted, and all around had such a look of repose, that I feared it had ceased from its ancient hospitalities. I, however, went to the door and rapped: it was locked. A bad sign, thought I. Ere long, however, a respectable dame appeared, turned the key, and let me in. It was Anne Keeler converted into Mrs. Ressequie. Had it been her mother, I should only have said that she had grown a little taller and more dignified; as it was, the idea crossed my mind,

But it seems to me that her matronly graces fully compensated for all she might have lost of earlier pretensions. She looked at me gazingly, as if she half knew me. She was about inquiring my name, when I suggested that she might call me Smith, and begged her to tell me if she could give me lodgings. She replied that they did sometimes receive strangers, though they did not keep a tavern. I afterwards heard that the family was rich, and that it was courtesy more than cash which induced them to keep up the old habit of the place. I was kindly received, though at first as a stranger. After a short time I was found out, and welcomed as a friend. What fragrant butter, what white bread, what delicious succotash, they gave me! And as to the milk, it was just such as cows gave fifty years ago, and upon the slightest encouragement positively produced an envelope of golden cream. Alas! how cows have degenerated, especially in the great cities of the earth! In New York, London, or Paris, it is all the same. He who wishes to eat with a relish that the Astor House or Morley's or the Grand Hotel du Louvre cannot give should go to Ridgefield and put himself under the care of Mrs. Ressequie. If he be served, as I was, by her daughter,—a thing, however, that I cannot promise,—he may enjoy a lively and pleasant conversation while he discusses his meal. When you go there—as go you must—do not forget to order ham and eggs, for they are such as we ate in our childhood, not a mass of red leather steeped in grease and covered with a tough, bluish gum, as is now the fashion in these things. As to blackberry- and huckleberry-pies and similar good gifts, you will find them just such as our mother made fifty years ago, when these bounties of Providence were included in the prayer, 'Give us this day our daily bread,' and were a worthy answer to such a petition.

"Immediately after my arrival, waiting only to deposit my carpet-bag in my room, I set out to visit our house,—our former home. As I came near I saw that the footpath we had worn across Deacon Benedict's lot to shorten the distance from the street had given place to a highway. I entered this, and was approaching the object of my visit, when I was overtaken by a young man walking with a long stride.

"'Whose house is this on the hill?' said I.

"'It is mine,' was the reply.

"'Indeed! You must have a fine view from your upper windows?'

"'Yes, the view is famous, and the house itself is somewhat noted. It was built by Peter Parley, and here he lived many years.'

"By this time we had reached the place. The stranger, after I had looked at the premises a few moments said, 'Perhaps you would like to ascend the hill to the north, from which the view is very extensive?' I gave assent, and we went thither, soon finding ourselves in the old Keeler lot, on the top of High Ridge, so familiar to our youthful rambles. With all the vividness of my early recollections, I really had no adequate idea of the beauty of the scene as now presented to us. The circle of view was indeed less than I had imagined, for I once thought it immense, but the objects were more striking, more vividly tinted, more picturesquely disposed. Long Island Sound, which extends for sixty miles before the eye, except as it is hidden here and there by intercepting hills and trees, seems nearer than it did to the inexperienced vision of my childhood. I could distinguish the different kinds of vessels on the water and the island itself, stretched out in a long blue line beyond, presented its cloud-like tissues of forest, alternating with patches of yellow sandbanks along the shore. I could distinctly indicate the site of Norwalk, and the spires peering through the mass of trees to the eastward spoke suggestive of the beautiful towns and villages that line the northern banks of the Sound.

"West Mountain seemed nearer and less imposing than I had imagined, but the sea of mountains beyond, terminating in the Highlands of the Hudson, more than fulfilled my remembrances. The scene has no abrupt and startling grandeur from this point of view, but in that kind of beauty which consists in blending the peace and quietude of cultivated valleys with the sublimity of mountains—all in the enchantment of distance, and all mantled with the vivid hues of summer—it equals the fairest scenes in Italy. The deep-blue velvet which is thrown over our Northern landscapes differs, indeed, from the reddish purple of the Apennines, but it is in all things as poetic, as stimulating to the imagination, as available to the painter, as suggestive to the poet,—to all, indeed, who feel and appreciate the truly beautiful. As I gazed upon this lovely scene, how did the memories of early days come back clothed in the romance of childhood! I had then no idea of distance beyond these mountains, no conception of landscape beauty, no idea of picturesque sublimity, that surpassed what was familiar to me here. Indeed, all my first measures of grandeur and beauty in nature were formed upon these glorious models now before me. How often have I stood upon this mound at the approach of sunset and gazed in speechless wonder upon yonder mountains, glowing as they were in the flood of sapphire which

"'Fanny was younger once than she is now!'



was then poured upon them? I pray you to excuse my constant reference to foreign lands, but as I have just left them, it is natural to make comparisons with these objects familiar to my childhood. Let me say, then, that no sunsets surpass our own in splendor, nor have I seen anything to equal them in brilliancy when the retiring orb of day, as if to shed glory upon his departure, pours his rays upon the outstretched fleece of clouds, and these reflect their blaze upon the mountain landscape below. Then for a brief space, as you know, the heavens seem a canopy of burnished gold, and the earth beneath a kingdom robed in purple velvet and crowned with rubies and sapphires. In Italy the sunset sky has its enchantments, but while these perhaps surpass the same exhibitions of nature in our climate in respect to a certain tranquil softness and exquisite blending of rainbow hues, they are still inferior in gorgeous splendor to the scenes which I have been describing.

"Having taken a hasty but earnest view of the grand panorama of High Ridge, I returned with my guide to the house. I feigned thirst and begged a glass of water. This was readily given, and I tasted—more the nectar of our 'old oaken bucket.' After glancing round and making a few observations, I thanked my attendant—who, by the way, had no suspicion that I knew the place as well as himself—for his courtesy, and took my leave and returned to the hotel. My emotions upon this visiting our early home, so full of the liveliest associations, it would be utterly in vain to attempt to describe.

"It was now Saturday evening, which I spent quietly with my host and his family in talking over old times. In the morning I rose early, for it seemed a sin to waste such hours as these. Standing on the northern stoop of the Keeler tavern, I looked upon the beautiful landscape bounded by the Redding and Danbury hills and saw the glorious march of morning over the scene. The weather was clear, and the serenity of the Sabbath was in the breadth of nature; even the breezy morn soon subsided into stillness, as if the voice of God hallowed it. The birds seemed to know that He rested on this seventh day. As the sun came up the fluttering leaves sank into repose; no voice of lowing herd or baying hound broke over the hills. All was silent and motionless in the street; everything seemed to feel that solemn command, 'Remember the Sabbath day,'—save only a strapping Shanghai cock in Mr. Lewis' yard over the way, which strutted, crowed, and chased the hens like a very Mormon, evidently caring for none of these things.

"At nine o'clock the first bell rang. The first stroke told me that it was not the same to which my childish ear was accustomed. Upon inquiry, I learned that on a certain Fourth of July some ten years back it was rung so merrily as to be cracked! Had any one asked me who was likely to have done this, I should have said J . . . . H . . . . , and he indeed it was. With a good-will, however, quite characteristic of him, he caused it to be replaced by a new one, and, though its tone is deeper and even more melodious than the old one, I felt disappointed, and a shade of sadness came over my mind.

"On going into the meeting-house, I found it to be totally changed. The pulpit, instead of being at the west, was at the north, and the galleries had been transposed to suit this new arrangement. The Puritan pine color of the pews had given way to white paint. The good old oaken floor was covered by Kidderminster carpets. The choir, instead of being distributed into four parts and placed on different sides of the gallery, was all packed together in a heap. Instead of Deacon Hawley for chorister, there was a young man who 'knew not Joseph,' and in lieu of a pitch-pipe to give the key there was a melodeon to lead the choir. Instead of 'Mear,' 'Old Hundred,' 'Aylesbury,' 'Montgomery,' or 'New Durham,'—songs full of piety and pathos, and in which the whole congregation simultaneously joined,—they sang modern tunes whose name and measure I did not know. The performance was artistic and skillful, but it seemed to lack the unction of a hearty echo from the bosom of the assembly, as was the saintly custom among the fathers.

"The congregation was no less changed than the place itself, for, remember, I had not been in this building for five and forty years. The patriarchs of my boyhood—Deacon Olmstead, Deacon Benedict, Deacon Hawley, Granther Baldwin, 'Squire Keeler, Nathan Smith—were not there, nor were their types in their places. A few gray-haired men I saw having dim and fleeting semblances to these Anakim of my youthful imagination, but who they were I could not tell. I afterwards heard that most of them were the companions of my early days, now grown to manhood and bearing the impress of their parentage blent with vestiges of their youth, thus at once inciting and baffling my curiosity. For the most part, however, the assembly was composed of a new generation. In several instances I felt a strange sort of embarrassment as to whether the person I saw was the boy grown up or the papa grown down. It produces a very odd confusion of ideas to realize in an old man before you the playmate of your childhood whom you had forgotten for forty

years, but who in that time has been trudging along in life at the same pace as yourself. At first everything looked belittled, degenerated in dimensions. The house seemed small, the galleries low, the pulpit mean. The people appeared Lilliputian. These impressions soon passed off, and I began to recognize a few persons around me. William Hawley is just as you would have expected,—his hair white as snow, his countenance mild, refined, cheerful, though marked with threescore and ten. Irad Hawley, though he has his residence in 'Fifth Avenue,' spends his summers here, and begins now to look like his father the deacon. I thought I discovered Gen. King in an erect and martial form in one of the pews, but it proved to be his son Joshua, who now occupies the family mansion and worthily stands at the head of the house. As I came out of church I was greeted with many hearty shakes of the hand, but in most cases I could with difficulty remember those who thus claimed recognition.

"The discoursè was very clever and thoroughly orthodox, as it should be, for I found that the Confession and Covenant of 1750 were still in force, just as our father left them. Even the Eleventh Article stands as it was: 'You believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, and a day of judgment, in which God will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ; when the righteous shall be acquitted and received to eternal life, and the wicked shall be sentenced to everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.'

"I was, I confess, not a little shocked to hear the account the minister gave of the church-members, for he declared that they were full of evil thoughts, envy, jealousy, revenge, and all uncharitableness. He said he knew all about it, and could testify that they were a great deal worse than the world in general believed or conceived them to be. Indeed, he affirmed that it took a real experimental Christian to understand how totally depraved they were. I was consoled at finding that this was not the settled minister (Mr. Clark), but a missionary accustomed to preach in certain lost places in that awful Babylon called New York. Perhaps the sermon was adapted to the people it was designed for, but it seemed ill suited to the latitude and longitude of such a quaint, primitive parish as Ridgefield, which is without an oyster-cellar, a livery-stable, a grog-shop, a lawyer, a broker, a drunkard, or a profane swearer.

"This circumstance reminded me of an itinerant Boanerges who in his migrations half a century ago through Western New York was requested to prepare a sermon to be preached at the execution of an Indian, who had been convicted of murder and was speedily to be hung. This he complied with, but the convict escaped, and the ceremony did not take place. The preacher, however, not liking to have so good a thing lost, delivered it the next Sabbath to a pious congregation in the Western Reserve, where he chanced to be, stating that it was composed for a hanging, but, as that did not take place, he would preach it now, presuming that it would be found appropriate to the occasion!

"In the afternoon we had a begging sermon from a young converted Jew, who undertook to prove that his tribe was the most interesting in the world and their conversion the first step towards the millennium. After the sermon they took up a contribution to aid him in getting an education; he also sold a little story-book of his conversion at twelve and a half cents a copy, for the benefit of his converted sister. I have no objection to Jews, converted or unconverted, but I must say that my reverence for the house of God is such that I do not like to hear there the clink of copper which generally prevails in a contribution-box. Even that of silver and gold has no melody for me in such a place. It always reminds me painfully of those vulgar pigeon-dealers who were so summarily and so properly scourged out of the Temple.

"The old dilapidated Episcopal church which you remember on the main street—a church not only without a bishop, but without a congregation—has given place to a new edifice and stated services, with a large and respectable body of worshippers. The Methodists, who were wont to assemble fifty years ago in Dr. Baker's kitchen, have put up a new house, white and bright and crowded every Sabbath with attentive listeners. This church numbers two hundred members, and is the largest in the place. Though in its origin it seemed to thrive upon the outcasts of society, its people are now as respectable as those of any other religious society in the town. No longer do they choose to worship in barns, school-houses, and by-places; no longer do they affect leanness, long faces, and loose, uncombed hair; no longer do they cherish bad grammar, low idioms, and the euphony of a nasal twang in preaching. Their place of worship is in good taste and good keeping; their dress is comely and in the fashion of the day. The preacher is a man of education, refinement, and dignity, and he and the Rev. Mr. Clark, our father's successor, exchange pulpits, and call each other Brother! Has not the good time come?

"On Monday morning I took a wide range over the town with Joshua King, who, by the way, is not only the successor, but in some things the



repetition, of his father. He represents him in person, as I have already intimated, and has many of his qualities. He has remodeled the grounds around the old family mansion, amplifying and embellishing them with much judgment. The house itself is unchanged, except by paint and the introduction of certain articles of furniture and tasteful decorations,—testimonials of the proprietor's repeated visits to Europe. Here, being a bachelor, he has gathered some of his nieces, and here he receives the members of the King dynasty down to the third generation, all seeming to regard it as the Jerusalem of the family. The summer gathering is delightful, bringing hither the refinements of the best society of New York, Philadelphia, and other places. Here I spent some pleasant hours, meeting, of course, many of the neighbors, who came to see me with almost as much curiosity as if I had been the veritable Joyce Keth.

"In all parts of the town I was struck with the evidences of change—gentle, gradual, it is true, but still bespeaking the lapse of half a century. Along the main street the general outline of things is the same, but in detail all is transformed, or at least modified. Most of the old houses have disappeared, or have undergone such mutations as hardly to be recognized. New and more expensive edifices are scattered here and there. If you ask who are the proprietors, you will be told Dr. Perry, Joshua King, Nathan Smith, but they are not those whom we knew by these names: they are their sons, perhaps their grandsons. Master Stebbins' school-house is swept away, and even the pond across the road, the scene of many a school-day frolic, is evaporated. I am constantly struck with the general desecration which has passed over the place; many of the brooks which formed our winter skating- and sliding-places have vanished. I looked in vain for the pool back of Deacon John Benedict's house, which I always imagined to be the scene of the ballad:

"What shall we have for dinner, Mrs. Bond?

There is beef in the larder and ducks in the pond:

Dill, dill, dill, dill, dilled,

Come here and be killed!"

Col. Bradley's house, that seemed once so awful and so exclusive, is now a dim, rickety, and tenantless edifice, for sale, with all its appurtenances, for twenty-five hundred dollars. Is it not strange to see this once proud tenement the subject of blight and decay, and that, too, in the midst of general prosperity? Nor is this all: it has just been the subject of a degrading hoax. I must tell you the story, for it will show you that the march of progress has invaded even Ridgefield.

"About three days since there appeared in the village a man claiming to be the son-in-law of George Law. In a mysterious manner he agreed to buy the Bradley estate. With equal mystery he contracted to purchase several other houses in the vicinity. It then leaked out that a grand speculation was on foot: there was to be a railroad through Ridgefield; the town was to be turned into a city, and a hotel resembling the Astor House was to take the place of the old dilapidated shell now upon the Bradley premises. An electric feeling soon ran through the village, speculation began to swell in the bosom of society. Under this impulse rocks rose, rivers doubled, hills mounted, valleys oscillated. This sober town, anchored in everlasting granite, having defied the shock of ages, now trembled in the hysterical balance of trade.

"Two days passed, and the bubble burst; the puff-ball was punctured; the sham son-in-law of George Law was discovered to be a lawless son of a pauper of Danbury. All his operations were, in fact, a hoax. At twelve o'clock on Saturday night he was seized and taken from his bed by an independent corps under Capt. Lynch. They tied him fast to a buttonwood-tree in the main street, called the Liberty Pole.

"No man e'er felt the halter draw

In good opinion of the law."

At all events, the prisoner deemed it a great incongruity to use an institution consecrated to the rights of man and the cause of freedom for the purpose of depriving him of the power to seek happiness in his own way; so about ten o'clock on Sunday morning, finding it unpleasant to be in this situation while the people went by, shaking their heads, on their way to church, he managed to get out his penknife, cut his cords, and make a bee-line for South Salem.

"Farther on, proceeding northward, I found that Dr. Baker's old house—its kitchen the cradle of Ridgefield Methodism—had departed, and two or three modern edifices were near its site. Master Stebbins' house, from its elevated position at the head of the street, seeming like the guardian genius of the place, still stands, venerable alike from its dun complexion, its antique form, and its historical remembrances. Its days may be set at a hundred years, and hence it is an antiquity in our brief chronology. It almost saw the birth of Ridgefield; it has probably looked down upon the building of every other edifice in the street.

It presided over the fight of 1777. Close by, Arnold's horse was shot under him, and he, according to tradition, made a flying leap over a six-barred gate and escaped. Near its threshold the British cannon was planted which sent a ball into the northeastern corner-post of 'Squire Keeler's tavern, and which, covered up by a shilling shingle, as a relic too precious for the open air, is still to be seen there.

"The old house I found embowered in trees, some—primeval elms—spreading their wide branches protectingly over the roof, stoop, and foreground; others, sugar-maples, upright, symmetrical, and deeply verdant, as is the wont of these beautiful children of our American forest. Other trees—apples, pears, peaches, and plums, bending with fruit—occupied the orchard-grounds back of the house. The garden at the left seemed a jubilee of tomatoes, beets, squashes, onions, cucumbers, beans, and pumpkins. A vine of the latter had invaded a peach-tree, and a huge oval pumpkin, deeply ribbed and now emerging from its bronze hue into a golden yellow, swung aloft as if to proclaim the victory. By the porch was a thick clambering grapevine, presenting its purple bunches almost to your mouth as you enter the door. I knocked, and Anne Stebbins, my former schoolmate, let me in. She was still a maiden, in strange contrast to the prolific and progressive state of all around. She did not know me, but when I told her how I once saw her climb through the opening in the school-house wall overhead, and suggested the blue-mixed hue of her stockings, she rallied and gave me a hearty welcome.

"You will no doubt in some degree comprehend the feelings with which I rambled over these scenes of our boyhood, and you will forgive, if you cannot approve, the length of this random epistle. I will trespass but little further upon your patience. I must repeat that the general aspect of the town, in respect to its roads, churches, houses, lands, all show a general progress in wealth, taste, and refinement. Nor is this advance in civilization merely external. William Hawley, a most competent judge, as he has been the leading merchant of the place for forty years, mentioned some striking evidences of this. At the beginning of this century most of the farmers were in debt and a large part of their lands were under mortgage; now not four farms in the place are thus encumbered. Then it was the custom for the men to spend a good deal of their time, and especially in winter, at the stores and taverns in tippling and small gambling; this practice has ceased. Drunkenness, profane swearing, Sabbath-breaking, noisy night-rows, which were common, are now almost wholly unknown. There are but two town paupers, and these are not indigenous. Education is better, higher in its standard, and is nearly universal. Ideas of comfort in the modes of life are more elevated, the houses are improved, the furniture is more convenient and more abundant. That religion has not lost its hold on the conscience is evident from the fact that three flourishing churches exist; that the duties of patriotism are not forgotten is evinced by a universal attendance at the polls on election-days; at the same time, it is clear that religious and political discussions have lost their acerbity, thus leaving the feeling of good neighborhood more general and the tone of humanity in all things more exalted.

"Is there not encouragement, hope, in these things? for Ridgefield is not alone in this forward march of society. It is in the general tide of prosperity, economical, social, and moral, but an example of what has been going on all over New England,—perhaps over the whole country. We hear a great deal of the iniquities in the larger cities, but society even there is not worse than formerly: these places—their houses, streets, prisons, brothels—are exhausted as by an air-pump of all their doings, good and bad, and the seething mass of details is doled out day after day by the penny press to appease the hunger and thirst of society for excitement. Thus what was once hidden is now thrown open, and seems multiplied and magnified by a dozen powerful lenses, each making the most of it and seeking to outdo all others in dressing up the show for the public taste. If you will make the comparison, you will see that now tipping over an omnibus or the foundering of a ferry-boat takes up more space in a newspaper than did six murders or a dozen conflagrations fifty years ago. Then the world's doings could be dispatched in a weekly folio of four pages, with Pica type; now they require forty pages of Brevier every day. Our population is increased,—doubled, quadrupled if you please, but the newspaper press has enlarged its functions a thousand fold. It costs more paper and print to determine whether a policeman of New York was born in England or the United States than are usually consumed in telling the story of the Revolutionary war. This institution—the Press—has, in fact, become a microscope and a mirror, seeing all, magnifying all, reflecting all, until at last it requires a steady brain to discover in its shifting and passing panoramas the sober, simple truth. So far as the subject of which I am writing is concerned, I am satisfied that if our cities seem more corrupt than formerly, it is only in appearance and not in reality. If we hear more about the vices of so-



ciety, it is because, in the first place, things are more exposed to the public view, and, in the next place, the moral standards are higher, and hence these evils are made the subject of louder and more noticeable comment. These obvious objections will solve whatever difficulty there may be in adopting my conclusions.

"But, whatever the fact may be as to our larger cities, it cannot be doubted that all over New England at least there has been a quiet but earnest and steady march of civilization, especially within the last forty years. The war of 1812 was disastrous to our part of the country,—disastrous, I firmly believe, to our whole country. In New England it checked the natural progress of society, it impoverished the people, it debased their manners, it corrupted their hearts. Let others vaunt the glory of war: I shall venture to say what I have seen and known. We have now had forty years of peace, and the happy advances I have noticed, bringing increased light and comfort in at every door, rich or poor, to bless the inhabitants, are its legitimate fruits. The inherent tendency of our New England society is to improvement: give us peace, giving us tranquillity, and, with the blessing of God, we shall continue to advance.

"You will not suppose me to say that government can do nothing: the prosperity of which I speak is in a great measure imputable to the encouragement given, for a series of years, to our domestic industry. When farming absorbed society, a large part of the year was lost, or worse than lost, because tavern-haunting, tippling, and gambling were the chief resources of men in the dead and dreary winter months. Manufactures gave profitable occupation during this inclement period. Formerly the markets were remote, and we all know, from the records of universal history, that farmers, without the stimulus of ready markets, sink into indolence and indifference. The protection, the encouragement, the stimulating of any of our manufacturing and mechanical industry created home markets in every valley, along every stream, thus rousing the taste, energy, and ambition of the farmers within reach of these pervading influences. Ridgefield is not, strictly speaking, a manufacturing town, but the beneficent operation of the multiplying and diversifying of the occupations of society has reached this, as it has every other town and village in the State, actually transforming the condition of the people by increasing their wealth, multiplying their comforts, enlarging their minds, elevating their sentiments,—in short, increasing their happiness.

"The importance of the fact I state—the progress and improvement of the country towns—is plain, when we consider that here and not in the great cities—New York or Boston or Philadelphia—are the hope, strength, and glory of our nation. Here, in the smaller towns and villages, are indeed the majority of the people, and here there is a weight of sober thought, just judgment, and virtuous feeling that will serve as rudder and ballast to our country, whatever weather may betide.

"As I have so recently traveled through some of the finest and most renowned portions of the European continent, I find myself constantly comparing the towns and villages which I see here with these foreign lands. One thing is clear,—that there are in Continental Europe no such country towns and villages as those of New England and some other portions of this country. Not only the exterior, but the interior, is totally different. The villages there resemble the squalid suburbs of a city; the people are like their houses,—poor and subservient, narrow in intellect, feeling, and habits of thought. I know twenty towns in France having from two to ten thousand inhabitants where, if you except the prefects, mayors, notaries, and a few other persons in each place, there is scarcely a family that rises to the least independence of thought, or even a moderate elevation of character. All the power, all the thought, all the genius, all the expanse of intellect, are centered at Paris. The blood of the country is drawn to this seat and centre, leaving the limbs and members cold and pulseless as those of a corpse.

"How different is it in this country. The life, vigor, power, of these United States are diffused through a thousand veins and arteries over the whole people, every limb nourished, every member invigorated. New York, Philadelphia, and Boston do not give law to this country; that comes from the people, the majority of whom resemble those I have described at Ridgefield,—farmers, mechanics, manufacturers, merchants, independent in their circumstances and sober, religious, virtuous in their habits of thought and conduct. I make allowance for the sinister influence of vice, which abounds in some places; for the debasing effects of demagogism in our politicians; for the corruption of selfish and degrading interests cast into the general current of public feeling and opinion; I admit that these sometimes make the nation swerve for a time from the path of wisdom, but the wandering is neither wide nor long. The preponderating national mind is just and sound, and if danger comes it will manifest its power and avert it.

"But I must close this long letter, and with it bid adieu to my birth-

place. Farewell to Ridgefield! Its soil is indeed stubborn, its climate severe, its creed rigid, yet where is the landscape more smiling, the sky more glorious, the earth more cheering? Where is society more kindly, neighborhood more equal, life more tranquil? Where is the sentiment of humanity higher, life more blest? Where else can you find two thousand country-people with the refinements of the city, their farms unmortgaged, their speech unblemished with oaths, their breath uncontaminated with alcohol, their poor-house without a single native pauper?

"Daniel Webster once said, jocosely, that New Hampshire is a good place to come from > it seems to me, in all sincerity, that Ridgefield is a good place to go to. Should I ever return there to end my days, this may be my epitaph:

"My faults forgotten, and my sins forgiven,  
Let this, my tranquil birthplace, be my grave:  
As in my youth I deem'd it nearest heaven,  
So here I give to God the breath he gave.

"Yours ever,

S. G. G."

#### SARAH BISHOP, THE HERMITESS.

"Three-quarters of a century ago," says Rev. Mr. Teller, "there was sometimes to be seen in the village a strange-appearing old woman, familiarly known as Sarah Bishop. Her whole appearance was to the last degree peculiar. Poorly clad, her form slightly bent, her face pale and careworn, her brow wrinkled and nearly hidden by long locks of gray hair, which were allowed to fall carelessly over it, her step quick and agile,—she would seem to glide rather than walk through the town street in quest of such articles of food as were absolutely indispensable to the sustenance of the body, or a few crumbs of that spiritual bread which is no less indispensable to the life of the soul. She is said to have reminded one more of a visitant from the spirit-world than of a being of actual flesh and blood.

"Her home—if *home* it could be called—was situated on one of the southeastern declivities of West Mountain, about four miles northwest from the village of Ridgefield, and just inside the town limits of Salem. It was formed in part by a mass of projecting rock, and in part by pieces of bark and limbs of trees thrown up by her own hands for a covering.

"No name could better apply to her than *hermitess*. She was no mere amateur recluse: she was actually shut off from all society. Her dwelling-place was one difficult to find, and her reticence covered alike all the incidents of her past life and her present thought. She repelled almost with sternness, rather than courted, the sympathy even of those of her own sex. She loved solitude; she did not feign a preference for it.

"The tradition concerning this singular woman is that during the Revolutionary war she lived with her parents on Long Island; but, her father's house having been at that time burned and she greatly wronged by a British officer, she left her home and wandered about till she discovered this lonely spot and the half-formed cave, from which she could not only overlook the Sound, but which on a clear day enabled her to feast her eyes upon the very hills and valleys which surrounded the home of her childhood.

"The first piece of poetry ever published by S. G.

Goodrich (Peter Parley) had this hermitess for its subject. It ran as follows:

"For many a year the mountain hag  
Was a theme of village wonder,  
For she made her home in the dizzy crag  
Where the eagle bore his plunder.

"Up the beetling cliff she was seen at night  
Like a ghost to glide away;  
But she came again with the morning light  
From the forest wild and gray.

"Her face was wrinkled, and passionless seem'd  
As her bosom, all blasted and dead,  
And her colorless eye like an icicle gleamed,  
Yet no sorrow or sympathy shed.

"Her long snowy locks, as the winter drift,  
On the wind were backward cast,  
And her shriveled form glided by so swift  
You had said 'twere a ghost that pass'd.

"Her house was a cave in a giddy rock  
That o'erhung a lonesome vale,  
And 'twas deeply scarr'd by the lightning-shock,  
And swept by the vengeful gale.

"As alone on the cliff she musingly sate  
The fox at her fingers would snap;  
The crow would sit on her snow-white pate,  
And the rattlesnake coil in her lap.

"The night-hawk look'd down with a welcome eye  
As he stoop'd in his airy swing,  
And the haughty eagle hover'd so nigh  
As to fan her long locks with his wing.

"But when Winter roll'd dark his sullen wave  
From the west with gusty shock,  
Old Sarah, deserted, crept cold to her cave,  
And slept without bed in her rock.

"No fire illumined her dismal den,  
Yet a tatter'd Bible she read;  
For she saw in the dark with a wizard ken,  
And talk'd wish the troubled dead.

"And often she muttered a foreign name  
With curses too fearful to tell,  
And a tale of horror, of madness and shame,  
She told to the walls of her cell."

"Mr. Goodrich further says of her ('Recollections of a Lifetime,' vol. i. p. 293):

"In my rambles among the mountains I have seen her passing through the forest or sitting silent as a statue upon the prostrate trunk of a tree, or perchance upon a stone or mound, scarcely to be distinguished from the inanimate objects—wood, earth, and rock—around her. She had a sense of propriety as to personal appearance, for when she visited the town she was decently though poorly clad; when alone in the wilderness she seemed little more than a squalid mass of rags. My excursions frequently brought me within the wild precincts of her solitary den. Several times I have paid a visit to the spot, and in two instances found her at home. A place more desolate in its general outline, more absolutely given up to the wilderness of nature, it is impossible to conceive. Her cave was a hollow in the rock about six feet square. Except a few rags and an old basin, it was without furniture, her bed being the floor of the cave and her pillow a projecting point of the rock. It was entered by a natural door about three feet wide and four feet high, and was closed in severe weather only by pieces of bark. At a distance of a few feet was a cleft, where she kept a supply of roots and nuts which she gathered, and the food that was given her. She was reputed to have a secret depository, where she kept a quantity of antique dresses, several of them of rich silks and apparently suited to fashionable life, though I think this was an exaggeration. At a little distance down the ledge there was a fine spring of water, in the vicinity of which she was often found in fair weather.

"There was no attempt, either in or around the spot, to bestow upon it an air of convenience or comfort. A small space of cleared ground

was occupied by a few thriftless peach-trees, and in summer a patch of starveling beans, cucumbers, and potatoes. Up two or three of the adjacent forest-trees there clambered luxuriant grapevines, highly productive in their season. With the exception of these feeble marks of cultivation, all was left ghastly and savage as nature made it. The trees, standing upon the top of the cliff and exposed to the shock of the tempest, were bent and stooping towards the valley, their limbs contorted and their roots clinging, as with an agonizing grasp, into the rifts of the rocks upon which they stood. Many of them were hoary with age and hollow with decay; others were stripped of their leaves by the blasts, and others still grooved and splintered by the lightning. The valley below, enriched with the decay of centuries and fed with moisture from the surrounding hills, was a wild paradise of towering oaks and other giants of the vegetable kingdom, with a rank undergrowth of tangled shrubs. In the distance, to the east, the gathered streams spread out into a beautiful expanse of water called Long Pond.

"A place at once so secluded and so wild was, of course, the chosen haunt of birds, beasts, and reptiles. The eagle built her nest and reared her young in the clefts of the rocks; foxes found shelter in the caverns, and serpents reveled alike in the dry hollows of the cliffs and the dark recesses of the valley. The hermitess had made companionship with these brute tenants of the wood. The birds had become so familiar with her that they seemed to heed her almost as little as if she had been a stone. The fox fearlessly pursued his hunt and his gambols in her presence. The rattlesnake hushed his monitory signal as he approached her. Such things, at least, were entertained by the popular belief. It was said, indeed, that she had domesticated a particular rattlesnake, and that he paid her daily visits. She was accustomed—so said the legend—to bring him milk from the villages, which he devoured with great relish.

"During the winter she was confined for several months to her cell. At that period she lived upon roots and nuts, which she had laid in for the season. She had no fire, and, deserted even by her brute companions, she was absolutely alone, save that she seemed to hold communion with the invisible world. She appeared to have no sense of solitude, no weariness at the slow lapse of days and months; night had no darkness, the tempest no terror, winter no desolation, for her. When spring returned she came down from her mountain a mere shadow, each year her form more bent, her limbs more thin and wasted, her hair more blanched, her eye more colorless."

"In the year 1810 this strange life ended, and ended in a manner sadly in keeping with all which had preceded it. One stormy night she left the house of a Mr. Wilson, living where Mr. Timothy Jones now lives, some two miles away, to return by a nearer route across the fields to her own wretched den. A few days after, much anxiety having been felt as to her condition, search was made for her. Not finding her in the cave, those in search started down across the fields towards the house at which she had been last seen. They had proceeded but a little way before they discovered her lifeless body literally wedged in between masses of rocks. She had never reached her home. The things which the kind neighbor had given her were with her. In attempting to climb the steep and rocky hillside she had missed her footing and perished.

"The neighbors and friends took up her body, and, having prepared for it the grave, buried it in the old burying-ground connected with the Episcopal church, North Salem. No stone marks the spot where her body rests, but the old cave, still to be seen in the mountain-side, will keep fresh and green her memory, while that of many who lived in affluence and died greatly lamented shall have perished."



## CHAPTER LXV.

## RIDGEFIELD (Continued).

## ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.\*

The Congregational Church—St. Stephen's Church—Methodist Episcopal Church—Congregational Church of Ridgebury—Protestant Episcopal Church of Ridgebury.

## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

THE Congregational Church was the first Christian organization of the town. Under date of October, 1712, the following act of General Assembly then convened at Hartford is recorded:

"Upon the petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Ridgefield, requesting that the charges for the maintenance of the ministry in the said town of Ridgefield may be levied in equal proportion upon all the lands belonging to the several proprietors in the said Town,

"This Assembly order that all lands lying in the Township of Ridgefield be taxed in proportion for four years towards the settling and maintaining of the ministry in the said town of Ridgefield."

As early as 1713 the Rev. Thomas Hawley, of Northampton, had come to the young settlement as a preacher of the gospel. There were doubtless others who had preceded him as occasional supplies, but as the earliest records of the church were destroyed many years ago, the names of such and their terms of service are lost.

In the year 1714, General Assembly granted "unto the inhabitants of the Town of Ridgefield to embody into Church Estate and settle an orthodox minister among them."

Rev. Thomas Hawley was probably formally settled over the church as its pastor in the same year, and continued his labors among them until the time of his death, which occurred on the 8th of November, 1738, in the forty-ninth year of his age. Mr. Hawley was a graduate of Harvard College and the ancestor of the families of the same name, so well known in the town. He held for a number of years many of the important offices of the town, and gained a reputation for energy and ability, originating and directing many of the enterprises of the early settlers.

The year following the death of Mr. Hawley, Rev. Jonathan Ingersoll, a native of Stratford, Conn., was invited to settle in the gospel ministry. This invitation Mr. Ingersoll accepted, and was duly installed on the 8th of August, 1739. Previous to coming to Ridgefield he resided for some time in Newark, N. J., and was licensed by the Presbytery of New Jersey at Elizabethtown, Feb. 15, 1738.

At the meeting of the Western Consociation, Fairfield County, which installed Mr. Ingersoll, there were present the following ministers: Rev. Robert Sturgeon, Rev. Moses Dickinson, Rev. Ebenezer Wright, Rev. John Goodsell, Rev. Ephraim Bostwick, Rev. William Gaylord. Delegates: From Bedford, Capt. Jonathan Miller; Norwalk, John Copp, Esq.; Stam-

ford, Abraham Davenport; Greenfield, Benjamin Banks; Wilton, Benjamin Hickox, Esq.; Green's Farms, Samuel Couch, Esq.

Rev. Mr. Goodsell offered the first prayer and gave the right hand of fellowship. Rev. Mr. Dickinson preached the sermon and offered the prayer of ordination. Rev. Mr. Sturgeon gave the charge, and Rev. Mr. Todd, who had been invited to sit with the council, offered the closing prayer.

Mr. Ingersoll was a graduate of Yale College, and a man of a fine mind and a good heart. He served the church with great faithfulness until his death, which occurred Oct. 2, 1778, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.

In the year 1758, Mr. Ingersoll joined the colonial troops as chaplain, on Lake Champlain. He is said to have exerted an excellent influence in the army, and to have been highly respected by the soldiers.

Mr. Hawley and Mr. Ingersoll were buried in the Titicus Cemetery. The stones which mark their graves bear the following inscriptions:

"Here lies buried  
the body of y<sup>e</sup> Rev.  
Thomas Hawley  
Pastor of y<sup>e</sup> Church  
at Ridgefield  
Nov. y<sup>e</sup> 8, 1738  
Aged 42 Years."

"In Memory  
of the Rev.  
Jonathan Ingersoll, Pastor  
of y<sup>e</sup> 1st Church in Ridgefield  
who Deceased Oct. 2. A.D.  
1778 in y<sup>e</sup> 65. Year of his  
Age, & 40<sup>th</sup> of his Ministry."

After the death of Mr. Ingersoll there seems to have been a vacancy of eight years, during which time the pulpit was in part supplied by Rev. Justice Mitchell, who, in January, 1783, was ordained pastor of the Congregational Church of New Canaan, and in part by Rev. Izrahiah Wetmore and Rev. — Everitt, as the following receipts will show:

"RIDGEFIELD, Dec. 27, 1781.

"Recd of the Gentl<sup>d</sup> the Society's Committee Nine Bushels of Wheat being in full for nine Dollars sent Parson Everitt.

"PETER BYVANCK."

"RIDGEFIELD, Oct. y<sup>e</sup> 5th, 1786.

"Pay the Rev<sup>d</sup> Izrahiah Wetmore Twenty Seven pounds Eleven Shillings, and four pence Lawfull Money on Demand with Interest at Six per cent per annum, for which this is our order.

"SOCIETYS COMMITTEE.

"TO BENJAMIN SMITH, Treasurer of the first Society in Ridgfield."

On the 6th of July, 1786, Rev. Samuel Goodrich, of Durham, of this State, was ordained and installed as pastor of the church. The services on this occasion are said to have been of unusual interest. The father of the newly-settled pastor preached the sermon and gave the charge, both to his son and to the church. The venerable appearance of the aged, gray-haired father was in striking contrast with the youthful and almost boyish appearance of the son. It was age and experience counseling youth and inexperience. It was

\* The "Ecclesiastical History" of Ridgefield is taken from Rev. D. T. Teller's excellent "History of Ridgefield."

a man of God who had borne the burden and heat of the day, and was ready to depart, casting his mantle upon the shoulders of another just entering upon the work.

Mr. Goodrich served the church as its pastor for upwards of twenty-five years. He was dismissed Jan. 22, 1811, at his own request, and on the 29th of May, 1811, he was installed at Worthington, a parish in the town of Berlin, in this State. He was the father of Samuel G. Goodrich, the renowned Peter Parley, whose sketch of Ridgefield, written in 1855, the reader will find elsewhere in this work. Mr. Goodrich also was the author of a manuscript history of the town, which was written and lodged in the library of the Athenæum at Hartford, in the year 1800, extracts from which we have also given.

The labors of Mr. Goodrich were eminently blessed, and the church during his ministry enjoyed many seasons of revival, and large additions were made to it. He was for several years a trustee of the Missionary Society of Connecticut, and a director of the Connecticut Bible Society, in both of which he manifested a warm interest. He died at Berlin, Conn., April 19, 1835, aged seventy-two years.

After the dismissal of Mr. Goodrich the church was again destitute of a settled pastor for several years. Rev. Jonathan Bartlett supplied the pulpit from 1811 to 1814, and was succeeded by Rev. John Noyes, who supplied from 1814 to 1817. During Mr. Bartlett's ministry he proposed to the society to raise a fund, the annual income of which should be appropriated for the support of the preaching of the gospel, and, as an encouragement to the undertaking, he generously gave to the society the sum of fifty dollars. As the result of this effort the permanent fund of the society at the present time is eight thousand dollars.

On the 2d of February, 1817, the church invited the Rev. Samuel M. Phelps to become their pastor, and Consociation was convened on the 20th day of March following for the purpose of his installation in June following, and Mr. Phelps was by them regularly installed as their minister, according to the usages and custom of said Presbytery. Mr. Phelps continued his labors here until the month of December, 1829, when he was by the members of the Presbytery aforesaid regularly dismissed, and his ministry in this place ceased.

The church, at a regular meeting held on the 31st day of March, 1831, with great unanimity rescinded their vote of secession passed Feb. 24, 1817, and became reunited to the Consociation of the Western District of Fairfield County, and on the same day they invited the Rev. Charles G. Selleck, of Darien, to become their pastor, and he was ordained and installed on the 25th day of May, 1831. Mr. Selleck's ministry continued until the 6th day of September, 1837. During it the church enjoyed three precious seasons of religious interest,—viz., in 1831, 1832, and 1833,—and as the fruits thereof about one hundred

and eighty persons were added to the church. Mr. Selleck is still living. A few years since, at an advanced age, he removed to Florida and made for himself a home, where he still resides.

On the 18th of January, 1838, the church and society invited the Rev. Joseph Fuller to settle among them, and on the 27th of February following the Consociation met, and Mr. Fuller was regularly installed as their pastor. His ministry continued about four years, in which time the church enjoyed another season of revival, and about sixty persons united with it. On the 17th of May, 1842, by the united request of Mr. Fuller and the church, the Consociation met, and Mr. Fuller was dismissed from his pastoral charge.

After the dismissal of Mr. Fuller the church was without a settled pastor for seventeen months, during which time the pulpit was regularly supplied, and an interesting work of grace ensued, by which about twenty, mostly young persons, united themselves to the church by profession.

On the 18th of September, 1843, the church and society, each by unanimous votes, extended to the Rev. James A. Hawley a call to become their pastor, which call he accepted, and on the 25th of October following he was regularly installed as such. His connection as pastor continued until Nov. 5, 1849, when at his request he was dismissed by Consociation. During the years 1845 and 1848 the church enjoyed seasons of revival, and as the fruits thereof about forty persons were added to it.

Believing that the best interests of the church would be secured by having a settled pastor, the church and society, with marked unanimity, on the 6th of May, 1850, extended to the Rev. Clinton Clark a call to settle among them. The call was accepted, and Mr. Clark was duly installed June 5, 1850. His connection as pastor of this church continued nearly fourteen years, or until April 5, 1864, at which time he was dismissed, and soon after entered upon the duties of acting pastor of the Congregational Church of Middlebury, Conn, where he died Sept. 23, 1871.

During Mr. Clark's ministry in Ridgefield one hundred and fifteen persons united with the church, of whom seventy-six were by profession. In consideration of his long-continued services the church, by resolution, extended to him "our most grateful acknowledgment and heartfelt thanks for all his labors among us, and that it is with deep regret that we part with one who has so long and faithfully discharged his duty to us in all the ministerial relations."

Mr. Clark was a graduate of Amherst College. He was a man of sound mind and fervent piety. He is buried in the cemetery at Ridgefield, in the midst of the people whom he so faithfully served.

After the dismissal of Mr. Clark the pulpit was supplied by various clergymen until the fall of 1865, when the Rev. Samuel G. Coe, then recently dismissed from the First Congregational Church in Danbury,



Conn., removed to Ridgefield as a place of residence. He was invited to supply the pulpit, and soon after received a unanimous call to settle. He, however, preferred to labor with them without being formally installed. His wishes in this respect were acceded to, and he continued to serve the church until the autumn of 1868, when failing health induced him to give up active pastoral work.

Mr. Coe was a graduate of Yale College, of Yale Law School, and of Yale Theological Seminary. He was a clear thinker and an earnest and eloquent preacher. He died on the 7th of December, 1869, universally lamented.

The Rev. Pliny S. Boyd was called by the church and society to settle. He accepted the call, and was installed May 11, 1869. Mr. Boyd was dismissed July 1, 1871, and soon after was settled over the congregational Church of Amesbury, Mass.

The church was supplied with regular preaching by various clergymen until Feb. 1, 1872, when the Rev. Daniel W. Teller was called to become the acting pastor of the church by unanimous vote. Three years later he was invited to be formally settled over the church, but preferred serving, as he had already done, as acting pastor. He is still serving the church in that capacity. The church at present has two hundred and twenty-five members,—males, eighty-three; females, one hundred and forty-two.

#### CHURCH EDIFICES.

The first house used for religious meetings by the Congregationalists was a small building standing nearly in front of the residence of Miss Mary Hawley. It was used also as a school-house and as a place at which to transact town business previous to the erection of the town-house.

On the 19th of December, 1723, the following vote was passed in town-meeting:

"Voted unanimously that a meeting house shall be built.

"Test. THOMAS HAWLEY,  
"Register."

"At the meeting above said, it was voted unanimously that the magnitude and proportion of the Meeting-house above said shall be thirty-four feet wide; on the ground forty feet long, and twenty-eight feet between the sill and the plate.

"Test. THOMAS HAWLEY,  
"Register."

This house stood immediately east of the present building or where the road now passes it.

In the year 1765 the building of the present house began for the first time to be seriously considered, as will appear from the following minutes:

"Dec 25<sup>th</sup> 1765. Adjourned to Jan'y 1<sup>st</sup> 1766. The Meeting Resolved (5-6<sup>th</sup>) to Build a New Meeting House within y<sup>e</sup> Limits of this Society; & appointed W. L; S. O; B. S; S. S; & I. I. a comtee to apply to y<sup>e</sup> County Court to fix a place & granted a one penny Tax to defray y<sup>e</sup> Charge of fixing y<sup>e</sup> place."

"Dec 25<sup>th</sup> 1767. Question put would y<sup>e</sup> Society Build a Meeting at y<sup>e</sup> place fixed by y<sup>e</sup> County Comtee? Resolved in y<sup>e</sup> neg; by a great majority—Question put would they Build in y<sup>e</sup> Meeting House yard. Resolved in y<sup>e</sup> aff. by more than 2 to 1."

"Dec 19<sup>th</sup> 1769. Voted that y<sup>e</sup> County Comtee be called out to fix a place to build a Meeting house on."

"Jan'y 16<sup>th</sup> 1770. Question put, are y<sup>e</sup> meeting willing y<sup>e</sup> stake set in y<sup>e</sup> yard be established. Voted in y<sup>e</sup> aff. 36 to 30."

"Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 1770. Voted that y<sup>e</sup> old meeting-house may be repaired by subscription."

"May 1<sup>st</sup> 1771. Voted to build a House 58 feet long & 40 feet broad, & 24 feet posts & a steeple,—Also Sam<sup>l</sup>. Smith Esq Samuel Olmsted Esq & Jn<sup>o</sup> Benedict were chosen a Comtee to take y<sup>e</sup> care of & proceed in Building s<sup>d</sup> House during y<sup>e</sup> pleasure of y<sup>e</sup> Society"—Also granted a Tax of 6<sup>d</sup> on y<sup>e</sup> £ on y<sup>e</sup> List 1770 to enable said Comtee to proceed in building s<sup>d</sup> house—Also that y<sup>e</sup> Roof of y<sup>e</sup> House & Steeple be covered with cedar & y<sup>e</sup> sides with sawed Siding."

"June 3<sup>d</sup> 1771. Voted that if £50 be subscribed by y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> of July next, then the Comtee to build a steeple, if not to drop it."

"Aug<sup>t</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1771. Voted to Raise y<sup>e</sup> House Gratis, if cant be done to hire help. Also that they will continue y<sup>e</sup> Comtee already appointed to proceed in building y<sup>e</sup> House. Also voted that y<sup>e</sup> House be set in y<sup>e</sup> yard, provided the County Court will establish a place there."

"Sept 19<sup>th</sup> 1771. Question, Shall the Timber be raised within five feet west of y<sup>e</sup> old house & shall not y<sup>e</sup> Tax of 6<sup>d</sup> be revoked? Passed in y<sup>e</sup> aff."

"Dec 18<sup>th</sup> 1783. Benj<sup>n</sup> Smith & Capt David Olmsted were chosen Committee men in addition to y<sup>e</sup> Comtee chosen in May 1771 to superintend y<sup>e</sup> Building of the Meeting House in said Society."

The house was not completed until the early part of the year 1800.

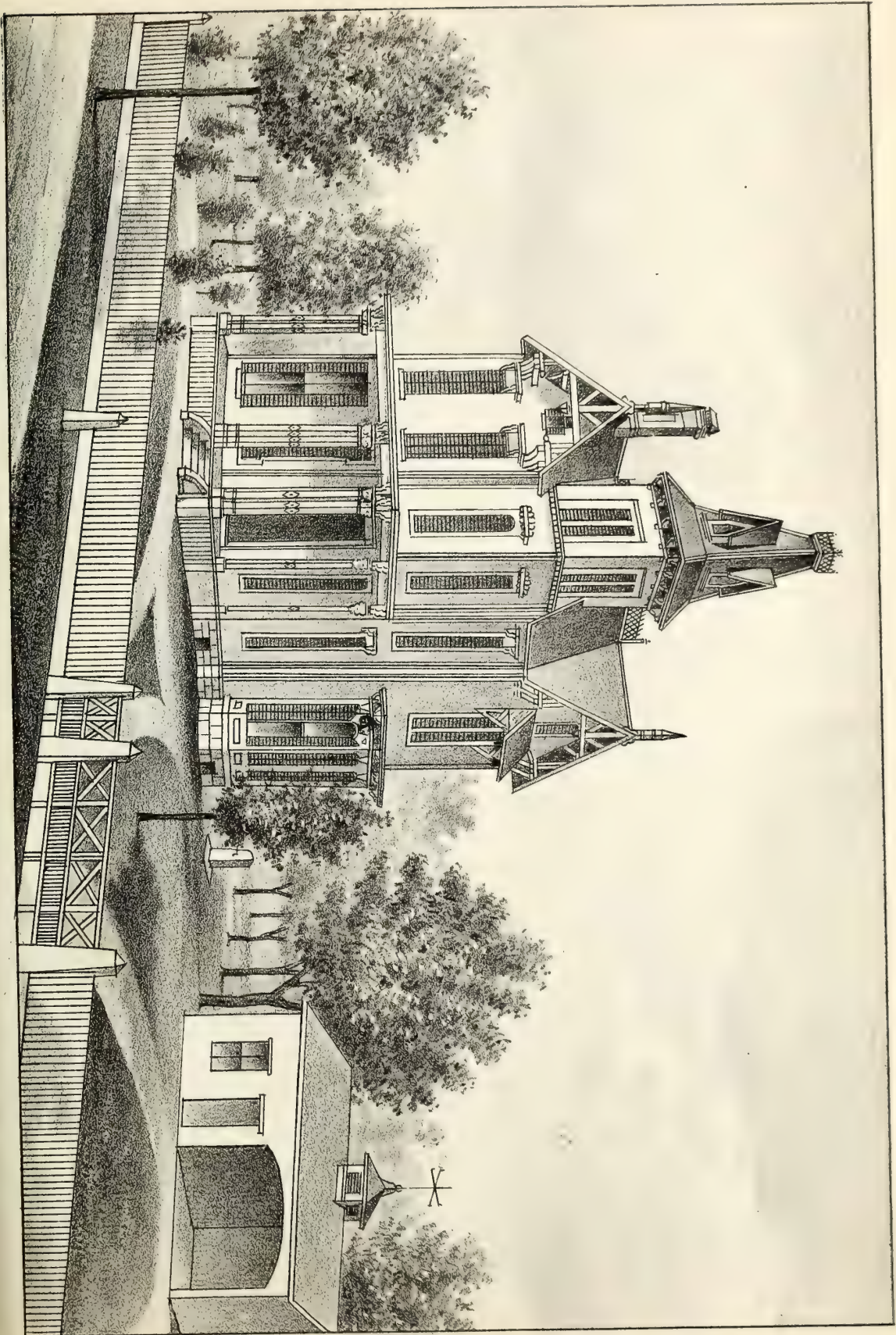
The following is a list of the names of the original Proprietors, & the present owners, March y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> A.D. 1800.

No. 1. Phillip B Bradley	No. 16. Timothy Bouton
" 2. Thomas Hawley	" 17. Levi Keeler
Nathan Smith	John Keeler
" 3. James Reseguie	Jereb Seymour
Seth Bouton	Paul Keeler
Ambrose Barnes	" 18. Dea <sup>n</sup> Jn <sup>o</sup> Benedict & family
" 4. Eben Olmsted	" 19. Benj <sup>n</sup> Smith
James Olmsted	Amos Baker
Jereb Mead	" 20. Amos Smith
Matthew Olmsted	Josiah Smith
" 5. Dan <sup>l</sup> Smith	Thad <sup>s</sup> Smith
Tho <sup>s</sup> Hyatt	" 21. Jasper Mead
Benj <sup>n</sup> Sherwood	Matthew Keeler
" 6. Thad <sup>s</sup> Keeler	Jonah Keeler
Jereb Keeler	" 22. Thad <sup>s</sup> Keeler
Benj <sup>n</sup> Keeler	Dr N Perry
" 7. Stephen Smith	" 24. Joshua King
" 8. Eben Hawley	Moss Ingersol
Elisha Hawley	" 25. Sam <sup>l</sup> Olmsted
" 9. Tim <sup>o</sup> Keeler	Jared Olmsted
Nathan Dauchey	Newton Hine
" 12. Bradly Hull	" 26. Nathan F Kellogg
Jereb Keeler	James Sturgis
Ward Sturgis	Jacob Jones
" 13. David Scott	" 27. David Olmsted
James Scott 2 <sup>d</sup>	Timothy Olmsted
Jere Scott	Benj <sup>n</sup> Sanford
" 14. Dan <sup>l</sup> Lee	" 30. Matthew Seymour
Wakeman Burrett	Thomas Scott
Nehemiah Banks	Jared Northrop
" 15. Sam <sup>l</sup> Hoyt	Daniel Smith 2 <sup>d</sup>
Josiah Northrop	" 31. John Waterous
Nathaniel Seymour	Joseph Benedict
" 16. Uriah Marvin	
Dan <sup>l</sup> Olmsted 2 <sup>d</sup>	

The following is a list of the names of the original pewholders & present Proprietors, March 22<sup>d</sup> A.D. 1800.

Pew.	Name.	Pew.	Name.
No. 2. Levi Keeler		No. 8. Nathau Smith	
Hezekiah Smith		David Olmsted	
" 4. Stephen Mills		Millicent Smith	
" 6. Michael Warren		N. G. Smith	
Jabez Keeler		Thomas Hawley	
" 7. Dan <sup>l</sup> Lee		" 9. John Benedict	
Wakeman Burret		Jared Olmsted	





RESIDENCE OF HON. D. H. VALDEN, TITICUS, RIDGEFIELD CONN.





No. 9. Dan<sup>l</sup> Smith  
Job Smith  
" 10. Tim<sup>e</sup> Keeler  
Ben<sup>a</sup> Smith  
Amos Baker.  
" 11. P. B. Bradley  
Col. King  
" 12. Matthew Keeler  
Jonah Keeler  
Jasper Mead  
Jesse Benedict

No. 14. Tho. Hyatt  
John Mills  
" 15. Moss Ingersoll  
Joseph Stebbins  
" 16. Samuel Dykeman  
" 17. David Saintjohn  
Jonoth<sup>a</sup> Gilbert  
Sam<sup>l</sup> Hoyt 2<sup>d</sup>  
" 18. Elisha Hawley  
Eben Hawley  
John Waterous

"The foregoing draughts were made by us the Subscribers being appointed a Committee for the purpose this 22<sup>d</sup> day of March, A.D. 1800

" BENJ<sup>M</sup> SMITH  
" TIMOTHY KEELER  
" NATHAN SMITH  
Committee."

The following will indicate how these seats were bought and sold:

"RIDGEFIELD Jan<sup>y</sup> 1<sup>st</sup>, A.D. 1801.

"Be it known that I Nathan F. Kellogg do for the consideration of Two Dollars & Fifty Cents Rec<sup>d</sup> of Enos Tuttle, Sell, convey & convert unto him the s<sup>d</sup> Tuttle one Twelfth part of my Pew on the lower Flou<sup>r</sup> in the Meeting House No 26

"NATHAN F KELLOGG  
"Test "NATHAN SMITH,  
"Clerk."

"Know all by these presents that I David Olmsted of Ridgefield for the consideration of Three Dollars Received of Thomas H. Rockwell of s<sup>d</sup> Ridgefield to my full Satisfaction do Quit Claim to him the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas all my Right title & Interest I have in a pew in the Gallery of the Meeting House in s<sup>d</sup> Ridgefield No 8 witness my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1800

"Witness Jasper Mead DAVID OLMSTED  
John Keeler "Test NATHAN SMITH  
"Society Clerk."

"To all People to whom these presents shall come Greeting. Know ye that we Timothy Keeler, Timothy Olmsted, & Jonathan Keeler, Society's Com<sup>tee</sup> for the first Society in Ridgefield in Fairfield County (do agreeable to the direction of s<sup>d</sup> society) for Selling the Pews in the Gallery of the Meeting House, do by these Presents Give, Grant, Bargain & Sell Thaddeus Keeler & Jeremiah Mead of s<sup>d</sup> Ridgefield the South East corner Pew on the South end of the Gallery in Said Meeting House for the consideration of Nine Dollars & Eighty Four Cents, to have & to hold the above Granted & Bargained Premises as their own forever as witness our hand in Ridgefield this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December A.D. 1801.

"TIMOTHY KEELER  
"TIMOTHY OLMSTED  
"JONATHAN KEELER  
"Society's Comtee.  
"Test NATHAN SMITH,  
"Society's Clerk."

The steeple at first erected above the church was observed, after a few years, to be leaning towards the main building. In the year 1815 the following call for a society's meeting was issued:

"Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Presbyterian Society in the first Society in Ridgefield will be holden at the Meeting House on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of Oct at 1 O'clock in the P.M. for the purpose of taking into consideration the expediency of taking down the Steeple of said House and of making provision for necessary repairs.

"MATHEW KEELER,  
"JEREMIAH KEELER,  
"——— BRADLEY,  
Committee."

"RIDGEFIELD, Ct., Oct. 3, 1815.

The steeple was deemed unsafe and therefore taken down, and two years afterwards, in the year 1817, the present one was erected.

In the first attempt to set up the new steeple an ac-

cident occurred which was attended with great danger to all who were present. The posts were nearly in place, when the iron hook to which the pulleys were attached broke, and the whole framework fell to the ground. The only damage sustained was the breaking of one of the posts. This was spliced by iron bands, and the next day it was set up and secured.

The following papers may be of interest to the curious:

"Jan<sup>y</sup>. 21<sup>st</sup> 1811.

To first Society of Ridgefield to Timothy Keeler	Dr.
To 20 dinners p <sup>r</sup> the Consociation at 37½ cts.....	\$7.50
To 4 do p <sup>r</sup> the Com <sup>tee</sup> " " " ".....	1.50
To bating 18 horses " " 8 cts.....	1.44
To keeping 3 horses one night " 25 cts.....	.75
To Liquor &c.....	3.00
	\$14.19

"RIDGEFIELD, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 1803.

"Received of Timothy Keeler Societies Treasurer the Sum of Twenty Dollars and Sixty-Five Cents in full of all dues and demands against the first Society of s<sup>d</sup> Ridgefield for getting the Bell new-cast."

"NATHAN SMITH, in behalf of the Bell Com<sup>tee</sup>."

"Rec<sup>d</sup> of the Societies Com<sup>tee</sup>s three Dollars & fifty five cents in full for sweeping meeting House the year past p<sup>r</sup> me

"RIDGEFIELD, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, 1800." "JOHN KEELER.

"To TIMOTHY KEELER, Esq., Societies Treasurer

"Sir, Pay James Scott Twenty one Shillings and three pence for furnishing flax and making a rope for the Church Bell.

"Societies Committee."

"This may certify that I the subscriber am willing to teach singing in the Presbyterian Society in Ridgefield, and sing as often as may be judged necessary by the committee from 3 to 6 months in the year on the Sabbath evening at one Dollar per evening including the Sabbath, and also to attend regularly on the Sabbath at all other times throughout the year (sickness &c excepted) for twenty-five cts per day for taking the lead in singing.

"RIDGEFIELD, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> 1827."

HARVEY BETTS.

The present church building was altered and repaired in 1833, when the whole inside work, including galleries and pulpit, was taken out and the interior so arranged as to present the appearance of an entirely new house.

The church, thus repaired, was renewedly dedicated to God in the month of June, 1834. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. Joel Mann, from Hag-gai ii. 9: "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts; and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts."

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered on this occasion. The services were solemn, and were rendered peculiarly interesting by the presence of the venerable and Rev. Samuel Goodrich, the former beloved pastor of the church, who was providentially present and assisted in the services.

In the summer of 1841 the exterior of the edifice was thoroughly repaired, and several important additions and alterations were made. Subsequently a new bell, a new pulpit and its surroundings, and an organ have added their attractions to this more than centenary building, still a work of strength and giving promise of a long future as a sanctuary of the Most High.



## ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH.

The foundation of the Episcopal Church in Ridgefield was laid by the Rev. Samuel Johnson, of Stratford, the first clergyman of the church in Connecticut, who preached here occasionally for several years and was instrumental in bringing several families into the church. He began his services here about 1725. He was succeeded by the two brothers, Henry Caner, of Fairfield, and Richard Caner, of Norwalk; also by the Rev. John Beach, of Newtown, and Rev. James Wetmore, of Rye, who remained until about the year 1744.

In the year 1728 the Rev. Henry Caner reported several small parishes or missionary stations beyond the bounds of his proper care, one of which was Ridgefield, with twelve families.

The Rev. John Beach, missionary at Newtown, reported to the Society in London "that he often officiated and administered the sacraments in Ridgefield, distant from his residence about eighteen miles, where in 1735 there were nearly twenty families of very serious and religious people, who had a just esteem of the Church of England and desired to have the opportunity of worshiping God in that way."

The Rev. Joseph Lamson, assistant to the Rev. James Wetmore, of Rye, officiated at Ridgefield in 1744, in connection with Bedford and North Castle, until his removal to Fairfield, in 1747, where he still continued to serve the church in Ridgefield, as far as can be ascertained, until 1762. He was succeeded by the Rev. Richard S. Clark, of Salem, about 1764, who held services in connection with Salem and Ridgebury.

In the year 1768 the Rev. Epenetus Townsend took the charge of services in Ridgefield, in connection with Salem and Ridgebury, and so continued until 1776, when, after the Declaration of Independence, he left, and was appointed chaplain to one of the loyal battalions then stationed in New York, and in 1779 the battalion was ordered to Halifax, Nova Scotia. He embarked from New York, with his wife and five children, in one of the vessels. A severe storm arose soon after leaving New York, and the vessel in which he embarked was foundered in Boston Bay, and every soul on board perished.

All of the clergy of the church who ministered here previous to the American Revolution were missionaries of the "Society (in England) for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," and received annual stipend towards their maintenance. The Rev. Mr. Townsend, as well as other missionaries, received an annuity of twenty pounds sterling in addition to the tax raised among his people for his support.

As far as ascertained, an interval of about thirteen years passed by before the resumption of regular services by a clergyman of the church.

The following, among others, are from the records of the town of Ridgefield:

"March 29, 1738. Received of the Members of the Church of England in Ridgefield, the whole of their Ministerial Taxes for the year 1737.

"Received per me, JOHN BEACH,  
"Missionary.

"A true copy of original receipt,  
"TIMOTHY KEELER,  
"Register.

"Recorded April 3, 1738."

"NORWALK, March 17, 1742-3.

To Mr. JOHN SMITH, *Collector at Ridgefield.*

"Sir. Please to cross Messrs. Benjamin Bradley, Jonathan Brooks, Robert Faquer, Samuel Lobdell, Caleb Lobdell, Ebenezer Lobdell, Jabez Northrop, Richard Osborn, Daniel Sherwood Senr. Daniel Sherwood Junr. David Osborn, Alexander Resseguie, Isaac Resseguie, Jacob Resseguie, Nathan Sherwood, Robert Smith, John Whitlock, Abraham Whitlock, and Nathan Whitlock's names out of your book for collecting Minister's rates; and place their dues to account of—

"Your humble servant,  
"RICHARD CANER,  
"Missionary.

"Recorded Oct. 24, 1784 per me—

"TIMOTHY KEELER,  
"Register."

"March 15, 1744. Mr. Samuel Smith.

"Sir. Please to pay the Ministerial Rate which you have collected of the professors of the Church of England in Ridgefield, to Mr. Joseph Lamson; and his Receipt shall be your discharge, from Sir,

"Your humble servants,  
"HENRY CANER, *Missionary.*  
"RICHARD CANER, *Missionary.*

"Received to Record,

"Dec. 24, 1744, and Recorded per me—

"TIMOTHY KEELER,  
"Register."

"Ridgefield, April 14, 1744. Then received of Samuel Smith Collector of the Ministerial Rate for the town of Ridgefield for the year 1744, the sum of forty Pounds, eleven Shillings and eleven Pence of the old tenor, in full of the Episcopal parties' Rates in said Ridgefield.

£40.11.11. Received per me,

"JOSEPH LAMSON.

"Received to Record December 24, 1744, and Recorded per me.

"TIMOTHY KEELER,  
"Register."

The Rev. David Perry was the first settled minister of the church after the Revolution, and entered upon his charge in September, 1789, having been ordained by Bishop Seabury, Sept. 22, 1789, to deacon's orders, and to priest's orders on the 16th of October following.

The following is copied from the church records:

"At a meeting of the First Episcopal Society holden at the Town House in Ridgefield by adjournment on the first Monday in August, 1789,  
"Voted, That Doct. David Perry receive Holy Orders for this Society."

The first church edifice erected here for Episcopal worship was about 1740, upon a spot in the Town Street which was granted by the proprietors of the town at a meeting held Jan. 4, 1739, and was situated directly in front of what was called the Sturtevant lot, and bounded within three feet of said lot; the space granted was thirty-six feet north and south, and twenty-six feet east and west, its location being a little south of the present church lot.

The following article, in reference to the grant, is from the Ridgefield town records:

"Whereas, at a Proprietor's Meeting January 4<sup>th</sup> 1740, did by a major vote, order and empower us the subscribers, to view and look a spot or place of ground that may be convenient and suitable to build and erect

a Church or Meeting House, for those that are of the profession of the Church of England; and also to agree with, and confirm unto them the said spot or piece of land so agreed upon; in pursuance to, and by virtue of said vote, we have set out, and do agree with the said professors, that they shall have liberty of a certain spot of land in said Town Street, on the front of that home lot that was formerly John Sturtevant's deceased; the west sill bounded within three feet of the line or front of said lot; which said spot or piece of ground is to be in extent, thirty-six feet north and south; and east and west, twenty-six feet.

"RICHARD OLMSTED,  
"MATTHEW SEAMORE,  
"TIMOTHY KEELER,  
"Committee."  
"Received to Record, Jany. 10, 1746, and recorded per me—  
"TIMOTHY KEELER,  
"Register."

This building remained until after the Revolutionary war. During the war it was taken by a commissary of the American army as a building in which to deposit the public stores. In April, 1777, the building was set on fire by the British forces in their retreat from Danbury. Though not consumed, it was rendered unfit for use as a place of public worship.

In June, 1784, at a meeting of those friendly to the Church of England, it was deemed advisable to tear down the old building and build a new one.

The following is the notice for said meeting:

"To ALEXANDER RESSEGUIE, of Ridgefield in Fairfield County, Greeting.  
"By authority of the State of Connecticut; you are hereby required to notify and warn all the inhabitants living within the limits of the First Society in Ridgefield, that are professors of the Church of England, to meet and hold a Society meeting at the Church in said Society, on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of instant, June, at 3 o'clock, after noon, (it being the place of worship for said professors,) for the purpose of choosing Society officers, repairing the church, hiring some person to perform Divine Service in said Episcopal Society, granting a tax for these purposes, and any other business proper for said meeting to do or act. By order of us—

"PHILIP B. BRADLEY,  
"Justice of Peace.  
"EBENEZER LOBDELL,  
"DAVID PERRY,  
"ALEXANDER RESSEGUIE,  
"Principal Inhabitants."

"RIDGEFIELD, June 19, 1784."

The meeting was held according to notice, and it was voted not to repair the old church, to hire a person to perform divine service for four months; and to pay ten pounds by way of tax on the list of the year 1783 for the purpose of paying for this and other society charges.

At a meeting held on the 28th day of October, 1784, it was voted to pull down the old church and build a new one, forty feet long, thirty feet wide, and eighteen-feet posts, a little south of the old one, and on the ground formerly granted by the town for that purpose:

*Voted*, To pay a tax of one shilling on the pound on the list of the year 1784, by the first day of April, 1785, for the purpose of erecting a new church.

*Voted*, That Benjamin Hoyt, Ezekiel Wilson, Thaddens Sturges, and Jonathan Whitlock be a committee to conduct the pulling down and disposing of the old church, and to manage and carry on the building of a new one."

In the mean time, Lieut. Benjamin Smith donated a piece of ground on which to erect a new church, the deed to which was executed in the year following, and

bearing date Sept. 20, 1785. The plot thus deeded was on the northeast corner of his homestead, adjoining the Town Street, and which now comprises the yard in front of the present church. The ground in size was seventy-three feet in length north and south, and forty-three feet wide east and west, and bounded east by the Town Street, north by Nathan Dauchy's land, and south and west by his own land. The conditions were that it should be forever appropriated to the use of said church.

At a meeting held at the house of Capt. Vivus Dauchy, on the 16th day of December, 1784, it was

*Voted*, To reconsider the appointment of the Committee made at the meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October; and that Benjamin Hoyt and Ezekiel Wilson constitute the Committee to carry on the building of said church.

*Voted*, That the said building shall stand at the north east corner of the Sturtevant lot so called, adjoining the Town Street, in the First Society in Ridgefield, on a piece of ground given by Benjamin Smith for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the church shall not exceed forty-two feet in length; and that the width and height be in proportion, according to the judgment of the Committee."

The church was subsequently erected on said land, and the size adopted was forty-four feet in length and thirty-two feet in width, the ends facing north and south, with a door on the south and east sides, but without a steeple. A gallery was placed in the south end of the church.

The project of building immediately following the Revolutionary war, when the effort in raising means was difficult from the impoverishment of the people generally in consequence of the war, it was not without struggles, financially and otherwise, that the process of rebuilding was carried forward, and that by slow degrees through a series of years, until it was finally accomplished, for the resources of the parish were limited.

The following are extracts from the parish record at that time:

"At a meeting of the First Episcopal Society in Ridgefield, holden at the house of Capt. Vivus Dauchy on the first day of Sept. 1785.

*Voted*, That Ebenezer Stebbins be a committee, in addition to Benjamin Hoyt, and Ezekiel Wilson, appointed at a former meeting, to manage the building of a Church.

*Voted, likewise*, That all persons who have undertaken to get timber for a church, shall have it at the place appointed, by Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> inst. September; or the Committee shall not be obliged to accept it in payment of taxes."

At a meeting of the society, held at the house of Capt. Vivus Dauchy, April 27, 1787:

*Voted*, That said Society shall pay a tax of two pence on the Pound on the List of 1786, into the Treasury of said Society by first day of October next, for the purpose of carrying on the building a Church.

*Item*. That any person who shall furnish good eighteen inch chestnut shingle for the Church, shall be allowed one Pound, four shillings per thousand. That good whitewood inch Boards, shall be valued at six shillings per hundred foot; three-quarter inch Oak Boards at four shillings and six pence per hundred foot.

*Item*. That the aforesaid articles shall be delivered at the church in said Ridgefield by the first day of June next; otherwise, the Committee shall not be obliged to take them in payment of taxes towards the building a church."

At a meeting held at the house of Capt. Vivus Dauchy, on the 31st day of September, 1787:



"Voted, That the Society shall pay a tax of four Pence on the Pound on the List of the year 1787, by the first day of April next.

"Voted, That Rye at three shillings and six pence per bushel; Corn at three shillings; Oats at one shilling and six pence; Buckwheat at two shillings per bushel; Flax at seven Pence per pound, shall be taken in payment of said tax."

The church was not comfortably furnished until the year 1791, and the entire ground-floor was not occupied with pews until some time after the church was used for divine service; and at a meeting held March 30, 1791, it was "Voted, That we will sell the lots for the pews in the church," and also "Voted, That they shall be sold at public vendue to the highest bidder." It was voted, also, "that the committee appointed to carry on the finishing of the church shall lay out the lots for the pews in the same, and advertise and sell them as before directed, when and at what time they think proper. Benjamin Hoyt and Joshua Burt were said committee."

At a meeting held April 17, 1794, a committee was appointed to superintend the building of a pulpit in the church.

At a meeting held April 17, 1799, it was

"Voted, That the Society's Committee be directed to procure materials, and build the remaining pews in the church, and charge the same to the Society."

In the year 1819 the church was materially altered and improved, side galleries were built, and a steeple erected on the south end, in style and form the same as the one at the Congregational church. The door at the east side was closed, and in its place a square pew was built and occupied by Abijah Resseguie and others, he then being in manhood's prime, and, although nearly sixty years have rolled away, he still continues in a vigorous old age an honored citizen among us, and also continues to hold, as in years past, the office of one of the wardens of the church.

In the year 1820 an effort was made by the parish to obtain some remuneration for the damage done to the former church edifice during the Revolutionary war. The following is from the parish records:

At a meeting held on the 24th day of April, 1820, it was,

"Voted, That Mr. Jeremiah Mead be an agent for the purpose of preferring a petition in behalf of this parish to the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, at their session in May next, praying for a remuneration of damages sustained in consequence of the injury done to the former church belonging to the parish, by being used as a storehouse for provisions by the Commissary, in the time of the Revolutionary War; and that said Agent be empowered and instructed to employ counsel to advocate said petition."

The application, however, proved unsuccessful, and no compensation was ever obtained to cover the loss sustained in consequence of the firing of the church by the British.

In the year 1828 a bell was procured of six hundred pounds' weight and placed in the tower of the church,—the first one owned by the parish.

The church edifice never having been consecrated, on the 12th day of November, 1831, the Right Rev. Bishop Brownell visited the parish and consecrated it by the name of St. Stephen's Church, and at the

same time administered the rite of confirmation to fifty-two persons,—a large number for this parish. It was a year of great religious interest in the church, and sixty new communicants were added in the course of the year, under the successful ministry of the Rev. Charles J. Todd.

In the year 1832 the square pews in the centre of the church were removed, and "slips," or long pews, erected in their stead, the square pews on each side still remaining.

On the 29th day of January, 1841, a meeting was held and measures taken for the erection of a new church, provided a suitable site could be procured. A plot of ground directly in the rear of the church-lot was generously donated by Isaac Jones, the owner of the land adjoining, in size one hundred feet east and west, and eighty-two to eighty-six feet north and south, the deed bearing date Aug. 12, 1841. Mr. Jones had previously given a strip of ground ten feet wide at the south end of the old church-lot. The corner-stone of the present church was laid by the rector, the Rev. Warner Hoyt, in the presence of a number of the clergy and of the inhabitants, on the 12th day of August, 1841. The church was finished and consecrated by Bishop Brownell on the 20th day of September, 1842. The organ—the first one in possession of the parish—was placed in the church and first used at its consecration.

Thus was completed and consecrated the third church in this parish, a little over a century after the erection of the first church edifice. Its dimensions are forty feet in width and fifty-six feet in length, with a projection in front for a vestibule and stairway of five feet, and with the addition afterwards of a chancel of a depth of fifteen feet, making the entire present length of the church seventy-six feet.

Tablets were also placed in the walls of the church in commemoration of two venerable laymen of the parish,—one to Samuel Stebbins, Esq., the other to Nathan Dauchy, both firm and zealous supporters of the church in all its vicissitudes; the former a distinguished and useful citizen of the town as well as of the parish, for forty years the town clerk, and during a period of forty-six years the parish clerk and for over forty years the senior warden of the church.

In the month of August, 1851, the bell now in use, and weighing fifteen hundred and eight pounds, from the foundry of Meneely & Sons, of West Troy, N. Y., was placed in the tower of the church, the old one having been disposed of to a neighboring church in Georgetown.

In the year 1857 measures were taken for an extensive alteration and improvement in the church, the building of a chancel, alteration of the pews, and to be so arranged as to admit of a centre aisle, coloring and frescoing the walls, the procuring of a new organ from the manufactory of George Jardine, of New York, of a sweet tone and finish, all of which im-

provements were at an expense of about two thousand dollars. The church was reopened with appropriate services by the Right Rev. Bishop Williams, assisted by a number of the neighboring clergy, including former rectors of the parish.

In the summer of 1875 the organ was enlarged by the addition of several stops and one hundred and twenty-six new pipes, making the present number of sixteen stops and four hundred and fifty pipes, the addition nearly doubling its capacity.

The parish has a fund of a little over three thousand dollars, the income of which is devoted towards the support of the ministry.

The first efforts made towards the creation of a fund for the support of the ministry in the parish was in 1836, when Nathan Dauchy, Esq., of Troy, N. Y., a native of this town, made an offer for that purpose on condition that the parish would raise a like amount. In order to avail themselves of his generous offer, they used persevering exertions and raised the sum of twelve hundred dollars, to which he added a like amount. This, with later benefactions from other sources, increased the fund to its present amount,—three thousand and fifty dollars.

In the year 1869 a legacy was received by the bequest of the late Nancy Smith, of Norwalk, formerly of Ridgefield, of five hundred dollars, the income of which is to be used in aid of the poor of the parish.

It is also possessed of a convenient parsonage, built in 1853, with a glebe of four acres, in the central part of the village, of a valuation of about six thousand dollars.

The first building erected for a parsonage was in 1838, upon a piece of ground containing one acre, appropriated by the late Philip Bradley, in the northern part of the village street, and which, with improvements, is now the residence of Gould Rockwell. It was built by a stock company and occupied by the clergy until it was afterwards sold and the present one erected, more contiguous to the church.

The first wardens of the church of whom there is any existing record—that of 1788—were Benjamin Hoyt and Dr. David Perry. Dr. Perry was also the clerk and treasurer of the parish from the commencement of its permanent record in 1784 until his admission to holy orders in 1789. The present wardens of the church are Keeler, Dauchy, and Abijah Resseguie, who have served the church in that capacity for a series of years, Mr. Dauchy having served the church as a vestryman, parish clerk, and in his present office for nearly half a century. During a period of thirty-three years he has been a warden of the church.

The likeness of nearly all the rectors of the present century are placed on the walls in the vestry-room. On the left hand of the chancel is a memorial window to the Rev. Warner Hoyt, under whose zealous rectorship the present church was built, and who is the only one of its clergy thus far who has been removed by death while in charge of the duties of the parish.

Among the many persons not heretofore named, with two or three exceptions, as among the early and prominent supporters of the church who have passed away may be named the following: Caleb Lobdell, Vivus Dauchy, Jacob Resseguie, Ezekiel Wilson, John Jones, Ebenezer Stebbins, Hackaliah Burt, Eliphalet Brush, Nehemiah Sturges, Epenetus How, Jeremiah Smith, Jacob Dauchy, Benjamin Sherwood, Benjamin Smith, Jeremiah Mead, Daniel Jones, Timothy Jones, Isaac Olmsted, Thaddeus Olmsted, David Burr, Samuel B. Grumman, Czar Jones, John M. Smith, Philip Northrop, William Sherwood, Stephen Olmsted, Walter Dauchy, Chauncey Olmsted, William Crocker, and others. Of the above, Jacob Dauchy served as a warden of the church twenty-three years, and John M. Smith for a period of twenty-seven years.

The first instance in which the rite of confirmation was administered was in 1809, when Bishop Abraham Jarvis visited the parish and confirmed eighty-six persons, which, with those confirmed on subsequent episcopal visitations, makes the entire number of five hundred and ten persons confirmed in this church to the present time. The parish at the present time numbers eighty-five families, about two hundred and fifty baptized members, and one hundred and forty communicants.

The first year in the history of the parish in which it was enabled to avail itself of a resident clergyman with constant services was in 1837, under the rectorship of the Rev. Eli Wheeler, who remained until 1839, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Warner Hoyt, who entered upon the regular charge of the parish and was the first occupant of its first parsonage, just erected; and the parish has been favored with the undivided services of all succeeding clergymen to the present time.

The ministrations of all the preceding clergy, from the year 1789, when the Rev. David Perry assumed the charge of the parish, until the year 1837, were in connection with other parishes. The Rev. David Perry served the churches in Ridgebury and Danbury a portion of the time. His successors—the Rev. David Butler, the Rev. Elijah G. Plumb, and the Rev. Reuben Hubbard—each had charge of the three churches of Ridgefield, Danbury, and Redding, giving an equal time to each.

The Rev. Charles Smith, the Rev. Origen P. Holcomb, and the Rev. Charles J. Todd each had charge of the churches in Wilton and Ridgefield, residing in Wilton and devoting two-thirds of the time to Wilton and one-third to Ridgefield. The Rev. Jacob Lyman Clark took the charge of the church in Ridgefield in connection with that of New Canaan, ministering half the time in each until 1837 and residing in New Canaan, when he accepted a call to the church in Waterbury, Conn., which brings us to the period when constant services were secured to the parish, under the Rev. Eli Wheeler, as has been before mentioned.



The following are the inscriptions upon tablets in the church :

"THIS TABLET  
is erected by the Vestry,  
in memory of  
NATHAN DAUCHY,  
a zealous friend and supporter  
of this Church.  
He died April 14, 1824,  
in the glorious hope of a  
Blessed immortality.

Mark the perfect man, and  
behold the upright, for the  
end of that man is peace."

"THIS TABLET  
is erected by the Vestry,  
in memory of  
SAMUEL STEBBINS, Esq.,  
Senior Warden of this Church,  
From the year 1793, until his death.  
He died March 27, 1836,  
aged 73 years.

His untiring activity,  
and Christian devotedness,  
in the cause of religion, and  
the prosperity of this  
Church: are worthy  
of a grateful remembrance  
in the annals of  
this Parish.

Blessed are the dead who  
die in the Lord."

The lettering on the tablets is all in capital letters.

The succession of ministers has been as follows :

1725, Rev. Samuel Johnson, of Stratford; 1727, Rev. Henry Caner, of Fairfield; 1735-38, Rev. John Beech, of Newtown; 1740, Rev. James Wetmore, of Rye; 1742, Rev. Richard Caner, of Norwalk; 1744, Rev. Joseph Lamson, of Rye, with Bedford and North Castle; 1764-67, Rev. Richard S. Clarke, of Salem, with Ridgefield and Ridgebury; May 26, 1768, to July, 1776, Rev. Epenetus Townsend, of Salem, with Ridgefield and Ridgebury;\* 1788, for four months, Rev. David Belden; Sept. 22, 1791, to April 1, 1795, Rev. David Perry; Feb. 14, 1799, to Oct. 1, 1804, Rev. David Butler; Sept. 15, 1805, to May 1, 1806, Rev. Russell Wheeler; April 2, 1807, to April 11, 1811, Rev. Elijah G. Plumb; Jan. 15, 1812, to April, 1818, Rev. Reuben Hubbard; June 15, 1818, to April, 1823, Rev. Charles Smith; May 26, 1823, to Easter, 1831, Rev. Origen P. Halcomb; May 15, 1831, to September, 1834, Rev. Charles J. Todd; July 20, 1835, to March 26, 1837, Rev. Jacob Lyman Clark; Aug. 1, 1837, to March 31, 1839, Rev. Eli Wheeler; April 28, 1839, to June 30, 1839, Rev. Joseph H. Nichols; July 6, 1839, to Oct. 18, 1844, Rev. Warner Hoyt (deceased); April 1, 1845, to Oct. 1, 1845, Rev. Thaddeus M. Leavenworth; Dec. 1, 1845, to April 1, 1846, Rev. David H. Short; April 13, 1846, to April 20, 1850, Rev. Henry Olmstead, Jr.; June 8, 1850, to May 30, 1852, Rev. William Staunton; August,

1853, to Nov. 14, 1853, Rev. Theodore S. Rumney; March 1, 1854, to Oct. 7, 1863, Rev. William H. Williams; May 1, 1864, to May 10, 1866, Rev. Curtiss T. Woodruff; June 3, 1866, to May 1, 1868, Rev. Francis T. Russell; Aug. 2, 1868, to Aug. 3, 1873, Rev. Samuel F. Jarvis; Oct. 1, 1873, to May 12, 1878, Rev. David D. Bishop; July 1, 1878, Rev. Francis A. Henry, present rector.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The extensive religious revivals that preceded and followed the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church at the Christmas Conference held in Baltimore, Md., 1784, prepared and raised up young men who became evangelists and were sent by Rev. Francis Asbury, traveling bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to various parts of the United States.

As early as 1787 the Rev. Cornelius Cook preached in Ridgefield, and Ambrose Olmstead, Jr., received the following certificate :

"To whom it may concern: These certify that Ambrose Olmsted, Jr., is a constant attendant at public worship (as opportunity offers) with the people called Methodists, and that he contributes his due proportion toward maintaining said worship & ministry.

"Certified by me,

CORNELIUS COOK,

"Minister of the M. E. Church.

"Nov. 16, A.D. 1787.

"Recorded Dec. 1st, 1787, by Benjamin Smith, Congregational Society's Clerk."

At the first Methodist Conference held in New York City, June, 1789, the Rev. Jesse Lee, from Virginia, was sent to the Stamford Circuit, in New England. His first sermon was preached in Norwalk, on the highway, June 17, 1789. He formed a two weeks' circuit, embracing Stamford, Norwalk, Fairfield, Stratford, Milford, Redding, Danbury, Ridgefield, and other intermediate places, and the name was changed to Fairfield Circuit. Mr. Lee preached his first sermon in Ridgefield, probably on the 26th of June, 1789, in a building known as the "Independent School-house," situated near Mr. P. C. Lounsbury's house, formerly owned by Nehemiah Perry, M.D.

On Thursday, Jan. 28, 1790, the first "class" was formed in Ridgefield, being the third in New England, and was composed of Ichabod Wheeler and wife and Daniel Keeler and wife, at Limestone, at the house of Ichabod Wheeler, near Taylor's Mill, which continued to be a preaching-place for some years.

On the 27th of February, 1790, Elder Jacob Brush and Revs. George Roberts and Daniel Smith came from Maryland to labor under direction of Mr. Lee, who extended his labors eastward to New Haven.

The early records of the society being lost, it is impossible to ascertain who were the early members of the Methodist Society in Ridgefield, but we find in the records of the Congregational Society that certificates similar to the one above quoted were issued by "Jesse Lee, Methodist preacher," to Jeremiah Olmsted, of Ridgebury, Oct. 17, 1789; also, April 1, 1790, by Rev. George Roberts, to Ichabod Wheeler; Dec. 24, 1790, by Rev. John Bloodgood, to Daniel Keeler;

\* The above were missionaries of the "Society in England for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts" previous to the Revolutionary war, and officiated at Ridgefield in connection with other stations or at intervals.

March 30, 1797, to Stephen Mills, Powell Batterson, and Jonathan Stevens; March 27, 1798, John Mills; Dec. 10, 1804, Thaddeus Benedict; Dec. 10, 1804, Joseph Mead (3d); Nov. 5, 1805, Saml. Hoyt (2d); Dec. 7, 1805, Abijah Hyatt; March 31, 1806, Benjamin Bouton; Aug. 6, 1807, Martha Bouton; Nov. 23, 1807, Jabez M. Gilbert; March 23, 1808, Danl. Dean; Nov. 14, 1809, Amos Baker, M.D.

For several years there was no preaching upon the Sabbath by the "circuit-preachers," but this vacancy was most acceptably filled by the frequent and voluntary labors of Absalom Day, of Norwalk, Aaron Sanford and Hawley Sandford, of Redding, Rory Starr, of Danbury, "local (or lay) preachers," and James Coleman, "superannuated," of Ridgefield, whose name and labors have been handed down in grateful remembrance to the children of the fathers. "Classes" were formed in North Street in 1805, in the village in 1809, and from 1807 to 1826 the houses of Thomas Hyatt, Jabez M. Gilbert, and Amos Baker, M.D., were the regular preaching-places of the "Methodist itinerants."

In 1824 the first church edifice was erected, standing in the fork of the roads leading to the districts called North Street and Titicus, and the "circuit" appears under the name of "Redding and Bridgeport." Frequent revivals of religious interest had occurred, especially in the years 1816, 1822, and 1828. In 1831 a more extensive and powerful work was experienced, resulting in large additions to all the churches. Among the converts was Mr. William Crocker, who soon became a very acceptable and useful "local preacher."

The following is a list of the ministers sent by the New York Conference to the circuits embracing Ridgefield from the year 1790 to 1836, at which date Ridgefield became a station, with a resident minister.

Fairfield Circuit: 1790, John Bloodgood; 1791, Nathaniel Burton Mills, Aaron Hunt; 1792, Joshua Taylor, Smith Weeks; 1793, James Coleman, Aaron Hunt; 1794, Zebulon Kaukey, Nicholas Snethen.

Redding Circuit: 1795, Daniel Dennis, Timothy Dewey; 1796, Elijah Woolsey, Robert Leeds; 1797, David Buck, Augustus Jocelyn; 1798, William Thatcher; 1799, David Brown; 1800, Augustus Jocelyn; 1801, Samuel Merwin, Isaac Candee; 1802, James Coleman, Isaac Candee; 1803, James Campbell, N. U. Tompkins; 1804, Peter Moriarty, Sylvester Foster; 1805, Peter Moriarty, Samuel Merwin; 1806, Nathan Felch, Oliver Sykes; 1807, James M. Smith, Zalmon Lyon; 1808, Noble W. Thomas, Jonathan Lyon.

New York Conference: 1809, Billy Hibbard, Isaac Candee; 1810, Nathan Emory, John Russell; 1811, Aaron Hunt, Oliver Sykes, John Reynolds; 1812, Seth Crowell, Gilbert Lyon, S. Beach; 1813, Aaron Hunt, Henry Eames; 1814, Ebenezer Washburn, Reuben Harris; 1815, Elijah Woolsey, Reuben Harris; 1816, Samuel Bushnel, John Boyd; 1817, Sam-

uel Bushnel, Theodocidus Clarke; 1818, James M. Smith, Theodocius Clarke; 1819, J. S. Smith, Phineas Cook; 1820, Laban Clark, Phineas Cook; 1821, Laban Clark, Aaron Hunt; 1822, Samuel Cochrane, Aaron Hunt; 1823, Samuel Cochrane, John Reynolds; 1824, Elijah Woolsey, John Reynolds, Aaron Hunt (super).

From 1825 to 1827 it was called Redding and Bridgeport Circuit: 1825, Marvin Richardson, H. Humphreys, Frederic W. Siger, A. Hunt (super); 1826, Marvin Richardson, H. Humphreys, A. Hunt (super), Oliver Sykes; 1827, Henry Stead, John Lovejoy, J. C. Bontecue, O. Sykes (super).

Redding Circuit: 1828, Henry Stead, Gershom Pearce; 1829, Ebenezer Washburn, Gershom Pearce; 1830, Ebenezer Washburn, Oliver V. Ammerman; 1831, James Young, Josiah Bowen, O. Sykes (super); 1832, Nicholas White, Jesse Hunt; 1833, Jesse Hunt, John Burton Beach; 1834, Josiah Bowen, John Burton Beach.

Redding and Newtown Circuit: 1835, Humphrey Humphreys, Josiah L. Dickerson, John Davies.

In 1836, as above stated, Ridgefield was separated from other appointments and became a "station," having as its pastor Rev. Parmelee Chamberlain, who remained two years, and at the close of his labors reported a membership of one hundred and eighteen, "probationers" included.

In the year 1839 occurred the most extensive religious awakening in the history of the church, under the ministry of Rev. Thomas Sparks. The curiosity of the community to hear the "experience of a converted sailor"—Rev. George C. Bancroft—drew large audiences. But the relation of these "experiences" was accompanied by such spiritual power, and enforced by such vivid declaration of divine truth and the clear and logical arguments concerning the truths of the gospel, as presented by Rev. Paul R. Brown, that many who came through curiosity were deeply convinced of the truth, resulting in the conversion of large numbers and the increase of the membership of all the churches in the village.

The large accession to the Methodist Church and congregation made it necessary to provide a larger place of worship. Accordingly, in the year 1841, the house now standing on the corner of Main and Ca-tonah Streets was erected, during the pastorate of Rev. Charles Chittenden. The humble beginnings of ninety years ago are represented to-day by a membership of nearly two hundred.

Nor has the influence of this church been confined to this vicinity alone. Other towns and the distant West have heard the gospel preached by the sons of those fathers and mothers. Revs. Stephen Remington, Thomas B. Rockwell, William Crocker, Albert Nash, Elias Gilbert, Alonzo B. Pulling, Miles N. Olmsted, and Frank W. Lockwood have been sent forth from her bosom as chosen ministers of God, while the plains of India have been hallowed by the self-sacrificing labors and early death of Mrs. S. Mi-



nerva Downey, daughter of Rev. Thomas B. Rockwell.

The following list of names is of those ministers who have been stationed in Ridgefield from 1836 to 1878: 1836-37, Rev. Parmelee Chamberlain; 1838-39, Rev. Thomas Sparks; 1840, Rev. Seymour Van Deusen; 1841-42, Rev. Charles Chittenden; 1843-44, Rev. Abram S. Francis; 1845-46, Rev. Charles Stearns; 1847-48, Rev. Sylvester S. Strong; 1849-50, Rev. Nathaniel Mead; 1851, Rev. Ira Abbott; 1852-53, Rev. Reuben H. Loomis; 1854-55, Rev. Friend W. Smith; 1856-57, Rev. Joseph Wildey; 1858-59, Rev. Joseph Woolley; 1860-61, Rev. Joseph Smith; 1862-63, Rev. Calvin B. Ford; 1864, Rev. Samuel F. Johnson; 1865-66, Rev. James D. Bouton; 1867-69, Rev. George L. Thompson; 1870-72, Rev. Larman W. Abbott; 1873-75, Rev. Theodore C. Beach; 1876, Rev. John B. Merwin; 1877, Rev. William Ross; 1878, Rev. Smith H. Platt.

The history of this church would not be complete without reference especially to one to whose tireless labors, consistent life, and godly example the church is indebted more than to any other person for its growth and influence in the community,—Jabez M. Gilbert. The "Methodist itinerant" came preaching a universal atonement, man's moral agency, a full, free, and perfect salvation from sin, the new birth, the knowledge of the "witness of the Spirit," the duty of holiness of life. These truths met the wants of his soul; he accepted them, hesitated not to join the little band of like faith, demonstrated by a long and consistent life the truth of the doctrine he professed, and died leaving a vacancy not soon to be filled. A man of firm convictions, strong will, stern integrity, deep and ardent sympathies, liberality equal to and often beyond his means, the church found in him a reliable leader, a wise counselor, a constant and liberal supporter, the poor a cheerful and open-hearted benefactor, and the community a recognized example of consistent piety.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The Congregational Church in Ridgebury was organized in the month of January, 1769. It was composed of eighteen members, "professing the doctrine and practicing the discipline agreed upon by the General Consociation of the Churches of Connecticut at their meeting in Saybrook, 1708."

It appears from the records that meetings for public worship were held as early as 1760, in what was called the "New Patent meeting-house," which was probably built as early as 1738, but there was no settled pastor until 1769, when a council of the consociated pastors and elders of the Western District of Fairfield County—composed of Revs. Jonathan Ingersoll, Robert Silliman, Moses Mather, Samuel Sherwood, Seth Pomroy, Hezekiah Ripley, and Ebenezer Davenport, together with the following nine messengers: Mr. Joseph Bishom, of Stamford; Joseph Platt,

Esq., Norwalk; Lieut. Nathan Olmsted, Ridgefield; Mr. Stephen Godfry, Green's Farms; Capt. Elisha Albert, Greenfield; Lieut. Nehemiah Mead, Wilton; Theophilus Fitch, Esq., Canaan; Deacon Daniel Andrews, Norfield; Ensign Nathan Read, Middlesex—was convened and the church organized.

At the time of its organization the church consisted of the following eighteen members: Rev. Samuel Camp, Jabish Smith, Isaiah Birchard, James Northrop, John Rockwell, Daniel Coley, David Rockwell, Timothy Benedict, Samuel Keeler, Lemuel Abbott, Samuel St. John, John Joyce, Jonathan Osborn, Samuel Gates, James Sears, John Barber, Thomas Frost, and Thomas Wilson; and the Rev. Samuel Camp was ordained and installed as their first pastor.

Mr. Camp's salary was "seventy-five pounds lawful money annually." The society also voted to give him one hundred and fifty pounds for his settlement, to be paid in three equal annual instalments. Mr. Camp continued his labors with the church until 1804,—a period of over thirty-five years,—when he was regularly dismissed. He died in Ridgebury March 10, 1813.

After the dismissal of Mr. Camp the church was without a settled pastor until 1821, when Rev. Nathan Burton was installed as pastor. He continued until June, 1841,—a period of nearly twenty years. Mr. Burton was a member of the church in Ridgebury, and was chosen deacon in 1813. After serving in that capacity for eight years he resigned the office, in October, 1821, to become pastor of the church. He died in August, 1859, aged seventy-nine years.

Mr. Burton was succeeded by Rev. Zalmon B. Burr, of Westport, Conn. He was ordained and installed in June, 1843, and remained with the church seven years. After Mr. Burr the society engaged the services of Rev. Martin Dudley, who preached about a year.

The next settled pastor was Rev. Philo Canfield, of Buffalo City Presbytery. He commenced his labors in August, 1852, and was installed in September of the same year. Mr. Canfield continued his relations with the church until the spring of 1856, when the connection was dissolved. In August of the same year Rev. William W. Page was employed to preach for the society one year as a supply. From September, 1859, to September, 1861, Rev. E. S. Huntington, of Danbury, preached for the society. Mr. Huntington was succeeded by Rev. F. J. Jackson, who preached nearly a year.

At a special meeting of the church, convened for that purpose, December, 1862, a call was extended to Rev. John E. Elliott, of Barkhamsted, Conn. Mr. Elliott accepted the call, commenced his labors in February, 1863, and was ordained and installed in May following. He remained with the church but two years or thereabouts.

In the autumn of 1867, Rev. Augustus Alvord, of Bolton, Conn., commenced preaching for the church,

and remained with them until August, 1871, four years, preaching as a stated supply, and in September of the same year (1871) Rev. William M. Parsons, of Brooklyn, N. Y., was invited to supply the pulpit. The invitation was accepted, and Mr. Parsons has continued his labors with the church until the present time.

Mr. Camp, the first pastor of the church, was a native of Salisbury, Conn. But little is known of the results of his labors. He left on record the names of thirty-five children of members of the church baptized by him from 1769 to 1799, none of whom are now living, so far as known. Mr. Burton also records the names of some twenty "children of believing parents" baptized by him. Of those baptized in infancy by Mr. Burton, but one is a member of the church at the present time or residing in Ridgebury, though several are known to be living elsewhere.

During the long interval between the dismissal of Mr. Camp and the settlement of Mr. Burton services were regularly held in the church, the pulpit being supplied by neighboring ministers or a sermon read by some person of the congregation appointed for that purpose; and from 1813 to 1817 a season of special religious interest was enjoyed, thirty-four members being added to the church by a public profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The labors of Mr. Burton were highly appreciated by the church and eminently blessed of God. From 1821 to 1843, which covers the whole period of his ministry as pastor, one hundred and fourteen were added to the church, of whom "some remain unto this present, but the greater part are fallen asleep."

During the pastorate of Mr. Burr, 1843 to 1850, eight new members were added. From 1850 to the close of Mr. Canfield's pastoral relations with the church, in 1856, twenty were added. From 1856 to the present time the additions to the church have been "few and far between,"—only seventeen in the whole twenty-two years.

There have been nineteen deacons of the church since its organization in 1769, of whom but one, Deacon James E. Hayt, remains. In October, 1762, the Ecclesiastical Society of Ridgebury bought the land on which the church now stands of John Whitlock. The consideration was "the love and respect I have and do bear unto said Dissenting Society in Ridgebury."

Previous to this time, it is said, an old Congregational church of some kind stood on the hill about half a mile south of the present house of worship. This was probably the "New Patent meeting-house" before alluded to. But in August, 1768, the society voted to build a "church" forty-six feet long by thirty-six feet wide, to be "shingled with cedar shingles, and sided with chestnut or oak." It was further voted that "the new house shall stand facing the east, and be finished by the first day of July, 1769."

In February, 1784, it was voted "that we will do something towards making the meeting-house more comfortable and convenient," and in 1793 a committee was appointed to "mark out the meeting-house into pews and sell them, and to lay out the money that shall arise therefrom on the house." The congregation worshiped on rough wooden benches for twenty-four years before the pews were built, and listened to golden truths preached from a plain wooden pulpit. There were no stoves except such as the more elderly females brought with them on the Sabbath, and these were always replenished with fresh coals from the neighboring fireplaces during the intermission. The house was without plastered walls, but we never heard that any of the congregation complained of the cold. After the introduction of pews, the two—known as No. 5—on each side of the pulpit were reserved as "honorary pews," and the two—No. 11—"under the stairs" as "spare pews."

During the brief service of a Mr. Perkins, who supplied the pulpit for nearly a year after the dismissal of Mr. Camp, it was voted, in October, 1804, that "persons of other persuasions may come and hear Mr. Perkins preach."

At a meeting of the society held Nov. 30, 1818, it was voted "that the Society grant liberty to the town of Ridgefield to hold their Town-Meeting in the Meeting-House in said Ridgebury for one Meeting."

During the summer of 1816, and again in 1834, the society repaired the meeting-house built in 1768, very much improving its external appearance, and in 1838 they also thoroughly repaired the interior, entirely removing the wall, pews, and pulpit, supplying their places with new walls, convenient slips, and a desk of more modern style. They also closed the doors on the north and east, leaving but one entrance to the church.

In the spring of 1832 the society purchased ten acres of land, with the buildings standing thereon, for a parsonage, and Feb. 12, 1838, they sold the same to David Hanford, of Norwalk, Conn.

In the year 1844 the present pleasant and convenient parsonage-house was erected on a plot of ground four rods by twenty, presented to the society by Mr. David Hanford and the late Gamaliel N. Benedict, Esq.

The "old church," which had stood as a sort of moral lighthouse for more than eighty years, and which had been the spiritual birthplace of so many souls, was finally demolished, and a new house thirty by forty-six feet erected in its place, which was dedicated, with appropriate exercises, to Almighty God in 1851. It is well furnished, with a bell weighing nine hundred pounds, a melodeon, etc., and, though there is but a feeble remnant of the church left, yet the Word of God is faithfully preached every Sabbath and the ordinances of the gospel regularly administered.

Legacies have been left the society at different



times, amounting in the aggregate to over seven thousand dollars, the income from which is appropriated to the support of the gospel and other current expenses of the church.

In former years the business of "*hatting*" and shoemaking was extensively carried on in Ridgebury, which gave employment to a large number of people, male and female. At the present time there is no manufactory of any kind in the place, and the Protestant population is somewhat diminished.

Located near the church is a beautiful cemetery, containing an acre or more of ground. A part of it was used for burial purposes years before the Revolutionary war, and contains the bones of some of its heroes. Within a few years it has been twice enlarged and inclosed by a neat and substantial iron fence. It is now one of the pleasantest rural cemeteries of its size in the State.

An old burial-ground belonging to the Episcopal Society was located on the south and east of their church edifice, on the hill three-quarters of a mile south of the present cemetery, a century and a half ago. In 1860 several of the old tombstones were standing. At the present time none of them remain.

#### PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.\*

An Episcopal congregation existed in the society in the northern part of the town called Ridgebury in the early part of the last century, and services were held contemporary with those in Ridgefield. It appears from the printed reports of the "*Society for the Propagation of the Gospel*" that prior to 1731, and for some time afterwards, Ridgefield, Ridgebury, and the Oblong (Salem) were considered in some sense within the bounds of the parish or mission of Fairfield. The church appears to have been built about the middle of the last century, and was located in an elevated position of the place, on the open space or green about half a mile south of the present Congregational church. The exact date of its erection cannot now be ascertained.

In a letter of the church-wardens and vestrymen of Salem to the Venerable Society in London, dated Aug. 31, 1767, they thus state: "That we formerly united with the brethren of the Church at Ridgefield and Ridgebury, on the borders of the Connecticut Colony, and engaged the Rev. Mr. Clark to read Divine service and sermons to us on Sundays. Since Mr. Clark left us, by the advice of the Rev. Mr. Dibble (of Stamford), and the Rev. Mr. Leaming (of Norwalk), we have employed the worthy Mr. Epenetus Townsend, who hath for some time alternately read to us and the people of Ridgefield and Ridgebury, whose exemplary life, sober conversation, and devout performances of religious offices highly recommended him to our esteem; and as the poor people of Ridgefield and Ridgebury, by the concurrence of the Church Wardens

and Vestry in this memorial, hope to be indulged in being included under his care, having formerly a conjunction with some of the neighboring places in the Province of New York, experienced the goodness and compassion of the 'Venerable Society' in appointing the Rev. Mr. Lamson to officiate among them, being many in number, having built a Church in each of those places, Ridgefield but eight, and Ridgebury but four miles from Salem, but at such a distance from Norwalk that they expect but very little service from the Rev. Mr. Leaming; whereupon we have unitedly sent our respective bonds to the Rev. Dr. Auchmuty, of New York, in trust, obliging ourselves to pay in each place, equal to £10 sterling per annum, in the whole amounting to £30 per annum for the time being; and we no longer expect the Society's favor than we shall continue to deserve it."

The Rev. Mr. Townsend accordingly went to England to receive holy orders, and returned in April, 1768. In a letter dated the 29th of September, 1768, he informed the society "that he arrived at his Mission on the 26th of May, 1768, and was kindly received. The church-wardens, also of Salem, in the name of the people belonging to the Mission, have returned thanks to the Society for Mr. Townsend's appointment. At Salem and Ridgefield there are one hundred and fifty church people, at Ridgefield eighty."

In a letter to the society, dated Sept. 29, 1769, he says, "I have constantly performed Divine service equally in my three Churches of Salem, Ridgefield, and Ridgebury; in each of which places people are zealous in their attendance on public worship; and I have the pleasure to observe that through the divine blessing on my labors each of those congregations is somewhat increased."

In the same letter he says, "I beg liberty to request a favor from the Society, which may perhaps be of considerable service to me; the professors of the Church in Conn. are taxed for the support of the Minister of the Church in the same proportion as the Congregationalists for the support of their minister. This tax is levied and collected by the Congregationalists, together with their own, and by them paid to such ministers of the Church as are appointed over them by the Society. Now Ridgefield and Ridgebury being in Conn. the Committee appointed for raising and paying the minister's rate at Ridgebury have been in some doubt whether I am entitled to the rates of the Church people there, because it is certain they were formerly under Mr. Leaming's care, and had no written appointment, or anything from under the Society's hand to convince them that the Society had now included them within this Mission. Should the Ven. Society mention Ridgefield and Ridgebury in an abstract, as parts of my Mission together with Salem; or should they in a letter to the Church Wardens and Vestry of Ridgefield and Ridgebury, or in some other method give assurance that Ridgefield and Ridgebury belong to my Mission, it must

\* Now extinct.

be of advantage to me, as it would remove all doubt whether I was by the laws of that Colony entitled to the Church people's rates in those places."

The society's abstracts for 1772 say "that Mr. Townsend, missionary at Salem, states his congregations to be increasing. Hath baptized sixty-two infants and two adults." In 1775 they say "that Mr. Townsend is constant in the performance of his duty in his own parishes, and preaches frequently in the parts adjacent. From Ladyday to Michaelmas he baptized twenty-one infants and one adult, and admitted two new communicants." The abstracts for 1776 add "that one letter from Mr. Townsend, of September 29, 1775, gives the account of his mission, in which he hath baptized thirty infants, buried seven, and married three couple in the preceding half year."

During the interval of the Revolutionary war there was a suspension of services in Ridgebury, as in the other stations, by the departure of the Rev. Mr. Townsend, in July, 1776, as stated in the account of St. Stephen's church. The last services held in Ridgebury of which there is any existing record was in 1779, where we find the following in the Ridgefield parish record:

"At a meeting of the First Episcopal Society in Ridgefield, holden at the Town House on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of Sept. 1789, the following occurs among its doings:

"Voted, That this Society shall pay a tax of two pence on the pound on the list of said Society by the first of March annually to David Perry, as long as he shall serve them in the office of a Minister.

"Voted, That the Society will consent that said Perry shall go to Ridgebury one quarter of the time."

At a meeting of said society in the year following the above consent, according to the record, was withdrawn.

Thus, after the services of the church had been maintained with more or less frequency nearly half a century in Ridgebury, they appear to have been brought to a close, as far as any existing record remains. Removals and deaths wrought many changes in the congregation. Many of those remaining united with the Ridgefield church. Among its active supporters in the latter period of its history were Dr. John Andreas, the Sherwood families, Dr. Stephen Bennett, Nehemiah Sturges, Eliphalet Brush, and others. The two latter-named families united with the church in Ridgefield, and their constant attendance there is still in the recollection of many of its members.

The church edifice, which stood on the north side of the green, and was about the size of the first one erected in Ridgefield Parish, remained until about the year 1810, when, being much out of repair, it was taken down and its materials disposed of for other purposes, with the exception of a stone, still visible, supposed by many to have been one of the corner-stones. No vestige of its foundation now remains.

## CHAPTER LXVI.

### RIDGEFIELD (Continued).

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Town-Meeting, 1715—Early Births—The Schools—Burial-Places—Change in the Boundary of Ridgefield—The Ridgefield Press—Census from 1756 to 1880—State Senators—Judge of Probate—Representatives from 1740 to 1880—Town-Houses—The Pound—Jerusalem Lodge, No. 49, F. and A. M.—Jerusalem Chapter, R. A. M.—Pilgrim Lodge, No. 46, I. O. of O. F.—Grand List, 1879—Military—The Soldiers of Three Wars—Muster-Roll of Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Company, 1776—War of the Rebellion—Action of the Town—List of Soldiers.

THE following are the proceedings of the town-meeting held in 1715:

"At a Town Meeting Held in Ridgefield Decembr 27 Anno Dom 1715 Benjamin Willson, Samuel Smith and Joseph Benedict were by a Major vote Chosen Select Men for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing."

The following officers were also chosen: Constable, Daniel Olmstead; Trustees, Joshua Lobdell and James Northrop; Surveyors, Jonathan Rockwell, Richard Olmstead, and Nathan St. John; Collector of Town Rate, Timothy Keeler; Tavern-Keeper, Mr. Osborn; Fence-Viewers, James Benedict, Joseph Northrop.

Richard Osborn, Samuel Smith, and Benjamin and Richard Olmstead were selectmen in 1716. Lieut. Samuel St. John, Samuel Smith, and Daniel Olmstead were "townsmen" in 1718.

Samuel Smith, Thomas Hyatt, and James Northrup were selectmen in 1747. In 1749, Matthew Benedict and Nathan Olmsted were selectmen.

#### FIRST BIRTHS.

The following is a record of a few of the early births:

"Ezekiel Hawley, son of Thomas Hawley, of Ridgefield, was born on April y<sup>e</sup> 15th 1713, being Wednesday."

"Joseph Hawley, y<sup>e</sup> son of Thomas Hawley, was born on y<sup>e</sup> Lords day, being May 16th, 1714."

"Rachael Keeler, y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Keeler, of Ridgefield, was born Oct. 4th 1706."

"Elizabeth Keeler, y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Keeler, of Ridgefield, was born on y<sup>e</sup> 18 Nov., 1708."

"Rebeckah, y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of James and Jerusha St. John, born Aug. 12, 1706-."

"Ebenezer, y<sup>e</sup> son of Ebenezer and Hannah Smith, born Oct 3, 1706-."\*

"Daughter of Matthew and Deborah Keeler was born October y<sup>e</sup> 5th, 1760."

"Martha, y<sup>e</sup> son of Martha and Deborah Keeler, was born April y<sup>e</sup> 10, 1702."

"Hannah, daughter of Timothy and Mary Keeler, was born Sep. y<sup>e</sup> 30, 1702."

"Jonathan, y<sup>e</sup> son of Timothy and Mary Keeler, was born Decr y<sup>e</sup> 27, 1705."

"Elizabeth, daughter of Jesse and Melitabal Benedict, born June 16<sup>th</sup> 1757."

"Phillip, son of Caleb and Bithiah Lobdell, born Oct y<sup>e</sup> 7, 1761."

#### THE SCHOOLS.

The first reference to schools found in the town records is in the year 1721, when it was voted that "eight pounds shall be raised for y<sup>e</sup> support of a school." The first school-house was erected prior to 1726, and stood in the church-green, near by the present site of the Congregational church. The date of

\* Probably 1763.



erection of this pioneer house is unknown, but, as stated above, it was prior to 1726, for in that year it was voted to repair the school-house.

This house was occupied until 1743, when the school was removed to the town-house. In 1725 the town was released from paying taxes, "provided they draw no money out of the treasury for the school."

It is evident that various methods were resorted to in the early days for the maintenance of the schools. The following extract will prove of interest:

"At a sheep meeting held in Ridgefield, Dec. 24, 1742, it was voted by a majority that the money coming for the hire of the Sheep the last year shall be given as a bounty to help maintain the town School for ever, and when the money is gathered it shall be delivered to the committee that is appointed to take care of the bounty money given by the Government to support y<sup>e</sup> school, And ordered by the above said vote to let out the said money as y<sup>e</sup> money is that comes from the government, and to improve the use thereof to pay it towards y<sup>e</sup> maintenance of said town school forever.

"Test TIMOTHY KEELER,  
"Clerk."

"This sheep-hire," says Rev. Mr. Teller, "is easily explained. Until about the year 1760 there were a considerable number of sheep in the town, owned by the town,—Mr. Goodrich says about two thousand,—which were kept by a shepherd in the summer months, and regularly twice in the week let to the highest bidder to lay in his plow-land during the night season, which method of enriching the land, it is stated, 'caused the worn land to produce excellent crops of wheat of the best quality.' The money thus obtained was that which was appropriated by the town for school purposes."

The following receipt appears on town records:

"Ridgefield, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1743, then received of Capt. Richard Olmstead and Matthew Benedict, Committee of the Donation Money Given by the Government, y<sup>e</sup> sum of 25£ 14s. and 6d. in order to pay the School Master. We say we received it, as Witness our hands,

"JOSEPH KEELER,  
"JAMES BENEDICT,  
"School Committee."

In 1742 the town by a major vote released the people of the New Patent (Ridgebury) from paying any tax to the town school on condition that they should keep a school among themselves six months yearly.

At this time there was in the town but one school-house, and that was located nearly opposite Mr. Abner Gilbert's residence.

Rev. Samuel Goodrich says in his history of the town, written in 1800, that the schools of the town "are maintained 1<sup>st</sup> in part by the produce of the sales of lands in Litchfield County by the State and appropriated to the schools. 2<sup>nd</sup>. By the produce of an excise duty laid on Rum and Tea, but the act, proving unpopular, was never carried into general execution; the money paid in by this town was returned and appropriated for the benefit of schools. 3<sup>d</sup>. By the 40/ on the thousand, as it is called. 4<sup>th</sup>. By the produce of the sales of the western lands, and lastly, in case of deficiency, by a tax on the scholars."

Mr. Goodrich also says that the "wages given to

masters is from 15 to 18 dollars per month, according to number of scholars and the ability of the teachers. There is taught in our schools Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and Grammar, some Catechising, and a little manners. It has been remarked that since the visiting committee have attended to their duty our schools are under better regulation and our scholars make greater proficiency. There are a number of young people who have been taught in our schools who have gone into other parts and taught with applause. Board for children is from seventy-five cents to one dollar per week, and tuition from fifty cents to one dollar per quarter."

"At a Town-Meeting held in Ridgefield, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1746, at y<sup>e</sup> said meeting Sergt James Northrup by a Major vote was chosen Moderator.

"The s<sup>d</sup> meeting by their Major vote do agree and order that there shall be two women Schools be kept from y<sup>e</sup> first of April next till y<sup>e</sup> first of Octobr<sup>r</sup> ensuing, y<sup>e</sup> one of s<sup>d</sup> Schools to be kept at y<sup>e</sup> Town house and y<sup>e</sup> other at y<sup>e</sup> house that was built for that purpose, a little northward of Jonah Smith's.

"Test TIMOTHY KEELER,  
"Registr."

"Ridgefield, April y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup>, 1749, then Received of Capt Richard Olmstead, Matthew Benedict, School Com<sup>tee</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> Donation money y<sup>e</sup> sum of Twenty six Pounds twelve shillings money in order to pay for y<sup>e</sup> keeping School or Schools in testimony hereof we do set our hands

"SAM<sup>l</sup> SMITH,  
"THOMAS HYATT,  
"JAMES NORTHROP,  
"Selectmen."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield by Adjournment from Decem<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> to Decem<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> AD 1753, Matthew Benedict being Moderator, it was Voted in s<sup>d</sup> meeting that there shall be two Men Schools kept 3 Months between this time and y<sup>e</sup> first of April next one of them at y<sup>e</sup> Town house and y<sup>e</sup> other at y<sup>e</sup> School house near L<sup>t</sup> Jonah Smith's. It was also voted in s<sup>d</sup> meeting that there shall be three School Mistresses provided and put into Schools y<sup>e</sup> first of April next and continue therein until y<sup>e</sup> first of October next, one of them to be kept in y<sup>e</sup> School house near L<sup>t</sup> Jonah Smiths, one of them in y<sup>e</sup> Town house, and one of them in or near Ben<sup>a</sup> Rockwells house.

"It was voted in s<sup>d</sup> meeting that two Men Schools shall be kept by two masters in (s<sup>d</sup> houses or places where y<sup>e</sup> above said men Schools are to be kept) from y<sup>e</sup> first of October next till y<sup>e</sup> next Annual Town Meeting."

In 1761 five schools were taught in the town,—one at the town-house, one at West Lane, one at Titicus, one at Limestone, and one at Florida.

Dec. 28, 1761, it was

"Voted, That there be five Schools kept within the Limits of this Society for three months, viz., one at the house near John Northrops, Jr., one at the Town House, one at the house near Benja<sup>a</sup> Stebbins, Jr., one at Limestone; and one near Platt's Mill, Provided there be a sufficient number of scholars at each school, to be Determined by the School Commi<sup>tee</sup> Capt. Daniel Bradley, Aaron Northrup, Tho<sup>s</sup> Hawley, Theophilus Stebbins, and Obadiah Platt were Chosen a School Committee.

"Granted a Rate or Tax of three farthings upon the Pound to Defray the Charges of the Schools and Society, to be paid by the first Day of May next.

"John Smith Jun<sup>r</sup> was Chosen a Collector to Collect the Society Rate and pay the same into the Hands of the Commi<sup>tee</sup> that has the charge of the School Bonds viz Sam Olmstead Esq Capt Richard Olmstead and Stephen Smith."

Dec. 22, 1762, it was

"Voted, That there shall be 25 Scholars to attend each School in the Society one Day with the other as long as the Schools are Continued."

On the 20th of December, 1763, at a meeting of the First Ecclesiastical Society, it was voted that the

schools be continued the same as the previous year, with the additional clause:

"Liberty is allowed by the Major vote of the meeting to set up Six Schools in the Society at or near the places where they were kept last year and to be kept by Masters for three Months, and each School to draw an equal Share of the ten Shilling upon the thousand allowed by the Government for the use of Schools and the Interest upon the Donation, provided they are kept two months compleat."

On the 14th of December, 1767, it was voted in the said society meeting that the "Society be Divided into Districts for Schooling."

In 1773 it was voted at a society's meeting

"That schools may be kept in the same places, and under the same regulations as last year, with this addition, that each Committee man warn the people in the District where he resides to meet at Time and Place, and the major part of their votes shall Determine who shall be the master to keep their school, and the Committee shall be concluded thereby and hire the master. Said district shall by their major vote order him to hire; and also with this reserve that the district up at Tyticus have Liberty to keep their school at the house near to James Smith's, or at any other place said District shall agree upon."

"At a Town Meeting held April y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1786 voted

"That the Proprietors of the Frame set up for a School House near y<sup>e</sup> Dwelling house of Jeremiah Wilson may have the privilege of appropriating the present Town house towards finishing said School House; provided the Proprietors of said School House fully vest the Town and the first Society with the privilege of holding all their necessary Town Proprietors, First Society and Freemens Meetings therein and that they (the proprietors of s<sup>d</sup> School House) will finish and compleat said School House and make it Convenient by seating y<sup>e</sup> same."

The building above referred to was known as the Independent School-House.

"At a meeting of the Proprietors of the Independent School House holden at the House of Widow Clemence Smith on April y<sup>e</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1786 Silas Hull Moderator and Jacob Smith Jun Clerk protempore of said meeting, Voted

"That the proprietors of y<sup>e</sup> said Independent School House will take and Appropriate the now Town House, agreeably to the vote of the Town Respecting said Town and School House and do wholly and fully Invest the Town with all the Privileges respecting said School House, which are Mentioned in the Town Vote respecting y<sup>e</sup> same."

This was an advanced school, and for nearly thirty years was taught by Mr. Samuel Stebbins.

At present there are fourteen districts, as follows: No. 1, Scotland; No. 2, Bennett's Farms; No. 3, Limestone; No. 4, Titicus; No. 5, West Mountain; No. 6, Centre; No. 7, West Lane; No. 8, Whipstick; No. 9, Flat Rock; No. 10, Branchville; No. 11, Florida; No. 12, Farmingville; No. 13, North Ridgebury; No. 14, South Ridgebury.

For present condition of schools, see General History.

#### BURIAL-PLACES.

The first ground set apart for a burial-place was situated immediately west of the present residence of William E. Benedict, and two stones are still to be seen,—one marking the grave of Sarah, wife of Richard Osborn, Esq., and the other that of Capt. Matthew Benedict. The former is the oldest in the town. The following extract is taken from the town records:

"At a Proprietors Meeting held in Ridgefield, Jan. y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1735-36. By their major vote, Timothy Keeler was chosen Proprietor's Clerk, or Register for y<sup>e</sup> year ensuing, and sworn according to Law before James Benedict, Justice of y<sup>e</sup> peace" Jan. y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1735-36.

"Att y<sup>e</sup> Meeting above s<sup>d</sup> the Proprietors by their Major Vote do grant and by their order do appoint for y<sup>e</sup> town's use a certain Spot or piece of land for their burying place or yard; s<sup>d</sup> spot or parcell of Land Lying a little Southward of that lott or homestead that Milford Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith bought of Drinkwaters, and Northward of y<sup>e</sup> Car-path or Rhode that comes over Titticus river."

This spot is the old portion of the present cemetery. The Ridgebury Cemetery was designated as a burial-place Dec. 17, 1743. The following was the vote of the town:

"The town by their major vote, do allow and order y<sup>e</sup> spot of land lying at y<sup>e</sup> North-east corner of Joseph Northrops home lot, in y<sup>e</sup> New Patent, shall be a burying place for y<sup>e</sup> people of y<sup>e</sup> New Patent to bury their dead therein."

#### CHANGE IN THE BOUNDARY.

In the year 1727 the people of Ridgefield became somewhat exercised over a proposed change in the boundary-line between this town and the State of New York. It was proposed by Connecticut to grant to New York sixty-two thousand acres along its north and south boundaries in exchange for Greenwich and portions of Stamford on the Sound. By this exchange the loss of territory would be so great as to materially weaken the township, and, May 13, 1727, a petition was presented to the General Assembly for the annexation to the town of a gusset of land lying northward, which was granted May 11, 1732.

#### THE RIDGEFIELD PRESS.

The idea of establishing a newspaper in Ridgefield was conceived by D. Crosby Baxter. The first issue appeared on Jan. 13, 1875, printed on a jobber five by seven in the chase, and was entitled *Baxter's Monthly*, with the motto, "Tall oaks from little acorns grow." On February 13th it was enlarged to eight by eleven; in March it was further enlarged to eleven by fifteen. In March, 1876, it was enlarged to a quarto sheet, twelve by seventeen, and continued in that form till Sept. 19, 1877, when it was printed on a single sheet, thirteen by twenty, and on the following month still further enlarged to its present size,—viz., twenty-two by thirty-one.

The subscription-list steadily increased from a round dozen on its initial issue until it has now attained a circulation of six hundred copies weekly, which reaches all the States, and with a limited foreign circulation. D. Crosby Baxter is the editor, with whom is associated Charles H. Jarvis, as local.

#### CENSUS OF THE TOWN.

1756, 1115; 1810, 2103; 1820, 2301; 1830, 2322; 1840, 2474; 1850, 2237; 1860, 1910; 1870, 2213; 1880, 2028.

#### SENATORS.

The following persons have been elected from the town to represent the Eleventh District in the State Senate:

1834, John F. King; 1837, Samuel S. St. John; 1849, Joshua I. King; 1853, John B. Hyatt; 1867, Peter P. Cornen; 1875, Lewis H. Bailey.



## JUDGES OF PROBATE.

1841, Harvey Smith, one year; 1842, William Sherwood, two years; 1844, Harvey Smith, two years; 1846, Jacob T. Haviland, one year; 1847, Harvey Smith, one year; 1848, Ebenezer Hawley, four years; 1852, Edward Couch, two years; 1854, Henry Smith (2d), one year; 1855, Hiram K. Scott, fifteen years; 1870, D. Smith Sholes, one year; 1871, Elijah L. Thomas, two years; 1873, Hiram K. Scott.

## REPRESENTATIVES TO LEGISLATURE.

1740, James Benedict, Samuel Smith; 1741, James Benedict; 1742-43, James Benedict, Daniel Olmstead; 1744, James Benedict, Richard Olmstead; 1745, Timothy Keeler, Joseph Hawley; 1746-47, Richard Olmstead, Samuel Olmstead; 1748-49, James Benedict, Samuel Olmstead; 1750, Samuel Olmstead, Stephen Smith; 1751, James Benedict, Samuel Olmstead; 1752, Richard Olmstead, Samuel Olmstead; 1753-55, Samuel Olmstead, Stephen Smith; 1756, Elijah Olmstead, Samuel Olmstead; 1757, Elijah Hawley; 1758, Elijah Hawley, Sam'l Olmstead, S. Smith; 1759, Samuel Olmstead, John Benedict, Stephen Smith; 1760, Samuel Olmstead, Stephen Smith; 1761, Samuel Olmstead, Lemuel Abbott; 1762, Samuel Olmstead, Stephen Smith; 1763, Timothy Keeler, Samuel Olmstead; 1764, Samuel Olmstead, Timothy Keeler, John Benedict; 1765, Timothy Keeler, Stephen Smith; 1766, William Lee, Nathan Olmstead; 1767, Wm. Lee, Nathan Olmstead, Samuel Olmstead, Stephen Smith; 1768, Samuel Olmstead, William Lee; 1769, Samuel Olmstead, William Lee, Philip Burr Bradley; 1770, Samuel Olmstead, Philip Burr Bradley, Benjamin Stebbins; 1771, Wm. Lee, Col. Philip Burr Bradley, Samuel Olmstead; 1772-74, Col. Philip Burr Bradley, Samuel Olmstead; 1775, Col. Philip B. Bradley, Samuel Olmstead, Capt. Lemuel Morehouse; 1776, Samuel Olmstead, Col. P. B. Bradley, Stephen Smith; 1777, Wm. Forrester, Nathan Olmstead, John Benedict; 1778, Nathan Olmstead, T. Keeler, W. Forrester, S. Olmstead; 1779, Samuel Olmstead, Wm. Forrester, Timothy Keeler, Jr., Stephen Norris, John Benedict; 1780, Nathan Olmstead, John Benedict, Col. P. B. Bradley, Capt. Jonah Foster, Timothy Keeler, Isaac Doolittle; 1781, Timothy Keeler, Ichabod Doolittle, Capt. David Olmstead; 1782-87, Col. P. B. Bradley, Capt. David Olmstead; 1788, Col. P. B. Bradley, William Forrester, David Olmstead; 1789, Col. P. B. Bradley, David Olmstead, Joshua King; 1790, Col. P. B. Bradley, Joshua King; 1791, Col. P. B. Bradley, Joshua King, David Olmstead; 1792, Joshua King, Wm. Forrester, Amos Baker; 1793, Joshua King, David Olmstead; 1794, Joshua King, William Forrester; 1795, Joshua King, David Olmstead, Wm. Forrester; 1796, Joshua King, Wm. Forrester, David Olmstead; 1797, David Olmstead, Samuel Dauchy; 1798, Samuel Dauchy, Nathan Smith, Joshua King, David Olmstead; 1799, Joshua King, Nathan Dauchy; 1800, Jacob Olmstead, Eliphalet Brush, Joshua King, Job Smith; 1801, Nathan Dauchy, Jared Olmstead; 1802, Joshua King, Samuel Stebbins; 1803, Samuel Stebbins, Nathan Dauchy, Jr.; 1804, Nathan Dauchy, Jr., Timothy Keeler, Nathan Smith; 1805, Nathan Dauchy, Nathan Smith, Job Smith, Jonathan Keeler; 1806, Job Smith, Jonathan Keeler, Samuel Stebbins, Timothy Keeler; 1807, Nathan Smith, Timothy Keeler (2d), John Jones, Jesse S. Bradley; 1808, J. Jones, Jesse S. Bradley, Jacob Dauchy, Timothy Keeler (2d); 1809, Jacob Dauchy, Timothy Keeler, Nathan Dauchy, Jesse S. Bradley; 1810, Nathan Dauchy, Aaron Stuart, Daniel Jones; 1811, Joshua King, Gamaliel Benedict; 1812, Joshua King, Benjamin Lynes, Matthew Keeler, Nathan Dauchy; 1813, Nathan Smith, Samuel Stebbins; 1814, Daniel Jones, Seth Boughton, Jesse S. Bradley, Jeremiah Mead; 1815,\* Jesse S. Bradley, Jeremiah Mead; 1816, Joshua King, Timothy Keeler, Wm. Hawley; 1817, Wm. Hawley, Gamaliel Benedict, Matthew Keeler; 1818, Eliphalet Brush, Jabez M. Gilbert; 1819, Gamaliel Benedict, Bradley Hull; 1820, Benjamin Lynes, Elijah Hawley; 1821, Benjamin Lynes, Aaron Lee; 1822, Aaron Lee, Lot Forrester; 1823, Aaron Lee, Riah Nash; 1824, William Hawley, Richard Randall; 1825, John F. King, Wm. Crocker; 1826, Jesse S. Bradley, John F. King; 1827, Jesse S. Bradley, Jabez M. Gilbert; 1828, Jabez M. Gilbert, Lot Forrester; 1829, Jesse S. Bradley, Aaron Lee; 1830, Aaron Lee, Ebenezer Hawley; 1831, Ebenezer Hawley, Gamaliel N. Benedict; 1832, Walter Dauchy, Thomas St. John; 1833, Thomas St. John, William Sherwood; 1834, Ebenezer Hawley, Gamaliel N. Benedict; 1835-36, Aaron Lee, Joseph C. Sears; 1837-38, Czar Jones, Major Boughton; 1839, Thadens Keeler (2d), Eli Rockwell; 1840, Keeler Dauchy, Eli Rockwell; 1841, William Lee, Samuel S. Olmstead; 1842, William Lee, Joseph C.

Sears; 1843, Albin Jennings, Ebenezer Hawley; 1844, Ebenezer Hawley, Major Boughton; 1845, Harvey Smith, Hezekiah Scott; 1846, Chauncey Olmstead, Nehemiah Keeler; 1847, Abijah Resseque, Benjamin D. Norris; 1848, George Keeler, Francis A. Rockwell; 1849, David Scott, Richard L. Gilbert; 1850, Hiram K. Scott, David Hurlburt; 1851, Russell B. Keeler, Robert C. Edmonds; 1852, Harvey K. Smith, James Smith; 1853, Edward Williams, Samuel M. Smith; 1854, Samuel S. Olmstead, Timothy Jones; 1855, Jesse S. Bradley, Charles Smith; 1856, William Howe, William M. Lynes; 1857, Benjamin K. Northrop, Hiram O. Nash; 1858, Jacob Dauchy, Ebenezer Jones; 1859, Edward H. Smith, Ebenezer B. Sanford; 1860, William Lee, John T. Rockwell; 1861, Samuel Scott, Benjamin K. Northrop; 1862, Charles Smith (2d), Jared N. Olmstead; 1863, Jared N. Olmstead, Charles Smith (2d); 1864, Abner Gilbert, Samuel S. St. John; 1865, Hiram O. Nash, E. W. Keeler; 1866, Albert Scott, C. W. Slanson; 1867, Henry Smith, F. A. Rockwell; 1868, Wm. O. Seymour, George Boughton; 1869, Wm. O. Seymour, H. K. Smith; 1870, Daniel L. Adams, Daniel Hunt; 1871, Peter P. Cornen, John S. Keeler; 1872, Elijah L. Thomas, George Boughton; 1873, H. K. Smith, Edward H. Smith; 1874, P. C. Lounsbury, L. C. Seymour; 1875, Nathan Lounsbury, Ira S. Keeler; 1876, Samuel J. Barlow, Simon Couch; 1877, Aaron Lee, Matthew Betts; 1878, Sereno S. Hurlbutt, David H. Valden; 1879, Benj. K. Northrop, Charles B. Northrop; 1880, Aaron W. Lee, John D. Nash.

## TOWN-HOUSES.

The first town-house was erected in 1743, at a cost of seventy-nine pounds seventeen shillings:

"The House, voted to be built for ye use of ye Town, is to be constructed in the manner following—viz—to be one Story high, 26 feet long, 18 feet wide, and a chimney at one end, quite across ye house—to be covered with good cedar shingles—3 feet long, if laid upon sawed lath—and if ye shingles be 18 inches or 2 feet—if laid on sawed boards—to be well closed with clapboards and door—two good floors,—to be well ceiled with white wood boards—with three Windows—one of the said windows to be on ye back side of ye house—20 in wide, and two feet long,—ye other two windows, each to have 3 feet and one half of glass—and the casement to run into ye wall—a good hearth—a well fastened bench raised within side of ye house—a good lock and key to ye door,—to be well underpinned—ye jambs and ye top of ye chimney to be well painted—

"The above said house, Gamaliel Northrop hath made an offer to build ye same, according to ye description above mentioned—for 79£ 17s old tenure, and to be finished by ye first day of December next—to being paid 50£ by ye first of April next, and ye said Gamaliel Northrop do promise.—In witness my hand this 29 day of December, 1743.

"GAMALIEL NORTHROP.

"In presence of

"TIMOTHY KEELER.

"JOSEPH FOLLIOT."

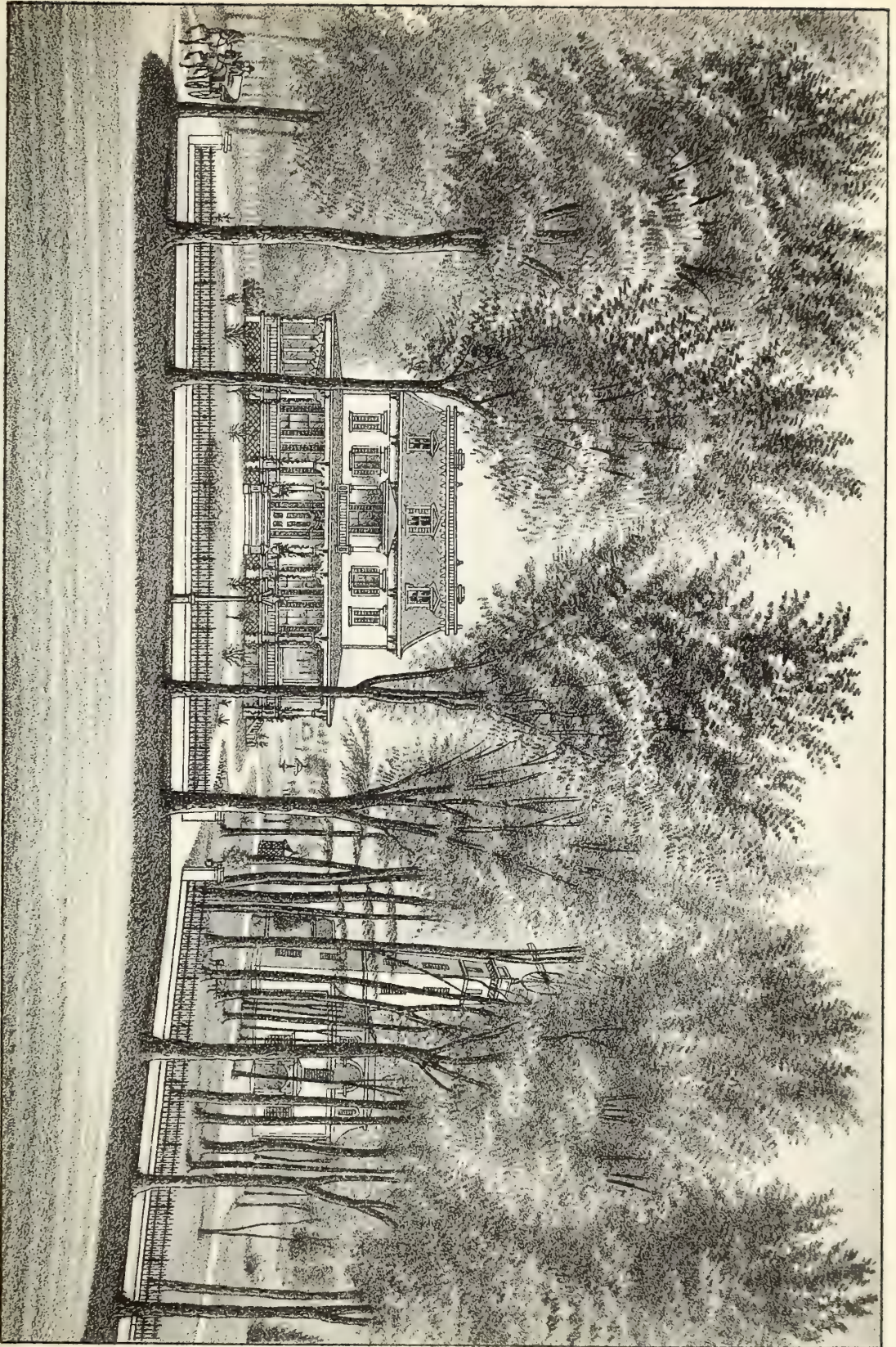
This house, says the Rev. Mr. Teller, in his "History of Ridgefield," 1878, "stood in the southwest corner of Mrs. Irad Hawley's yard, immediately in front of the Congregational lecture-room." In the following year it was removed to a point "south of the pound," which was probably south of Mrs. Nathan Smith's present residence."

This continued to be used both as a school-house and a town-house until 1776, when the old house was given to the proprietors of the Independent school-house to be used in finishing that house, "provided that the said Independent school-house shall be used for town and society meetings."

After the removal of the Independent school-house town-meetings were held in the churches until 1830, when the lower part of the Masonic Hall was made use of for that purpose. Meetings were held here until the erection of the present town-house, which

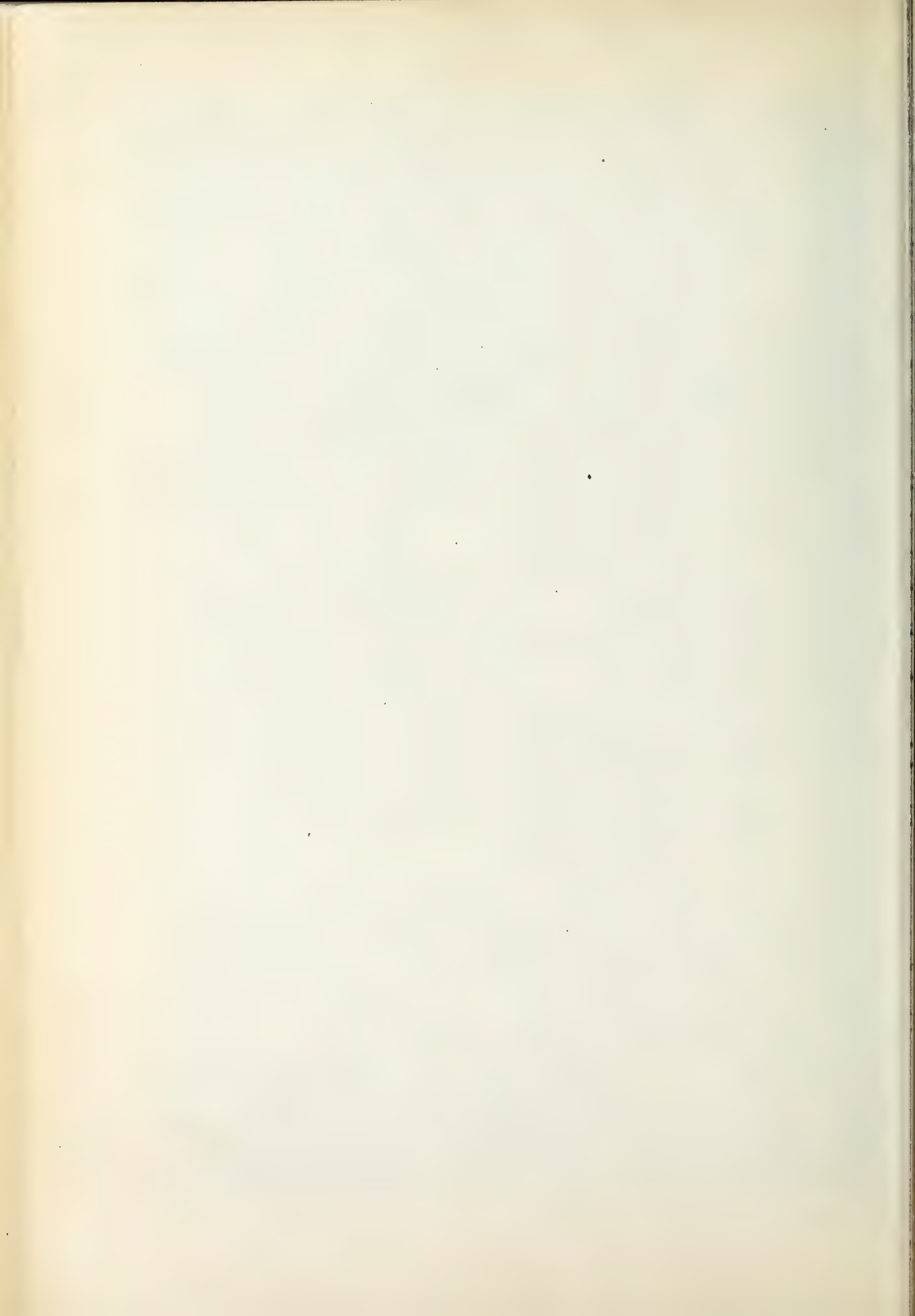
\* Special Session—Abner Gilbert, Jr., Nathan Dauchy.





"GROVE LAWN,"  
RESIDENCE OF HON PHINEAS C JOHNS, SAURV RUDGEFIELD CATH





was completed in 1876, at a cost of six thousand dollars.

#### THE POUND.

The first pound probably stood on the church-green, near the first town-house.

Dec. 24, 1753, it was

"Voted, That there be a new Pound built in y<sup>e</sup> lane northward of where David Scott lives—and to be 30 ft. in length and 25 feet in Breadth—and to Consist or be built with 4 Sills, 4 Plates, and four new Posts, and Eight Braces—all of good Sound White oak timber, hewn Square and well framed together and to be 5 feet between y<sup>e</sup> sills and plates."

"Annual Town Meeting legally Warned and holden in Ridgefield on y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> day of December A.D. 1795.

"Voted, That a Pound be built y<sup>e</sup> South side the Rocks, in the Street on y<sup>e</sup> west side the Path near Samuel Stebbin's Dwelling House, not to contain more ground in it than is equal to forty feet square."

This pound was located on the spot where Gen. Arnold's horse was shot from under him at the battle of Ridgefield.

#### JERUSALEM LODGE, NO. 49, F. AND A. M.

This lodge was chartered on the 19th day of October, 1808, with the following officers: Master, Daniel Jones; Senior Warden, Daniel Bouton; Junior Warden, Philip Bradley; Treas., Gen. Joshua King; Sec., Benjamin S. Smith; Senior Deacon, John Waterous; Junior Deacon, Jacob Northrup; Tiler, Lot Forrester. The first lodge-meeting was held at the house of Amos Smith, Nov. 30, 1808. Abijah Resseguie was initiated Oct. 13, 1812, and is now living and running the old Ridgefield Hotel, commonly known as Resseguie's Hotel. He is nearly sixty-eight years old in Masonry. His form is bent, but his mind is clear and active as ever.

The following are the names of the Worshipful Masters in the order in which they were elected: Thaddeus Olmstead, Jacob Dauchy, Jeremiah Mead, James S. Waterous, Lewis Olmstead, William Crocker, Philip Bradley, David Keeler, Erastus S. Bouton, Sherwood Mead, Hezekiah Scott, Hiram K. Scott, David Dauchy, Samuel Scott, Chas. Smith, Jr., Aaron G. H. Hurlbutt, William S. Todd, Samuel J. Barlow, Jacob L. Dauchy, Chas. B. Northrop.

The officers of the lodge for the year 1880 are: W. M., Chas. B. Northrop; S. W., A. G. Paddock; J. W., Hiram K. Scott; Treas., Lewis C. Seymour; Sec., Wm. S. Todd. The present membership is fifty.

#### JERUSALEM CHAPTER, ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

A charter was granted May 12, 1825, with officers as follows: High Priest, Jeremiah Mead; King, David Banks; Scribe, William Crocker.

The following have been the High Priests of the chapter since its organization: William Crocker; Hezekiah Scott, 1827-61; Hiram K. Scott, 1861-73; Wm. S. Todd, 1873-80.

The following are the present officers: H. P., Wm. S. Todd; P. S., F. L. Smith; King, — Sherwood; R. A. C., Chas. O. Olmstead; Scribe, Lewis A. Reed; 3d Veil, J. L. Dauchy; Treas., Wm. W. Seymour; 2d Veil, Samuel J. Barlow; Sec., Hiram K. Scott; 1st

Veil, Arthur N. Benedict; C. of H., Chas. A. Jennings; Tiler, Lewis C. Seymour. The chapter has twenty-three members.

#### PILGRIM LODGE, NO. 46, I. O. O. F.

The lodge was chartered in July, 1847. The first officers elected were: N. G., James Scott (2d); V. G., Augustus Lyon; Sec., Lewis H. Bailey; Treas., Sereno S. Hurlbutt. All of them are living and members in good standing.

The following have been Noble Grands of the lodge up to the present time: Augustus Lyon, Lewis H. Bailey, Daniel Lovejoy, James P. Smith, Sereno S. Hurlbutt, Hiram K. Scott, John Borden, Samuel H. Northrop, John W. Miller, Samuel Lobdell, Richard Studwell, H. D. Taylor, Harvey M. Bouton, Chas. A. Smith, Samuel C. Hawley, John R. Sherwood, Wm. Bennett, Alonzo Byington, Sylvester C. Canfield, Jacob L. Dauchy, Abram S. Nash, Nathan Perry, Ezra M. Bennett, Fred L. Smith, Wm. R. Hoyt.

The officers now serving are: N. G., Hiram K. Scott; V. G., Morris G. Bultery; Sec., Geo. I. Abbott; Treas., Lewis H. Bailey. The number of members in good standing is thirty-nine.

#### GRAND LIST, 1879.

465 houses, with two acres to each.....	\$349,666
18,882 acres of land.....	464,181
39 mills and stores.....	17,000
430 horses.....	21,938
1849 cattle.....	37,920
Sheep, in value.....	342
173 cartiages.....	8,970
Farming utensils, etc.....	350
Clocks, watches, etc.....	1,460
Pianos.....	2,825
Household furniture and libraries.....	4,550
Bank stock.....	29,997
Bonds.....	28,500
Invested in trade.....	21,900
Invested in manufactures.....	5,100
Money at interest.....	44,332
Money on hand.....	31,800
	<hr/>
Ten per cent. added.....	\$1,070,525
Deducted for indebtedness.....	15,310
	<hr/>
Making net assessment.....	\$1,076,106

#### MILITARY RECORD.

##### THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.

In the contest known as the French and Indian war Ridgefield contributed its full share both of men and means.

At a town-meeting held Sept. 20, 1748, "it was voted by a major vote that the powder and lead there was taken up by the soldiers that went for us to guard the upper towns the present year should be paid in a town way, amounting to the sum of £6, old tenure."

James Resseguie and Vivus Dauchy, two residents of the town, are known to have died in this war.

##### WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

The detailed history of Ridgefield in the war of the Revolution will be found on previous pages in this work. Here is appended the muster-roll of Capt. Gamaliel Northrup's company, A.D. 1776, probably the first company organized in the town to serve in the war:



Captain, Gamaliel Northrup.  
 First Lieutenant, James Betts.  
 Second Lieutenant, John St. John.  
 Ensign, Ebenezer Olmstead.  
 Sergeants, Thaddeus Keeler, Aaron Comstock, Gamaliel Osborn, Salmon Hubbell.  
 Corporals, Benajah Northrup, Alvin Hyatt, John Thomas, William Lee.  
 Drummer, John Joyce.  
 Fifer, Samuel De Forest.  
 Privates, Seth Baker, John Bennett, Abraham Betts, Stephen Beers, Dennis Collins, Ammon Crow, Arthur Forester, Moses Gilbert, Jared Hine, David Hall, Newton Hine, Levi Keeler, Uriah Keeler, David Lark, Jeremiah Mead, Mathew Mead, Nathaniel Northrup, James Nichols, Enoch Olmstead, Jeremiah Olmstead, Isaac Olmstead, Bartholomew Parsons, Stephen Renington, Silas Rockwell, Nathaniel Sterling, Phineas Sherwood, Albert Stuart, Asa Scribner, William Scott, Joseph Trowbridge, Peter Tuttle, Hezekiah Whitlock, Eleazer Watrous, Thomas Woodbridge, Israel White, Jabez Keeler, David Hoyt, Joseph Jackson, Thomas Jarvis, Reuben Jackson, Lockwood Keeler, Elijah Kellogg, Aaron Keeler, Trowbridge Bennett, Josiah Taylor, Gamaliel Benedict, Barnabas Huglin, Ezekiel Whitney, Seth Hubbell, Samuel Holmes.

#### WAR OF THE REBELLION.

Ridgefield was one of the first towns in the State to respond to the President's call for troops and to express her loyalty to the old flag.

#### MILITARY RECORD.

The following is a list of those who represented the town in the war of the Rebellion :

Avery, Treadwell, 1st Art., Co. E; must. Jan. 5, 1864; disch. Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Austin, David, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 10, 1865.  
 Austin, Hiram, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Sept. 25, 1863.  
 Austin, Jacob, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Avery, W. Charles, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Jan. 19, 1863.  
 Avery, William, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Jan. 6, 1864.  
 Avaunt, William, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Jan. 15, 1862; disch. March 29, 1863.  
 Brown, Franklin, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Jan. 13, 1862; disch. Feb. 24, 1863.  
 Brown, Jefferson, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Jan. 12, 1862; disch. Oct. 20, 1863.  
 Brown, Nehemiah, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Jan. 12, 1862; disch. Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Benedict, Charles H., 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. Feb. 26, 1863.  
 Bennett, Alfred, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. July 26, 1862; disch. Jan. 17, 1863.  
 Brinkerhoff, B. F., 17th Regt., Co. C; must. July 13, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Benjamin, C. M., 9th Regt., Co. K; must. April 1, 1862; disch. April 25, 1862.  
 Burt, Francis E., 10th Regt., Co. G; must. Oct. 2, 1861; disch. Aug. 16, 1865.  
 Burt, Charles H., 10th Regt., Co. G; must. Feb. 26, 1862; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Baxter, Samuel B., 11th Regt., Co. B; must. Dec. 16, 1863; disch. Oct. 25, 1864.  
 Bates, Francis H., 12th Regt., Co. E; must. Dec. 31, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Brown, James P., 15th Regt., Co. B; must. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. June 27, 1865.  
 Bradley, D. B., 23d Regt., Co. G; must. Sept. 7, 1862; disch. July 7, 1863.  
 Burt, Stephen, 23d Regt., Co. G; must. Sept. 7, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Barker, William E., 23d Regt., Co. K; must. Sept. 5, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Bentley, Benjamin, must. Oct. 23, 1863.  
 Bahreng, Ernest, must. Nov. 7, 1863.  
 Beers, Charles, 1st Art., Co. E; must. Jan. 5, 1864; disch. Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Betts, William H., 5th Regt., Co. G; must. March 17, 1862; disch. Oct. 17, 1863.  
 Boyle, Richard, must. Oct. 20, 1863.  
 Burns, John, must. Oct. 20, 1863.  
 Burr, Daniel D., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Carney, Lawrence, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. July 1, 1863.  
 Creeden, William, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Coe, Henry, 5th Regt.; must. July 22, 1861.  
 Casey, William E., 15th Regt., Co. B; must. Feb. 5, 1862; disch. Jan. 6, 1865.  
 Canfield, S. C., 15th Regt., Co. B; must. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. June 27, 1865.  
 Compton, Joseph, must. Jan. 5, 1864.  
 Dauchy, J. L., 11th Regt., Co. A; must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. Sept. 13, 1865.  
 De Forrest, Sylvester, 11th Regt., Co. A; must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. Dec. 20, 1862.  
 Davis, James W., 12th Regt., Co. E; must. Dec. 31, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Dykeman, Nirum, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Nov. 17, 1862.  
 Dove, D. G., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Dickens, Charles H., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Jan. 14, 1863.  
 Dann, Levi, 23d Regt., Co. E; must. Sept. 5, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Davis, George, must. Oct. 24, 1863.  
 Degeneres, Charles, must. Oct. 22, 1863.  
 Devins, George, must. Sept. 23, 1861.  
 Edmond, E. H., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Feb. 27, 1863.  
 Enright, James, 23d Regt., Co. G; must. Sept. 7, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Finch, N. A., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Fry, John G., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. Jan. 18, 1863.  
 Foote, Gaius St. John, 17th Regt., Co. H; must. Aug. 16, 1862; disch. Nov. 17, 1863.  
 Faroon, Robert, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. May, 1863.  
 Fox, Aaron, must. Sept. 23, 1861.  
 Godfrey, George F., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Gilbert, Smith, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. Feb. 14, 1863.  
 Gregory, David, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. Dec. 10, 1862.  
 Gilbert, John, 5th Regt., Co. A; must. July 22, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864.  
 Gilbert, George, 5th Regt., Co. E; must. July 22, 1861; disch. Aug. 5, 1864.  
 Gilbert, Edwin B., 5th Regt., Co. E; must. July 22, 1861; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Grumman, Frederick A., 5th Regt., Co. E; must. March 3, 1864; disch. Sept. 7, 1864.  
 Godfrey, Sylvester, 8th Regt., Co. H; must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Sept. 18, 1864.  
 Gage, Edwin B., 11th Regt., Co. A; must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. Dec. 21, 1865.  
 Gage, Rhomanza, 11th Regt., Co. A; must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. May 10, 1862.  
 Gilbert, Charles F., 12th Regt., Co. E; must. Nov. 30, 1861; disch. July 3, 1865.  
 Grannis, John H., 17th Regt., Co. C; must. July 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 30, 1864.  
 Gray, George, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 15, 1862; disch. March 28, 1863.  
 Gilbert, Charles, 23d Regt., Co. G; must. Oct. 31, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Gage, Seely, 23d Regt., Co. K; must. Sept. 6, 1862.  
 Gibbons, Edward, must. Oct. 24, 1863.  
 Gilbert, Charles, must. Oct. 22, 1863.

Harrington, John H., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Hoyt, John W., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. June 28, 1863.  
 Hull, Silas, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. March 25, 1863.  
 Holmes, J. W., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. July 26, 1862; disch. June 8, 1864.  
 Hall, Ezra S., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. Jan. 27, 1863.  
 Hendricks, Henry, 8th Regt., Co. H; must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. May 1, 1865.  
 Hubbell, Frank, 8th Regt., Co. H; must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Sept. 22, 1864.  
 Hendricks, David, must. Sept. 23, 1861.  
 Judd, Horace L., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Jennings, Charles A., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. July 1, 1865.  
 Jennings, William H., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. March 9, 1865.  
 Jarvis, J. J., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Juergens, Theodore, 6th Regt., Co. C; must. Oct. 11, 1863; disch. Aug. 11, 1865.  
 John, Frederick, must. Oct. 24, 1863.  
 Johnson, Samuel J., must. Nov. 3, 1863.  
 Johnson, William L., must. Dec. 22, 1863.  
 Knapp, Henry, 1st Art., Co. E; must. Jan. 5, 1864; disch. Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Knapp, Lewis, 1st Art., Co. E; must. Jan. 5, 1864; disch. Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Keeler, O. H., 5th Regt., Co. A; must. July 22, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864.  
 Keeler, Rufus D., 5th Regt., Co. K; must. March 17, 1862; disch. Dec. 19, 1862.  
 Keeler, Smith, 10th Regt., Co. G; must. Oct. 9, 1861; disch. Dec. 10, 1862.  
 Keeler, Eli J., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Klinefelter, J. C., 23d Regt., Co. G; must. Sept. 7, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Keeler, Oscar H., must. July 22, 1861.  
 Lockwood, Andrew, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Lee, A. W., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Lockwood, William H., 5th Regt., Co. A; must. July 22, 1861; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Lannon, Patrick, 11th Regt., Co. A; must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. Oct. 24, 1864.  
 Lounsbury, P. C., 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Dec. 24, 1863.  
 Les, Jort, must. Oct. 22, 1863.  
 Lloyd, Michael, must. Jan. 5, 1864.  
 Mead, Smith, 5th Regt., Co. A; must. July 22, 1861; disch. March 14, 1863.  
 Merritt, William M., 7th Regt., Co. D; must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 Moffatt, Edward, 7th Regt., Co. D; must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 12, 1864.  
 Mead, Benjamin L., 13th Regt., Co. B; must. Feb. 5, 1862; disch. Nov. 14, 1865.  
 Mead, Jeremiah O., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Main, James C., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Monroe, A. L., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Dec. 29, 1862.  
 McConnell, John, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Mead, R. N., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Nov. 29, 1862.  
 Maher, Dennis, must. Oct. 21, 1863.  
 Northrop, David (2d), 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Nickerson, B. V., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. April 13, 1863.  
 Northrop, John, 7th Regt., Co. D; must. Oct. 30, 1863; disch. Aug. 18, 1864.  
 Osterman, Frank, must. Oct. 24, 1863.  
 Oakley, Miles, must. Jan. 5, 1864.  
 Platt, Alfred, 1st Art., Co. B; must. Jan. 22, 1862; disch. Sept. 25, 1865.

Phelan, S. S., 1st Art., Co. G; must. Dec. 9, 1863; disch. April 7, 1865.  
 Platt, Charles, 10th Regt., Co. G; must. Dec. 11, 1863; disch. Aug. 25, 1865.  
 Platt, George, 10th Regt., Co. G; must. Dec. 11, 1863; disch. Aug. 25, 1865.  
 Payne, Thomas, 11th Regt., Co. A; must. Oct. 24, 1861; disch. April 27, 1862.  
 Pickett, E. D., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. July 1, 1863.  
 Prichard, William, must. Oct. 22, 1863.  
 Rasco, C. B., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Dec. 10, 1862.  
 Rich, Jared, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Dec. 4, 1862.  
 Rhan, C. A., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. July 10, 1865.  
 Roche, James T., 2d Art., Co. I; must. Jan. 29, 1864; disch. Aug. 18, 1865.  
 Rasco, James, 5th Regt., Co. A; must. July 22, 1861; disch. Nov. 16, 1862.  
 Ruggles, Elbert, 13th Regt., Co. B; must. Feb. 18, 1862; disch. April 25, 1864.  
 Ruggles, Sidney B., 13th Regt., Co. B; must. Feb. 5, 1862; disch. April 25, 1865.  
 Raymond, Amos, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. July 19, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Ruff, Anthony, must. Oct. 22, 1863.  
 Rowley, John, must. Nov. 2, 1863.  
 Scot, John A., must. Jan. 5, 1864.  
 Smith, S. H., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Stevens, Levi B., 1st Art., Co. E; must. Dec. 21, 1863; disch. Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Selleck, Eben, 1st Art., Co. I; must. Jan. 5, 1864; disch. Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Scofield, O. K., 7th Regt., Co. D; must. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. July 20, 1865.  
 Stone, Irving, 7th Regt.; must. June 11, 1863; disch. July 31, 1863.  
 Smith, A. V. S., 8th Regt., Co. H; must. Oct. 16, 1861; disch. Jan. 20, 1864.  
 Sturges, Frederick L., 13th Regt., Co. B; must. Feb. 5, 1862; disch. Dec. 12, 1862.  
 Smith, Charles, Jr., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Seymour, Fr. E., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 15, 1862; disch. April 26, 1863.  
 Smith, Allen, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Stevens, George W., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Smith, David E., 23d Regt., Co. E; must. Sept. 5, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Thomas, John, 8th Regt., Co. H; must. March 14, 1864; disch. May 19, 1865.  
 Ulmer, Charles, must. Jan. 5, 1864.  
 Van Scoy, John A., 13th Regt., Co. B; must. Feb. 20, 1862; disch. Nov. 27, 1864.  
 Viely, John, must. Oct. 21, 1863.  
 Williams, Sylvester, 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. July 19, 1865.  
 Wood, George L., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. Feb. 13, 1864.  
 Williams, Hawley, 8th Regt., Co. H; must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Williams, Sidney, 8th Regt., Co. H; must. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Warren, Rufus, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. July 17, 1863.  
 Whitlock, Joseph H., 17th Regt., Co. C; must. July 25, 1862.  
 Whitlock, Nephi, 17th Regt., Co. C; must. July 25, 1862; disch. July 24, 1865.  
 White, E. P., 17th Regt., Co. G; must. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. Aug. 10, 1865.  
 Word, George L., must. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. Feb. 13, 1864.  
 Weed, William A., must. Jan. 5, 1864.  
 Walters, John M., must. July 25, 1862.



## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## SAMUEL SYDNEY ST. JOHN.

Samuel Sydney St. John traces his descent from the original settler of that name, as shown in the genealogy of the family herewith appended.

His father, Thomas St. John of the seventh generation, married Anna Gray, daughter of Joseph and Lydia (Keeler) Gray, of Ridgebury. Sydney was the only child, and was born Sept. 6, 1806, at Ridgebury. His father removed to New York City when Sydney was twelve years old, remaining there ten years, during which time his son enjoyed the educational advantages of a large city, graduating at Columbia College in 1828. Sydney, soon after graduating, returned to Ridgebury and opened a store. Sept. 13, 1829, he was married to Lucy Amy, youngest daughter of Eliphalet and Eunice (Hull) Brush. Their children were Thomas Platt (deceased), John Watson (deceased), and Mary Anna. The last was married to Smith G. Hunt, and settled at Brewster's, N. Y., where he died, leaving two children,—Sydney St. J. and Emeline Keeler Hunt.

In 1832, Mr. St. John removed to Ridgefield village, opening there a classical and commercial school. This school was well patronized by the citizens of Ridgefield and adjoining towns, receiving also many pupils from New York City, many of whom were prepared for Yale and other colleges.

In 1837, Mr. St. John was elected to the Senate from his district. In 1841 he accepted a position in the Mechanics' Society School, New York City, and in 1843 he was appointed principal of the Ward School No. 26, in the Fourth Ward, and intrusted with the care not only of the several departments of that school, but also with the general supervision of the other schools of the ward, comprising, in the aggregate, more than four thousand pupils. This position he held until he left New York, in 1859. He served as commissioner of schools in the Board of Education of the city of New York for the years 1848-49. For seventeen years he was vestryman in the Church of the Epiphany (Rev. Lot Jones), having been confirmed in this church in 1842. In 1859 he returned to his farm in Ridgebury. In 1864 he represented the town of Ridgefield in the Legislature.

In the death of his eldest and only surviving son, which occurred Oct. 13, 1865, Mr. St. John experienced a grievous loss. Thomas Platt St. John was a young man of more than ordinary promise. His death is thus noticed in an obituary: "Thomas Platt St. John graduated at Columbia College at the age of eighteen. His frank and genial nature and well-developed conversational powers made him an agreeable companion to all. Intending himself for the legal profession, on leaving college he entered the law school of New Haven, then under Judge Bissell, and continued there during two terms. Returning to New York, he com-

pleted his studies in the office of an eminent lawyer. It was about this time that he entered the arena of politics, and with an enthusiasm seldom found in one so young. At all the gatherings of his party he took a prominent part, advocating what he considered to be right with a fearlessness only equaled by his eloquence. In 1851, when at the age of twenty-one, he represented the Thirteenth Assembly District of the city of New York in the Legislature of that State, and was re-elected the following year. He was an able writer, and contributed frequently to the press in prose and verse, often surprising his immediate circle of friends by the variety and extent of his reading. He was a great admirer of Shakspeare, and would quote with remarkable accuracy voluminous portions of that celebrated author. Preferring the life of a farmer, he accompanied his father on his return to Ridgebury. The death of his wife, in February, 1864, was followed by deep despondency on his part, and a presentiment that he would not long survive her. This proved but too true." . . .

The families of Mr. and Mrs. St. John are true representatives of New England character. As private citizens, discharging their duties in such a manner as to entitle them to the respect of their fellows, and whenever called to positions of trust they have performed their duties with fidelity and integrity.

Thomas St. John was postmaster at Ridgebury from 1835 till his death; was for several years justice of the peace, and member of the Legislature from his town for the years 1832, '33. He died March 4, 1848.

Joseph Gray, a native of Redding, was one of the first to volunteer in the war of the Revolution. He accompanied Arnold in his perilous march through the wilderness, and was present at the execution of the boy deserter at Redding. His brother, Lieut. Nathaniel Gray, was killed in the battle of Ridgefield, April 23, 1777.

Eliphalet Brush was born in New Fairfield. He served in the Revolutionary war, and was the first to fire on the British at the burning of Danbury. His brother Thomas in this action had a bullet pass through the crown of his hat, without, however, injury to the owner. Capt. Brush was at the battle of Long Island, and on its retreat to New York his division encamped in Trinity churchyard. His old "long gun" is still kept in the family as a cherished relic. Capt. Brush was a representative from Ridgefield in the Legislature for 1800 and 1801. He died in 1847, at the age of more than ninety-seven.

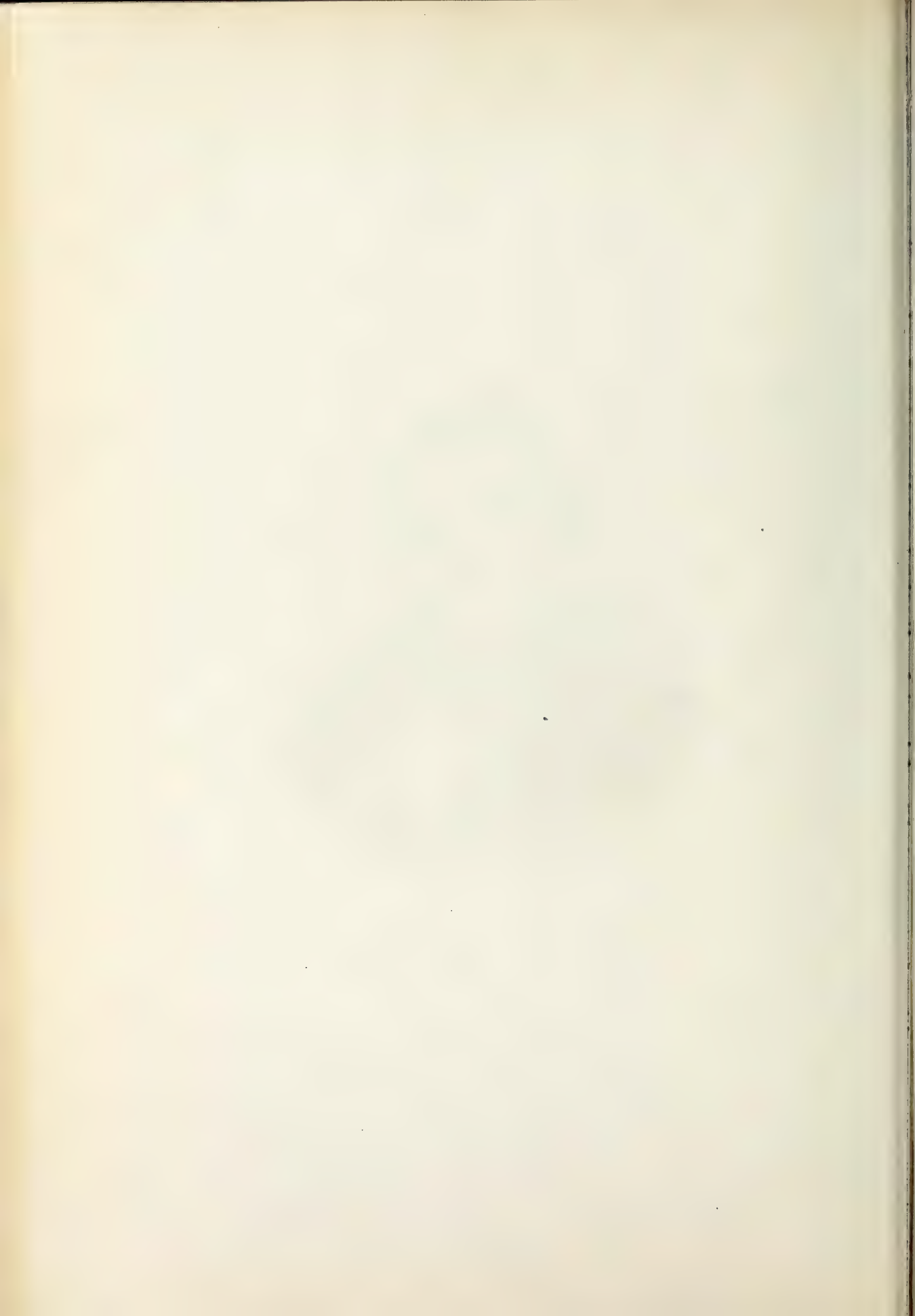
Eunice Hull was the eldest daughter of Jedediah and Mary Chapman Hull. Lieut. Hull was at the assault on Quebec, and at the side of Montgomery when that hero fell. Mary Chapman was the daughter of Rev. Daniel Chapman, who was educated at Oxford. He was the son of Hon. Robert Chapman, who came from England with Lords Say, Seal, and Brook. A portrait of Mary Chapman, painted in 1743, is in possession of the family.



Photo. by J. H. Folsom, Danbury.

*Sam. S. Johnson*











*L. W. Valden*



*L. W. Valden*





W. W. BEERS.





Samuel Sydney St. John's earliest predilection was for the law. He was admitted to the bar while residing in New York, and, although never making any pretensions as a practitioner, yet his counsel is often solicited. His last employment at teaching has been to so far revive his classical studies as to enable him to prepare his grandson for Columbia College, where he is now a member of the sophomore class. Mr. St. John is passing the evening of his days in the supervision of his farm, and in the enjoyment of a library well supplied with the works of ancient and modern authors. His farm and its surroundings possess many places of historic interest. On the ridge first east of the Congregational church the French army under Rochambeau encamped while on its way to the decisive conflict at Yorktown; a little to the south stood the house once owned by Samuel Keeler, where Gen. Washington on two occasions spent a night when traveling between Peekskill and Hartford; the house in which he was born and now lives was fired into by the British under Tryon while on their hurried march from Danbury to Ridgefield.

Sept. 13, 1879, Mr. and Mrs. St. John celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage, on which occasion more than one hundred of their kindred were present.

#### DAVID H. VALDEN.

David H. Valden is of Holland descent, and was born in Ridgefield, June 15, 1828. His father came to the latter place when he was quite a young man and engaged with J. M. Gilbert as a journeyman tanner and currier, having learned the trade previously in Philadelphia.

He was married soon after to Mary, daughter of R. Stevens, of Ridgefield, and their children were Eliza (deceased); Sarah, now Mrs. Wm. Slosson, of New Canaan; Maria, now Mrs. John Robinson, of Danby, N. Y.; Anna, now Mrs. Levi Snyder, living in Michigan; and David H., subject of our sketch.

David H. Valden was taken when an infant by his grandmother, who lived in Tompkins Co., N. Y., and was kept by her until his ninth year, when he returned to Ridgefield. Early thrown upon his own resources, he developed an independence and self-reliance that have made him the man he is. At the age of eighteen he began the trade of his father, that of tanner and currier, and in 1857 he engaged in the business on his own account in that part of the town of Ridgefield called Titticus.

In 1852 he was married to Sarah A., youngest daughter of George and — (Slosson) Weed, of Darien, Conn. Their children—Charles H., Lewis L., and Minnie D.—are living.

In 1857, Mr. Valden purchased the Gilbert tannery at Titticus, together with the farm, water privilege, etc., afterwards buying the Samuel S. Olmstead place,

on which he has erected his beautiful residence, a view of which is elsewhere shown in this work.

In 1877, Mr. Valden represented his town in the State Legislature. In politics he is Republican.

Mr. and Mrs. Valden, also their children, are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Ridgefield, to the support of which they liberally contribute.

#### WILLIAM W. BEERS.

William W. Beers was born in Ridgefield, Conn., Sept. 11, 1821. His father, Lewis Beers, followed farming in Ridgefield. He was married early in life to Rhoda, daughter of Samuel and Rhoda Gregory, of Wilton. William W. was their only son.

William W. Beers enjoyed the best educational advantages the country afforded, and at the age of seventeen began teaching in Ridgefield, teaching afterwards in Bethel and Hawleyville, following the profession for thirteen years.

In 1851 or 1852 he began his career as a merchant in Branchville, where he continued to reside till his death, which occurred very suddenly, Aug. 20, 1879. He began in a small way, at first keeping only lumber, to which he afterwards added coal, then hardware of all kinds, and later a general assortment of crockery.

Mr. Beers was married twice. His first wife was Paulina M. Edmunds, only daughter of Robert and Abbey (Darling) Edmunds, of Ridgefield, Conn. The issue of this marriage was twins, which were named Carrie G. (now Mrs. Lewis L. Valden) and Mary E. For his second wife he married Louisa, daughter of Benjamin and Charlotte (Birchard) Gilbert, of Wilton. Their children have been Louis G. and M. Louisa.

William W. Beers was the first postmaster, also the first station-agent on the Norwalk and Danbury Railroad in Branchville.

Mr. Beers' death cast a gloom over the whole community, of which he was a shining member. All felt that they had lost a valuable friend and the stricken family a loving father. Strictly upright in all his business transactions and rigidly honorable, he was at the same time kindly benevolent, always ready to help the poor and needy, and his door was always open to the worthy but destitute wanderer.

In matters relating to the church Mr. Beers was not active, but contributed liberally of his means to support the gospel. Said the one officiating at his funeral, "I have known the deceased only a year, but at times I have known him to be ardent in his feelings relating to Christianity."

## CHAPTER LXVII.

## SHERMAN.

Geographical—Topographical—Early Settlers—Physicians, etc.—The Congregational Church—Mission Church—St. Polycarp's Church—Recollections of Morgan Stuart—The Hoyt Murder—Civil and Military History.

SHERMAN is the extreme northern town in Fairfield County, and is bounded as follows: On the north and east by Litchfield County; on the south by the town of New Fairfield; and on the west by Dutchess Co., N. Y. It is about nine miles in length, with an average width of between two and three miles. Its surface is uneven, consisting principally of high hills and deep valleys. The soil is well adapted to the raising of tobacco.

## GRAND LIST FOR 1802.

The following is the grand list of the town of Sherman for 1802:

Allen, Gideon.....	\$381.26
Allen, Samuel.....	268.21
Allen, James.....	439.21
Allen, John.....	207.62
Ackley, David.....	397.78
Briggs, Zephaniah.....	597.54
Barns, Stephen.....	136.55
Barns, William.....	180.36
Bartram, G.....	145.73
Barns, Andrew.....	78.78
Barns, Gerard.....	70.00
Barlow, David.....	600.70
Bostwick, William.....	90.68
Bostwick, David.....	14.12
Ruck, Josiah.....	17.00
Buck, Daniel.....	49.95
Brownson, Alfred.....	68.00
Barham, Isaac.....	97.00
Barrit, John.....	67.00
Cordry, John.....	67.00
Clark, I. B.....	7.00
Cargo, Joel.....	289.47
Disbrow, Asa.....	122.20
Disbrow, Jesse.....	65.84
Dutton, Titus.....	74.00
Graves, Ezra.....	663.53
Graves, Jedediah.....	65.00
Geddings, B. Gamaliel.....	192.36
Geddings, Jonathan.....	454.83
Geddings, Jonathan, Jr.....	127.17
Geddings, William.....	201.98
Geddings, George.....	122.95
Geddings, David.....	60.00
Geddings, Zebulon.....	182.64
Geddings, William.....	67.00
Goreham, Meher.....	212.55
Goreham, David.....	87.69
Gaylord, Ebenezer.....	7.11
Gaylord, Nathan.....	49.17
Gaylord, Aaron.....	6.12
Gaylord, David.....	6.80
Gaylord, Daniel.....	25.48
Goossill, Medad.....	70.00
Graves, Ruth.....	61.71
Gunnings, William.....	84.51
Gunnings, Andrew.....	178.25
Hungerford, Ezra.....	246.65
Hungerford, Horace.....	90.00
Hungerford, Urical.....	200.70
Hungerford, Sirenus.....	70.00
Hungerford, Josiah.....	130.49
Hungerford, Thomas.....	184.90
Hungerford, Levi.....	60.00
Hungerford, Jesse.....	77.00
Hoag, Samuel.....	544.00
Hubbel, John.....	96.90
Hubbel, Amoy.....	60.00
Holyter, Ebenezer.....	96.11
Hoyt, Enoch.....	110.50
Holmes, Thatford.....	206.67
Holmes, Walter.....	77.00
Hatch, John.....	150.80
Haws, E. B.....	141.73
Haws, Edmond.....	295.41
Havilon, Thomas.....	156.03
Hubbel, Levi.....	132.87
Ingersoll, Isaac.....	185.04
Kellog, Thomas.....	129.00

Foster, Asaph.....	\$29.50
Richeyar, Samuel.....	102.14
Stewart, Silvenus.....	363.85
Stewart, Elihu.....	236.91
Stewart, Nehemiah.....	104.34
Stewart, Abel.....	65.50
Stewart, Philo.....	60.00
Seelye, Abel.....	306.31
Seelye, Noah.....	23.74
Seelye, Benjamin.....	76.68
Sherman, Ele.....	136.62
Sherwood, Ebenezer.....	253.84
Sherwood, Isaac.....	70.00
Sabins, Jesse.....	130.50
Leatch, Ichabod.....	267.38
Leach, David.....	88.60
Leach, William.....	159.16
Leach, Mary.....	37.04
Merchant, John.....	73.27
Northrup, Abraham.....	207.01
Northrup, David.....	611.71
Northrup, Jobe.....	185.90
Northrup, Isaac.....	135.00
Northrup, Levi.....	110.61
Osborn, Reuben.....	58.46
Osborn, Reuben, Jr.....	86.25
Osborn, Aaron.....	250.63
Potter, James.....	238.37
Potter, William C.....	174.92
Potter, Jared.....	94.22
Peter, Waller.....	48.56
Pepper, Stephen.....	213.98
Pepper, Loyal.....	136.00
Pepper, Dan.....	115.40
Pepper, Azubee.....	77.73
Payne, Aron.....	80.00
Payne, Samuel.....	88.24
Page, Jonathan.....	152.95
Page, William.....	104.42
Prindle, Amos.....	80.41
Pickitt, Benjamin.....	105.58
Pickitt, Bernil.....	129.17
Wakeman, Seth.....	199.97
Wakeman, Gideon.....	201.50
Wanzer, John.....	374.56
Wanzer, Elvid.....	443.27
Wanzer, Abraham.....	338.19
Wright, Abel.....	217.38
Wilcox, William.....	65.39
Wing, Thomas.....	203.36
Woodard, Asa.....	94.15
Wood, John.....	70.46
Wanzer, Husten.....	342.08
Stewart, Alexander.....	343.04
Geddings, Joseph.....	67.35
Geddings, Jr., Joseph.....	94.00
Butler, Timothy.....	104.00
Irash, Aseph.....	145.14
Graves, Ezra.....	67.00
Akins, James.....	60.30
Hoag, Nathaniel.....	34.96
Wing, John.....	23.50
Weaver, Joseph.....	45.30
Sherman, Jotham.....	46.76
Bartram, Noah.....	60.00
Osburn, Nathaniel.....	66.06
Barlow, David.....	80.00
Page, Uriah.....	77.00

The list was certified to as follows:

"The within is a true List of the Poles and Rateable Estate of the Town of Sherman for the year 1802, Pr us, Bennit Pickett and James A. Giddings. Sworn Listers.

"To Mr David Northrup Town Clerk.

"We hereby certify that the foregoing is a true list of the Town of Sherman for the year 1802 amounting to \$22,083.26.

"SHERMAN, May 5, 1803.

"GIDEON BEARDSLEY,

"JOSEPH BEACH, JUN.,

"Selectmen of the town of New Fairfield.

"STEPHEN BARNs,

"SAMUEL ALLEN,

"DAVID BARLOW,

"Selectmen of the town of Sherman."

The records also show that at this date James Potter was a physician in the town; David Gorham, merchant; John Hubbell, innkeeper; Thomas Hareton and Abel Wright, blacksmiths; Thomas King and Isaac Ingersoll, shoemakers; and Thatford Holmes, joiner.



## PIONEERS.

Among the prominent pioneer families are mentioned the Giddings, Greeleys, Barnes ('Squire Barnes was a large landholder), Graves, Gorhams, Hungerfords, Northrup, Lecalers, Allens, Wanzers, Wakemans, Barlows.

## PHYSICIANS.

Among the first physicians were Drs. Potter, Holmes, John Orton. Daniel W. Northrup practiced here about forty years. John N. Woodruff, M.D., succeeded Northrup, and is still in active practice. He studied his profession with Dr. Northrup and Dr. F. A. Kinch. He spent considerable time in Bellevue Hospital, New York; also attended lectures at Columbia College. In addition to the active practice of an arduous profession Dr. Woodruff is also town clerk and judge of Probate. Dr. Beach practiced here about a year, and removed. Dr. Henry L. Mallory is also a practicing physician here.

## THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

This church was organized in 1751. The following is a list of ministers: Thomas Lewis, ordained 1744, dismissed 1746; Elijah Sill, ordained 1751, dismissed 1779; Oliver D. Cook, ordained 1792, dismissed 1793; Maltby Gelston, ordained 1797, died 1856; Judson B. Stoddard, colleague pastor, ordained 1845, dismissed 1854. For a number of years ministers were fixed for a year or two. Solomon J. Douglas was ordained October, 1863, and dismissed in 1867. April, 1868, Watson W. Torrey ordained, and dismissed before the year was up, on account of his health. James J. Hoyt was ordained in July, 1870, and dismissed 1874. Edward P. Herrick, ordained in February, 1876, is the present pastor. The following is a list of deacons: Ephraim Hubbell, 1797; Daniel Noble, William Burns, Benjamin Bennett, no date; James Potter, 1795; William Giddings, 1803; Jared C. Potter, 1813; William C. Potter, 1814; Daniel N. Giddings, 1814; Jared C. Potter, 1825; Levi Stuart, 1829 (died 1873); Edwin Hungerford, 1870 (died 1879); Hugh Gelston, 1848. Maltby G. Gelston, Theodore C. Rogers, and George C. Giddings were appointed in 1879.

"I have no means of knowing," says Rev. Hugh Gelston, "who the members were previous to the ordination of Rev. M. Gelston, April 26, 1797. At that time they were Deacon James Potter, Jedediah Graves, Joseph Giddings, William Giddings, and Thomas Kellogg, males; Alice Hubbell, Mary Towner, Abigail Potter, Ruth Graves, Deborah Barns, Ruth Ackley, Mary Giddings, Mary Kellogg, Lydia Giddings, and Esther Wilcox, females. The present number of members is one hundred and thirty-nine.

"The first church was erected about 1770. The present church was erected in 1836.

"The number of members continued to increase from time to time until 1821, when a revival added thirty-two. There was a revival in 1831 which added forty-four, and there were added, in 1838, sixty-nine,

and in 1841 there were one hundred and thirty-eight members."

## UNION CHURCH.

The church now called the Union church of Sherman was built in about 1836 or 1837 by subscription. Time came when the old church building needed repairing, and some of the members insisted upon having it removed, while others desired it repaired on the same site. The fight became a bitter one, and many of those living remember the length to which the controversy was carried and the amusing incidents connected with the affair.

## ST. POLYCARP'S CHURCH.

Dec. 22, 1866, an Episcopal Church was organized here under the name of St. Polycarp's Church, with the following members: John N. Woodruff, Charles Pepper, G. N. Woodruff, William B. Pepper, Royal W. Briggs, L. N. Blydenburgh, D. B. Mallory, and N. E. Northrup. The corner-stone of the edifice was laid, when some trouble arose, and the building was never completed. Services were held here by Rev. I. L. Townsend, the rector at Danbury. A Mr. Peck also held occasional services at this place.

There is also a Christian Church in the southern part of the town, but we have been unable to procure any data concerning it, although diligent inquiry has been made.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF MORGAN STUART.

The following article is from the pen of Morgan Stuart, formerly a resident of this town, now residing in Milan, Ohio. It was prepared expressly for this work.

In the extreme northwestern corner of Fairfield County, in the State of Connecticut, is the town of Sherman. Its history commences in the year 1802. At that time the town of New Fairfield was divided, and the northern part was set off and formed the town of Sherman. The first town-meeting was held in 1803, when I suppose the town was organized.

It must be admitted that there is little about the natural features of the country that would attract the attention of a stranger. The land is rough and broken, made up largely of hillside and valleys, the former so steep often as to make the cultivation of the soil difficult, and many other parts so stony as to require a large amount of labor and expense in their removal, as the long lines of stone wall show. The soil is generally fertile, and yields the farmer a fair return for his labor and toil. The land is well watered with brooks of clear running water, coming down the mountain slopes, and many a pretty waterfall may be seen on the steep rocky hillsides as the smaller streams make their way to the beautiful meadow-lands below. As will be supposed, it would require patient, untiring industry and economy to enable the owners of these lands to meet the expenses of the family and the education of the children.

This they were able to do, and in addition they were often able to lay by each year a small surplus for future use. In fact, there was seen a thrift and often an independence in means beyond what was enjoyed by others in more favored sections of the country. A small sum, as I stated, would be laid by each year, with which a few acres were added to the farm, or the money was put out at interest. I have seldom seen a people among whom more real comforts were enjoyed.

I need hardly say that the school and the church were among the prominent things in the minds of all good citizens in Connecticut. The people in this town were celebrated for their support of the common or district school, and every child, rich or poor, at suitable age, was gathered into the school-room.

The school-houses would not compare with those of the present day. They were not in the highest style of architecture or of much artistic beauty, and with few equipments like those of modern times. There was no claim to ornament, no cornice, no blinds, and the interior equally without attractions, and I might say without comfort. A monstrous fireplace built of rough stone at one end of the room, well filled with wood, really furnished all the heat that was needed; but it was unequally distributed; it was too hot on one side of the house and on the other too cold. "Please let me go to the fire" was often heard, and was often not an unreasonable request. Coarse oak-slab benches, without backs, in the centre of the room, and writing-tables around the outside, with the same kind of seats in front, with a plain board table for the teacher, constituted the main furniture of the school-room sixty or seventy years ago. With all these drawbacks, good instruction was given, and by earnest application of the pupils a good and substantial education was secured, preparing some for the more common business of life, and others for the higher schools and colleges, from which went out some of the highest talent seen in our learned professions.

These district schools received the attention of our best men, clergy and others. Our pastor, Mr. Gelston, made it his business to look after their interests, visiting all the schools in the township four times a year, noting the standing of each pupil at the beginning of the term, and the progress each had made at subsequent visits. These examinations were very critical, and were interspersed with remarks and suggestions of great practical value, as he had a taste decidedly in this direction. As he was about to leave he would invariably address the teacher in these words: "*Are you ready for prayers, sir?*" The reader will notice that he did not ask the teacher if it would be agreeable to him; he was not consulted on this point. The thought that an objection could be raised as to the propriety of such an exercise—or I might say whether the Bible should be read in the school—had not been thought of then. It was left for almost the

close of this nineteenth century to start a doubt whether God should be acknowledged in the institutions for the instruction of our children and youth. The most profound attention and stillness prevailed as that minister addressed the throne of grace, invoking the blessing of Almighty God on the parents, the teacher, and the children. Who can doubt the salutary influence of such a man in all the schools in the town as four times a year he repeated such a visit?

It would not be possible to name all the families or persons who were prominent in the early history of this town, or who were so fifty or sixty years ago, which is about the date of these recollections. A few only can be mentioned. There were four brothers by the name of Allen,—Gideon, Samuel, John, and James,—who were more or less prominent in the the building up and welfare of the church and society in its early history. Gideon, I believe, was the largest contributor to the society's fund for the support of the minister. I am informed that the communion service now in use by the Congregational Church was a gift from him a long time ago. James Allen was also a warm friend of the society, and contributed liberally to its support. The other two brothers, I believe, also gave in smaller sums for the support of religion.

Mr. David Northrop, who lived about two miles north of the centre of the town, deserves to be mentioned as one of the early settlers. He had six sons, all of whom became prominent business men, and worthy and useful citizens. Only two of them are now living. Mr. Thomas Northrop, who has long resided in Vermont, during the last year paid a visit to his native place, and walked all the way from Gaylordsville, four miles, although he is eighty-four years old. Mr. John O. Northrop only resides in Sherman, and is a worthy representative of the family. There are other families of the same name who are worthy of particular notice, but the scope of this article will not admit of it.

In the north part of the town were several families of the name of Giddings. There was Baldwin, Samuel, David, George, Daniel, Jonathan, and Andrus. They were all men of real worth, possessing all the substantial qualities that make good citizens in an eminent degree. I think all, or nearly all, were Christian men, and their families such as go to make up the best society. "They all died in like faith, having received the promises and embraced them."

There were also the names of Graves, Barnes, Hubbell, Briggs, Potter, Hungerford, and Stuart, worthy of honorable mention. The two last were very numerous, and acted an important part in the early history of the town, but upon whom I have not the time to dwell. Dr. John Orton, for a long time our principal physician and a man without reproach, should also be noticed. William Giddings, Esq., near the centre of the town, was one of our



most intelligent citizens, with a numerous and highly respected family. They removed, in 1830, to the State of Michigan, where several of them filled places of importance and responsibility. One of these I shall have occasion to again mention in the course of this article.

Another name—a name above all others I have mentioned—must have a place in these reminiscences. Without the name of Gelston no history of Sherman fifty or sixty years since would be complete. His long life and works are so interwoven with all its best interests and prosperity that it is essential; in fact, it could not be omitted, and no one would wish to have it omitted. Back to my earliest recollections the Rev. Maltby Gelston was the worthy pastor of the Congregational Church, which was almost the only church at that time in the town. He was highly educated, refined in all his tastes, dignified in his deportment, polite in his manners, and, so far as I could see, perfect in his life and example. Those of us who were in early life felt towards him the highest respect,—I may say, a kind of veneration. He was not accustomed to use superfluous words, was precise in all he did or said, in conversation, in the pulpit, and everywhere. Every word was in its proper place and the best that could be used. No jesting or trifling was expected in his presence.

On one occasion a young man sought his advice in an important matter as to his future business for life. After stating his case with great care he said, "Now, Mr. Gelston, I want your *candid* opinion." Mr. Gelston replied with some warmth, "Mr. Pickett, you will have my *candid* opinion if you have any, sir." This was said in a tone of voice and manner that convinced Mr. Pickett that he had made a mistake. He was wise in counsel, and his opinion was often sought where important interests were involved, both in the church and in the common business of life. In ecclesiastical assemblies no one stood higher, and he was often appointed to preside in their meetings.

While Mr. Gelston was not an eloquent man in the general acceptance of that term, there was added to the words he spoke the power of an example as near perfect as is ever seen; and it may be added that no congregation or church was better instructed in the fundamental doctrines of the gospel, or, when brought under conviction by the Spirit of God, had clearer views of their duties or what it meant to become a Christian and the responsibilities of a Christian life.

Those converted under his preaching less frequently fell away, but were firm in their Christian hope, and sustained well the profession they had made.

Two services were held in the church on the Sabbath,—one at 10.30 A.M. and the other in the afternoon, after an intermission of an hour. It may be of interest to some to know what the programme was at that early day, and I will describe it as it was on a single Sabbath. It was winter; snow several feet deep covered the ground; the mercury was nearly at

zero. Many came from a distance. Sleighs drove up to the door, and the inmates entered the building; others arrived on foot. The room was cold, as there was no fire; stoves for churches had not been much thought of. The room was divided into square pews; on one side of each was the door for entrance, and on the other three sides there were seats with high, straight backs. Of course some of the audience sat with their backs to the speaker, which was quite awkward and unpleasant. I stated there was no fire in the room. This is not strictly true. The women's foot-stoves were the exception. These were filled with live coals when they left their homes, and were passed around to different ones in the pews; so a small degree of warmth was enjoyed.

The morning service was closed. Most of the people lived miles away. They went to the nearest houses to spend the hour, eat their lunch, replenish their stoves with fresh coals, and then return to the church for the second service. This was much like the forenoon, only at its close and after the benediction they seemed loath to leave. The minister then draws from the Bible a slip of paper, and reads as follows: "A marriage is intended between Mr. John Laurence, of New Preston, and Miss Mary Smith, of this place." With smiling faces they then left the church. This marriage notice, or publication, was required by the laws of the State at that early day.

There were dark periods in the history of that church while Mr. Gelston was its pastor. It was from the beginning small,—only twenty members. One after another had died; only a few had been added. Finally, the last deacon had been called away by death, and there seemed no one with which the vacancy could be filled. Just at this time a relative called to spend a Sabbath. It was communion that day. They gathered once more around the table to commemorate the dying love of the Redeemer. Our pastor, after he had broken the bread and poured the wine, left his seat and passed the elements with his own hand. After the close of the service the friend inquired with surprise, "Why, my dear brother, where were all your officers to-day?" He replied with deep emotion "*I have none.* God took from me some time since my last deacon. I trust to-day he is sitting down to the marriage-supper of the Lamb." "Why don't you appoint some, then?" He replied, "I have no material in the church suitable for the place."

In one of my visits to my venerable friend I sat down by his side and listened to this sad story of his discouragements in his early ministry. He said at times his way seemed hedged up and he was led to think he had mistaken his calling. But a brighter sun was to rise. A church whose foundations had been laid broad and deep through the faithful labors of this minister of Christ was to enjoy great blessings from its Head. Revivals of great power and interest were to be enjoyed, and the fruits of his labors were to appear in the glorious harvests gathered in. In

the year 1831 fifty-five, and in 1838 sixty-one, were added to the church. Other revivals of less power were enjoyed in the year preceding and which followed these dates. Thus God blessed His faithful servant, and he enjoyed the fulfillment of the promise, "They that sow with tears shall reap with joy."

In December, 1856, in the ninety-first year of his age, the venerable pastor of the Congregational Church in Sherman entered into his rest. He laid off his armor and was called to go up higher,—to receive his crown. That decision which made him the pastor of that people in the year 1796 was fraught with important interests to them and him which eternity alone can unfold.

#### GREEN POND.

In the southeastern part of the town is a small body of water called by the above name. It is about three-fourths of a mile long and nearly half a mile wide, and forty feet deep,—as will be seen, of great depth for so small a body of water. A remarkable feature of it is its great elevation above the valley below: it must be more than one hundred feet, and on the spur of a mountain. There is little higher land around it, only a kind of rim of solid rock, confining its waters in their basin.

The question is and has long been, Whence its supply of water? In long dry seasons, from greater evaporation, its level is lowered somewhat, but not equal to other bodies of water. There don't seem to be higher land around enough to keep up the supply. Some years since I called the attention of Prof. St. Johns, then of Western Reserve College, to this subject. He said it was quite remarkable in this feature, and that he knew of but one other such body of water,—this one in Canada.

The opinion in early times was that it was fed by springs from below, which were not influenced by rains or drought. This pond is well stored with fish and has ever been a popular fishing-ground, and has late years been used for picnics as well.

There is an item of history connected with this pond which I will mention. It used to overflow its banks at the south end and pass below, watering the lands in that direction. At an early day, some seventy years ago, Mr. William Leach, a man of much enterprise, who resided in the valley on the west side, conceived the idea of blasting a tunnel through the rim of solid rock on the northwest end and drawing off the water to be used for mill purposes, three-fourths of a mile below. This was quite an expensive undertaking, but was accomplished. By means of a gate at the artificial outlet, which he could close or open as he pleased, or as he needed the supply at the mills, the water passed down the mountain side, and just above his mills he built an embankment or dam and formed a mill-pond. From this reservoir in a race he carried it to his mills at the bottom of the valley. It made a fine water-power. Three overshot wheels, one below the other, were used,—one for a carding-ma-

chine and two for his grist-mill. (Later there is also a saw-mill and cider-mill there now.)

This was a great convenience to all the surrounding country. But the farmers on the south side of the pond felt damaged in their interests, and brought a suit in court, on the ground that the water was turned out of its natural channel; and the court, with this view of the case, enjoined Mr. Leach from using the water. Under this decision the mills would be dry mills, and all the community around would be damaged. Mr. Leach didn't stop here. He got up a petition to the State Legislature, signed by great numbers of the people in the country around, setting forth that there was no other mill for many miles in that locality; that they raised their own grain, and depended on it for their bread; that it really was *indispensable* for their comfort and welfare. The case was referred to a very able committee, which, after a full investigation, reported in favor of the petitioner, and that Mr. Leach should have a *perpetual grant* to use those waters for the purposes named. The Legislature adopted the report, and for some seventy years Green Pond has sent out its waters, which have flowed down that mountain side, and the wheels of Leach's Mills have scarcely ceased their revolutions, and with advantages to the country around which can scarcely be estimated.

Mr. Leach plead his own case in the trials I have described before the courts and the committee, as I suppose. He died about twenty years ago, but those mills still bear testimony to his energy and perseverance; how he pressed forward his work under difficulties, and how his efforts were crowned with success. *William Leach* should be remembered as a *public benefactor*.

#### THE OLD FALLS.

One of the curiosities of the town was ever known by this name. I consider them worthy of a brief notice in this sketch. On one of my visits to my old home, several years ago, I visited this spot. It was a bright June morning. The laurels and honeysuckles were in full bloom. Clumps of them could be seen at a great distance by their bright and showy flowers, presenting attractions not easy to describe. We came suddenly and sooner to the place than I had anticipated. There they were, right before us, overshadowed by splendid laurels and hemlocks, and other deep shady trees, shutting out the rays of the sun, and forming a dark deep shade over our heads, the air as cool as a September day. For a more enthusiastic description of the scene than I can give I will copy an extract from a letter I received about that time from Hon. Marsh Giddings, of Michigan, on this subject, whose boyhood, like my own, had been spent near this spot. He says, "Sometimes I go back to my old town and home. A few years since myself, wife, and daughter paid a visit to The Great Falls in the mountain. Oh, it is a charmed spot! and it was almost impossible to get Frank away. The mountain



ivy, ten or fifteen feet high, perfectly shaded the beautiful cascade, and the bubbling, tumbling, foaming waters shooting a few feet, then dashing against a central rock, then rippling along a quiet resting-place, underneath some shadowing rock, where the speckled trout hid himself away. I tell you that all the splendor of rock, hill, mountain, or prairie which I have been charmed with, never have I seen a single spot that so entirely entranced me as did that little spot, with all the memories it brought back to the soul."

These falls, as I am informed, attract more attention late years than formerly, and are much admired. Here the trailing arbutus, one of the earliest spring flowers, is found in abundance.

#### THE HOYT MURDER.

The crime for which Hoyt was hung was committed on the 23d of June, 1878. It was a bright Sunday morning, and Hoyt went to see his brother-in-law, Vanderburg Joyce, just over the line in Sherman. He asked Joyce to go fishing, and, being refused, he returned home. Before noon he got a butcher-knife and sharpened it, remarking to his wife that he was going over to Van's to butcher some of the people. He arrived there while the family were eating dinner. After talking to his father the old gentleman arose, and, as if Hoyt had been waiting for this, he immediately drew the knife and struck his father in the arm. Another lunge cut the clothing over the breast. At this moment he was seized, and the Joyces, brothers, caught the hand which held the knife. In the struggle they fell, Hoyt on top of his father. He reached up his left hand, took the knife from the right, and plunged it into his father's neck just under the ear. Then, as if suddenly imbued with a perfect savageness, he bore down on it with all his strength, giving it a twist at the same time. The keen blade passed around under the chin, severing the jugular vein and making a gash about four inches long. Then he drew the knife from the gaping wound, and made a lunge backward to hit his brother-in-law, who dodged and escaped. He was finally secured, and after an examination was committed to jail in Danbury for trial.

The cruel nature of the man was well known in Sherman. Conflicts with his family were of frequent occurrence. Once he shot his wife, and to this day she carries the lead in her person. He had threatened to kill his brother, George Hoyt. On his arrest some one remarked to him that it would go hard with him. He replied that it was a good job, well done, and that before he was hung two or three others would have to die. He was tried the last week in September, and at the first ballot the jury voted unanimously for a verdict of murder in the first degree. Judge Sanford pronounced the sentence, that he be hung on the 24th day of October, 1879. His case was immediately carried up to the Supreme Court of Errors, which granted him another trial. In March of 1879 he was again tried, and again convicted, and sentenced to

be hung May 13, 1880, upon which day he was executed at Bridgeport.

#### CIVIL HISTORY.

Sherman was set off from New Fairfield and organized as a town in 1802.

#### LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1806 TO 1880.

The following is a list of representatives from the organization of the town to the present time:

1803-4, Samuel Allen; 1805, Gamaliel B. Giddings; 1806, Gideon Allen, David Barton; 1807, Ezra Graves; 1808, Noah Seeley; 1809, Levi Hubbel; 1810, David Northrup, James A. Giddings; 1811, Levi Hubbell, Ezra Graves; 1812, Gamaliel-B. Giddings, Ezra Graves; 1813, G. B. Giddings, Levi Hubbell; 1814, Noah Seeley, James Allen; 1815, Jedediah Graves, John Orton; 1816-17, Jedediah Graves; 1818, John Orton, William Giddings; 1819-22, Jedediah Graves; 1823, Bennett Pickett; 1824, William Giddings; 1825, Eli Beardslee; 1826, Jedediah Graves; 1827-28, Eli Beardslee; 1829, William Giddings; 1830, Dan. W. Northrup; 1831, Jedediah Graves; 1832, Philo S. Wooding; 1833, Levi Leach; 1834, Jedediah Graves; 1835, David Northrup; 1836, Edward Briggs; 1837, Jonathan Bartram; 1838, David P. Hawes; 1839, Lewis Beardslee; 1840, Edward Briggs; 1841-42, Henry Sherwood; 1843, Levi Northrup; 1844, Hull Wakeman; 1845, Willis Briggs; 1846, David W. Stevens; 1847, Seth Pepper; 1848, David Graves; 1849, Sanford H. Gould; 1850, Revilo Fuller; 1851, Walter B. Ferris; 1852, Albert Barnes; 1853, David D. Hoag; 1854, John R. Caldwell; 1855, Daniel Wanzer; 1856, William W. Hoag; 1857, Morris Barnes; 1858, Allen Joyce; 1859, William S. Wakeman; 1860, Richard P. Brady; 1861, David Graves; 1862, S. E. Briggs; 1863, Ephraim Hatch; 1864, Charles A. Briggs; 1865, William B. Pepper; 1866, Henry Sherwood; 1867, N. W. Northrup; 1868, Abram Briggs; 1869, J. H. Wanzer; 1870, Charles Porter; 1871, David W. Leach; 1872, Henry Sherwood; 1873, Charles A. Mallory; 1874, S. D. Woolsey; 1875, Ira Pearce; 1876, Daniel B. Mallory; 1877, Charles Northrup; 1878, Albert Barnes; 1879, George A. Barnes; 1880, William W. Hoag.

#### MILITARY RECORD.

##### FIRST REGIMENT CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

###### Company A.

Stuart, George, enl. April 20, 1861; pro. to lieutenant, 13th Inf. U. S. A.

##### FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

###### Company D.

Grace, Edwin, enl. Dec. 7, 1864.

###### Company K.

Platt, Oscar, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; disch. June 18, 1865.

Lake, David D., enl. Aug. 15, 1862; killed June 1, 1864.

Ette, Fred., enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 7, 1865.

Ette, John, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; must. out July 7, 1865.

Hodge, Elizur A., enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out July 7, 1865.

Monroe, Erwin, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; must. out July 14, 1865.

O'Connor, John, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. for disability, May 18, 1863.

##### SECOND REGIMENT ARTILLERY CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

###### Company K.

Favreare, Truman P., enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out July 28, 1865.

Harrington, William, enl. Dec. 12, 1863; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

Haviland, Charles, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; died Nov. 15, 1864.

Kelly, Roswald, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

Maloney, Ransom L., enl. Dec. 31, 1863; must. out June 28, 1865.

Platt, Oliver P., enl. Dec. 31, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

Platt, George, enl. Feb. 8, 1864; disch. for disability, March 8, 1865.

Slatery, James, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

##### SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

###### Company B.

Riggs, Clark, enl. Sept. 12, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 4, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

Smith, John, enl. Oct. 21, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

*Company G.*

O'Brien, Thomas, enl. Dec. 7, 1864.

*Company I.*

Hodge, Charles M., enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; died July 22, 1864.

Hodge, Horace, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; died March 2, 1862.

## EIGHTH REGIMENT INFANTRY CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

*Company C.*

Smith, John, enl. Aug. 11, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

*Company F.*

Graff, Leon, enl. Aug. 11, 1864; died Oct. 19, 1864.

*Company H.*

Hoyt, Edwin, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. Sept. 22, 1864, at expiration of term.

Cook, Levi, enl. Sept. 21, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

Stuart, Robert, enl. Oct. 5, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 30, 1863.

## TENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

*Company C.*

Greene, Edwin E., enl. Oct. 22, 1861; died Jan. 29, 1864.

Smith, George, enl. Dec. 8, 1864.

*Company G.*

Moore, John, enl. Dec. 8, 1864.

Marshall, James, enl. Dec. 8, 1864.

## THIRTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

*Company B.*

Holdridge, David E., corporal; enl. Dec. 22, 1861.

Conger, William E., enl. Dec. 22, 1861.

Gardiner, Franklin, enl. Dec. 22, 1861; disch. for disability, June 27, 1862.

Hungerford, Martin B., enl. Dec. 22, 1861; died Dec. 6, 1862.

*Company H.*

Congo, Ethel, enl. Dec. 22, 1861; re-enlisted; must. out April 26, 1866.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

*Company I.*

Kelly, Nathan, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 3, 1863.

## TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT INFANTRY CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS.

*Company D.*

Hungerford, Levi, second lieutenant; com. Aug. 16, 1862; died Aug. 9, 1863.

Hungerford, John, sergeant; enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1862.

Dewel, Benjamin P., corporal; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1862.

Cary, Andrew, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1862.

Corbin, George L., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1862.

Cypher, Andrew G., enl. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1862.

Dally, Henry, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; died May 22, 1863.

Hawley, Morris F., enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Hommell, John, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Hungerford, Oliver P., enl. Aug. 25, 1862; died May 26, 1863.

Hoyt, Daniel, enl. Aug. 22, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Hatch, Seymour T., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Maloney, Francis M., enl. Sept. 1, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Purdy, Theodore, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Stratton, Eliphalet W., enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Stuart, John C., enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Turner, Lyman, enl. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Wakeman, William S., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

White, Edmond H., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

*Company G.*

Burbans, John H., enl. Sept. 6, 1862; discharged; re-enl. July 23, 1863.

Boyd, John, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.

Cummings, John, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Cummings, James, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Root, David M., enl. Sept. 9, 1862.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## JOHN O. NORTHPROP.

John O. Northrop is of English and Scotch descent. His grandfather, Thomas Northrop, when quite a young man, settled in the town of New Fairfield, now Sherman, Conn.

He married Joanna Leach, of the same town, by whom he had seven children,—namely: David, Thomas, Joanna, Amos, Abigail, Isaac, and Abraham. The first son, David, and father of him whose name heads this sketch, was born in Sherman in 1758. He became a prominent business man of his time, being extensively engaged in stock-dealing and farming. He held several local offices and was a liberal contributor to the church interests. He was twice married. His first wife was Rebecca, daughter of Nehemiah Beardsley, Esq. She was of Scotch descent. They had three daughters, Sally, Joanna, and Rebecca. She dying, he married her sister Salina, who bore him six sons, as follows: Nehemiah B., Thomas, David, Ezra G., Isaac, and John O., of whom Thomas and John O. only are now living (1880). John O. was born June 27, 1804, in the town of Sherman, on the old homestead of the Northrop family. His education was obtained at the district and select schools of his county.

On Sept. 2, 1829, he married Charlotte Giddings, of Sherman, who died Dec. 7, 1869, leaving two children, Sarah Eunice and John Edward, and in 1870 he married Paulina, daughter of Deacon Hugh Gelston, of the same place. The daughter, Sarah Eunice, married the Rev. J. B. Stoddard. They are living in Cheshire, Conn., and have two children, Lillie N. and Edward J. The son, John Edward, has been twice married. His first wife was Cornelia Bostwick, who died March, 1870, leaving one daughter, Isabella Northrop. His second wife is Elizabeth Comstock, of Essex, Middlesex Co., Conn., where they are now residing, he being a member of Comstock & Cheeney's Ivory Manufacturing Company, of which he is secretary and treasurer.

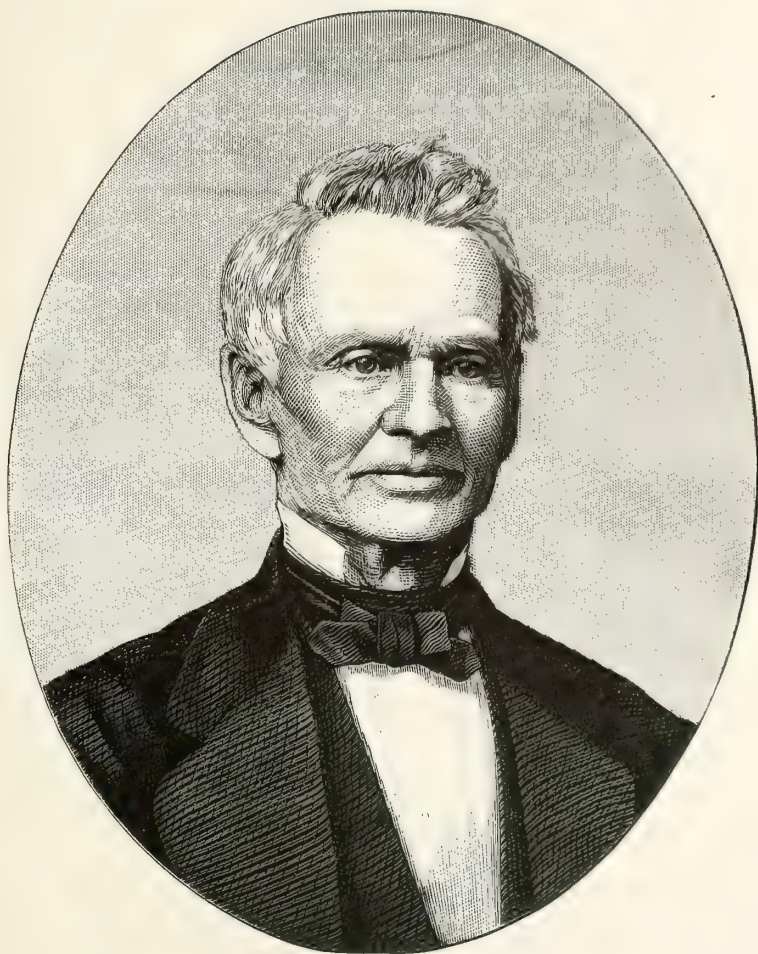
Mr. John O. Northrop has followed the occupation of his father. He is a member of the Congregational Church, and has been clerk and treasurer of the same for more than thirty years.

In politics he is a Republican, though he has never sought office or taken a very active part in political affairs. He is modest and unassuming in manners, and one of the leading representative men of his town.

## ALBERT BARNES.

Albert Barnes is of English descent. His grandfather was Stephen Barnes, of Lyme, Conn., who was born in 1731. He married Annie Phinney, by whom he had nine children,—namely, Andrew, Jefferson, Garrett, William, Morris, Tobiatha, Sally, Lybartus

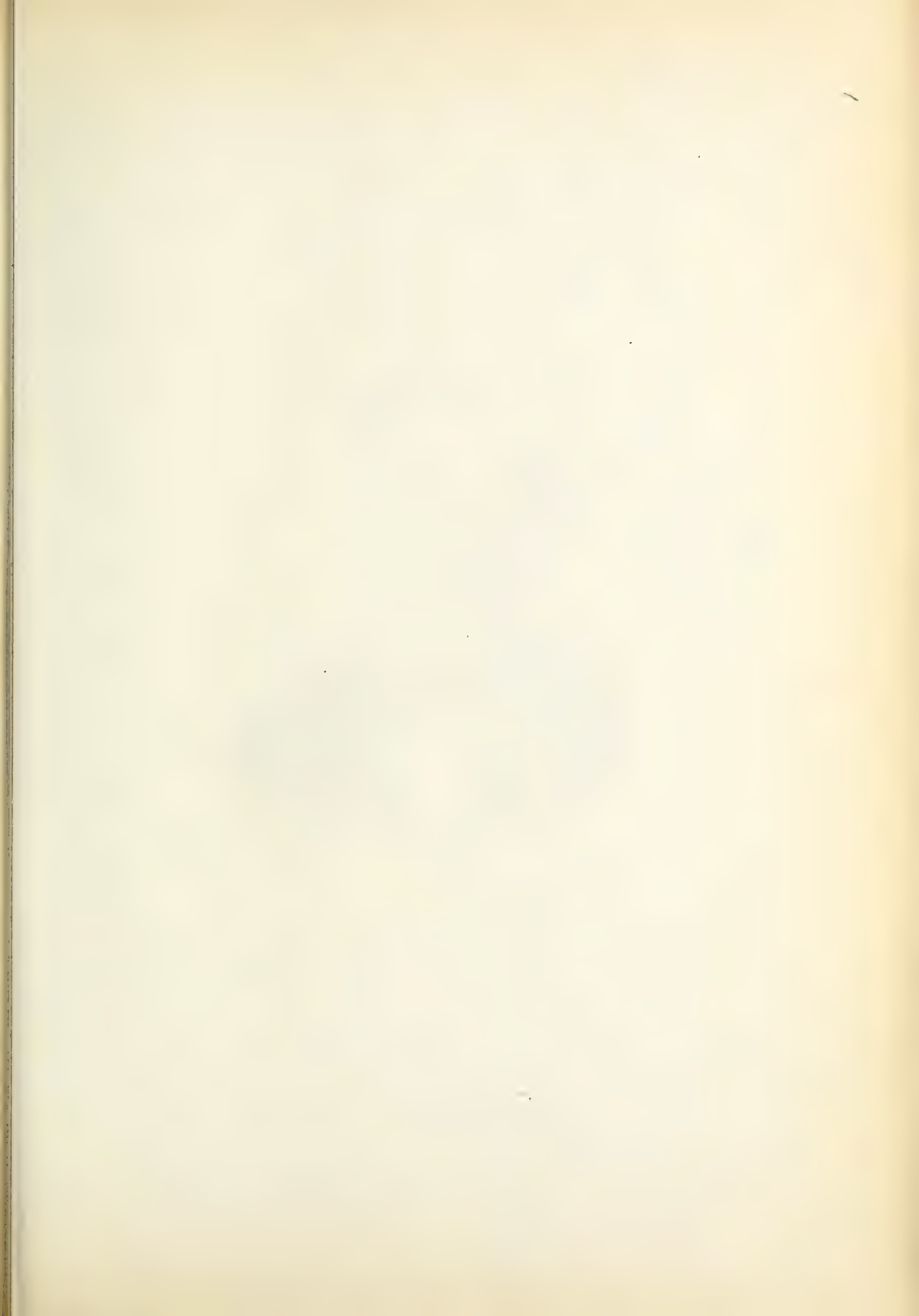




*John O. Northrop*









*Albert Barnes*



(or Lybartie), and Betsey,—all of whom are now deceased (1880). He was a commissary during the Revolutionary war, and after the declaration of peace was elected for several terms to the Legislature. He died in 1816. Andrew, his first son, and the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1773. He married Polly, daughter of Jonathan Giddings, of Sherman, Conn. They had seven children, as follows: Albert, Alfred, Samuel H., Loretta, Mary, Laura A., and Sarah. He moved to Milford, Conn., in 1827, where he died Jan. 3, 1858.

Albert, whose name heads this memoir, was born in the town of Sherman, Fairfield Co., Conn., on August 6, 1805. His education was acquired at the district schools of his town. His occupation has been stock-dealing and farming. In 1835 he married Catherine, daughter of Nathan and Irene (Downs) Gaylord. They have three sons, Andrew G., George A., and Hiram S.

Andrew G. was born Nov. 15, 1838. On Jan. 1, 1867, he married Harriet, daughter of Gregory Seeley, of Litchfield Co., Conn. They have one son, Albert S.

George A. was born in Sherman, Conn., March 4, 1841. Dec. 13, 1871, he married Euna L., daughter of Israel and Abby (Ferris) Haviland, of Sherman. In 1878 he was elected to the Legislature for the Assembly of '79. He has been a member of the Board of Education several terms, and since 1878 one of the selectmen of his town. He is now living on the old homestead and following the occupation of his father.

Hiram S. married, Jan. 30, 1878, at Lawrence, Kan., Miss Nettie, daughter of David D. and Eliza (Gardener) Hoag. They are now residing at Minneapolis, Kan.

Mr. Albert Barnes was an "Old-Line" Whig till the organization of the Republican party, since which time he has affiliated with that, and in 1852 and 1878 he represented his town in the Legislature. He has held the offices of selectman and justice of the peace for several terms.

#### THEODORE C. ROGERS.

Theodore C. Rogers is a descendant of Noah Rogers, who in 1673 married Elizabeth, daughter of Michael Taintor. They had six children. He died at Branford, Conn., in 1725.

His second son, Josiah, married Lydia, daughter of Thomas Goodsell, of East Haven, Conn., by whom he had six children, as follows: Lydia, Jonathan, Levi, Josiah, Jr., Thomas, and Mary. He was born in 1708, and died in 1783.

Josiah, Jr., married Martha, daughter of Edward Frisbie, of Branford. They had eleven children, of whom the Rev. Medad Rogers, the great-grandfather of the subject of this memoir, was the tenth. He was born at Branford, Conn., in 1750, and in 1777 gradu-

ated at Yale College. In 1787 he married Rachel, daughter of Gamaniel Baldwin, Esq., who bore him four children. The first, Amzi, died in infancy; the others were Flora, Louisa, and Amzi. He was a devout Christian, and labored faithfully in the ministry, in the town of New Fairfield, for nearly half a century. He died in 1824.



*Theo C. Rogers*

Amzi was born in New Fairfield in 1793. In 1814 he married Betsey, daughter of Samuel T. Barnum, of the same town, by whom he had seven children: David B., Samuel T., Theodore D., Ann E., Emily L., Harriet A., and Rachel L. He was a prominent and very popular man among his townsmen. He took a great interest in military affairs, and was colonel of the State militia for many years. He and his wife both lived to the age of eighty-six years. The children are now (1880) all living. He died May 21, 1880. His wife died June 5, 1880.

David B. was born in 1815, and in 1840 married Sarah B., daughter of Alvah Trowbridge, Esq., of South East, Putnam Co., N. Y. They had eight children, three of whom died in infancy. Those living are Charlotte E., Caroline C., Flora L., Theodore C., and Amzi T.

Theodore C. was born on July 16, 1852, at New Fairfield. In 1879 he married Carrie E., daughter of Stephen E. Briggs, Esq., of Sherman, who is a son of Abraham Briggs, and married Nancy, daughter of Nehemiah Stuart. They have had three children,—Walter, John, and Carrie E., the latter of whom only

is now living. He is one of the most successful farmers in the town of Sherman, where he now resides, on his beautiful homestead, near Sherman Centre. The Briggs family belong to the Society of Friends.

Mr. Rogers is a staunch Republican and an uncompromising advocate of temperance, not only to the prohibition of the sale and use of spirituous liquors, but also that of tobacco in any form. He is an active member of the Congregational Church, and holds the office of deacon of the same. He possesses some literary proclivities, and is an occasional contributor of local news items to the press.

## CHAPTER LXVIII.

### STAMFORD.

Geographical—Topographical—The First Settlement in 1640—Order under which Settlement was made—First Assignment of Lands—First Permanent Settlers—Pioneers from 1640 to 1775—First Grist-Mill—The Perfidy of the Dutch Traders—The Underhill Massacre—Stamford in 1685—Indian Deeds, etc.—Deed of 1645—Report to General Court of Deed of 1645—Agreement of Ponus and Onax, 1655—Agreement with Tuphance and Penahay, 1667—The Stamford Patent.

THIS town lies in the southwestern part of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Westchester Co., N. Y.; on the east by New Canaan and Darien; on the south by Long Island Sound; and on the west by Greenwich.

The surface of the town is undulating, and the soil is a fertile gravelly loam. The same holds true today as written by Barber in 1836: "This is a pleasant and fertile township, rich in the resources of agricultural opulence, abounding in the means of subsistence, with the advantages of a ready and convenient market."

### THE FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The first movement towards the settlement of this town was made in the early part of the year 1640 by a number of sturdy pioneers from Wethersfield, who, having become dissatisfied with certain rules and regulations governing that parish, decided to seek a peaceful retreat elsewhere, and under the leadership of Rev. Mr. Davenport, of honored memory, who had been their champion in the dissensions at Wethersfield, resolved to locate farther inland, and in the following year, leaving their old home, pursued their course westward, and settled where now is located the borough of Stamford, then in the New Haven jurisdiction.

The following is a copy of the order under which the settlement was made:

"Whereas, Andrew Ward and Robert Coe of Wethersfield were deputed by Wethersfield men the 30th of the 8th month, commonly called October, 1640, to treat at New Haven, about the plantation lately purchased by said town called Toquams, which being considered of it was agreed upon by the said court and justices aforesaid that they shall have the said plantation upon the terms following; first, that they shall repay unto the said town of New Haven all the charges which they have disbursed about it, which comes to thirty-three pounds as appears by a note or schedule herunto annexed; secondly, that they reserve a fifth part of

said plantation to be disposed of at the appointment of this court to such desirable persons as may be expected, or as God shall send hither, provided that if within one whole year such persons do not come to fill up those lots so reserved that then it shall be free for the said people to nominate and present to this court some persons of their own choice which may fill up some of those lots so reserved if this court approve of them; thirdly, that they join in all points with this plantation in the form of government here settled, according to agreement betwixt this court and Mr. Samuel Eaton about the plantation of Totokett. These articles being read together with Mr. Samuel Eaton's agreement in the hearing of the said parties or deputies, it was accepted by them and in witness thereof they subscribed their names to the articles in the face of the court."

It is evident that the dissatisfied body of persons from Wethersfield were thoroughly in earnest in the determination to make a settlement here, for the first records in the old town book show that each man who signed the compact to remove hither was to begin and prosecute the design of a plantation "under paine of forfeiture of 5 lb a man." As an interesting relic of that period the entire record, of which the above is an extract, is inserted.

"1640-41. A town bo(ok of the) freeholders of the towne (of Stamford as it) was afterwards called, but now Rippowam contain(n)g the acts) and conclusions of the companie of Wethersfield men, to (begin a) removal thither this winter. And also their most matteriall acts and agreements, touching the place how they came by it, their rat(es) and accounts, their divisions and grants of land, and records of every man's land, and passages of land from one to another.

"First these men whose names are underwritten have bound them s(elves) under the paine of forfeiture of 5 lb a man to goe or sende to Ripp(owan) so begin and psecute the designe of a plantation there by ye 16th of(f) may next, the rest, their families thither by ye last of novem-be(r) 12 months, viz. Ri Denton, ma mitchell, Thur Rainor, Robt. Coe. And Ward, Ri Gildersleue, Edm Wood, Jo Wood, Jer Wood, Sam Clark, Tho Weekes, John Wood H, Jer Jagger, J Jisopp, Jo Seaman, Sam Sherman, Hen Smith, Vincint Simkins, Dan Finch, Jo Northend, 20.

"And whereas the purchase of the place and vewing of it first mayde by our friends of new hauen and we stand indebted to them for it: it (is) ordered at the same time That 100 bushels of corne at 35 a bushell be paid in towards it we raised and sent them as followeth, m(r) ma mitchel,

	bu. p.
Sergt. M. M.....	14.3
T. Reiner.....	5.3
Mr. Denton.....	4.1
And. Ward.....	4.1
Ra. Coe.....	4.1
Ri. Gildersleue.....	4.0
Ri. Raw.....	3.2
Jo. Reynolds.....	3.2
Jo. Whitmore.....	3.1
Ro. Bates.....	3.1
Ri. Crab.....	3.1
Sa. Sherman.....	3.1
Jef. Firries.....	3.1
Dan. Finch.....	3.0
J. Northend.....	2.3
Jonas Wood, H.....	2.3
Edm. Wood.....	2.2
Jon Wood.....	2.2
Sam. Clarke.....	2.2
Fra. Bell.....	2.2
Jer. Jagger.....	2.2
Jo. Noter M. M.....	2.1
Tho. We(eks).....	2.2
Jer. (Wood).....	2.1
Th(o Morehouse).....	2.1
(Ro Fisher).....	2.0
(Jo. Jisopp).....	2.0
(Hen. Smith).....	1.3
(Vincint).....	1.3
Jo. Seaman.....	1.3

100.0

The following is a highly interesting record, showing, as it does, the first assignment of lands and the names of the first permanent settlers of Stamford:

"Also this is to be noted that in a full meeting of its company there was intending to come hither the same spring that we came, many of



those twenty-eight men aforementioned and John Jisop were severally considered of, and what quantity of land was meet for every man determined of, the man under consideration absenting himself while his case was in hand, and so successively; and when he was called in again and demanded if so much gave him content, and so contentment and satisfaction was by every one of these men acknowledged; and they set down these numbers of acres of march and upland after the same proportion as followeth:

Math Mitchell.....	28
Thurston Rainer.....	20
Mr. Denton.....	14
And Ward.....	14
Ro. Coe.....	14
Ri. Gildersleue.....	13
R. Law.....	11
Jo. Renoulds.....	11
Jo. Whitmore.....	10
Ri. Crab.....	10
Jeff. Firries.....	10
Ro. Bates.....	10
Sam. Sherman.....	10
Dan. Finch.....	09
Jonas Wood II.....	08
Jo. Northend.....	08
Jer. Jagger.....	07
Edm. Wood.....	07
John Wood, O.....	07
Sam. Clark.....	07
Fra. Bell.....	07
Tho. Marshall.....	07
Jer. Wood.....	6
Thos. Weeks.....	6
Jo. Seaman.....	6
Ro. Fisher.....	5
Jo. Jisop.....	5
Hen. Smith.....	3
Vincint, —.....	3

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During the following season the little settlement was gladdened by the arrival of others anxious to rear their homes in these fertile lands, as the following records show:

"And in town meeting, Dec. 7, was there granted, besides house lots as other men had, Tho. Armitage, ten acres; Jo. Ogden, ten acres; Wm. Mayd, (Mead), five acres; with woodland as chosable as those above.

"Also to these men, besides, house lots as others, (Joh)n Stevens, Tho. Pop, Tho. Hyoute, Hen. Akerly, Jo. Smith, senr., Jo. Smith, jun., (John Ro)ckwell, Jam. Pyne, Dan. Scofield, & Jo. Coe; every of them two acres (home lot) and three acres woodland in the field now to be inclosed."

"(Oc)tober 1642, in a general town meeting was given these, foll(ow)ing these lots as other men, marsh & woodland, viz: ( )ine, Jo. Underhill, eight acres; to Robert Hustice seven acres; ( ) acres; Jo. Miller, five acres, to Jo. Finch, six acres; ( )ree acres; & to every of them woodland after the same pro(portion, & to Willi)am Newman two acres marsh & three acres woodland.

"( )ember 1642, was granted these men every man (a house lot &) land in the field to be inclosed, viz: Jo. Lum, Jam. Sw(ead), ( ), Symon Seiring, & to Jonas Weede a house and (pasture land) in the field to be inclosed. ( ) Pierson, Jo. Towne & Wm. Graves have had every one (a house lot) & Tho. Slawson house lot and three acres in the field ( ) and eight men are freeholders as above."

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

Henry Ackley received Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, home-lot, and three acres of woodland. Savage makes him at New Haven in 1640. The colony records mention him there as rebuked for "building a cellar and selling it without leave" in April of that year.

Thomas Armitage received ten acres of land, December, 1641. According to Savage, he belonged to Lynn, Mass. He came from Bristol, England, in 1635, in the ship "James," with the Rev. Richard Mather and others, and removed in 1637 to Sandwich, Mass., whence he came to Stamford as above. In 1647 he appears on the list of Hempstead settlers.

Robert Bates came from Wethersfield with the first colony, and is on the list of the thirty who paid one

hundred bushels of corn to the New Haven "friends," who had surveyed and transferred the territory to them. His lot in Wethersfield, which was thirty and a third rods in width, containing one hundred and eighty-two acres, was sold in 1641 to William Gibbons. His death is recorded, at Stamford, June 11, 1675. His will, probated Nov. 1, 1675, makes bequests to his son John, his daughter Mary Ambler, and son-in-law John Cross. He bequeathed certain negroes, who are to be made free at forty years of age.

Francis Bell is on the list of the twenty-nine settlers who were assigned land in 1640, when he received seven acres. As his name does not appear on the Wethersfield records with the other Stamford settlers, it is probable he was still quite young. He became prominent here, and has been fully represented in every generation since in descendants both of his own and of other names. His wife Rebecca died here in 1684, and he Jan. 8, 1690. His son Jonathan was the first child born in the town, and his birth was in 1641. Mrs. Bell's clothes, of which the inventory is on record, Book 1, page 12, were by the husband's order divided equally between the two daughters, Rebecca Tuttle and Mary Hoyt. The inventory of Lieut. Francis Bell, dated January, 1689, is found on page 116, of first book of records, amounting to three hundred and seventeen pounds twelve shillings. His will, on record at Fairfield, dated 3, 24, 1689, makes bequests to his son Jonathan, grandson Jonathan, Mary Hoyt, granddaughter Hannah, and "granddaughter Rebecca, whom he had brought up," and to his daughter Tuttle's four sons, —Jonathan, Simon, William, and Nathaniel.

Samuel Clark came with the company from Wethersfield, and is on each of the first three lists made at the time of the settlement. He received seven acres of land. Savage supposes he was at Milford in 1669, thence removing to Hempstead, L. I.; that he married Hannah, daughter of Rev. Robert Fordham, and was living in New Haven in 1685.

John Coe, son of Robert, received, Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, house-lot, and three acres woodland. He was born in England, Norfolk Co., in 1622, and he came with his father to Watertown, thence to Wethersfield, and thence to Stamford.

Robert Coe was born in Norfolk Co., England, in 1596, and came in the "Francis" to Watertown, Mass., in 1634. He was admitted freeman at Boston, Sept. 3, 1634, and is enrolled among the settlers of Watertown the same year. He brought with him his wife Ann, aged thirty-three years, and three children: John, aged eight years; Robert, aged seven; and Benjamin, aged five. In 1635 he went to Wethersfield, where he remained until the settlement of Stamford. While here he represented the town in the General Court of New Haven. He was the deputy from the town to the General Court of Connecticut in 1656, and was sheriff of the county from 1669 to 1672.

is now living. He is one of the most successful farmers in the town of Sherman, where he now resides, on his beautiful homestead, near Sherman Centre. The Briggs family belong to the Society of Friends.

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Ra. Coe.....	4.1
Ri. Gildersleue.....	4.0
Ri. Raw.....	3.2
Jo. Reynoulds.....	3.2
Jo. Whitmore.....	3.1
Ro. Bates.....	3.1
Ri. Crab.....	3.1
Sa. Sherman.....	3.1
Jef. Firries.....	3.1
Dan. Finch.....	3.0
J. Northend.....	2.3
Jonas Wood, H.....	2.3
Edm. Wood.....	2.2
Jon Wood.....	2.2
Sam. Clarke.....	2.2
Fra. Bell.....	2.2
Jer. Jaggat.....	2.2
Jo. Not or M. M.....	2.1
Tho. We(eks).....	2.2
Jer. (Wood).....	2.1
Th(o Morehouse).....	2.1
(Ro Fisher).....	2.0
(Jo. Jisopp).....	2.0
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(Vincint).....	1.3
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Jeff. Firries.....	10
Ro. Bates.....	10
Sam. Sherman.....	10
Dan. Finch.....	09
Jonas Wood H.....	08
Jo. Northend.....	08
Jer. Jagger.....	07
Edm. Wood.....	07
John Wood, O.....	07
Sam. Clark.....	07
Fra. Bell.....	07
Tho. Marshall.....	07
Jer. Wood.....	6
Thos. Weeks.....	6
Jo. Seaman.....	6
Ro. Fisher.....	5
Jo. Jisop.....	5
Hen. Smith.....	3
Vinciut, —.....	3

276

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"And in town meeting, Dec. 7, was there granted, besides house lots as other men had, Tho. Armitage, ten acres; Jo. Ogdén, ten acres; Wm. Mayd, (Mead), five acres; with woodland as chosable as those above.

"Also to these men, besides, house lots as others, (John) Stevens, Tho. Pop, Tho. Hyoute, Hen. Akerly, Jo. Smith, senr., Jo. Smith, jun., (John Ro)ckwell, Jam. Pyne, Dan. Scofield, & Jo. Coe; every of them two acres (home lot) and three acres woodland in the field now to be inclosed."

"(October 1642, in a general town meeting was given these, following) these lots as other men, marsh & woodland, viz: ( ) nine, Jo. Underhill, eight acres; to Robert Hustice seven acres; ( ) acres; Jo. Miller, five acres, to Jo. Finch, six acres; ( ) ree acres; & to every of them woodland after the same pro(portion, & to William Newman two acres marsh & three acres woodland.

"( )ember 1642, was granted these men every man (a house lot &) land in the field to be inclosed, viz: Jo. Lum, Jam. Sw(ead), ( ), Symon Seiring, & to Jonas Weede a house and (pasture land) in the field to be inclosed. ( ) Pierson, Jo. Towne & Wm. Graves have had every one (a house lot) & Tho. Slawson house lot and three acres in the field ( ) and eight men are freeholders as above."

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

Henry Ackley received Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, home-lot, and three acres of woodland. Savage makes him at New Haven in 1640. The colony records mention him there as rebuked for "building a cellar and selling it without leave" in April of that year.

Thomas Armitage received ten acres of land, December, 1641. According to Savage, he belonged to Lynn, Mass. He came from Bristol, England, in 1635, in the ship "James," with the Rev. Richard Mather and others, and removed in 1637 to Sandwich, Mass., whence he came to Stamford as above. In 1647 he appears on the list of Hempstead settlers.

Robert Bates came from Wethersfield with the first colony, and is on the list of the thirty who paid one

hundred bushels of corn to the New Haven "friends," who had surveyed and transferred the territory to them. His lot in Wethersfield, which was thirty and a third rods in width, containing one hundred and eighty-two acres, was sold in 1641 to William Gibbons. His death is recorded, at Stamford, June 11, 1675. His will, probated Nov. 1, 1675, makes bequests to his son John, his daughter Mary Ambler, and son-in-law John Cross. He bequeathed certain negroes, who are to be made free at forty years of age.

Francis Bell is on the list of the twenty-nine settlers who were assigned land in 1640, when he received seven acres. As his name does not appear on the Wethersfield records with the other Stamford settlers, it is probable he was still quite young. He became prominent here, and has been fully represented in every generation since in descendants both of his own and of other names. His wife Rebecca died here in 1684, and he Jan. 8, 1690. His son Jonathan was the first child born in the town, and his birth was in 1641. Mrs. Bell's clothes, of which the inventory is on record, Book 1, page 12, were by the husband's order divided equally between the two daughters, Rebecca Tuttle and Mary Hoyt. The inventory of Lieut. Francis Bell, dated January, 1689, is found on page 116, of first book of records, amounting to three hundred and seventeen pounds twelve shillings. His will, on record at Fairfield, dated 3, 24, 1689, makes bequests to his son Jonathan, grandson Jonathan, Mary Hoyt, granddaughter Hannah, and "granddaughter Rebecca, whom he had brought up," and to his daughter Tuttle's four sons, —Jonathan, Simon, William, and Nathaniel.

Samuel Clark came with the company from Wethersfield, and is on each of the first three lists made at the time of the settlement. He received seven acres of land. Savage supposes he was at Milford in 1669, thence removing to Hempstead, L. I.; that he married Hannah, daughter of Rev. Robert Fordham, and was living in New Haven in 1685.

John Coe, son of Robert, received, Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, house-lot, and three acres woodland. He was born in England, Norfolk Co., in 1622, and he came with his father to Watertown, thence to Wethersfield, and thence to Stamford.

Robert Coe was born in Norfolk Co., England, in 1596, and came in the "Francis" to Watertown, Mass., in 1634. He was admitted freeman at Boston, Sept. 3, 1634, and is enrolled among the settlers of Watertown the same year. He brought with him his wife Ann, aged thirty-three years, and three children: John, aged eight years; Robert, aged seven; and Benjamin, aged five. In 1635 he went to Wethersfield, where he remained until the settlement of Stamford. While here he represented the town in the General Court of New Haven. He was the deputy from the town to the General Court of Connecticut in 1656, and was sheriff of the county from 1669 to 1672.

Richard Crabb.—His name first appears on the roll of the general meeting of the freemen, at Hartford, for the election of magistrates, Jan. 16, 1639; and April 9, 1640, he is present as deputy, and must have been a man of some note. He came to Stamford with the company from Wethersfield, and is on the list of those who paid the hundred bushels of corn to the New Haven colony, and of those to whom the first assignment of land was made. He received ten acres. His land must have been assigned him west of the present limits of the town, as he is spoken of subsequently in the records as belonging to Greenwich.

Rev. Richard Denton came with his parishioners from Wethersfield. His name heads the first list of the new colony, and stands third on the list of those who paid for surveying the tract. He received fourteen acres, only two of the settlers exceeding him in the assignment of land.

Jeffrey Ferris, made freeman in Boston in 1635, came with the first settlers, is on the list of those who paid for the survey, and received ten acres at the first assignment of land. Savage says he was from Watertown, Mass., where he was made freeman, probably May 6, 1635, whence he came to Wethersfield. He sold his lot in Wethersfield, of forty-five acres, to John Deming. He came with the first colony from Wethersfield, and in 1656 is one of the eleven Greenwich men who petitioned to be accepted under the New Haven jurisdiction. His will, found on the Probate records at Fairfield, is dated Jan. 6, 1664. He wills to the four boys he brought up ten pounds sterling apiece if they live with any of his children until they are eighteen years old, the money then to be put out for them until they are twenty years of age. His will names also his wife Judy, son James, son Jonathan Lockwood, and Mary Lockwood, son Peter's three children, and son Joseph's two. Judy Bowers, his widow, receipts for her widow's portion, March 6, 1667. His marriage contract with his wife Susannah, widow of Robert Lockwood, of date May 28, 1661, pledges certain legacies to the children of Robert Lockwood, deceased, and mortgages his Greenwich lands and "housings." He died in 1666. The name Ferris is from Leicestershire, house of Feriers, from Henry, son of Gualchelme de Feriers, to whom William the Conqueror gave large grants of land in the three shires of Stafford, Derby, and Leicester.

Tradition invests the emigration of this family to this country with the hues of romantic adventure,—the ancestress, high born, following her plebeian lover out into this Western world, to share with him here the fortunes which English aristocracy would not allow there.

Daniel Finch, made freeman in Boston, 1631, and enrolled same year among Watertown settlers. In 1636, he was constable in Wethersfield, whence he came with the Stamford settlers, 1641, and is on each of the three first lists of the colony. He received nine acres in the first distribution of land. Savage

supposes he was from Watertown, Mass., and that he came in the fleet with Governor Winthrop; that he was made freeman May 18, 1631; that he went to Wethersfield in 1635 or 1636, where he was constable in the latter year. He also makes him remove in 1653 to Fairfield, where he married, Dec. 25, 1657, Elizabeth, widow of John Thompson, and died March, 1667. His marriage agreement with Elizabeth Thompson is on the Probate records at Fairfield.

John Finch is assigned by the town in October, 1642, six acres, with marsh and upland, as the other men. He died here in 1657. He sold his house and home-lot in 1653 to Richard Ambler.

Robert Fisher was here early, if not with the first colony. He had land assigned him by the town, as appears from the testimony of Thomas Morehouse, March 17, 1649, in which he says that John Whitmore sold to his son John the land which was Robert Fisher's by gift of the town.

Robert Gildersleeve came with the first company from Wethersfield, and is on each of the first three lists of settlers. He received, in the first distribution of land, thirteen acres. While here he was a representative from the town in the General Court at New Haven.

William Graves received a house-lot in the distribution of November, 1642.

John Holly was here, as present records show, as early as 1647. William H. Holly, Esq., copied from the records several years ago the birth of John, son of John Holly, in October, 1642, which would suggest that the family may have been here even as early. He purchased land on the 26th of 12th month, 1647, of William Newman, and from that date his purchases of real estate are numerous. He was a noted man, and much in the public service. In 1679 he gave his house and lot to his son Samuel, and land to his son John, reserving to himself and wife half the fruit of the orchard. He also gave land at the same date to his son Increase. In his will, on record at Fairfield, his legatees are his wife Mary, and his children John, Samuel, Increase, Elisha, Jonathan, Elizabeth Turney, Bethia Weed, Hannah Hoyt, and Abigail.

Thomas Hoyt, or Hyatt, received three acres of woodland. This name was spelled very variously on the records,—Hoyette, Hyat, Hyot, Hioute, Hout, Hoyt, Hoight, Hayt, Hiatt, Hoit, and Hoyte. Thomas "Hyat" died here in 1651. I suppose him and Simon to be the ancestors of the Stamford Hoyts. The inventory of his estate was rendered in court in 1662, amounting to £132 2s. 3d. The court gave to the widow her third, and made Cornelius Jones administrator, to divide the rest among the six children. The administrator was so well pleased with the case as to take for his wife the widow Elizabeth, and their marriage is on record, 1. 8. 1657. The children are recorded as giving receipts to their father-in-law Cornelius Jones, as follows: Caleb, Dec. 23, 1661; Ruth, then become Mrs. John Wescot, Feb. 9, 1667; Re-



becca, 13. 8. 1674, for twelve pounds eleven shillings seven pence; Thomas, 21. 8. 1674, a like sum; and Deborah gives similar receipts, 30. 9. 1669. These receipts are for their several portions of their father, Thomas "Hiat's" estate. John "Hiat," of "Younkers," N. Y., gives receipt, July 6, 1689, for twenty pounds, current pay, to the said Cornelius Jones, his father-in-law. After careful collation of names I am unable to distinguish among the settlers the two family names Hoyt and Hyatt. Within twenty-five years of the settlement I find these different ways of spelling the same name. On pages 113 and 114, Records No. 1, the estates of both Thomas Hyatt and Simon Hoyette are receipted for by the heirs of both. In these receipts we have the following different spellings: Hoyt, 1662; Hiat, 1669; Hoyte, 1661; and the promiscuous entry of these receipts for the two estates would seem to indicate that they belonged to the same family. Joshua, son of Simon, spells his name Hyot. When the name became settled in its two leading forms, Hoyt and Hyatt, as distinct family names, I hardly think the records will show.

Simon Hoyt was probably here with the first settlers. I take the liberty of entering his name in one of the places whose name has been effaced by time. He died here in 1657, and his name occurs quite often on the records of the town. The inventory of his estate is on record, dated Oct. 9, 1657, and amounting to two hundred and twenty-five pounds. After his death his widow Susanna, it appears, married a Bates. His children, as indicated by receipts given for their portions of their father's estate, were Joshua, Moses of Westchester, John, Samuel, Benjamin, Mrs. Samuel Finch, and Mrs. Samuel Firman. In the distribution of the estate of their mother, then Susanna Bates, Feb. 1, 1674, besides the above names, appeared also that of Thomas Lyon, who probably had married one of her daughters.

Robert Husted was one of the company who received land in October, 1642. He had come from Mount Wollaston, now Braintree, Mass. He is probably the father of that Robert Hustis who, according to Bolton's Westchester, went from Fairfield to Westchester in 1654. His will, dated July 8, 1652, makes bequests to his son Angel of all his lands in Greenwich, with housings; to his son Robert all his lands in Stamford, with cattle and housings; to his wife a maintenance and other bequests; and to his daughter Ann, ten pounds. In 1654 his widow, Elizabeth, by will makes bequests to her son Angel, of Greenwich; to Robert, of Stamford, and to her daughter Ann, the wife of Richard Hardy. In the will of Robert the name is Husted, and in that of the widow the name is written Hustis, and both are equally distinct, and that they refer to the same family is also as clear as the form of the name. The names of the children are also changed from Husted to Hustis, though in the second will the name is spelled both Hustes and Hustis.

Jeremy Jagger came with the first company from Wethersfield, and is on each of the first three lists of the colony. He received, in the first distribution of land, three acres.

John Jessup came with the first colony from Wethersfield, and is on each of the first three lists of the colony. He received, in the first distribution of lands, five acres. In 1664 he represented Westchester in the Connecticut Assembly. His name is spelled on our records, Gesseppe, Giseppe, Gesoppe, Gishop.

Richard Law came with the first settlers from Wethersfield, is on the second and third lists of the settlers, and received, at the first assignment of land, eleven acres. He married Margaret, daughter of Thomas and Frances Kilborn, of Wethersfield, who was born in 1612.

John Lum was here in 1642, and received a house-lot in the distribution of that date.

William Mayde (Mead) received, Dec. 7, 1641, five acres, house-lot, with woodland. The wife and son of William Mead died here in 1658.

John Miller received from the town, in October, 1642, five acres, house-lot, and marsh and upland, as the other men. This name is on Chapin's list of the Wethersfield colony, where he was in 1630. He died soon after coming to Stamford, in 1642, leaving three sons.

Matthew Mitchell came with the settlers from Wethersfield. His name stands next, on the first list of the colony, to the minister's, and heads both the next two lists. He paid about three times as much as any other of the settlers towards the survey of the land, and received twenty-eight acres in the first distribution of the land.

Thomas Morehouse is on the list of those who shared in the first distribution of land, and received seven acres. In 1649 he was here, as appears from his testimony in court. Savage makes him in Fairfield in 1653. His will and inventory are on the Fairfield records, Sept. 11, 1658. His wife Isabel is mentioned in the will, and children, Hannah, Samuel, and Thomas, the last of whom was to be paid his portion in four years; Mary in five years; and so each child one year later; and if any of them die before seventeen, their part to be divided, if unmarried.

William Newman hath assigned to him by the town, in October, 1642, two acres marsh and three acres woodland. In 1659 complaints having been made to the court in New Haven respecting the "sizes of shoes," the court, hearing that William Newman had an instrument which he had brought from England, which "was thought to be right to determine this question, did order that the said instrument should be procured and sent to New Haven, to be made a 'Standard,' which shall be the rule between buyer and seller, to which it is required that all sizes be conformed." Mr. Newman was evidently a man of note in the young colony, and once represented the town in the General Court.

John Northend came with the colony from Wethersfield, and is on each of the first three lists of the settlers. He received in the first distribution of the land eight acres.

John Ogden received, Dec. 7, 1641, ten acres, house-lot, with woodland, like the first company. In 1642 he agreed with Governor Kieft, of New York, to build a stone church for twenty-five hundred guilders. In 1644 he was a patentee of Hempstead L. I.

Richard Ogden, brother of the above, went to Fairfield, where he became a man of note.

— Pierson received, in the distribution of November, 1642, a house-lot. The Christian name is obliterated, but that of Henry is given to the Pearson who emigrated with Mr. Denton in 1644. A Jacob Pearson (Pierson) was landholder in 1661.

Thomas Pop received, Dec. 7, 1641, a house-lot, with woodland, the same as the first company. This name should probably be Pope, and he probably went soon after the colony settled here over to Hempstead.

James Pyne received, Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, house-lot, and woodland, the same as the first company. He went to Hempstead, L. I., and was accepted as freeman from that town of the Connecticut colony in 1664.

Thurston Raynor came with the first company from Wethersfield. His name on each of the first three lists stands next to Matthew Mitchell. In the first distribution of lands he received twenty acres. He sold his lot in Wethersfield, which contained three hundred and thirty acres, to Richard Treat. On reaching Stamford he was appointed to the New Haven court with senatorial honors. This distinction places him among the foremost of our pioneers. From Stamford he went to Southampton, L. I., where he was held in honor.

John Renoulds appears on the list of the settlers of Wethersfield, from which place he probably came with the first settlers of Stamford. His name is on the second and third lists of the colonists. He received, in the first allotment of land, eleven acres.

John Rockwell received, Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, home-lot, and woodland, as the first company.

Daniel Scofield received, Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, home-lot, and woodland, as the first company. He died in 1671. His children were Daniel, John, Richard, Joseph, Sarah, the wife of John Pettit, and Mary. His widow Mary became the third wife of Miles Merwin. The son Joseph suffered so much from hardships in King Philip's war as to lose his life in 1676, giving his estate to his brothers and sisters. His will, dated Sept. 4, 1664, gives to his wife one-third the estate, with use of the house for her lifetime; to his daughter Sarah, five pounds; and to her two children, five pounds; and to the other four children, Daniel, John, Joseph, and Mercy, the rest of the estate. His wife and two of the sons, Daniel and John, were made executors.

John Seaman came with the first company from Wethersfield. His name is on each of the first three lists of the colony, and he received in the first distribution of land three acres.

Simon Seiring appears on the records, in 1642, as landholder, where his name is spelled Cymon. He is reported on the list of those who went, in 1644, with Mr. Denton to Hempstead, L. I.

Samuel Sherman came with the first settlers from Wethersfield. His name appears on each of the first three lists of the new colony, and he received, in the first distribution of land, ten acres. He was assistant in the New Haven court in 1662, and his reappointment for the next two years. He was also sent to the General Court of Connecticut, after the union of the town colonies, in 1665. In his sale of house and land, in 1654, he is said to be "now living in Stratford." In leaving Stamford he probably took every member of his family, as the name does not subsequently occur on our records. The descendants of this pioneer of Stamford have numbered many very eminent men, among whom are John Sherman, the present Secretary of the Treasury, and Gen. Wm. T. Sherman.

Vincent Simkins came with the first company from Wethersfield.

George Slauson came probably from Sandwich, Mass., with Thomas Armitage, in 1642. He appears in our account of the first church of the town as a leading member, and he was also evidently a man of note in civil life. I suppose him to have been the representative from the town in 1670. He had three children, as appears from his will, dated Dec. 16, 1694,—Eleazer, John, and a daughter who married John Gould. He died Feb. 17, 1695. His son John married, in 1663, Sarah Tuttle, of New Haven, and had a son John born in 1664, and Jonathan in 1667. The wife of this John was killed Nov. 17, 1676, by her brother, Benjamin Tuttle, who was executed for it the following June. He then married a second wife, Elizabeth Benedict, and had a daughter Mary and a son Thomas. He died in 1706. He was doubtless the ancestor of the present Slason families in town.

Thomas Slawson in November or December, 1642, received a house-lot, and three acres "in the field," besides. Savage says he did not stay long in Stamford.

Henry Smith came with the first company from Wethersfield. His name is on each of the first three lists of the new colony, and in the first distribution of land he received three acres. Whence he came to Wethersfield is not known. He was promoted for freeman in 1670, and died in 1687. He had a son John, mentioned in his will, and a daughter Rebecca, who married, July 2, 1672, Edward Wilkinson, of Milford, and a daughter Hannah, who married a Lawrence.

John Smith, Sr., received, Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, house-lot, and woodland, the same as the first com-



pany. He and his son John went to Hempstead, L. I. John Smith, Jr., received, Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, house-lot, and woodland, as the first company. In 1675, John, Jr., in a deposition, gives his age at sixty years, and says that while in Stamford he was called Rock John Smith, for distinction.

John Stevens received, Dec. 7, 1641, two acres, house-lot, and a woodland, as the first company. The descendants of this pioneer have been quite numerous.

Samuel Swain, in September, 1642, is engaged to build at the common charge of the townsmen a mill, as appears from a record of that date, and his name occurs later in the records.

James Swead received a house-lot in the distribution of November, 1642.

John Towne received in the distribution of November, 1642, a house-lot.

Capt. John Underhill had assigned to him in October, 1642, house-lot, eight acres, and woodland, as the others. He was made a freeman in Boston in 1631.

Andrew Ward.—This name appears in the first record of the "Corte holden at Newtown, 26th April, 1636." He was one of the five worthies, who thus had in their hands the destinies of the new settlement at Newtown (Hartford), and so those of the State. The record states that he had been dismissed from the church of Watertown, Mass., on the 28th of May last, and he with his associates are authorized to renew the covenant. He continued a member of the court until September, 1639. At the session held October, 1639, he is nominated by the court to be presented for the vote of the county for magistrates in April next. In 1637 he is reported in the records of the General Court as collector of Wethersfield, and he doubtless came to Stamford with the Wethersfield settlers. His name is on each of the first three lists of the pioneers, and during his life here he was a prominent man. He was chosen magistrate for the colony in 1646 to represent it in the higher branch of the New Haven court. His will, still found on record in Fairfield, bears date June 8, 1659, and makes bequests to his wife Esther, son John, daughter Sarah, daughter Abigail, and his two youngest sons, Andrew and Samuel. It is stated also that his other children had received their portions. From this pioneer of the town have descended eminent names. Henry Ward Beecher gets his middle name from him, and his daughter Mary was grandmother of Vice-President Aaron Burr.

Jonas Weed came to Watertown in 1631, where he was made freeman, and thence to Stamford in 1642. He died here in 1676. His will, on record at Fairfield, dated Nov. 26, 1672, makes his legatees his wife Mary, and his children John, Daniel, and Jonas; Mary, wife of George Abbott; Dorcus, wife of James Wright; Samuel; John Rockwell for Elizabeth; Sarah; and Hannah, wife of Benjamin Hoyt. His administrators were his wife Mary, and his sons

Daniel and John. The widow died in 1690. His son John married Joanna, daughter of Richard "Westcoat." The son Jonas married, Nov. 6, 1670, Bethia, daughter of John Holly, and to him the father gave, in 1671, the house where he was then living. The descendants of this Jonas Weed have been very numerous here, and they have, also, always been among our prominent citizens.

Thomas Weeks went from Wethersfield to Hadley and returned to Wethersfield, from which place he probably came with the first company of settlers to Stamford. His name is on the second and third lists of the colonists, and he received, in the first distribution of land, six acres.

John Whitmore came with the first company of settlers from Wethersfield. His name is on the second and third lists of the colonists, and he received, in the first distribution of land, ten acres.

Jonas Wood, Sr., came with the first company of settlers from Wethersfield. His name is on each of the first three lists of the colonists, and he received, in the first distribution of land, eight acres. He was among the settlers of Springfield in 1636, from which place he went to Wethersfield. In 1643 he brings an action against Thomas Newton, of Fairfield, when he is reported as from Long Island. In 1654 he was in Southampton, L. I., as appears from an action against him in the court of magistrates at New Haven. In that action he is called Hallifax Jonas by Richard Mills, of Stamford, in his testimony. In 1658, Jonas Wood (O) and Jonas Wood (H), both of Huntington, L. I., agents for the inhabitants of the same, desire to join with this colony (New Haven). In May, 1662, on the petition of Huntington, L. I., he is appointed by the General Court in Hartford the first townsman and custom-master. He became on Long Island a man of some prominence. His name heads the list of those to whom the town of Huntington was granted in 1666.

Jonas Wood, Jr., came with the first company of settlers from Wethersfield. His name is on the second and third lists of the colonists. He received, in the first distribution of land, seven acres.

Edmund Wood came with the first company of settlers from Wethersfield. His name is on each of the first three lists of the colonists. He received, in the first distribution of land, seven acres.

Jeremiah Wood came with the first company of settlers from Wethersfield. His name is on each of the first three lists of the new colony.

Francis Yates is on Chapin's list of the residents of Wethersfield, between 1634 and 1673. He went to Stamford, where he stayed until 1644, when he removed with Mr. Denton to Hempstead, L. I.

The healthful climate and fertility of the soil soon attracted other settlers, and not much time elapsed ere the little colony was rapidly being augmented by an enterprising class of people. The following is a list of those who came in between the years 1643 and

the breaking out of the Revolution: Joseph Arnold, Richard Ayres, Sr., Samuel Baker, John Banks, John Beachgood, John Beldin, Matthew Bellamy, Samuel Blackley, Joseph Blackley, Josiah Blackman, William Blanchard, Israel Boardman, Richard Booloch, Ephraim Bostwick, Nathaniel Borden, Richard Bouton, Daniel Briggs, Samuel Brooker, Samuel Bryan, Richard Chester, Daniel Chichester, William Clements, John Cluggstone, John Clock, Thomas Corey, Cary Conklin, James Crawford, Nathaniel Cross, Cornelius Curtiss, Francis Dan, Richard (Daniels) Daniel, John Davis, Rev. John Davenport, Cornelius Delavan, Peter Demill, Anthony De Forest, John Dixon, Dr. John Drew, John Dufrees, John Emery, John Fancher, Mary Fountain, Samuel Fountain, Eneas Fountain, Jeremiah Gager, Joseph Gale, Jeremiah Gaylor, John Gold, Capt. George Gorham, Robert Harris, Benjamin Hickox, Richard Higginbottom, William Hubbard, Samuel Hutton, John Ingersol, Samuel Jarvis, John Jeffrey, Isaac Joiner, John Judson, William King, John Ketchum, Henry Kimball, Thomas Lawrence, John Leeds, John Lloyd, John Lewis, David Lines, John Longwell, — Loder, John Marshall, Jonathan Maltby, Thomas Mathews, Nathaniel Middlebrook, John Mott, Robert Nichols, Hugh Norton, Abner Osborne, John Pardee, James Parkerton, Robert Pelton, John Perry, Joseph Pardy, George Philips, Stephen Platt, Nathaniel Pond, Thomas Potts, Andrew Powers, Joseph Purdy, Samuel (Provost) Provorce, Isaac Quintard, Henry Rich, Zachariah Roberts, Samuel Richards, Thomas Skelding, David St. John, James Hait, Jonathan Selleck, John Selleck, John Stone, Charles Stuart, Joseph Studwell, Christopher Sturges, William Sturdivant, John Thompson, Edward (Tryon) Tryhern, Charles Thorp, John Todd, Jr., Joseph Turney, James Walsh, John Waters, Daniel Wescott, John Wescott, Justus Wheeler, Joseph Whiting, James White, Nathaniel Wiatt, Benjamin Wheaton, Dr. John Willson, Zophar Wilmot, Joseph Wilmot, John Williamson, Gilbert Woolsey, Richard Ambler, Robert Almsley, Elias Bayly, Robert Basset, Rev. John Bishop, Peter Brown, Thomas Brown, Clement Baxton, John Chapman, Thomas Colgrave, Stephen Clayson, Thomas Caskrye, Samuel Dean, Peter Disbrow, John Elliott, John Ellison, Robert Fordham, Joseph Garnsey, William Gifford, Richard Hardy, William Hill, Thomas Hunt, Henry Jackson, Edward Jessup, Joseph Jones, John Karman, Caleb Knapp, Joshua Knapp, Edmund, Jonathan, and Joseph Lockwood, John Martin, Richard Mills, David Mitchel, Thomas Morris, Daniel Newman, Thomas Newman, Henry Olwieson, William Oliver, Robert Penoyer, John Petet, Debrow Petie, Potter Williams, G. Rivis, Robert Rugg, Richard Scofield, Thomas Sherwood, James Steward, George Stokey, Humphrey Symings, Charles Tamtor, Gregory Taylor, Nicholas Theale, Thomas Uffit, Robert Meher, John Waterbury, Jr., N. Webster.

## GRIST-MILL.

One of the greatest inconveniences usually met by the early settlers of any section is the want of mills for grinding grain. The pioneers of Stamford gave this matter their early attention, for as early as September, 1641, an order was passed for the erection of a mill at a common charge. It was promptly erected and "set agoing," but during the same year was sold to private parties.

## THE PERFDY OF THE DUTCH TRADERS.—THE UNDERHILL MASSACRE.

The following concise statement of an affair which at one time wore a threatening aspect, endangering the very existence of the community, is from the pen of the late Rev. E. B. Huntington:

"Some of the Dutch traders had stripped an Indian, who had been tempted by them to drink too much, of a valuable dress of beaver skins. On recovering from his drunken fit, the insulted red man revenged himself by killing two Dutchmen, and fled to feast his memory with the great revenge among a distant tribe. He could not be found. The Dutch governor at New Amsterdam, Kieft, sought an opportunity to punish the Indians for the revengeful deed. The next winter the Mohawks fell upon two of the Hudson River tribes, and after killing their warriors scattered the remnant in utter destitution to find food and shelter from the piercing cold among the Dutch on the South. The time for a civilized revenge had now come; and at the instigation of Kieft, with the sanction of his counselors, more than a hundred of those helpless fugitives from their savage foe were sent from their quiet sleep on earth to the spirit world of their race by a blow from the Dutch soldiers so sudden that they could not even beg for life.

"Then Indian blood was stirred. Savage vengeance awoke. With almost electric despatch Indian warrior pledged to Indian warrior, and clan to clan, the direst vengeance on their foe. 'More than fifteen hundred warriors,' according to De Forest, rallied from the confederacy of eleven clans to constitute this avenging army. 'A fierce war blazed wherever a Dutch settlement was to be found; on Long Island and on Manhattan, along the Connecticut and along the Hudson.' From Manhattan to Stamford the coast was desolated, Dutch and English alike atoning to the inexorable spirit of Indian revenge for the injuries that had been heaped upon the Indian's race.

"Within hearing distance of the Stamford settlement\* were three Dutch settlers who had excited the wrath of the restless and brave Mayano. He nobly met them, armed as they were, with his bow and arrows, and brought two of them to the ground. The third only saved himself by a well-directed blow which laid the fearless savage at his feet; and the daring of the fallen sachem had made the extermination of his tribe a necessity to the safety of the

\* Between Greenwich and Stamford.—O'Callaghan.



whites. A company of soldiers were immediately dispatched to capture them. At Greenwich they were directed by Capt. Patrick to the rendezvous of the maddened Indians, but on reaching it not a soul could be found. Proceeding on into the Stamford settlement they find Patrick with his own former comrade in arms, our Capt. John Underhill. They immediately suspect him of having given the Indians notice of their approach. They taunt him with the treachery.

"He who had led his trusty men so successfully against the bravest of the New England savages could not brook such insolence from Dutchmen, even though in arms. He contemptuously spat in the face of their leader and turned to walk away. A pistol-ball brought him to the ground in death, and the Dutchmen returned to the pursuit of their savage foe.

"Underhill, who had been no friend to the Dutch settlers, now sympathized with their mortal hatred of the Indian enemy. He had already signalized his bravery in the Pequod war. His was already a name of terror to Indians far and near; and to his presence our Stamford colony had doubtless owed their comparative exemption thus far from savage invasions. It was no time for him to rest inactive when his friends and neighbors were exposed every hour to some sudden and relentless massacre. He offered his services to the Dutch Governor, and was at once sent into the field. The troublesome Indians about Stamford were the first to feel his power. With one hundred and thirty men he started from New Amsterdam on a cold and cloudy morning in the February of 1644. They were able to land at Greenwich Point that evening in a furious storm. With the early dawn of the next morning the resolute captain was again on the march. All day did the sturdy Dutch soldiers, under their valiant leader, plod their toilsome way through the snow until, at eight in the evening, they had reached the vicinity of the hostile camp. Soon the clouds gave way, and a clear, bright moon, flashing from the snowy crystals, lighted their way to their horrid work. By a little after ten they filed round the southern spur of a ridge stretching towards the northwest, and the village, a triple range of wigwams, lay reposing before them, awaiting their attack. With marvelous celerity the captain circles the doomed village with his trusty men. Now spring upon them, as hounds unleashed upon their prey, the stalwart forms of more than a hundred warriors, all prepared for their death grapple with the foe. But neither their sudden rush, nor their wild war-cry, could intimidate their assailants. Coolly they are received, a tenth of them captured, and the rest impetuously hurled back. For a whole hour the unrelenting struggle went on. A hundred and thirty men wrestled in mortal strife with more than five hundred of the enemy, and when the doomed Indians were at length driven back within their lines of defense, one hundred

and eighty of their fallen comrades were already still and stiffening in the blood-stained snow. Nor would they yet raise the flag of truce or cry for quarter. Each undaunted spirit, left beneath such shelter as his own or his neighbor's wigwam could give, continued the fight. This was the opportunity for which Underhill was prepared. He called for fire. Torches lighted the wigwams. Indian men, women, and children, issuing from their burning homes, were driven back to perish in the flames. Before the morning dawned more than five hundred who, the night before, had gone to their usual rest, were now sleeping their last sleep with the unconscious dead.

"By noon of the next day the victors had already reached Stamford on their way home, having in this signal chastisement of the Indians of this neighborhood secured the perpetual peace of the English settlements."


#### INDIAN DEEDS, ETC.—THE STAMFORD PATENT, 1685.

The following is a copy of the Indian deed which, in consideration of "twelve coats, twelve howes, twelve hatchets, twelve glasses, twelve knives, four kettles, and four fathom of white wampum," was conveyed, July 1, 1640, to Capt. Nathaniel Turner for the New Haven jurisdiction the lands at Stamford:


"Bought of Ponus, sagamore of Toquams, and of Wascussue, sagamore of Shippan, by mee, Nathaniel Turner, of Quenepiocke, all the grounds that belongs to both the above said sagamores, except a piece of ground\* which the above said sagamore of Toquams reserved for his and the rest of said Indians to plant on—all of which grounds being expressed by meadows, upland, grass, with the rivers and trees; and in consideration hereof, I, the said Nathaniel Turner, am to give and bring, or send, to the above said sagamores, within the space of one month, twelve coats, twelve howes, twelve hatchets, twelve glasses, twelve knives, four kettles, four fathom of white wampum: all of which lands bothe we, the said sagamores, do promise faithfully to perform, both for ourselves, heirs, executors, or assigns, and hereunto we have sett our marks in the presence of many of the said Indians, they fully consenting thereto.

"Witness, { WILLIAM WILKES,  
JAMES ———.

"PONUS  his mark.

 "OWENOKE, Sagamore Ponus' son.

"WESCUSSEE  his mark.

 "pd in part payment 12 glasses.  
12 knives.  
04 coats.

\* This exception was probably that beautiful headland now owned mainly by Capt. B. L. Waite and the Scofield brothers, Alfred and Benjamin. This tract, in 1672, was given to the Rev. Eliphalet Jones, then just called to assist the Rev. Mr. Bishop. The terms of the gift are: "Mr. Jones shall have that piece of land at Wescus which was improved by the Engins in case it be cleared from all English and Engins, and this land to be Mr. Jones' proper right in lue of that piece of land granted to him on the west side of the Southfield."—*Huntington*.

## DEED OF 1645.

The deed of the eastern part of the town, given in 1645, is as follows:

"These presents testify that I, Piamikin, Sagamore of Roatan and owner of all the land lying between Fivemile river and Pinebrook so called by the English, for diverse reasons and considerations have given and granted unto Andrew Ward and Richard Law of Stamford for the use and property of sayd town, from me and myne to them and theirs forever, all the above sayd lands lying between the sd Fivemile river and Pinebrook, quietly to possess and enjoye in a full and free manner with all the privileges thereto belonging or apertaining, as witness my hand in Stamford this twenty-fourth day of March, anno one thousand six hundred forty and five.

"PIAMIKIN,



his  
mark.

"Witness

"JEREMY JAGGER.

"GEORGE SLASON.

"WASASARY



his  
mark.

"PENGATON



his  
mark.

"MAMATMA



his  
mark.

"TOQUATUS



his  
mark."

## REPORT TO GENERAL COURT OF DEED OF 1645.

"At a general court held at New Haven for ye jurisdiction June 9, 1654—Several writings recorded concerning lands in question betwixt Stamford and Norwalk, which upon the desire of Stamford is ordered to be recorded—this may certify that Piamikee, Sagamore did upon ye twenty-fourth of March in ye year 1645 make a deed of gift of all ye land from that which is comonly called ye Pine brook by ye English and that which is called Five mile river or Rowayton, where their planting land doth come very near unto ye said land, was by a deed of gift made over unto Andrew Ward and Richard Law; which they did receive for ye town of Stamford and at the same time did give unto the said Sagamore one coat in ye presence of George Slason and after yt three more with some quantity of tobaca, and ye said Sagamore did confirm ye same by setting his hand to a writing then made, ye said Sagamore upon ye gift did except against setting houses because ye English hoggs would be ready to spoil their corn, and yt ye cattle in case they come over ye said Five mile river, to which it was granted, yt to inhabit we did not intend, and our cattle we intended they should have a keeper, and in case any hurts was done they should have satisfaction, yt this land as aforesaid was by the said Piamikee in ye presence of other four or five Indians resigned for ever to ye English, in witness whereof we have set to our hands, Stamford, first mouth 4, 1654.

"ANDREW WARD.

"RICHARD LAW."

## AGREEMENT WITH PONUS AND ONAX, 1655.

"Our agreement made with Ponus, Sagamore of Toquamske and with Onax his eldest son: Altho' there was an agreement made before with the said Indians and Capt. Turner and the purchase paid for, yet the things not being clear, and being very unsatisfied, we came to another agreement with Onax and Ponus for their land from the town plot of Stamford north about 16 miles and there we marked a white oak tree with S. T. and going toward the Mill River side we marked another white oak tree with S. T. and from that tree west we were to run four miles, and from the first marked tree to run four miles eastward, and from this east and west line we are to have further to the north for our cattle to feed, full two miles further, the full breadth—only the said Indians reserve for themselves liberty of their planting ground: and the above said Indians, Ponus and Onax, with all other Indians that be concerned in it have surrendered all

the said land to the town of Stamford, as their proper right, forever, and the aforesaid Indians have set their hands as witnessing the truth hereof, and for and in consideration hereof, the said town of Stamford is to give the said Indians 4 coats, which the Indians did accept of for full satisfaction for the aforesaid lands, altho' it was paid before, hereby Ponus' posterity is cut off from making any claim or having any right to any part of the aforesaid land, and do hereby surrender and make over, for us or any of ours forever, unto the Englishmen of the town of Stamford, and their posterity forever, the land as it is butted and bounded the bounds above mentioned. The said Ponus and Onax his son having this day received of Richard Law 4 coats acknowledging themselves fully satisfied for the aforesaid land.—Witness the said Indians the day and date hereof, Stamford, August 15, 1655.

"Witnesses

"WM NEWMAN

"RICHARD LAW

"PONUS. \_\_\_\_\_

"ONAX. \_\_\_\_\_"

## ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT WITH TAPHANCE AND PENAHAY, JAN. 7, 1667.

"An agreement made this 7th of January Anno 1667 between the inhabitants of the town of Stamford, the one party, and Taphance son of Ponus and Powahay son of Onax, son of Ponus, the other party, for a full and final esew of all questions about all and any rights of lands formerly belonging unto Ponus Sagamore of Toquams and any of his race or lineage surviving, and for a more full confirmation of the sales of lands, meadows, rights, privileges formerly made by the foresaid Ponus and Onax unto the inhabitants of the town of Stamford, the contents of this agreement as followeth. That, whereas Ponus Sagamore of Toquams, and Wescus, Sagamore of Shippan, sold unto Capt. Nath'l Turner of Quennipicke, all their lands belonging to either of the forementioned Ponus and Wescus—the said sale expressing all uplands, meadows, grass, with the rivers and trees belonging to the foresaid Sagamores, except a piece of ground which the foresaid Sagamore of Toquams reserved to plant on—the said sale specified by a deed under their hands; dated the 1st of July anno 1640. Also the payment according to the agreement was made to satisfaction of the foresaid Ponus and Wescus—these forementioned in the deed are sold and alienated from the aforesaid Ponus and Wescus and their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns unto the foresaid Capt. Nath'l Turner, and his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever—moreover, after this former agreement in the year Anno 1655, the Inhabitants of Stamford and Ponus Sagamore, and Onax, Sagamore came to an agreement, for the convenient settlement of their planting ground at Shehauge, as also how far the bounds of the inhabitants of Stamford should go, which joint agreement was to extend sixteen miles north from the sea side at Stamford; and two miles short of that the said parties marked two trees with S T; the aforesaid Ponus and Onax agreeing and granted the inhabitants of Stamford that their bounds should run from the aforesaid marked trees four miles east, and from the foresaid marked trees four miles west; their whole breadth to be eight miles and for full satisfaction of the foresaid Ponus and Onax for all and every part of the lands with the Demensions thereof forementioned and the Indian's planting Land excepted, four coats was paid and accepted by the said Indians viz: Ponus and Onax, upon which receipt the said Ponus and Onax gave a full surrender of all the land forementioned from them and their heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, and in the behalf of all the Indians unto the English Inhabitants of Stamford and their heirs, executors, and administrators, and assigns for ever, quietly to possess and enjoy in free and full manner. Unto this agreement the Indians forementioned viz: Ponus and Onax subscribed their mark for full confirmation, witnessed by Richard Law and William Newman. Now these presents witnesseth, that we Taphance, son of Ponus and Powahay son of Onax as abovementioned, do hereby acknowledge the several grants and sales of lands and the several agreements thereabouts as above specified with the payment for satisfaction given for the same, and do hereby for us and ours fully confirm the said grants and sales with the dimensions thereof as above specified—furthermore we the foresaid Taphance and Powahay do hereby both for us and our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, grant and surrender up unto the inhabitants of the town of Stamford their heirs, executors administrators and assigns forever all our land or lands formerly reserved to us for planting at Shehauge and Hoquetch with all other lands of any sort and privileges of any kind to us and our predecessors formerly belonging; the said lands and privileges lying between Tptomock near Greenwich on the west and the land formerly granted by Piamikin to the men of Stamford on the east with the forementioned dimensions of length and breadth; Quietly to possess and



enjoy without future molestation by us and ours—In consideration hereof the inhabitants of Stamford do both for themselves and theirs give and grant unto the foresaid Taphance and Powahay and their male issue and posterity twenty acres planting ground in convenient place or places—with these conditions following agreed unto—first, that the said Indians fence their ground with a sufficient fence—secondly, that they shall not at any time take in other Indians or Indian to reside with them—thirdly—only Taphance with his wife and children and Penahay and Paharron and an old woman called Nowattonnamassqua are allowed—thirdly that neither Taphance nor Penahay, nor any of theirs shall at any time sell, or any way directly or indirectly make over or transfer the said twenty acres of land or any part thereof to any; but if the said Taphance and they shall desert and leave the said land, or if in case the said Taphance and Penahay their male issue and posterity shall cease and extinguish, then the forementioned 20 acres of land shall fall to the inhabitants of Stamford, immediately without any further consideration, as their proper right; fourthly, the foresaid Taphance and Penahay both for themselves and theirs do hereby bind and engage themselves unto a *dem* and orderly subjection to all town orders of Stamford and the laws of the jurisdiction that are or shall be made from time to time and for the true performance of the foresaid covenants and agreements respectively the parties above-mentioned do hereby bind themselves and theirs firmly. In witness of truth they have hereto set their hands the day and date above written.

"Signed and delivered		In behalf of Stamford.
in presence of	TAPHANCE ———	Richard Law
Richard Beach	} PENAHAY ———	Francis Bell
John Embrey		George Slason
Samuel Mills		Jonathan Silleck
		John Holly."

In about the year 1700 a confirmation was made by Catoona and Coee of all the previous grants to the English. Especial mention is made of deeds granted to the English by Taphassee, Ponus, Penehays, old Onax, young Onax, a deed to Capt. Turner, and also a deed by Hawatonaman. The article is signed by the following witnesses: John Eye alias John Caukee, Pohornes, Renohoctam, Ramhorne, Smingo, Amaugh, Awaricus, Mockea, Papakuma, Simorn, Catona, Capt. Manin, Wequacumak, Aquamana, Pupiamak.

#### THE STAMFORD PATENT.

The following is a copy of the patent granted to the Stamford inhabitants by the Connecticut colony under date May 26, 1685:

"Whereas the generall court of Connecticut hath formerly Granted unto the proprietors Inhabitants of the town of Standford all those lands both meadow and upland within these abutments upon the sea at the south, east on the five Mile Brooke between Standford aforesaid & Norwalk from the mouth of the said Brook till it meet with the cross pass that now is where the country roade crosseth the sayd path, and from thence to run up into the country till Twelve miles be run out upon the same lyne that is between Stratford and fayrefield; and upon the west Tatamak Brooke, where the lowermost path or road that now is to Greenwich cutts the sayd brooke & from thence to run on a straight lyne to the west end of a lyne drawne, from the falls of Standford Mill river which sayd lyne is to run a due west poynt towards Greenwich bounds a meat mile & from the west end of sayd lyne to run due north to the present county roade towards Rye and from thence to run up into the country the same line that it is between Norwalk and Standford to the end of the bownds, the sayd lands having been by purchas or otherwise lawfully obtayned of the Indian native proprietors, and whereas the proprietors, the aforesaid Inhabitants of Standford in the colony of Connecticut have made application to the Governor and company of the sayd colony of Connecticut assembled In court May 25, 1685, that they have a patent for confirmation of the aforesaid lands so purchased and granted to them as aforesaid & which they have stood seized and quietly possessed of for many years last past without Interruption now for a more full confirmation of the aforesaid tract of land as it is buttet and bounded aforesaid unto the present proprietors of the sayd township of Standford, in their possession and enjoyment of the premises; KNOW ye that the said Governor & company assembled in GENERAL COURT according to the commis-

sion granted to them by his Ma'tie in his charter have given & granted & by these presents do give, grant, ratify and confirm unto Mr. John Bishop, Mr. Richard law, Capt. Jonathan Silleck, Capt. John Silleck, Lieut. Francis Bell, Lieut. Jonathan Bell, ensign John Bates, Mr. Abraham Ambler, Mr. peter ferris, Mr. Joshua Hoyte, and the rest of the said present proprietors of the township of Standford their heirs, successors and assigns forever, the aforesaid parcell of land as it is Buttet and Bounded together with all the meadows, pastures, ponds, waters, rivers, islands, fishings, Huntings, fowlings, mines, minerals, Quarries and precious stones upon or within the said tract of land and all other profits comodities thereunto belonging or in any wayes appertaining and do grant unto the aforesaid Mr. John Bishop, Mr. Richard lawe, Capt. Jonathan Silleck, Capt. John Silleck, Lnt. francis Bell, Lnt. Jonathan Bell, ens. John Bates, Mr. Abraham Ambler, Mr. peter ferris & Mr. Joshua Hoyt & the rest of the proprietors Inhabitants of Standford their heirs successors and assigns forever that the aforesaid tract of land shall be forever after deemed, reputed & be an Intire Township of it selfe, to have and to hold the sayd Tract of land and premises with all and singular their appurtenances together, with the privileges and Immunities and franchises herein given and granted unto the sayd John Bishop, Richard law, Capt. Jonathan Silleck, Capt. John Silleck, Lnt. francis Bell, Lnt. Jonathan Bell, Ens. John Bates, Mr. Abraham Ambler, Mr. peter ferris, & Mr. Joshua Hoyte and other the present proprietors Inhabitants of Standford their heirs successors and assigns forever and to the only proper use & behoofe of the sayd Mr. John Eishop, Richard law, Capt. Jonathan Silleck, Capt. John Silleck, Lnt. Francis Bell, Lnt. Jonathan Bell, Ens. John Bates, Mr. Abraham Ambler, Mr. peter ferris & Mr. Joshua Hoyte.

"And other proprietors Inhabitants of Standford their heirs, successors and assigns forever, according to the tenor of East Greenwich in Kent in free & comon soccage & not in capitee nor by knight service—

"They to make improvment of the same as they are capable according to the customs of the country, yielding, rendering and paying therefore to our sovereign lord the king his heirs and successors his dues according to charter: In WITNESS whereof we have cause the seale of the colony to be here unto affixed this Twenty sixth of May One Thousand Six Hundred eighty-five in the first year of the reign of our sovereign lord king James the second of England, scotland france & Ireland, defender of the fayth.

"per order of the General Court, signed per me, John Allyn Sec'y."

#### CHAPTER LXIX.

##### STAMFORD (Continued).

#### THE SOLDIERY OF STAMFORD—THE HEROES OF FOUR WARS.

The French and Indian Wars—List of Soldiers—Stamford in the Revolution—List of Revolutionary Soldiers—List of Stamford Loyalists—War of 1812—List of Volunteers.

THE record of Stamford's soldiery from the period of the French and Indian wars, in the second quarter of the eighteenth century, through the various conflicts which our country has passed, to the close of the great Rebellion, 1861-65, is one in which the citizens of this old town may justly feel a patriotic pride.

#### THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WARS.

From the town records of this period we find that Stamford was alive to the emergency, and in 1757 it was voted that if the "Lord of London shall send regulars into this town, the town will bear the charge of accommodating them with what shall be necessary for them."

In December, 1758, it was voted that Col. Hoyt, Mr. Abraham Davenport, and Ensign Holly be appointed a committee to supply His Majesty's regular

forces, now quartered in this town, with firewood for their guard-room and hospital, and what bedding they should think proper to provide them with, to be paid for out of the town treasury." In October of the same year the government ordered paid to the town of Stamford the sum of three hundred and sixty-nine pounds and thirteen shillings and four pence halfpenny as compensation for keeping a part of Col. Frazer's Highland battalion the last winter.

The following record also appears :

"These may certify your Honors, that the Highland soldiers ordered to be quartered in the town of Stamford, arrived at said town, Nov. 30, 1757, and were quartered there until March 30, '58. The number of soldiers, officers included, was 250. There were also belonging to them, seventeen women and nine children. They were at the cost of the town provided with house-room, bedding, firewood, candles, &c., &c. Their officers insisted upon their being kept within a small compass, which exposed us to much more trouble and cost than otherwise would have been necessary.

"STAMFORD, April 28, 1758.

JONA HOYT,	} Committee to take	
ABR. DAVENPORT,		
JNO. HOLLY,		
		care of the High-
		landers."

Among the Stamford citizens who participated in these wars were the following: Maj. David Waterbury, Peter Scofield, Reuben Scofield, Abijah Weed, Benjamin Webb, Charles Webb, Jonathan, Sylvanus, and Deliverance Slason, and Ebenezer and Walter Weed. The records in the State library also show that the following Stamford men were in these wars:

In 1754, Charles Knap, ensign, was discharged and Joseph Husted chosen in his place. In November of this year Joseph Wood was chosen lieutenant of Capt. White's company.

In 1755, Company Fifth of Fourth Regiment was officered by Samuel Hanford, captain; Joseph Hoyt, lieutenant; and Isaiah Starr, second lieutenant, to go against Crown Point.

March 10, 1757, Col. Jonathan Hait notifies Capt. David Waterbury that his ensign, John Waterbury, had asked for discharge from having fallen from his horse and broken his leg. Samuel Hutton was chosen in his place.

Jonathan Maltby was captain of Company Two, and on his resignation Ebenezer Weed was chosen captain; Ezra Smith, lieutenant; and Charles Knapp, ensign.

In the east part of the town the company called out in 1747 had for its officers Jonathan Bates, captain; Jonathan Selleck, lieutenant; and Thomas Hanford and Nathan Reed, ensigns.

In the first registry of births, marriages, and deaths is the following entry:

"Joseph Bishop, a Sholger, son of Joseph Bishop of Stamford, died with sickness at Lake George, Nov. 25, at night in the year 1755."

"Stephen Ambler, a soldier in the expedition at Lake George in 1754, son to Sergeant Stephen Ambler, died on his return at Sharon, Oct. 19, 1756."

"Ezra Hait, of Stamford a sholger, dyed at Albany Dec. 28, 1755."

"Joseph Ferris, a Shoulger from Stamford in ye expedition towards Crown point in ye year 1756, in his return from the expedition dyed with sickness at Newfilford, on December ye 18, 1756."

#### THE REVOLUTION.

The following history of Stamford in the Revolution and incidents of that period are compiled from Huntington's historical work:

"At the commencement of the Revolutionary war Connecticut numbered but sixty-seven towns, and Stamford ranked in population the sixteenth. Her grand list was £34,078 8s., which evidenced a still higher rank in means than in population. The year 1775 found her represented in the State Assembly by David Waterbury and Charles Webb, both of whom had seen service in the old French war, and were therefore competent to advise in the present emergencies of the State; and, by an unusual stroke of good fortune, she was also honored in the Senate of the State by the first name among her civilians, the Hon. Abraham Davenport, who also had been active and influential during the long struggles of the French and Indian wars. The long-expected crisis had now come. Everything indicated war. Yet though there were many reasons why our townsmen would be likely to shrink from an earnest contest with the mother-country, they were not altogether unprepared for it. They had both the men and the means to begin and prosecute the struggle.

"At the head of our ministers, of which the town then counted only five, was that patriot and scholar, Dr. Noah Welles, who, since his sermon preached Dec. 19, 1765, to arouse the people over the great outrage attempted against them by the Stamp Act, had missed no opportunity of encouraging his townsmen to a manly resistance against all such oppression, and who, though called to lay down his useful life even at the beginning of the struggle, yet lived long enough to preach his annual thanksgiving sermon, Nov. 16, 1775. In that sermon, a manuscript copy of which is in my possession, he moved his people to a grateful commemoration of the goodness of their fathers' God, as shown them in 'frustrating the plans of our enemies,' especially in their attempts to secure the aid of the Canadians and Indians and negroes, in so signally preserving the lives of our exposed people, in granting the remarkable success attending our military enterprises at Lexington, Charleston, and more lately to the north, in which, though 'engaged with the best British troops,' he assures them we were 'yet never worsted,' and in inspiring the remarkable union and harmony through the colonies in the present struggle for liberty.

"Nor behind him, in his fervent patriotism, was that faithful coadjutor, Rev. Dr. Moses Mather, then the patriot minister of the Middlesex (Darien) Church, and so soon to test his patriotism amid the insulting jeers of the ruthless soldiery who were to drag him from his own consecrated sanctuary, and still more triumphantly amid the cruel hardships and threatened horrors of the execrable Provost prison to which he was doomed.

"At the head of our civilians stood the honorable



Abraham Davenport, a man of college education, long familiar with the public service in civil life, well grounded in such legal learning as enabled him, with no misgivings, to rely upon the essential justice of the Revolutionary cause, endowed, more than most men, with an instinctive reverence for what was right and an inflexible purpose to insist upon it, and, what was of scarcely less value to him for the part he was called to act, the inheritor of a large estate, and the father of an educated and now influential family, who thoroughly sympathized with him in his espousal of the patriot cause.

"Side by side with him, ready to the utmost of their means to sustain any measures which might promise to aid them in asserting the rights of the colonies against the unjust demands of the crown, stood the substantial citizens of the town,—the Hoyts, and Hollys, and Lockwoods, and Knapps, and Scofields, and Smiths, and Seelyes, and Warings, and Waterburys, and Webbs, and Weeds.

"Nor were we without military men for the emergency. There were the Waterburys, then known as senior and junior, the former long a colonel in the Continental service who had earned some reputation for good judgment and military ability in the field, and the latter soon to earn, by his personal fitness for it, the rank of general of brigade; and also the two Webbs, father and son, the one now a colonel, to test and prove his claim still more fully in several well-fought battles of the pending strife, and the other to pay the forfeit of his active and not unmeritorious service with his own imprisonment and death. Then there was the spirited Joseph Hoyt, the leader of our minute-men, who only needed to hear that patriot blood had been shed at Lexington to fly to our exposed metropolis for its defense, and who was so soon to become the fighting colonel of our fighting Seventh; and then our captains and lieutenants and ensigns, and, still more needed and helpful than they, our long list of resolute privates, honoring the name of all our principal Stamford families and cheerfully girding themselves for manliest defense of their homes. Thus with one brigadier, two or more colonels, a half-dozen captains, a full dozen lieutenants, with a number of commissaries and agents of the military power, sustained by a gallant band of the rank and file of the army for independence, Stamford, in spite of the special temptations to the opposite course, maintained her honor in that great struggle which made these British colonies forever free from the dictation and greed of an unscrupulous foreign power.

"An incident occurred in March, 1774, which might seem to forebode indecision and weakness among the patriots of the town. A special town-meeting had been called to appoint delegates to the convention to be held March 27th in Middletown. After the meeting was opened by the appointment of Col. Abraham Davenport moderator, it was voted 'that the town will appoint a committee to meet at

Middletown on the last Wednesday in March, instant, there to consult proper measures to be pursued to evade the evils which the town apprehend they are in danger of concerning Susquehannah.'

"After this vote, which for aught that appears was unanimous, Capt. Fyler Dibble and Dr. John Wilson were appointed the committee. The meeting adjourned to meet again on the 11th of the following month to hear the report of the committee. At the appointed time the adjourned meeting was held. The town make an appropriation to cover the expenses of the committee, and vote that the petition recommended by the Middletown Convention should be signed by the town clerk, Samuel Jarvis, in the name of the town, and forwarded to the Assembly at its next session.

"This petition was a lengthy argument framed in the interests of the Pennsylvanians against the claims of Connecticut to the territory then held by her citizens and subject to her authority. The convention authorizing it was made up of delegates from only twenty-three of the sixty-three towns belonging to the State, and their action received but little sympathy from the mass of the people. Their petition was couched in terms indicating an excessive loyalty to the English government and a readiness to abide by almost any decision of the crown. Mr. Ingersoll, of Pennsylvania, was later an avowed Tory. Capt. Dibble and Mr. Jarvis, of Stamford, also enrolled themselves among those loyal still to the king, and it would seem that the Stamford people in mass were by this action committed to the side of the crown against the Revolution, whose beginnings were already felt and seen.

"But a few months will show how erroneous such a conclusion would be. We shall find ample record to show that during that long struggle the great majority of our townsmen were heartily and self-sacrificingly for the war. Before the opening of hostilities on the eventful 19th of April, 1775, our citizens had expressed themselves unequivocally for the patriot cause. The insolence of the crown, exhibited in the arbitrary and tyrannical acts which disgraced the records of the English Parliament from the time Grenville, in 1763, accepted Jenkinson's Stamp Act as the legal process for collecting revenue in America, down to that most odious coercion act which closed the port of Boston, had most effectually schooled the great mass of American citizens to an earnest and impassioned resistance to any further demands of the English government. Henceforth not even the former concessions to the crown would be allowed; and the people of the several colonies needed only a few months of mutual interchange of opinions and purpose to be fully prepared for their irrevocable declaration of independence. To prepare the way for that declaration the voice of Stamford was not wanting. The Boston Port Bill had been passed, and great suffering was the result. Our patriot citizens felt that

the insult and injury done to Boston was also intended for themselves and all who had ventured to question the right of the British Parliament to issue and enforce such demands; and they would not meanly shrink from an open espousal of the cause which had already brought down the vengeance of the crown upon their suffering brethren. Accordingly, they met on the 7th of October, 1774, in the town-house, which proving too small for the patriot band, they immediately adjourned to the meeting-house, when the following minute was promptly passed:

"The inhabitants of this town sensibly affected with the distress to which the town of Boston and province of Massachusetts Bay are subjected by several unconstitutional acts of the British parliament; . . . hoping to convince the people of this continent that notwithstanding our long silence we are by no means unwilling to join with our sister towns to assert our just rights and oppose every design of a corrupt ministry to enslave America, do declare that we acknowledge our subjection to the crown of Great Britain and all the constitutional powers thereto belonging as established in the illustrious house of Hanover; that it is our earnest desire that the same peaceable connexion should subsist between us and the mother country as had subsisted for a long time before the late unconstitutional measures adopted by the parliament of Great Britain; and we hope that some plan will be found out by the general congress to effect the reconciliation we wish for; yet we are determined by every lawful way to join with our sister colonies resolutely to defend our just rights: . . . that we are pleased that a congress of deputies from the colony is now met at Philadelphia, and relying upon the wisdom of that body we declare that we are ready to adopt such reasonable measures as shall by them be judged for the general good of the inhabitants of America."

"This action testifies to the heartiness with which our townsmen entered upon the great struggle against the encroachments of the mother-country. Before the opening of the war the people had been prepared for it. And when the news of the first battle at Lexington and Concord reached the town it was found ready with a prompt response. New York, then rapidly advancing in importance, was thought to be in especial danger from an invasion of the enemy. Joseph Hoyt, of Stamford, who had now for about twenty years been in military life, enlisted immediately a company of thirty men and started for the city. As no immediate danger was apprehended to the city, the company returned to Stamford and reported only eight days' service.

"The bill of service thus rendered would in these days be deemed a model for economy. I append it in full:

	£	s.	d.
Whole pay for men's time.....	20	8	4
Cash expended by Capt. Hoyt on the march.....	3	12	0
Cash expended by Lieut. Webb.....	0	17	0
Cash expended by Lieut. Ezra Lockwood.....	0	6	9
A sloop with part of the company and 12 men belonging to Greenwich, under Capt. Hoyt, from New York to Stamford.....	2	11	9
Capt. Hoyt's horse hire.....	0	12	6
	28	8	4

"The Ezra Lockwood here reported as lieutenant is enrolled on the company list as a private. All of the names are found in our alphabetical list.

"But not thus easily were our townsmen to meet their obligations to the patriot cause. On returning, Capt. Hoyt commenced raising another company for the Continental service wherever needed. By the 6th

of July he had organized a company of seventy-five men, who were reported ready for duty. The names would indicate that nearly all of them were Stamford men. This second company continued in the service until Dec. 24, 1775, and the entire cost of the service rendered by them was reported as one thousand one hundred and thirty-nine and a half pounds sterling.

"A third company was raised here early in the spring of 1776. In one of the pay-rolls of this company it is called the 'Company of Col. David Waterbury, in the regiment of forces of the United colonies under command of Col. David Waterbury.' On the list David Waterbury is enrolled as colonel and captain, and Sylvanus Brown as captain and lieutenant. The number of days' service is appended to the names, and this will indicate the company in the alphabetical list at the end of this chapter.

"In the summer of 1776 we were also represented in the service by a part, at least, of another company under Capt. Webb, who were stationed in New York City. How many other companies or parts of companies were raised in Stamford, we have no means of knowing. Our catalogue of Revolutionary men at the end of this chapter, will doubtless fail to report many who honored Stamford in the war. Every record, it is believed, which our town and State can now furnish has been carefully examined to complete it; and every local record has been sought for the purpose of reporting fully all engagements and skirmishes and every form of military movement here during the struggle.

#### LIST OF REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS.

The following is a list of those who served in the war of the Revolution from this town: Jeremiah Andreas, Charles S. Austin, — Barnes,<sup>1</sup> Stephen Betts, Seth Baker, Thaddeus Bates, Abijah Beers, Daniel Beers, Francis Bell, Capt. Isaac Bell, Abraham Bell, Jesse Bell, Jonathan Bell, John Bell, Stephen Bell, Thaddeus Bell, Benjamin Bennet, John Besse, Peleg Besse, Stephen Betts, John Birchard, Hezekiah Bishop, Jonathan Bishop, Stephen Bishop, Jacob Bishop, Jacob Blanchard, Jesse Blatchley, Capt. Daniel Bouton, Isaac Briggs, Bazalell Brown, Isaac Brown, Nathan Brown, Roger Brown, Jonathan Brown, Stephen Brown, William Brown, Sylvanus Brown, Joseph Brothswell, John Buxton, John Brown, Samuel Bush, John Clock, Nathaniel Clason, Isaac Clason, Samuel Clason, Stephen Clason, Matthew Clerk, Jonathan Clock, David Coggins, William Coleman, Daniel Coley, Thomas Couch, Timothy Curtiss, Jr., Jeremy Curtiss, Nathan Dan, Squire Dan, Capt. William Daskam,<sup>2</sup> Lieut. Hezekiah Davenport,<sup>3</sup> James Davenport, John Davenport,<sup>4</sup> Reuben Defreere, Abraham Davis, David Davis,

<sup>1</sup> Was shot but a short distance east from the store on High Ridge.

<sup>2</sup> Served under Lafayette.

<sup>3</sup> Shot at Ridgefield, April 27, 1777, after the burning of Danbury.

<sup>4</sup> A commissary with major's commission.



Ebenezer Dean, Samuel Dean, John Dibble, Andrew Dogherty, William Duncomb, William Eldridge, Peter Ferris,<sup>5</sup> Jonathan Ferris, Ransford A. Ferris, Daniel Finney, — Fitch,<sup>6</sup> Thomas Forster, Thomas Fulton, James Finch, Samuel Garnsey, John Gibbs, Talcot Gould, Asabel Green, Elias Gregory, William Griffet, Benoni Gregory, Theophilus Hanford, Thomas Hawley, James Hay, Bethel Heacock, Ebenezer Heacock, Morris Heacock, Zadoc Hedden, Jared Hine, Enoch Hinman, Thomas Hobby,<sup>7</sup> Abraham Holly, Ebenezer Holly, Jr., Isaac Holly, Nathan Holly, Stephen Holly, John Holmes,<sup>8</sup> Nathan How, Nathaniel How,<sup>9</sup> Bates Hoyt, Ebenezer Hoyt, Elijah Hoyt, Lieut. Jesse Hoyt, Jonathan Hoyt, John Hoyt, Joseph Hoyt,<sup>10</sup> Josiah Hoyt, Nathaniel Hoyt, Neazer Hoyt, Samuel Hoyt, Samuel Hoyt,<sup>11</sup> Sylvanus Hoyt, Warren Hoyt, William Hoyt, Capt. Thaddeus Hoyt, Silas Hoyt, Salmon Hubbel, Williston Hurd, Nathaniel Husted, Thaddeus Husted, Samuel Hutton, Nathan P. Jackson, William Jackson, Justus Jennings, Jonathan Jervis, William Johnson, Capt. Ebenezer Jones, Ephraim Jones, Reuben June, Silas June, Thomas June,<sup>12</sup> Israel June, Benjamin Ingersol,<sup>13</sup> Samuel Ingersol, Isaac Keeler, Lockwood Keeler, Thaddeus Keeler, Asahel Kellogg, John Kenney, Bouton Knapp, Hezekiah Knapp, John Knapp, Sylvanus Knapp,<sup>14</sup> Usual Knapp, Timothy Knapp, William Knapp,<sup>15</sup> Jacob Knapp, Seth Lee, James Lindsay, Holly Lines, John Little, Clement Lloyd, Jacob Loder, David Lockwood, Ezra Lockwood, Isaac Lockwood,<sup>16</sup> Noah Lockwood, Reuben Lockwood, Titus Lockwood,<sup>17</sup> Timothy Lockwood, Charles Lockwood, Samuel Lockwood,<sup>18</sup> David Lounsbury, Jacob Lounsbury, Daniel McCurtiss, John Mason, Samuel Mather, Joseph Mather, Peter Mead, Theophilus Mead, Reuben Mead, Ebenezer Meeker, George Mills,<sup>19</sup> John Mills, John Mills, Jr., John Nichols, Daniel Nichols, Abel Nichols, Joseph Nichols, Camaliel Northrup,<sup>20</sup> James Nichols, Rufus Newman, John Odell, Roger Olmstead, David Olmstead, Richard Pangburn, David Parrot, James Parsons, Elijah

Patchin, Israel Patchin, James Peat, Ephraim Peck, Andrew Powers, Thomas Provost, Daniel Provost, Samuel Provost, David Purdy, Isaac Quintard, David Raymond, Elias Reed, Ketchel Reed, Silas Reed, William Richards, Abraham St. John, Justin St. John, John M. Saunders, Abram Scofield, Benjamin Scofield, Ebenezer Scofield,<sup>21</sup> Elisha Scofield, Ezra Scofield, Lieut. Gershom Scofield, Gideon Scofield, Gilbert Scofield, Hait Scofield,<sup>22</sup> Israel Scofield, Jacob Scofield, Jared Scofield, Josiah Scofield (4th), Josiah W. Scofield, Joseph Scofield, Peter Scofield, Pettit Scofield, Reuben Scofield, Thaddeus Scofield, Seth Scofield, Enos Scofield, Sylvanus Scofield, William Scott, John Seeley, Darling Selleck, David Selleck, Ebenezer Selleck, Joseph Selleck, Simeon Selleck, Daniel Share, William Selleck, Daniel Sherwood, Thomas Skelding, Ebenezer Slason, Henry Slason,<sup>23</sup> Nathaniel Slason,<sup>24</sup> William Shelp, Austin Smith, Jr., Azariah Smith, Capt. Amos Smith, Charles Smith,<sup>25</sup> Charles Smith, Jr., David Smith (3d), Daniel Smith, Ezra Smith (3d), Ebenezer Smith, Isaac Smith, Isaac Smith, Jabez Smith, Jabez Smith, Jr., Job Smith, Joseph Smith, Joshua Smith, Lieut. Josiah Smith,<sup>26</sup> Levi Smith, Nathaniel Smith, Peter Smith,<sup>27</sup> Capt. William Smith, Reuben Sniffin, Daniel Stevens, David Stevens,<sup>28</sup> Ezra Stevens,<sup>29</sup> Jacob Stevens, Obidiah Stevens, Jr., Reuben Stevens, Sylvanus Stevens, Thomas Stevens, Charles Stewart, Francis D. Swords, William Thompson, John Todd, Samuel Tryon, Isaac Wardwell, Jacob Wardwell, William Wardwell, Benjamin Waring, Joseph Waring, James Waring, Serj't John Waring, Jonathan Waring,<sup>30</sup> Simeon Waring, Thaddeus Waring, Elisha Waters, John Waters, Daniel Waterbury, David Waterbury,<sup>31</sup> David Waterbury, David Waterbury (3d), Enos Waterbury, Gideon Waterbury, Ensign John Waterbury, John Waterbury (5th), Joseph Waterbury, Peter Waterbury, Epenetus and David Waterbury, William Waterbury, William Waterbury, Benjamin Webb,<sup>32</sup> Col. Charles Webb, Charles Webb, Jr.,<sup>33</sup> David Webb, Ebenezer Webb, Gilbert Webb, Joseph Webb, Jr., Hezekiah Webb, Samuel Webb, Capt. Nathaniel Webb, Charles Weed, James Weed, Abishai Weed, Abijah Weed,<sup>34</sup>

<sup>5</sup> In both the French and Revolutionary wars.

<sup>6</sup> Captain here in 1781.

<sup>7</sup> Captain third company, Fifth Regiment, April, 1775, and was appointed major.

<sup>8</sup> In the Danbury fight.

<sup>9</sup> Lieutenant in 1782, and at the close of the war captain.

<sup>10</sup> Lieutenant-colonel of the Eighth Connecticut Regiment, regular army. He had been captain in 1775.

<sup>11</sup> Enlisted July 6, 1775, and served one hundred and fifty-eight days in 1776 as ensign. He was afterwards a lieutenant.

<sup>12</sup> Shot as he was returning from hoeing in the field and his two sons were taken prisoners.

<sup>13</sup> Died in the service.

<sup>14</sup> Captain of the town guards.

<sup>15</sup> Born in 1756; a pensioner. He served under Putnam, and was with him at Greenwich at the time of his famous plunge on horseback down the steps.

<sup>16</sup> Captain of the town guard in 1781.

<sup>17</sup> Enlisted July 6, 1775, and after the murder of his brother by the cowboys, he was the inexorable avenger of every injured patriot.

<sup>18</sup> Second lieutenant in 1775, in Col. Waterbury's regiment.

<sup>19</sup> Captain.

<sup>20</sup> Enlisted July 6, 1775, and was a lieutenant.

<sup>21</sup> First lieutenant in the service.

<sup>22</sup> Died here July 16, 1840.

<sup>23</sup> Captain here in 1776.

<sup>24</sup> Captain of the home guard in 1781, and was pensioned.

<sup>25</sup> Captain of State guards between the lines in 1781.

<sup>26</sup> Had one thumb struck off by a ball, and was badly cut in both arms and the face while warding off the strokes of a British officer.

<sup>27</sup> Reported two hundred and thirty-eight days' service in 1776. He was shot at the Noroton.

<sup>28</sup> Shot at Ridgefield.

<sup>29</sup> Served one hundred and fifty-one days in 1776.

<sup>30</sup> Captain in 1779.

<sup>31</sup> In pursuit of the British retreating from Danbury. He saw Wooster shot and Arnold as he left his fallen horse, taking his pistols with him.

<sup>32</sup> Had been in the French war.

<sup>33</sup> Lieutenant in 1775, served as adjutant fifty-two days in 1776, and was still later in his father's regiment. He was a prisoner in New York. He was killed on a gunboat in the Sound.

<sup>34</sup> In the old French and Indian war; early entered the Revolutionary service.

Asahel Weed, Benjamin Weed, Annanias Weed, Daniel Weed, Hezekiah Weed, Elnathan Weed, Ezra Weed, Gideon Weed,<sup>35</sup> Henry Weed, Jabez Weed, Jared Weed, Joel Weed, John Weed, Jonas Weed, Jonathan Weed, Hezekiah Weed (4th), Lieut. Seth Weed, Silas Weed, Stephen Weed, Jacob White, 2d Lieut. Jonathan Whiting, Gilbert Woolsey, Henry Weeks, Samuel Wheaton, Samuel Young.

#### STAMFORD LOYALISTS.

The following is a list of Stamford loyalists: John Bates, Walter Bates, William Bates, Samuel Beck, Stephen Briggs, Samuel Crissy, Nathaniel Dan, Frederick Fyler, Walter and William Dibble, Anthony Demill, Joseph Ferris, R. Freeze, Thos. Hemford, James Howe, Increase, Ebenezer, Elnathan, John William, and Samuel Holly, David, James, Samuel (3d), Stephen, and Jonah Hoyt, Prince Howes, Samuel Munson, and John Jarvis, Casey and Gideon Leeds, Jonathan Lewis, Jacob Loder, Gideon Lownsbury, Shuel Merritt, Jesse Mills, Joshua Newman, David Picket, F. Rogers, Isaac Quintard, James Scofield, Jr., Josiah Scofield (3d), Ezra Scofield, Daniel Selleck, John Selleck, Obadiah Seeley, Seth Seeley, Joseph Smith, J. Slasen, Wm. Stone, Admer Stevens, Heth Stevens, Henry Stevens, Solomon Tucker, Edward Thorpe, David Waterbury, John Waterbury, Sylvanus Whitney, and Abijah Weed.

#### THE WAR OF 1812.

Although the war of 1812 was fought principally on the great lakes and on Lake Champlain, and excited no particular local interest in this section, still companies were organized and held in readiness to any call which might be made for their services. The following are lists of those who composed these companies. The first list is found on a "muster-roll of a company of infantry under the command of David Waterbury, captain in the Thirty-seventh Regiment of the United States, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Aaron Benjamin, from 31st October, when last mustered, to the 31st December, 1813." On the back of the muster-roll is written, "Don't give up the ship," "Lawrence," "David Waterbury": David Waterbury, captain; John Brown, first lieutenant; Henry Hoyt, second lieutenant; Samuel Keeler, third lieutenant; Samuel Keeler, Jr., ensign; Alanson Holly, sergeant; Nehemiah Rose, sergeant; Lewis Jones, corporal; William Jones, corporal; James Sanford, drummer; Nathan Champlain, drummer; David Brown, William H. Buel, Joseph Clock, Elisha Crab, Ebenezer Dennis, John Dean, John A. Dickens, James Forbes, Elisha Fish, Shadrack Ferris, Lysander Fancher, George A. Fox, Charles French, Charles Gill, Warren Huchins, Joel Hoyt,

Daniel Johnson, Reuben Knapp, John Larkin, Moses Mountcalm, Benjamin Odle, Harry Provost, Isaiah Rogers, Charles Rowison, Amos Stickland, William Stevens, J. W. Shallenberg, Selleck Scofield, Oliver J. Smith, David Tucker, Samuel K. Weeks, Isaac Wilmoth.

The following is the roll of Captain Elijah Reed's Company in the Thirty-fourth Regiment, commanded by Nehemiah Lockwood, and bearing date Sept. 8-13, 1813.\* It bears the following minute of the captain: Elijah Reed, captain; James Clock, lieutenant; Ralph Hoyt, ensign; Selleck Weed, first sergeant; John Street, second sergeant; Abraham Tibbet, third sergeant; David Camp, fourth sergeant; Holly Bell, first corporal; Roswell Reed, second corporal; Jacob Wardell, third corporal; Isaac Bishop, fourth corporal; George Weed, Isaac Warren, Seely Slason, Isaac Bouton, Charles Brown, Lewis Waterbury, Scudder Weed, Charles Weed, Lyman Seely, Henry Smith, John M. Nash, Raymond Mather, Fred. Shith, David Scofield, Nathan Nash, Samuel Street, Leander Hoyt, Ezra Hoyt, David How, James B. Weed, Walter B. Hoyt, Marza Scribner, David Weed, Joseph Wood, Jacob Little, Chatman Smith, Andrew Bixbee, Samuel Holden, Benjamin Little, Jonas Weed, David Holly, Joseph Scofield, absent; Peter Stevens, Alvah Schofield, not called on; Isaac Weed, Henry Weed, John L. Webb, Hervey Waterbury, Samuel Waterbury, lived remote; Thomas Robertson, not called on; John A. Scofield, not called on.

The following list is that of a company commanded by Capt. Peter Smith, then lieutenant. It is headed with these words: "Co. 3, commanded by Peter Smith, lieutenant, Col. Samuel Dean's regiment, September 8-12, 1813."

The company was called out on the appearance of a hostile fleet, and was stationed for four days on Shippan Point. They were allowed twenty cents a day by the government—the lieutenant commanding received sixty cents a day. Isaac Knapp, sergt.; Jas. Webb, sergt.; John Selleck, sergt.; Luther Knapp, sergt.; Charles S. Gaylor, corp.; Andrew Webb, corp.; Elisha Hawley, corp.; Darius Lockwood, drummer; Lewis Lockwood, fifer; Isaac Ferris, Solomon Garnsey, John Andrews, Moses W. Smith, Smith Knapp, Benjamin Hoyt, Jr., Thomas Weeks, Isaac Nichols, William Waterbury (6th), John Hanchaw, William W. Scofield, James Hoyt, Jr., Josiah Austen, Alanson Provost, Epenetus Scofield, Annanias Hoyt, William Scofield, Jr., Eber Smith, Drake Studwell, James Smith, Jr., Elisha Scofield, Gilbert E. Waterbury.

The following were also in the service: John Billings, who is still living on Longridge, was at New London; John Dan and Jonathan Dan were also at

<sup>35</sup> Enlisted July 6, 1775. He was the youngest member of Capt. How's company, and during the absence of the captain he was appointed to take his place on the sudden appearance of a gang of Tories. He drew up the company near the school-house in Darien, and was himself shot down as he stood between two of his brothers, Hezekiah and Jonas.

\* The enemy appearing hostile in the Sound by the verbal order of Nehemiah Lockwood, Esq., lieutenant-colonel commandant, I called the company into service on the 8th of September, 1813, and on the 13th, by his verbal order dismissed them.



New London; Reuben Dibble, son of John, was for twenty-three months a prisoner in the famous Dartmoor Prison; Stephen Haight, of North Stamford, then living in New York, was in regular service; Ananson Holly, enlisted and served; Amasa Lounsbury was in the navy; William W. Lounsbury was taken prisoner at New Orleans, in 1812; Tyler Mead was in service at Saratoga; Squire Palmer was sergeant at New London; Samuel Provost was pensioned for service; Harvey Scofield at New London, in 1812; Samuel Sherwood, at New London; John Sherwood, son of Mathew, was in Canada; John Burgess, Elisha Leeds, Noah Lockwood, Solomon Scofield, Ezad Stevens, Lewis Waterbury, Sylvanus Meed, James Sniffin, James Weed, Scudder Weed, Henry Sniffin, Silas Weed, Rufus Weed.

"Among the natives of Stamford who rendered good service during this war was also NATHANIEL WEED, ESQ. At the opening of the war he had just become well established in business; but at the call of the government he consented to accept a captaincy in the army. At the close of the war he had reached the rank of colonel, and won a good name for his uniform promptness and efficiency at every post. Harvey Weed, brother of Nathaniel, was also in service in this war. He was a lieutenant and was appointed paymaster."

"CAPTAIN WILLIAM SKIDDY was an active participant in the naval struggles of the war. At its opening, he was before the mast. He was midshipman on board the 'Hornet,' Captain Nicholas Biddle, in the successful fight with the 'Penguin.'"

## CHAPTER LXX.

### STAMFORD (Continued).

The Indians—Early Rules and Regulations—Freeholders of 1701—Stamford in 1700—Stamford in 1800—Troubles of the Settlers under the New Haven Jurisdiction—The Greenwich Troubles—Ecclesiastical Troubles—The First Heretical Outbreak—The Enraged Quakers.

#### INDIANS.

ALTHOUGH Stamford was not the scene of any devastating Indian wars, it must not be supposed that the pioneers lived in perfect peace, with no fears distracting them of trouble from the red brother.

A humane policy was pursued with the Indians, and everything done that wise forethought and just judgment could suggest to cultivate their friendship, but, notwithstanding all their endeavors, the settlement was for a long time in an almost constant state of alarm from threatened attacks by roving marauders. Several murders were committed by the exasperated savages, who witnessed with intense hatred and feelings of revenge the encroachment of the pale-face upon their hunting-grounds, but no concentrated war was made upon the settlement.

In 1675, when Philip, the proud chief of the Wam-

panoags, sounded the war-whoop through the beautiful valley of the Connecticut, and Brookfield, Deerfield, Springfield, and other towns were successively plundered and destroyed by the enraged savages, the citizens of Stamford were alarmed lest, without warning, they too might meet the same fate. Under date of Dec. 29, 1673, the following letter was written from Stamford to the General Court convened at Boston:

"Wherefore, in expectation of the armies coming against this open declared enemy we have been hitherto silent, but by the long retard and no intelligence upon any prosecution, upon that account we are afraid (it) is laid aside, whereby we shall be much endangered if not ruined, if your honors do not by some speedy means relieve us, for we are frontiers and most likely assaulted in the first place."

On the 19th of October it is rumored that the Stamford Indians are in arms, and the Governor warns the citizens to place themselves "in a fitting posture for all events."

That the citizens of Stamford apprehended danger is evidenced by the fact that at a meeting held in March, 1675, a committee consisting of Mr. Bell, Sr., John Green, Peter Ferris, John Bates, and Daniel Weed were chosen to superintend the erection of a fortification and stockade, and at the same meeting it was voted the stockading of the town shall be completed.

The town was, however, never attacked. The invasion of Philip ended in disaster to the gallant chieftain, and not many years elapsed after the close of the struggle ere this section settled down in a lasting peace with the Indians, and in 1695 the following vote was passed by the townsmen of Stamford, for the disposal of the fortification:

"18 Dec. 1695, per vote outcry the town doth sell the fort wood about ye meeting-house to Stephen Clason for seventeen shillings and ninepence. The town by outcry doth sell ye fort gates ye wheels of ye great guns and all ye wood belonging to ye guns it is now sold to Nathanall Cross and Jonathan Holly for five shillings and sixpence."

#### EARLY RULES, REGULATIONS, AND RECORDS.

Oct. 19, 1641, the pioneers designated six of their number to administer the affairs of the little settlement "according to equity, peace, law, and convenience." These men were Mr. Denton, Mathew Mitchell, Andrew Ward, Thurston Reiner, and Richard Crab.

At a "general town-meeting" held in December, 1641, it was decided that the fields of the freeholders should be fenced. Each man's share of the labor of building the said fence was designated, and it must be completed "by the first day of April, 1642, and who-soever hath not completed his fence according to this order, by that time, forfeit ( ) shillings for every rod. Ri. Gildersleeve and Ro. Bates were chosen to inspect the fence upon its completion, "under penalty of forfeiture of five shillings a man if they do not."

The necessity of having roads early claimed their attention, as the following record shows:

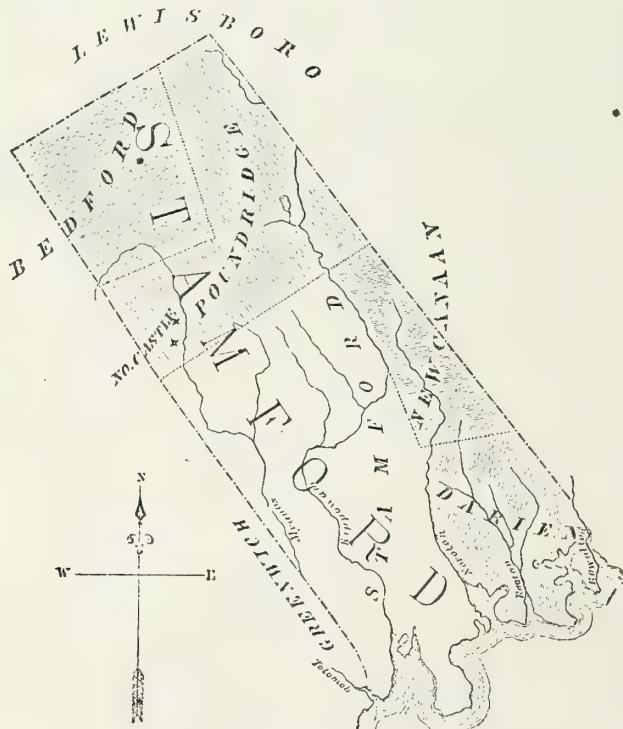
"It was ordered, That whereas every man may count [all as his] Right before his lott to the middle of the street to be his [but the trees he may] fall for his own use, if he like not to let them stand so [

] the ground and clear the way of them, and if do not f[all them and clear] the way of them, to forfeit for every tree not so fallen [ ] two shillings sixpence."

Under date of June 23, 1651, is the following: "Mikill Shaw being arraigned for working on ye Sabbath to break of ye Sabbath, he being subject of it acknowledging sin and was sorry for it. So is fined 2*d.* for ye work in which he engaged."

At a town-meeting held Dec. 15, 1719, it was "Voted, that the town agrees if an person shall kill any dog forty rods from his master's house, his master not being present, shall have two shillings, provided if he be killed between sunset and sunrise."

	£	s.	d.
Clemance, William.....	27	12	0
Clark, Joseph.....	21	00	0
Dan, Fran is.....	27	00	0
Dibble, Zechary.....	26	05	3
Dean, Samuel.....	14	13	0
Dean, John.....	30	00	6
Dean, Mathew.....	18	00	0
Ferris, Peter.....	118	12	0
Ferris, Joseph.....	72	02	0
Ferris, Peter, Jr.....	39	00	0
Finch, Isaac, Sr.....	27	10	0
Finch, Abraham, Sr.....	37	02	0
Finch, John.....	22	00	0
Finch, Samuel.....	46	02	6
Finch, Joseph.....	42	02	6
Finch, Abraham, Jr.....	35	00	0
Finch, Isaac, Jr.....	22	00	0
Garnsey, Joseph.....	46	10	0
Green, John.....	28	17	6
Green, Benjamin.....	55	09	0
Green, Joseph.....	81	01	0



STAMFORD IN 1685.

#### FREEHOLDERS OF 1701.

The following is a list of the freeholders of Stamford, as appears on the town records for the year 1701, together with financial condition of each:

	£	s.	d.
Ambler, John.....	92	10	0
Andrews, Jeremiah.....	96	18	0
Austin, John.....	34	04	0
Bates, John, Sr.....	135	00	0
Bates, John, Jr.....	90	00	0
Bell, Mrs.....	105	00	0
Bell, Jonathan.....	55	05	6
Bishop, Stephen.....	143	10	0
Bishop, Joseph.....	55	12	0
Bishop, Ebenezer.....	33	00	0
Bishop, Benjamin.....	38	10	0
Brown, Joseph.....	87	10	0
Buxton, Clement.....	12	00	6
Blachley, Samuel.....	37	07	3
Crissy, John.....	40	16	0
Crissy, Jonathan.....	18	00	0
Cross, Nathaniel.....	54	00	0
Closon, Daniel.....	64	05	6
Closon, Samuel.....	55	12	0
Chapman, Simon.....	26	00	6

Gold, John.....	88	02	6
Hardy, Samuel.....	47	00	0
Higginbotham, Mr.....	30	00	0
Holmes, Stephen.....	83	05	0
Holmes, Samuel.....	18	00	0
Holmes, John.....	31	00	0
Hayt, Samuel, Sr.....	94	10	0
Hayt, Samuel, Jr.....	24	02	6
Hayt, John.....	19	00	0
Hayt, Benjamin, Sr.....	12	00	0
Hayt, Benjamin, Jr.....	52	03	6
Hayt, Joshua.....	31	12	6
Hayt, Samuel (smith).....	3	12	6
Holly, Samuel.....	52	00	0
Holly, John, Sr.....	71	10	0
Holly, John.....	63	00	0
Holly, Elizabeth.....	61	16	3
Holly, Jonathan.....	58	10	0
Holly, John, Jr.....	30	00	0
Holly, Samuel, Jr.....	20	00	0
Holly, Joseph.....	25	00	0
Holly, John, Jr.....	20	10	0
Jagger, Jonathan.....	39	05	0
June, Peter.....	75	15	0
Jones, Orp (orphan?).....	4	00	1
Knap, Moses.....	45	05	0
Knap, John.....	111	05	0
Knap, Caleb.....	34	17	6



	£	s.	d.
Lockwood, Joseph.....	40	07	6
Lockwood, Daniel.....	38	02	6
Lockwood, Edmund.....	28	10	0
Mills, William.....	21	00	0
Mills, John.....	18	00	0
Newman, Thomas.....	83	00	0
Pettit, John.....	56	07	9
Penoyer, Thomas.....	72	05	0
Pond, Nathaniel.....	36	00	0
Slason, John, Sr.....	101	05	0
Slason, John, Jr.....	57	15	0
Slason, Jonathan.....	33	00	0
Slason, James.....	43	0	2
Slason, Stephen.....	18	0	0
Seeley, Obadiah.....	26	00	0
Seeley, Jonas, Jr.....	18	00	0
Scofield, Daniel, Sr.....	115	05	0
Scofield, Daniel, Jr.....	55	10	0
Scofield, Widow.....	66	05	0
Scofield, John.....	27	03	0
Scofield, Richard.....	56	02	6
Smith, John.....	107	02	6
Smith, Daniel.....	148	0	0
Stevens, Obadiah.....	79	07	6
Stevens, Thomas.....	18	00	0
Stevens, Joseph.....	46	17	0
Stone, John.....	22	00	0
Selleck, Major.....	91	15	0
Selleck, Widow.....	106	05	0
Selleck, Captain.....	123	10	6
Selleck, Nathaniel.....	57	0	8
Seeley, Jonas, Sr.....	116	17	0
Trabern, Edward.....	41	10	0
Turney, Joseph.....	63	05	0
Waterbury, Daniel.....	136	10	9
Waterbury, Jona.....	100	00	0
Weed, Jonas, Sr.....	154	10	0
Weed, Widow.....	96	10	0
Weed, Daniel.....	26	07	0
Weed, Samuel.....	22	15	0
Weed, Joseph.....	55	06	3
Webb, Samuel.....	56	10	0
Webb, Joseph.....	61	08	9
Webster, John.....	41	00	0
Webster, Daniel.....	30	0	0
Wood, Mr.....	119	10	0
Youngs, John.....	46	10	0
Davenport, Mr. John.....	100	00	0

Entered this 28th of January, 1701-2, by Samuel Holly, recorder.

The following choice morceau, found in the New York colonial records of this date, will enable us to estimate the influence of Stamford in what has since become the metropolis of the continent. It bears date New York, Nov. 28, 1700, and was written by the "Earl of Bellmont," to the English Lords of Trade, his masters. It will give us a pretty clear idea of the Yankee enterprise of at least one of the Stamford boys of that day. The record will also reveal the natural results of the nearness of Stamford to the great metropolis of the country, indicating thus early in its history how strongly our business men are tempted towards the city.

#### STAMFORD IN 1700.

Stamford in 1700 was a prosperous settlement, and ranked among the leading provincial towns in the colony. It was the residence of many leading spirits in the various professions and in trade. As an evidence of the importance of the town, or rather of the enterprise of "Major Selleck," the following extract from a letter written to the English Lords of Trade by the Earl of Bellmont, under date Nov. 28, 1700, is given:

"Theres a town called Stamford, in Conn. Colony, on the border of this province, where one Major Selleck lives, who has a ware house close to the sea, that runs between the mainland and Nassau (Long Island). That man does us great mischief with his ware house,

for he receives abundance of goods from our vessels, and the merchants afterwards take their opportunity of running them into this town. Major Selleck received at least £10,000 worth of treasure and East India goods, brought by one Clarke, of this town, from Kid's sloop, and lodged with Selleck."

The following sketch of Stamford as it appeared in 1800 is from the pen of Rev. E. B. Huntington:

"Connecticut, at this date, had more than quadrupled the number of her towns reported in 1700,—from 27 having increased to 118. But Stamford, meanwhile, had gone forward in population, from the little scattered community of 585 souls to the respectable township of 4465,—a growth nearly eight-fold in the century, and the growth in wealth had been even greater than in population; while the advance in facilities for travel, and in all the arts which minister to the social well-being of a community, had been still more rapid than in wealth.

"The territory had not yet suffered excision, though the citizens of the eastern part of the town were beginning to think of caring for themselves. The northern end of that portion had already concerted a plan for speedy secession. But we find the town exceedingly loth to surrender a single foot of the territory, or a single vote of the subjects that for more than a century they had ruled and cared for as inalienably their own. The citizens entered upon the contest with those portions of the town which asked permission to leave the old jurisdiction and set up for themselves under new auspices, and the struggle was long and earnest until the secession of a part of New Canaan, and the whole of Darien was finally carried.

"New York was not yet so accessible as to stimulate very noticeably the business longings and educate the business talents of our young men. The days of the old stage-coach had indeed been for years wearing themselves out in the humdrum style of those quiet and sober times, and Stamford was simply a well-to-do town, whose honest and industrious people were mainly content with such gains and show as they could win from the soil, or as they could coin from the sobered prosecution of their varied handicraft.

"In making up our estimate of the condition of the town at this date, let us first see who are occupying its varied offices of honor and trust. The list we shall report, without giving the offices assigned to the several names. Capt. Isaac Lockwood leads our citizens, evidently, as appears from the uniformity with which at this period he is called to preside in our public meetings, and with Nathan Weed, Jr., he also represents the town in the State Legislature. John Hoyt, Jr., is still, as for the last twenty-five years, the faithful clerk of the town, and his large, fair hand-writing will be easily legible as long as the accurate records shall be preserved. Following these names stand the long list of those who in one way and another were

found worthy to serve the town of their nativity or adoption. The list is worthy of preservation. It reports to us the names of the fathers and grandfathers of the present citizens of the town, as they sought to do their duty here, sixty-eight years ago.

"LIST OF TOWN OFFICIALS FOR THE YEAR 1800.

"Josiah Smith, Cary Leeds, Amos Weed, Isaac Penoyer, Stephen Bishop, Jesse Hoyt, Samuel Hoyt (3d), Jonathan Bates, Stephen Selleck, Jr., Samuel Whiting, Nathaniel Clock, Amos Lounsbury, Smith Weed, John William Holly, Robert Scofield, Isaac Smith, Jr., Ezra Lockwood, Charles Knapp, Isaac Quintard, Jeremiah Palmer, Zadoc Newman, David Smith (3d), Jeremiah Knapp, Jr., Josiah Dibble, Ebenezer Webb, Nathaniel Webb, John Nichols, Thomas Lounsbury, Thaddeus Hoyt, James Buxton, John Lounsbury, Bradley Ayers, Abishai Weed, Enoch Stevens, Epenetus Hoyt, Reuben Jones, Jacob Scofield, John Davenport (3d), Warren Scofield, Rufus Newman, Warren Hoyt, William Weed, Gold S. Penoyer, Elisha Stevens, Joseph Smith, Nathaniel Waterbury, Elisha Leeds, John Waterbury (3d), Nathan Seely, John Bell, David Foster, Nathan Reed, Nathan Bouton, Josiah Smith, John Nichols, Joseph Bishop, Jonathan Brown, Charles Weed (3d), Enoch Comstock, Stephen Bishop, Benjamin Weed, Jr., Sylvanus Knap, Isaac Lockwood, Joseph Waring, Jesse Hoyt, Shadrach Hoyt, Jr., Hoyt Scofield, William Waterbury (4th), Nathan Seely, Israel Weed, Benjamin Brush, Samuel Mather, Enos Waterbury, Gold Smith, Abraham Davis.

"So many and such are the names recorded in 1800 to transact the business of the town.

"There were standing within the Stamford limits in 1800 six church edifices. In the oldest, the First Congregational, Rev. Daniel Smith, a young man, had just entered upon his long ministry, and both as preacher and teacher was laying good foundations for his work. The Episcopal congregation were still worshipping in their first church, standing on the rocks, southeast from their present church on Main Street. They were still in sorrow over the recent death of their first rector, Dr. Dibble, though hoping much from the opening ministry of Rev. Calvin White, who had come here to his aid in 1798. The Baptists were rejoicing in their new meeting-house, so upright and square, overlooking the mill-pond on River Street. The patriarch of their denomination, Ebenezer Ferris, was still with them, and with the Rev. Marmaduké Earl, in charge over the congregation at the Bangall church, was providing for the spiritual training of both branches of the denomination. Two or three Methodist preachers officiated within the limits of the township, though as yet no church edifice had been built for their worship, the private dwelling of Mr. Isaac Reed, their pioneer, still accommodating all who wished to attend their meetings at the centre of the town. In North Stamford, which by this time had outgrown the old title

of Woodpecker Ridge, a good congregation were edified by the youthful ministry of their third pastor, Rev. Amzi Lewis. In Middlesex (Darien), the venerable Moses Mather, D.D., the same who for his revolutionary zeal was taken nineteen years before from his own pulpit and marched over the British lines into New York, was still doing good service in his ministerial work.

"Thus, instead of the simple church and its solitary pastor of 1700, the opening of this century gives us six church edifices with six settled pastors, and the gradual preparation for at least three other places of worship.

"Our schools were under the management of three ecclesiastical societies, and the whole territory had been divided into twenty-seven districts, and parts of three others, so as to bring the school within convenient distance of all parts of the town. In Parson Smith's house, still standing south of the Baptist church, and then the imperial mansion of the town, were thus early the rudiments of a town- and boarding-school, in which, for many years, many of the youth of the town and not a few from New York received the finish to their preparation for college or business. Another of these institutions was soon to be opened under the auspices of a son of the town, Frederick Scofield, who graduated in 1801, and began here his career as a teacher. The children of the centre of the town in District No. 1, which then extended from Mill River to the Noroton, were accommodated in that little square structure, with its slight cupola on its top, now standing across Bank Street from the Congregational church. The play-grounds for these children were all that triangle now inclosed by Main, Atlantic, and Bank Streets, the school-house being then the only building on the entire opening. Some of our oldest citizens of 1868 remember to have used those grounds for their mimic navies in summer, and their ringing skate-steel in winter. But that was before they were needed for the various business uses to which this last half century has wrested them.

"Let us look now at the business of the village, that part of the town now in the borough. We shall find here four little stores, in each of which we might have bought whatever the frugal habits of that day needed for use, of dry goods or groceries, not excepting even the 'good creature,' which then had not been voted contraband. These stores were standing, the first just east of where the Union House now stands, next to Smith Weed's house; the second, on the southwest corner of the lot where Mr. S. W. Smith's new brick block stands, and was in the hands of that early woman's rights practitioner, Mrs. Munday, where some of our oldest citizens now living bought their first stick of candy and took their first lessons in commercial life; the third, where our citizens Hurlbutt are now carrying on their tailoring business; and the fourth, on the corner of South Street, where



Chas. Williams, Esq., now lives. Where the Rippowam Woolen Mills stand then stood the village grist-mill, which for one hundred and fifty-eight years had been maintained as the chief and most important business institution of the town. On the corner of Parson Smith's lot, about where our jeweler Weed has his handsome front, stood what was called a hat-shop, the age of factories not having yet dawned. The only other building used for business purposes, within the present borough limits, was the slaughter-house of the town, standing then where Dr. Trowbridge now lives, near the northwest corner of the old burying-lot. Of the seventy-seven families then residing on this territory, only one remains, in 1868, in actual occupancy of the same lot and residence, and that is our citizen Isaac Quintard. On all this territory there are no signs of an 'Algiers' or 'Dublin,' of canal or of railroad. Our thoroughfares were one street, east and west, nearly coinciding with our present Main Street; and one north and south, where Atlantic and Bedford Streets are now. Besides these, on this territory, was only a lane from the gate then standing on the corner southeast of St. John's Park, leading over to the cove and down to Shippan Point by the Indian Cave, which itself has disappeared in the progress of blasting; and what was then called west South Street, now South, from the bridge on Broad Street, down to the landing. Broad Street was opened eastward only to Atlantic Street. All other parts of the territory from Norwalk to Greenwich were as well supplied with roads as the village itself, and since that date about one-half of the roads in the rest of the town have been opened. The business of the town was largely agricultural, the saw-mill, the grist-mill, and the tannery being the extent, as yet, of our other business enterprises. Darien, North Stamford, Long Ridge, and Bangall constituted four business centres, each of which was no mean rival to the enterprise of the village itself. The old burying-ground of the first pioneers still held sepulchral sway over the very ground where our main street now runs; and but for the new era of steam, soon to dawn, the Stamford of 1868 would but little exceed the sketch which indicates its growth in 1800."

#### TRoubles of the Settlers under the New Haven Jurisdiction.

In consequence of the limited franchise allowed the inhabitants under the jurisdiction of the New Haven Colony, the little settlement was the scene of various internal dissensions, and only three years after the first settlement, in 1644, a no inconsiderable number seceded and removed to Long Island, preferring rather to live under the Dutch government than remain under the oppressive jurisdiction with which they had now become thoroughly acquainted, and as thoroughly dissatisfied.

This secession was keenly felt, for among the number were many of the leading spirits of the movement

which resulted in the removal from Wethersfield. The following is the list: John Carman, Robert Coe, Richard Denton, father and son, Jeremy Wood, Benjamin Coe, Richard Gildersleeve, William Rayner, John Ogden, Jonas Wood, John Fordham, Thomas Armitage, Edmund Wood, Simon Seiring, Henry Pierson, John Coe, Robert Jackson, Thomas Sherman, Francis Yates, and John Ellison.

By the secession of those who felt themselves especially aggrieved under the New Haven government, it was hoped that all further disturbance would be averted. But such was not the case. No more lenient policy was adopted by the government, and finally, in 1653, a formal protest was forwarded from Stamford, in which complaint was made of their rates and against various other obnoxious measures. Subsequently the commissioners, as the record states, "caused the town to be called together, and being met they found them, for the most part, full of discontent with the present government they are under, pleading that they might have their free votes in the choice of civil officers; making objections against their rates; and propounded to have their charges of watching and warding the summer past, with some other work made about their meeting-house for their defense, borne by the jurisdiction; and that they might have twelve men sent them at the jurisdiction charge to lye there all winter for their defense."

#### THE GREENWICH TROUBLES.

In 1655, in consequence of what the Stamford settlers considered "indignities," which having been heaped upon them by the people of the neighboring territory of Greenwich, a complaint was made to the court against them and protection demanded.

"The grievances were such as could not be tolerated. The greedy Greenwichers had made use of the Stamford commons for pasturing their cattle; they were disorderly in their daily walk; they allowed both the English and Indians in drunkenness, and so brought on much mischief; they protected disorderly and vagrant children and servants who ran away from their proper guardians; and they had converted their town into a notorious Gretna Green for all sorts of clandestine and illegal marriages. To avoid these irregularities in future, the deputies ask that the men at Greenwich be required to unite under this jurisdiction."

An order was at once issued commanding the accused Greenwichers to submit to the authority of the New Haven government. A reply was sent which seems to have incensed the court, and an order was issued commissioning two Stamford deputies, Low and Bell, to proceed at once to Greenwich and "demand, in the name of the court, the number of their males from sixteen to sixty years of age, to be delivered with the other males of the jurisdiction to the commissioners the next year at Plymouth." The rebellious Greenwichers seem to have entertained belligerent

erent feelings for some time, but finally, in 1657, the following declaration was presented to the court by Richard Law, John Waterbury, and George Slawson, at that time deputies of Stamford:

"At Greenwich ye 16th of October, 1656.

"Wee the inhabitants of Greenwich whose names are underwritten doo from this day forward freely yield ourselves, place and estate, to the government of Newhaven, subjecting ourselves to the order and dispose of that general court, both in respect of relation and government, promising to yield due subjection unto the lawful authoritie and wholesome lawes of the jurisdiction aforesaid, to witt of Newhaven, &c.

"Angell Husted,  
Lawranc Turner,  
John Austin,  
Richard Crabb,  
Thomas Steedwell,  
Henry Accorley,

Peter Ferris,  
Joseph Ferris,  
Jonathan Reanolds,  
Hanc Peterson,  
Henry Nicholson,  
Jan, a Dutchman,  
commonly called Varllier."

The court then accepted the declaration and ordered that they "fall in with Stamford and be accepted a part thereof."

#### ECCLESIASTICAL TROUBLES.

Among the grievances which seemed to breed the most trouble, and which indeed caused the most intense hatred among various of the settlers towards the New Haven jurisdiction, was the limitation of the franchise to church members. Then, too, among the fundamental laws of the colony was that of allowing no one to "maintain or broach any *dangerous error* or *heresy*," which meant simply a forced allegiance to what may properly be called the "established church."

As the years rolled on and the settlement increased in numbers, the opposition to these tyrannical enactments increased with alarming force, until at length, in 1657, the following order was issued:

"It is ordered that no Quaker ranter or other heretic of that nature be suffered to come into, nor abide in the jurisdiction, and that if any rise up among ourselves, that they be speedily suppressed and secured for the better prevention of such dangerous errors;" and in the following year an act was passed guarding the churches against "the cursed sect of heretics lately risen up in the world which are commonly called quakers."

#### THE FIRST HERETICAL OUTBREAK.—THE ENRAGED QUAKERS.

The alarm of the government at the innovations of the "cursed sect of heretics called Quakers" was not without just cause, for "while this latter enactment," says the Rev. Mr. Huntington, "was under discussion before the General Court, the heresy which it would punish was being secretly spread through the jurisdiction. It found its way into Stamford. Zealous disciples of the new faith sought to propagate their creed, and found some who were ready to entertain and embrace them. Members of the church became tainted with the subtle heresy, and still more who owed the church a spite were glad to find in the fiery apostles of this anti-church creed the heartiest sympathy and support.

"Nor did the zealous disciples of the new faith cease with merely publishing the new gospel. They were hotter still with zeal to mend the old; they went mad for reform. They renounced the old min-

istry and meetings and worship, and at once assailed and wished to supplant the civil government which sustained them. So officious were they that the church felt called upon, in self-defense, to enter an earnest protest; and the central government were obliged either to vacate or justify their authority.

"Daniel Scofield, then marshal for Stamford and vicinity, authorized by the Governor's writ, took a posse of his neighbors and started for the western side of the town, now Greenwich, to arrest one Thomas Marshall, who for some time had been insulting and outraging the majesty of the government. They found him at the house of Richard Crabb, who was also lying under charge of serious miscarriages.

"The arrest was made, but not without an attempt at interference by Mr. Crabb, and a torrent of abuse from his enraged wife. Both of these sympathizers, with the vagrant heretic, were put under arrest and bound over to the next court of magistrates, to be held in New Haven in May, 1658. At the appointed time Mr. Crabb and his accusers appeared in court. The witnesses against him were the party who had assisted in the arrest of Marshall, and also Mr. Bishop, pastor of the church in Stamford. The court informed him that he must now answer for his several miscarriages: for his many clamorous and reproachful speeches against the ministry, government, and officers; for neglecting the meetings of the Sabbath by himself and his wife, for whose offenses, as they were justified by himself, he must be responsible.

"William Oliver, one of the arresting party, testified that when they came to Mr. Crabb's to arrest Marshall and seize the Quaker books which were supposed to be in Mr. Crabb's possession, Madame Crabb retreated to another room and closed the door against them. Nor would she yield until the door had been forced open by violence.

"Then followed an exciting scene. The plucky woman who would not open the door of her castle now could not shut her mouth; nor could the utmost expostulations of her more placable husband, united with the utmost array of governmental authority before her, do it. Neither the one nor the other, nor both united, could intimidate the zealous defender of her personal rights. We may never recover the entire speech which that audience were required to hear. It had not been written, and there was no time for the stenographer to be called. It had no formal exordium, fashioned after the calm rules of rhetoric; there were probably but few of those well-rounded periods which give so much dignity to discourse, and the peroration was doubtless as abrupt and pithy as the rest.

"The door being opened the way was clear for her, and she used it, apparently, without help or hindrance, and we may be assured that she had no listless or sleepy auditors to the very end.

"Is this your fasting and praying?" breaks forth the impassioned woman, as she fastens her searching



glance upon the marshal and his attendants. 'Do ye thus rob us and break into our houses? How can you Stamford men expect the blessing of God? Will He bear with your mean hypocrisy? You have taken away our lands without right. You have basely wronged us, and let me tell you what I see without your hireling priests' help: the vengeance of God Almighty will burst upon you. And when it comes your priest can't help you. He is as Baal's priest, and is no better than the rest of you. Ye are all the enemies of God and God's saints, and their blood shall be on your souls forever.'

"Fastening her sharp eye on Goodman Bell, the same who from the first had been a pillar in the Stamford church, and who had now come over with the marshal, hoping by his fraternal intercession to win back the estranged and now perverse hearts of his erring brother and sister, she continued her bitter invective: 'Thou arch-traitor and hypocrite, thou villainous liar, God's wrath is on you and shall burn hotter and hotter on your godless children. Out on you! poor priest-ridden fool!'

"Springing next upon John Waterbury, who had also accompanied the marshal to aid in the dispensation of justice, she administers to him a similar castigation. Then she tries the force of her cutting reproaches and sharp retorts upon the marshal, for selling himself to do the dirty work of the God-forsaken government at New Haven, and of the overreaching and heaven-defying and priest-cursed crew in Stamford. Then she assailed George Slawson, that exemplary member of the church, a peacemaker, and one whom all delighted to honor, and poured upon him her heaviest abuse. He had hoped to quiet her irritability, and in his most winning way had most gently expostulated with her, reminding her of the former days in which she had walked joyfully and hopefully with God's people in Stamford, and in which she had counted the communion of saints there the most precious of all her earthly blessings. He ventured to express the hope that they might again welcome her to their fellowship in the old church, and that she might again listen there to the same gospel in which she had once testified her great interest. This was carrying his persuasion too far. It seemed to kindle her intensest ire. She was now for once put to it for words rapid enough or hot enough to express her rage. Every possibility of indignant resentment in her soul was taxed to its utmost. Scorn and rage and defiance seemed struggling together in her utterance for the mastery over each other, and they seem to have ended the attempt at her reconciliation. It was a settler to that well-meant parley in which her womanly temper rejoiced in securing the

last word. 'Never, never, shall I or mine trouble your Stamford meeting more. I shall die first. My soul shall never be cast away to the devil so easily as that;' and, with uplifted hands, she invoked on their heads the most sudden and the direst vengeance which heaven could inflict. When she had exhausted herself in these rapid maledictions, she called for drink to revive her strength; and the ministers of the law could do no more than go through the ceremony of binding her, with her husband, over to the court.

"On the narration of the case before the court, as just stated, the Governor, Francis Newman, informed Mr. Crabb that these were notorious doings, not to be allowed. Mr. Crabb, for his wife, it appears, had not obeyed the summons to attend the court, attempted an apology. He could not manage his wife. He did not justify her evil way, but he would have the court understand her case. She was a well-bred English woman, a zealous professor of religion from her childhood, 'but when she is suddenly surprised she hath not power to restrain her passion.'

"To all this the worshipful Governor made answer: 'that what he had said did greatly aggravate her mis-carryings, for if she have been a great professour it was certain she had been an ill practiser, in which you have countenanced her and borne her up, which may be accounted yours, as having falne into evils of the like nature yourself, revileling Mr. Bishopp as a priest of Baal and ye members as liars, and yt Mr. Bishopp preached for filthy lucre.'

"Mr. Crabb vainly attempted to explain away or deny what abundant testimonies corroborated. Mr. Bishop, the pastor of the church, had been so sorely tried that he 'could not continue at Stamford unless some course be taken to remove and reform such grievances.' Mr. Bell felt that an end of all government had come if the ministers of justice were to be so opposed and insulted with impunity. The 'citizens of Stamford wished the court to preserve the peace among them, maintain the ordinances of religion and government, and encourage their minister.' To all which Mr. Crabb made no further plea. The court sentenced him to pay a fine of thirty pounds, and give bonds to the amount of one hundred pounds for his good behavior, and that he make public acknowledgments at Stamford to the satisfaction of Francis Bell and others whom he had abused. The remainder of the sentence is missing, and so we shall probably never know what disposition the court made of the sharp-tongued Madame Crabb who was really the chief offender in the case.

"No other case of conflict with the Quakers, which was deemed worthy a public prosecution, seems to have occurred in Stamford or its vicinity."

## CHAPTER LXXI.

## STAMFORD (Continued).

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The Stamford Advocate—The Stamford Herald—Stamford Borough—Stamford National Bank—The First National Bank—The Stamford Savings-Bank—Citizens' Savings-Bank—Woodland Cemetery—Fire Department—Yale Lock-Manufacturing Company—The H. W. Collender & Co. Billiard-Table Manufactory—St. John, Hoyt & Co.—E. L. Nicoll & Co.—Other Manufactories—Ship Canal—New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad—New Canaan and Stamford Railroad—Union Lodge, F. and A. M.—Rittenhouse Chapter, No. 11, R. A. M.—Washington Council, No. 6, Royal and Select Masters—Physicians—Lawyers—Educational.

## THE STAMFORD ADVOCATE.

NEARLY fifty-two years ago the first paper printed in Stamford saw the light. For nearly two centuries previously white men had occupied the ancient domains of the Rippowams, and the original handful of settlers from old Wethersfield had slowly increased, with comparatively few accessions from outside, until in 1829 between three and four thousand inhabitants were included in the then limits of Stamford. Though so near the commercial metropolis of New York, whose great stride in material progress was attracting the attention of the world, Stamford's associations and traditions made it as strictly a type of a New England Puritan village as could be found in the bosom of the old Bay State herself. But the day of modern progress was even then dawning, and the native shrewdness and sturdy virtues, which had been propagated on this soil, were beginning to be stirred by the pulses of a wider activity. Many of Stamford's energetic youth were longing to enter the business arena in the metropolis, and many sons of Stamford, who afterwards became wealthy and leading merchants, date the first beginning of their race for fortune at about the period of which we speak. Steamboat communication had begun to supplant the stage-coach and the packet-sloops in the passenger traffic to New York, and, with a closer association with the throbbing and busy city, Stamford itself began to wake from its Rip Van Winkle slumber, to be stirred by the first low wash of the waves of modern progress that were soon to become a tide of resistless force.

It was appropriately at a period like this that the local newspaper made its appearance. Mr. William Henry Holly was then, as he was for many years afterwards, one of the most familiar figures on the stage of village activity. He it was who first started the local newspaper, and who conducted it about fifteen years. Much of the space he devoted to the doings of Congress when in session, to national politics, and no inconsiderable portion was given to foreign news, which at that time was peculiarly interesting to Americans by the gallant struggle for Greek independence. Daniel Webster and Henry Clay were the big guns of American politics, and their doings and sayings filled a large space in the prints

of the day. The Anti-Masonic excitement was in full blast in New York, and affected Connecticut, too, for more than once the village streets witnessed something approaching a riot when Anti-Masonic emissaries undertook to make public speeches. Stamford's rapid transit to New York was by stage to "Saw Pitts," otherwise Portchester, and thence by a crude steamer which plied between that hamlet and the city. The boat was run by one Cornelius Vanderbilt, whose name and fame as a steamboat manager and railroad king afterwards spread over both continents.

In 1830, when the *Advocate* was a year old, the borough government was organized, with Simeon Minor, father of ex-Governor William T. Minor, as first warden.

Following Mr. Holly's proprietorship came that of Mr. Edgar Hoyt, during whose editorial career the railroad was completed, introducing at once a new and powerful energy into village life, and opening the way for a large influx of population from outside. Mr. Hoyt held the editorial office about a dozen years, and was followed by Mr. William T. Campbell, who conducted the paper from 1860 to 1867. The paper has been in the hands of its present publishers, William W. Gillespie & Co., thirteen years, and during that period it has been enlarged three times, and its facilities have been increased in a more than corresponding degree. During the latter decade almost every modern improvement known to the "art preservative" has been added to the concern; a brick building of ample size, exclusively for the purposes of its business, has been erected near the post-office, and furnished with steam-power.

How well the paper is appreciated in the community may be judged from the score or more of congratulatory letters written by the leading citizens and professional men of the town on the occasion of its celebrating its semi-centennial, Aug. 29, 1879. All of these letters expressed in the most profuse language the warmest appreciation of the efforts of the present proprietors to furnish a paper worthy of the town, and in keeping with the "age in which we live."

The size of the paper at present is twenty-nine by forty-five, having thirty-six columns twenty-seven inches long. It is Republican in politics since the birth of that party, and is strenuous in its advocacy of liberty and justice to every citizen. For over fifty-one years it has been the most comprehensive and faithful historian of the village, borough, and town. The marriages and deaths, the triumphs, the disasters, the onward march of progress, the notable events of every kind are all to be found recorded in its pages. The names that appear in its early numbers in business advertisements, or as active in local affairs, are, most of them, now to be found on the memorial stones in our cemeteries. A journal so long and so closely identified with this community, and which has demonstrated its capacity to keep pace with the general progress, has surely strong



claims upon public interest and support, and it is worthy of note, as showing the strong hold the *Advocate* has on the community with which it has grown up, that half a dozen attempts have been made to establish rival papers in the same community, but each attempt, save its present contemporary, met with signal failure.

Of late years the *Stamford Advocate* has become a familiar name in nearly every newspaper office of the country, its articles, paragraphs, metricals, etc., being frequently and widely copied.

The following lines were written by one of the editors and published in its semi-centennial number :

#### FIFTY YEARS OF AGE.

Hail to the *Advocate's* half-hundred years,  
Whose history on its pages bright appears !  
Hail to the clustering memories of its youth,  
Its sturdy age made vigorous by truth !

How oft in days gone by its voice was heard  
Praising good deeds and chiding those who erred ;  
Ringing glad notes with every marriage-bell,  
Voicing the public moan with every funeral knell ;  
Giving to honest worth its meed of praise,  
Placing on victor's brows the wreath of bays ;  
Bully denouncing wrong in every form,  
Maintaining right in sunshine and in storm ;  
Pointing the way where civic virtue lies,  
Exposing fraud in every shrewd disguise ;  
Recording on its comprehensive page  
Each act and actor on the local stage.  
Impartially it notices as well  
The boozy drunkard and the village belle ;  
The pulpit orator, whose piercing voice  
Alarms the sinner, makes the saint rejoice ;  
The lawyer's eloquence, whose power can light  
The shades of black and make it seem as white ;  
The doctor's triumphs over earthly ills  
(But never mentions those he blindly kills) ;  
The schoolboy's spoken piece, the gossip's hint,  
Are both next morning in the local print.  
All things are there,—the little and the big,  
The price of stocks, the weight of Jones's pig ;  
The coming circus, or the minstrel show,  
The church fairs that for free puffs always go ;  
The politician, with his axe to grind,  
Who, gaining office, drops you from his mind ;  
The angry man, who "wants to know, you know,  
Who wrote that piece" that riles his temper so ;  
The "setter" in the village grocery-store,  
Crammed with all modern and ancient lore,  
Without whose wisdom how the world was run  
Is one of the strangest things beneath the sun ;  
The man who, guilty of some flagrant sin,  
Begs of the editor "not to put it in ;"  
The tortured husband, tired of household strife,  
At last resolves to advertise his wife ;  
The patient mother of a wayward son  
Seeking to hide the deed his hands have done ;  
The happy father's self-approving joy,  
Telling the world about his "twelve-pound boy ;"  
The farmer who has raised the biggest beet ;  
The man who wants to open a new street,  
And for his scheme demands a warm defense,  
To fill his pocket at the town's expense ;  
The man who thinks the town its rights should barter,  
And bear the burden of a city charter ;  
And he, most patriotic of us all,  
Who volunteers for legislative hall,  
His only wish to serve the public ends,  
But still he packs the caucus with his friends.

These all have played their parts upon the stage  
Whose footlight is the journalistic page,  
That beams with equal glow upon the scene  
Whether the acting noble is or mean.  
Our fifty printed volumes sure must tell  
If our own part was acted ill or well.

#### THE STAMFORD HERALD.

The *Herald* is the younger of the two newspapers in Stamford, having been established in 1875 ; but although second in point of years, it is not considered by any means the least in standing and influence. It attracted no little attention in its very first issue for the soundness and thoroughly practical character of its editorials, and its abundant, spicily-written local matter. Such was the favor with which it was received that its circulation increased with a rapidity not common to local papers, soon approximating that of its much older rival in the field, and now it claims—and Rowell's "Newspaper Directory" gives it—an average publication of as many copies per week as its competitor. Its neat typographical appearance and tasty make-up have elicited many favorable comments from its contemporaries, and they have given it the title of "model local newspaper." On special occasions the *Herald* has showed marked enterprise, employing stenographers at heavy cost when it was necessary for full and accurate reports. Large extra editions at such times have been circulated.

The *Herald* makes the claim of "aiming to represent thoroughly the beautiful little city where it is located," and of striving to advance in every possible way the interests of Stamford. The general opinion seems to be that the claim is well substantiated. One of its directory-heads is "City Government," there being given under it the list of borough officers. At first the words were thought to be an error, and the editor's attention was called to the matter. But he persisted in retaining the title, and has steadily advanced the idea that a town of the size and importance of Stamford—larger and possessed of greater wealth than some of the cities of the State, being the seventh on the "grand list"—should be a city in name as well as in fact. Finally, and chiefly through the influence of the *Herald*, a charter incorporating the "City of Stamford" was granted by the State Legislature in 1879. When the question of a city or no city was submitted to the people, however, mistaken but well-meaning "old fogyism" prevailed, and the measure was defeated for a time. As it was, congratulations to the new "city"—"the eleventh in the State"—began to pour in, Stamford receiving more attention from the press of Connecticut than it had in the previous twenty-five years of its history.

The harbor of Stamford had never received from time immemorial any aid from the United States government, although the commercial interests of the town and other Sound ports urgently required a lighthouse at its dangerous entrance and a deepening of the channel. Soon after the publication of the

*Herald* was begun the editor took up the subject of harbor improvement, and so frequently was it brought to the attention of the people and the members of Congress from the Fourth District, and so persistently kept before them in the columns of the paper, that, as a result in great part of the *Herald's* efforts, an appropriation of seven thousand dollars was granted at the last session of Congress for a lighthouse off the harbor. Next spring (1881) it will be erected there.\* A further appropriation for improving the channel, insuring navigation to ordinary vessels at any stage of the tide will be urged by the same paper when Congress again assembles.

Three years ago the question of prohibition of the liquor traffic—a traffic which had assumed alarming proportions in Stamford—was brought to the serious consideration of the people by the Rev. Dr. Buckley and other true-hearted men who had the public welfare at heart. The *Herald* at once threw the whole weight of its influence on the side of no license and the right, the side of law and order, and has battled unflinchingly for the cause ever since, making many friends by its course, as well as not a few enemies. Stamford for those three years has given a majority for prohibition at each election, and the power of rum has been seriously crippled.

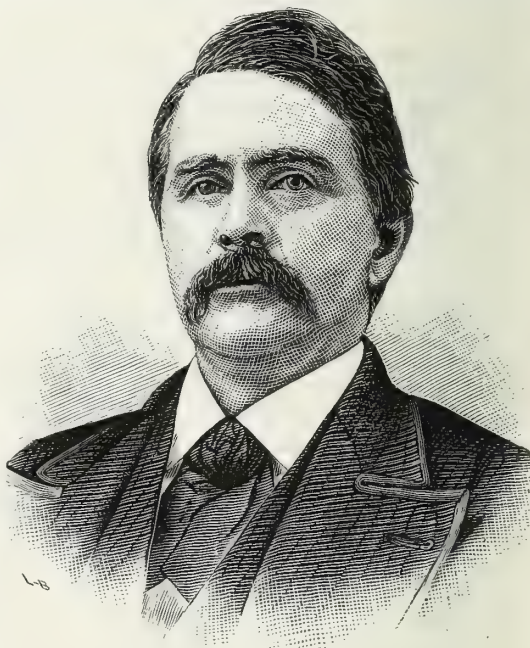
In politics the *Herald* is conservative and independent, and its editor is not afraid to point out the faults of either party, and does not hesitate to commend in both what is worthy of commendation. Briefly, the *Herald* is on the side of the good and the right, in favor of progress, reform, and whatever will advance the interests of the people; it is a paper live and true, and well supported because worthy of support.

#### GEORGE BAKER.

George Baker, editor and proprietor of the *Stamford Herald*, is forty-three years old, and was born at Green's Farms, town of Fairfield, in this county. He passed the usual course of instruction in the public schools, and received a thorough academic education in one of the best seminaries in the State. When but seventeen years old he began to teach school, and, giving marked acceptance to parents and scholars, continued in this vocation until he was twenty-five, when he became a merchant in Southport and married Miss Emily Jones, of Poundridge, N. Y. Not very long thereafter Mr. Baker, with others, founded a paper which they named the *Southport Chronicle*. Mr. Baker became editor and continued to hold that position for two years, when the paper was sold to a stock company. Mr. Baker had previous to this time quite an extensive experience as newspaper correspondent, and was at home at once in the editor's chair. He learned the practical part of the printing business "at the case" and press, under able instruction, in the *Chronicle* and

other offices. After disposing of the *Chronicle*, Mr. Baker soon removed to Federalsburg, Md., where he established the *Maryland Courier*. Under his proprietorship and able editing the *Courier* soon took a front place in the ranks of the Peninsular press. The health of his family became seriously affected by climatic influences, and after a few years' residence he found it necessary to bring them from Maryland to the health-giving air of the North. He chose Stamford as his residence, and the establishment of the *Herald* was the result.

Mr. Baker is a large man, of fine physique, pleasing address, unblemished moral character, and high social



*Geo. Baker.*

standing. As an editor he is courteous, but fearless in denouncing wrongs and rascalities of any kind. From this characteristic, his editorial career has not been free from personal attacks in cases where "the coat fitted" but too well. These, however, do not seem to have altered his course of conduct, but he has kept on in the even tenor of his way undisturbed. It is to be hoped that he may continue for many years in the profession where he can give his ripest years and fullest powers to the cause of improvement.

Mr. Baker's early religious training was in the Methodist Church, his father having been for many years a prominent official in that denomination. He was a member of that Church when he became a resident of Maryland, and united with it there. But the ideas prevalent among Methodists in the South being of rather too demonstrative a character, he

\* Since the above was written the Secretary of the Treasury has recommended an increase of the appropriation to twenty thousand dollars.



withdrew from church fellowship and has not since renewed it.

In political matters he has always been conservative,—not so firmly wedded to one party that he would obey its behests if he believed its principles wrong. As a Union man he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and, with just as strong Union sentiments, he supported Greeley, Tilden, and Hancock. Political office he never craved, and his nearest approach to any real distinction of that kind was when a nomination (equivalent to an election) for first selectman of Fairfield was tendered him, when a young man,—a nomination which he declined on the ground that he was too young. During the war he attempted to recruit a company of volunteers and gain a commission as captain, but, securing only twenty men, that patriotic enterprise failed.

Mr. Baker rejoices in the pleasure which three promising daughters, two in young womanhood, afford. An only son, a bright and beautiful little boy, died in 1878, before he had gladdened the hearts of his parents quite one year.

#### STAMFORD BOROUGH.

The borough was incorporated in 1830. The petition was headed by David Holly, and the persons named in the act to call the first meeting were Charles Hawley, Simeon H. Minor, Theodore Davenport, and Seymour Jarvis.

The first officers were Simeon H. Minor, Warden; Seymour Jarvis, Clerk and Treasurer; Burgesses, John W. Leeds, William H. Holly, Charles Hawley, John S. Northrop, and David Hoyt; Street Commissioners, Isaac Quintard, Sr., Sands Adams, Fitch Rodgers, Smith Scott, and Peter Smith, Jr.; Agent, J. B. Ferris.

The following is a list of wardens from the organization of the borough to 1881: Simeon H. Minor, Charles Hawley, J. W. Leeds, William H. Holly, Sands Adams, Theodore Davenport, Ezra Scofield, Henry H. Waring, H. J. Sanford, George E. Waring, James H. Hoyt, Chauncey Ayres, Jonathan M. Hall, William T. Minor, Albert Seely, Charles Williams, George Elder, H. K. Skelding, William P. Jones, E. Gay, George L. Lownd, James H. Hoyt, William C. Hoyt, Robert Swartwout, from 1873 to 1881.

#### THE CITY OF STAMFORD.

The Legislature of 1879 granted to Stamford a city charter. The town was larger than either of two or three cities of the State, and being virtually a city in all but the name, progressive citizens desired to give it the title as well. But when the charter was submitted to a vote of the people, non-progressiveness carried the day and the measure was defeated for the time. The borough limits will soon be extended, however, and then, with an improved charter, the city movement will again be tried, and doubtless with success.

#### THE STAMFORD NATIONAL BANK.

The Stamford National Bank is a successor of the Stamford Bank, which was incorporated in 1834 with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, on the condition that the bank should pay five thousand dollars to the Wesleyan University at Middletown. There were three hundred and sixty-three subscribers to the stock, eighty-four of whom were residents of Stamford. In 1861 the capital stock was increased ninety thousand dollars. It was changed to the Stamford National Bank in 1865.

The presidents have been John W. Leeds, who held the office until his death, March 3, 1878, George H. Hoyt, and Charles A. Hawley, the present incumbent. The cashiers have been J. F. Henry, Edward Hill, S. K. Satterlee, Charles K. Rockwood, D. R. Satterlee, H. M. Humphrey, F. R. Leeds, Joseph L. Leeds, and George W. Glendenning.

#### THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

This institution was established in 1863, with a capital of two hundred thousand dollars. The first president was H. M. Humphrey, M.D. He was succeeded by Charles W. Brown, the present incumbent. The cashiers have been Charles W. Brown and A. R. Pinkington.

#### THE STAMFORD SAVINGS BANK.

This bank was organized July 21, 1851. The first president was Theodore Davenport. The present officers are George H. Hoyt, President; A. A. Holley, Secretary and Treasurer; and Charles A. Hawley, Vice-President.

The Citizens' Savings Bank was organized in 1869. The first officers were Wells R. Ritch, President; H. M. Humphrey, Vice-President; and William C. Hoyt, Secretary and Treasurer. The present officers are the same, except vice-president. Charles W. Brown is the present incumbent.

#### WOODLAND CEMETERY.

The Woodland Cemetery Association was organized in August, 1856, with the following persons: Charles Williams, President; William Skiddy, Treasurer; H. M. Humphrey, Secretary; George L. Brown, Wells R. Ritch, William Pitt, Henry Taff, J. B. Hoyt, Theo. Davenport, James L. Lockwood, Oliver Hoyt, and George A. Hoyt. The stock of the association was placed at twenty thousand dollars, which was subscribed by sixty citizens of the town.

The association purchased a tract of about forty acres of land at a point once called Rocky Neck but later the "Uplands," which was laid out by Mr. B. F. Hathaway. The cemetery was formally dedicated July 29, 1861; prayer by Rev. P. S. Evans, and reading of the Scriptures by Rev. William C. Hoyt. Rev. J. S. Dodge furnished an original hymn, which was sung. Rev. Mr. Weed, of the Methodist Church, and Rev. Mr. Francis, of the Universalist Church, made appropriate addresses. Rev. Mr. Mitchell, of

the Episcopal Church, read a poem, and the Hon. William T. Minor made the presentation address. The services were closed by a prayer and benediction from Rev. Mr. Booth, of the Presbyterian Church. Woodland Cemetery has been enlarged and beautified, and art has vied with nature in rendering it one of the finest burial-places in the State.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The present organization of the fire department is as follows: Chief Engineer, Joseph Guiden; First Assistant Engineer, Byron H. Lockwood; Second Assistant Engineer, William D. Nolan.

*The Rippowam Fire Company* was chartered in 1845, on the petition of Sands Seeley, Lorenzo Meeker, and James H. Minor. In 1855 the company was allowed by special act to increase its number to sixty members.

*Stamford Fire Engine Company, No. 2*, was incorporated in 1854, with the following persons: Andrew Perry, Edwin Bishop, G. K. Riker, T. J. Daskam, George E. Scofield, Jesse A. Reed, J. N. Webb, Theo. Lockwood, William Lavender, Francis Dauchy, Theo. Hoyt, William W. Smith, C. F. Peck, Theo. Davenport, Jr., and Charles B. Finch, and such others as might unite with them, provided the number did not exceed forty.

*Atlantic Hose Company, No. 1*.—Foreman, John W. Fawcett; Assistant, Justus Barthel; Secretary, Theodore Halleck; Treasurer, James O'Neil. Number of members, twenty-seven.

*Gulf Stream Engine Company*.—Foreman, Richard Bolster; First Assistant, Michael J. McIntyre; Second Assistant, John J. Reilly. Number of members, sixty-nine.

*Relief Hook-and-Ladder Company*.—Foreman, Michael Garrety; First Assistant, James Enright; Second Assistant, Frank J. Guernsey; Secretary, Robert E. Hogan; Treasurer, Patrick J. Kramey. Number of members, forty.

#### MANUFACTURES.

*Yale Lock-Manufacturing Company*.—This business was established in 1851, in the city of Philadelphia, by the late Linus Yale, Jr. It was subsequently removed to Shelburne Falls, Mass., and in 1868 to Stamford. The present company was organized upon the removal of the business to Stamford. In the beginning of operations here about thirty persons were employed. The business rapidly increased, and in 1880 two hundred and fifty persons were employed. The main building was erected in 1868-69, and additions have since been made annually. The chief specialty of the establishment is fine locks, of which they make more than three hundred sizes and styles, adapted to almost every possible use. Their other specialties are bank-locks, decorative bronze house-trimmings, post-office equipments, and Weston's pulley-blocks and hoists.

They confine themselves to good work only, and make no inferior grades.

This company are sole manufacturers under the patents of the following patentees: Yale, Towne, Taylor, Stockwell, Keating, Felter, Shepardson, Leeds, Hermann, Field, Morris, Weston, Hull, Bird, Doyle, Binge, Little, Bramble, Beidler, Dotterer, Arnold, Sipp, and others. They are owners of over one hundred patents.

This is a representative institution, and reflects great credit upon its enterprising progenitors and those through whose influence it has been sustained and prospered.

The present officers of the company are as follows: President, Henry R. Towne; Treasurer, Franklin Underhill; Secretary, Schuyler Merritt; Superintendent, John H. Ames; Mechanical Engineer, T. A. Weston.

*The H. W. Collender Company, Billiard-Table Manufacturers*.—The factory of this company in Stamford is now the leading billiard-manufactory in the United States, if not in the world. It is one of the principal structures in Connecticut, occupies four acres of ground, is five stories in height, and, being surmounted by two ornamental towers, resembles, as remarked by the *Scientific American*, "more a modern university than a manufactory." This factory employs two hundred hands, among them many artisans of known ability. Its labor-saving machines, devised by Mr. Collender for the construction of tables and other requisites of the game, exhibit great inventive genius, and are most perfectly adapted for their use. The basement contains the engines and heavy wood-working and slate-sawing machinery; on the first floor are the offices, packing-rooms, etc.; the second is devoted to the manufacture of the broad rails and cushions; the third is occupied by a variety of special machinery for lighter work; on the fourth floor are the assembling and fitting rooms; and on the fifth, the varnishing and polishing departments. The office of the company is at 788 Broadway, New York.

*St. John, Hoyt & Co., Steam Planing- and Moulding-Mill, Lumber-Dealers, etc.*—This business was commenced in 1853 by Richard Fox and John St. John. It continued under the firm-name of Fox & St. John until 1869, when it changed to St. John & Hoyt, and was conducted by this firm nine years. William H. Judd then became a partner, and it is now conducted under the firm-name of St. John, Hoyt & Co., John St. John, Harvey Hoyt, and William H. Judd. The old mill was located on Broad Street. They removed to their present location in 1877. The present buildings were erected for their special use, are furnished with all the modern improvements, and are complete in all their appointments.

*E. L. Nicoll & Co.*, steam planing-mill and lumber-yard, is a flourishing institution, and in all respects a credit to the industrial interests of the town.

Among other manufactures are the Cove Mills,



Stillwater and Roxbury Rolling-Mills, Stamford Stove-Foundry, Phoenix Carriage-Factory, Harding Woolen-Mills, Long Ridge Stove-Factory, Union Brick and Drain-Pipe Works, Shirt-Factory, Medicine Laboratory, and Camphor- and Wax-Factory.

*The Stamford Ship Canal* was constructed by Joseph B. Hoyt and Joseph D. Warren. The work was commenced in 1868. It was a much needed improvement, and reflects great credit upon its enterprising progenitors.

#### RAILROAD.

"That was a new and exciting day for the quiet village when, in 1844, a special town-meeting was called to consider the petition of the Housatonic Railroad Company for a road from Bridgeport to Byram River, along the Long Island shore. The town came together May 7th, and after considering variously the strange proposal, agree, with a singular unanimity, in favor of the road, and instruct their representatives in the Assembly to favor it. But, as is the fate with most novel enterprises, this was doomed to delay; and the restive and ambitious citizens of the town had to wait four years more for the fulfillment of their desire. But the fulfillment came, and when, in 1848, the great thoroughfare between Boston and New York was opened, under date of December 19th of that year, we find in the *Stamford Advocate*, then edited by Edgar Hoyt, Esq., the following graphic note on the wonderful event of the first appearance of the iron horse:

"The citizens of the village, as well as the horses, cattle, etc., were nearly frightened out of their propriety on Wednesday afternoon last, at about five o'clock, by such a horrible scream as was never heard to issue from any other than a metallic throat. Animals of every description went carcering round the fields, snuffing at the air in their terror, and bipeds of every size, condition, and color set off at a full run for the railroad depot. In a few moments the cause of the commotion appeared in the shape of a locomotive, puffing off its steam and screaming with its so-called whistle at a terrible rate. Attached to the locomotive were a lumber- and a passenger-car, and the latter, we believe, is one of the most splendid description now in use on any road in this country. . . . They have not yet commenced running regularly to this place, and it is not probable that they will do so until the road is finished to New York, which will probably be about the latter part of the present week or the first of next."

"By January 1st the road had been completed, and the year 1849 was inaugurated by what was deemed a great marvel, the actual transit of three trains, daily, the whole distance from New Haven to New York and back again. The trial trip had been made on Monday, December 25th, and a single passage in the account of that trip, from the pen of William H. Holly, Esq., who was one of the honored passengers of the occasion, is worth preserving in our history of the times:

"The train had to remain at Coscob Bridge some three hours for the last rails to be laid over it, and the delay gave ample opportunity to the surrounding people to come in and witness the wonderful feat. The general impression among them seemed to be that the first train that attempted to cross this elevated pass would also be the last. All sorts of old women's stories to frighten the children had been put in circulation regarding the safety of this bridge, and many a spectator expected to see our splendid locomotive, elegant car, and confiding attendants and passengers plunged into the deep below.

"Ten minutes before two o'clock p.m., Mr. Mason, chief engineer of the company, gave the word 'all ready.' Our pioneer was let loose. Every skeptic's heart rose to his mouth. Breathless anxiety pervaded the multitude on each shore. The train moved majestically along, and the next minute the western shore received its ponderous weight, and the welkin rang with the shouts of the congregated people."

"Probably no event in the history of Stamford has had more to do in shaping the future of the town than the opening of this great thoroughfare. Very soon after the road was built all fears of an unfavorable result upon the prosperity of the town were dissipated. We were soon seen to have been made a suburb of the great city. Our talent could find a much readier field for its use in the city, and the wealth and talent of the city a much more attractive home here. The sons of Stamford, who had previously been wont to go to the city to make their fortunes, could now return to invest and enjoy them here. Now, and hereafter, without changing their residence for a week, our sons can avail themselves of all the aid which the city can give.

"The following postscript in the *Stamford Sentinel* of June 6, 1836, may indicate how much we may have gained in time, at least, from this iron track:

"Just arrived, sloop 'Mary Flower,' Bell, nine days from New York, via Cow Bay, where she was detained by the inspector of the weather. Hands all well, but rather meagre in countenance for want of fresh provisions and ordinary exercise. Left New York where it formerly stood. Business brisk. Spoke two hundred vessels or more bound up, awaiting favorable weather."

#### NEW CANAAN AND STAMFORD RAILROAD.

"This new enterprise was chartered in 1867, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the privilege of increasing it to two hundred thousand dollars. Its track was so far completed that an excursion train was run over it, July 4, 1868."

#### UNION LODGE, NO. 5, F. AND A. M.

The charter of Union Lodge bears date Nov. 18, 1763, and was issued by "Geo. Harrison, Esq., Provincial Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons in the province of New York." It authorizes Sylvanus Waterbury, "our worshipful and well beloved brother," "to form a lodge, to choose his wardens, and appoint other officers, with the consent of the brethren assembled in due form, to make Masons, as also to do all and every such acts and things appertaining to said office, as usually have and ought to be done by other Masters." He is to pay over to the Provincial Grand Lodge at New York, out of the first moneys he shall receive, three pounds and three shillings sterling, to be applied to the use of the Grand Charity. This lodge was designed for Stamford and Horseneck (Greenwich), and parts adjacent.

The records of the lodge from 1763 to 1780 are lost, the only name of the members for that period preserved being that in the charter, Sylvanus Waterbury.

The following is a list of Masters of the lodge: Sylvanus Waterbury, John Anderson, Israel Knapp,

Jabez Fitch, Wm. Bush, Isaac Reed, Sturges Perry, Samuel Bush, Noyes Mather, Alexander Mills, James Stevens, Isaac Lockwood, Samuel Keeler, Simeon H. Minor, Benj. Husted, Isaac Bishop, Charles Hawley, Erastus Weed, John W. Leeds, fourteen years; Peter Brown, Sands Adams, A. A. Holly, nineteen years; W. H. Holly, Roswell Hoyt, H. Bulkley, Philip L. Hoyt, T. J. Daskam, John A. Scofield, James H. Olmstead, Dwight Waugh, Charles E. Holly, Dwight Waugh, Edwin S. Holly, Charles M. Holly, J. H. Swartwout.

#### RITTENHOUSE CHAPTER, NO. 11, R. A. M.

This chapter of Royal Arch Masons was chartered Oct. 18, 1810, on a memorial presented to them by James Stevens and sundry other brethren. The first officers were: James Stevens, H. P.; Isaac Lockwood, King; and Ezekiel Lockwood, Scribe.

The High Priests have been as follows: James Stevens, Isaac Lockwood, Simeon H. Minor, Joseph Keeler, Wm. J. Street, Charles Hawley, John W. Leeds, Nathan Camp, Wm. Holly, Smith Scott, Geo. B. Glendining, Luke A. Lockwood, James H. Olmstead, Dwight Waugh, George L. Lownds, Luke A. Lockwood, Sipsco Stevens, Wm. H. Adair, Dwight Waugh, John N. Lewis, Dwight Waugh, Francis A. Marden, Dwight Waugh.

#### WASHINGTON COUNCIL, NO. 6, ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

This council is working under a restored charter granted by the Grand Council of Connecticut at a regular assembly held at Hartford, on the 9th day of May, A. D. 1865. James L. Gould, M. P. G. Master; John W. Paul, G. Recorder.

The Thrice Illustrious Masters have been: 1865-66, John W. Leeds; 1866-68, Luke A. Lockwood; 1868-81, Dwight Waugh. H. S. McConkey, Recorder.

#### PHYSICIANS.

The first physician in Stamford was doubtless Jacob Moen, or Moene, as his is the first name of a doctor mentioned in the old records. Others are as follows: John Drew was here in 1714, Ebenezer Bishop, died in 1743, Thomas Bishop, Mrs. Sarah Bates, Perez Fitch, James Coggsell, Walter Hough, stationed here as a surgeon during the Revolutionary war, Nathaniel Hubbard, Platt Townsend, John Wilson, John Wilson, Jr., Isaac Smith, Darius Knight, James Knight, Samuel Webb, Warren Percival, Samuel Lockwood, John Augur, Samuel Beach, William Turk, Mr. Rockwell (North Stamford), Benjamin Rockwell, Uriah Turner, Foote, Banks, Childs, Tucker, Close, Nathaniel D. Haight, Chauncey Ayres,\* Harrison Teller, Samuel Sands (Darien), Robert Lockwood, Lewis R. Hurlbutt, William H. Trowbridge,\* Joseph Howe, George Huntington, George W. Birch,\* Russell T. Griswold,\* B. Keith, P. R.

Holly, James H. Hoyt, H. P. Geib,\* E. E. Rowell,\* C. E. Rowell,\* F. J. Rogers,\* John A. Rockwell,\* J. T. Philyis,\* Mrs. R. G. Philyis.\*

For list of pioneer and prominent attorneys see Chapter II. The following is a list of present lawyers: Joshua B. Ferris, William H. Minor, Julius B. Curtis, J. H. Olmstead, Samuel Fessenden, E. L. Schofield, William C. Strowbridge, Jr., Nathaniel R. Hart, Samuel H. Cohen, Michael Kenealy, John E. Keeler, H. Stanley Finch, Truman Smith.†

The following practice in New York, but reside here: Thomas G. Ritch, G. T. Plympton, Francis A. Maseken, Alexander Campbell, R. Stuart Willis, — Hill.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

It is evident that the early settlers of Stamford not only manifested a decided interest in religious matters, but the education of the youth also received their earliest attention.

As early as Dec. 24, 1670, the following action was taken: "ye towne hath agreede to hier Mr. Bellemy for a scoole master for this yeare," and "ye towne doth grannt and agree to put down all peety scools yt are or may be kept in ye towne which may be preiudicial to ye general scoole. The towne hath grannted Mr. Mather Bellemy a house lot of about one acere & halfe & he is hereby engaged to bouild a habitable house upon it within two years, before he alienate it to any one, or els to throw it up to ye towne again."

On the 31st of the 11th month (January), 1670, it was voted in town-meeting "that Mr. Rider be admitted in to the town for a time of triall to keep school as a comite appointed for that end shall agree with him, and if after triall the town aprove him and he like to stay they may after acomidate him according to their capacity as they se good. Mr. Seleck, Fra. Brown and Jonathan Bell are chose to treat, and, if they can, to agree with Mr. Rider to teach school in the towne."

On the 2d of the 2d month (April), 1671, the town grant to Mr. Rider "so much timber of the ould meeting house as may build him up a room to the school house of about ten or twelve foot square, and in case he doth remove it shall return to the town."

The following year it was "voted, the towne is not minded to hier Mr. Rider any more."

"By vote, the town inioyne all the children that went to anny other scoole this last yeare, except only such that went only to larn to knitt or sowe, shall pay their proper fiers (fares) to the scoole master."

In 1672 there was but one public school in the settlement, and that was held in a building which stood on the corner of Bank and Atlantic Streets.

In 1690 it was voted to build a new house. "The old school-house, which had been built of the remains of the old meeting-house, and must therefore have been a much nobler structure and of nicer finish than the old rude germ of riven logs and plank covering,

\* Residents of Stamford.

† Ex-United States Senator.



which it had succeeded, was 'by outcry' sold to the same Steven Bishop who had once, at least, been its acknowledged master. It may show us the times, at least thus much, to report the value of the sale, 'twenty shillings and six-pence,' but we must also report that the town reserved for their own use 'ye dore hings and flores.' It ought, perhaps, also to be added that the school-house, now sold, had been quite recently improved by the addition of a stone chimney, a luxury which had doubtless been denied the home-warmed children in their home-made clothes, down to 1685.

"The progress of the town had now become such that the one school-house was thought to be too small for their accommodation, and the people at a distance from the centre were beginning to feel the need of schools nearer to their own homes. Little schools were held for a few weeks at a time in two or three localities distant from the centre. Temporary schools, also, sprung up to minister to some local want for some peculiar class of pupils, and it became a question what school or schools should receive the sanction or support of the public, at the public expense.

"In 1702 it was voted that 'Ye town doth say that they doth accept ye present scoole by ye parson (Samuel Holly, the town clerk) to teach to read English and to write and arithmitic—is a scoole according to lawe.' It is also voted that

"Ye towne doth give liberty to ye people of ye east side of norwoaton Riuer, and ye people on ye west side of ye mill riuer, to hire a woman scoole on boath sids ye sd riuer: and that ye mony collected in ye cuntry Rate shall be distributed to each scoole; yt is to say, to ye three scooles; one in ye middle of ye towne and ye other two above sd, according to ye heads in said scoole; and ye Rate to be paid by ye heads yt Goes to sd scools."

There are several flourishing private schools, among which may be mentioned the Stamford English and Classical Boarding School of James Betts, which has been in existence over forty years; George B. Glendinning's school; the Misses Warren school for young children; Miss Aikens' Young Ladies Seminary, established in 1855; the school of H. U. King; and the Catholic school, which was organized in 1862, and is large and flourishing.

For present condition of schools, see General History.

## CHAPTER LXXII.

### STAMFORD (Continued).

Indian Name of Town—Representatives from 1641 to 1880—State Senators—Selectmen from 1640 to 1879—Postmasters at Stamford—Probate District of Stamford—List of Judges to Present Time—Town Clerks from 1641 to 1881—Grand List 1879—Population.

#### CIVIL HISTORY.

THE Indian name of this town was *Rippowam*. Upon the settlement by the whites it was changed to Stamford, doubtless from a town in England by the same name.

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1641 TO 1880.

The following is a list of the representatives from Stamford, from 1641 to 1880:

#### REPRESENTATIVES.

1641, Andrew Ward, Francis Bell; 1642, Matthew Mitchell, John Whitmore; 1643, John Underhill, Richard Gildersleeve, John Chapman; 1644, Andrew Ward, Robert Coe; 1653, Richard Law, Francis Bell; 1654-55, Richard Law, Francis Bell, John Holly; 1656, Richard Law, Francis Bell; 1657, Richard Law, John Waterbury, George Slawson; 1658-61, Richard Law, Francis Bell; 1663, Richard Law, John Holly, George Slawson; 1664, Richard Law, Francis Bell; 1665, Richard Law, Peter Disbrow, Francis Brown; 1666, Richard Law; 1667, Robt. Usher, Francis Brown; 1668, Francis Brown, John Green; 1669, Ensign Francis Brown, John Green, Richard Law; 1670, Lieut. Jonathan Selleck, John Green, John Holly, Jonathan Bell; 1671, Joseph Theale; 1672, Richard Law, Jonathan Selleck; 1673, John Green, Joseph Theale; 1674, Lieut. Jonathan Bell, Abram Ambler, Joseph Theale, John Green; 1675-76, Jonathan Selleck, Joseph Theale, Lieut. Jonathan Bell, Capt. Jonathan Selleck; 1677, Lieut. Jonathan Bell, Abram Ambler, Joseph Theale, Jon. Reynolds; 1678-79, Joseph Theale, Abram Ambler, Jon. Reynolds; 1680, Jonathan Bell, Joseph Theale; 1681, Joseph Theale, Abram Bell, Lieut. Jonathan Bell, Joshua Hoyt; 1682, Abram Ambler, Joseph Theale, Lieut. Jonathan Bell, Joshua Hoyte; 1683, Lieut. Jonathan Bell, Capt. Jonathan Selleck, Joshua Hoyte; 1684, Lieut. Jonathan Bell, Joshua Hoyte; 1685-86, Capt. Jonathan Selleck, Lieut. Jonathan Bell, Joshua Hoyt; 1687, Capt. Jonathan Selleck, Lieut. Jonathan Bell; 1689, Ens. John Bates, Samuel Hoyt; 1690, Samuel Hoyt, Abram Ambler; 1691, Jonathan Bell, Abram Ambler, Daniel Westcott; 1692, Samuel Hoyt, Daniel Westcott, Abram Ambler; 1693, Samuel Hoyt, David Waterbury; 1694, David Waterbury, Daniel Westcott, Daniel Weed; 1695, David Waterbury, Dan. Weed; 1696, Lieut. Jona. Bell, Sergt. David Waterbury; 1697, Sergt. David Waterbury, Sam. Hoyt; 1698, Lieut. David Waterbury; 1699, Lieut. David Waterbury, Ens. Samuel Hoyt, Jonathan Bell; 1700, Elisha Holly, Lieut. David Waterbury, Stephen Bishop; 1701, Lieut. David Waterbury, Elisha Holly; 1702, Samuel Webb, Lieut. David Waterbury; 1703, Lieut. David Waterbury, Capt. John Clock, Samuel Hoyt; 1704, Samuel Hoyt, Elisha Holly; 1705-6, Capt. Jonathan Selleck, Lieut. David Waterbury; 1707-8, Capt. Jonathan Selleck, Elisha Holly, Stephen Bishop; 1709, Stephen Bishop, Elisha Holly; 1710, Jonathan Bates, Elisha Holly; 1711, Elisha Holly, John Ambler; 1712, Jonathan Bates, John Stone, Jonathan Bell; 1713, Elisha Hawley, Jonathan Bell; 1714, Jonathan Bell, Jonathan Bates, John Stone; 1715, Jonathan Bell, John Stone, John Hoyt; 1716, John Hoyt, John Stone, Samuel Hoyt; 1717, John Hoyt, Jonathan Bell, John Stone; 1718, Samuel Weed, Jonas Weed, John Stone; 1719, John Hoyt, John Stone, John Bell; 1720, John Hoyt, John Stone; 1721, John Hoyt, Samuel Weed, John Stone; 1722-23, John Hoyt, John Stone; 1724, John Hoyt, John Stone, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Bates; 1725-26, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Bates; 1727, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Bates, Capt. Samuel Hoyt, Samuel Weed; 1728-29, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Capt. Samuel Hoyt, Capt. Jonathan Bates; 1730, Capt. John Bell; 1731, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, John Bell, John Hoyt, Jonathan Bates; 1732, John Hoyt, Jonathan Bates, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, John Bell; 1733, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Bates, Samuel Hoyt; 1734, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Samuel Hoyt; 1735, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Maltby, Jonathan Bates; 1736-42, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Maltby; 1743, Col. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Bates; 1744, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Maltby; 1745, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Bates; 1746, Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Maltby; 1747, Jonathan Maltby, Capt. Nathaniel Weed, Abraham Davenport; 1748-53, Jonathan Hoyt, Abraham Davenport; 1754-55, Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Maltby; 1756, John Holly, Col. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Maltby; 1757, Col. Jonathan Hoyt, Jonathan Selleck, Abraham Davenport; 1758, Charles Webb, Jonathan Dibble; 1759, Charles Webb, Abra. Davenport; 1760-61, Col. Jona. Hoyt, Abra. Davenport, Capt. Charles Webb; 1762-65, Col. Jonathan Hoyt, Abra. Davenport; 1766, Capt. Charles Webb, Abraham Davenport, Col. Jonathan Hoyt; 1767, Capt. Charles Webb, Col. Jonathan Hoyt; 1768, Capt. Charles Webb, Benjamin Weed; 1769-70, Capt. Charles Webb, Maj. David Waterbury, Benjamin Weed; 1771-73, Charles Webb, Benjamin Weed; 1774, David Waterbury, Thomas Young, Charles Webb; 1775, Col. Charles Webb, Col. David Waterbury, Benjamin Weed, Thomas

Young; 1776, Col. David Waterbury, John Davenport; 1777, John Davenport, John Hoyt, Jr., Capt. Sylvester Knapp, Capt. Isaac Lockwood; 1778, Maj. John Davenport, Col. Charles Webb, Capt. Daniel Bouton, Capt. Isaac Lockwood; 1779, Col. Charles Webb, Capt. Daniel Bouton; 1780, Col. Charles Webb, Charles Weed; 1781, Charles Weed; 1782, Maj. John Davenport, Charles Weed; 1783, Gen. D. Waterbury, Charles Weed; 1784, Maj. John Davenport, Charles Weed; 1785, Maj. John Davenport, Charles Weed, James Davenport; 1786-87, James Davenport, Charles Weed; 1788, James Davenport, John Davenport; 1789, James Davenport, Col. Joseph Hoyt, John Davenport; 1790, Maj. John Davenport, Benjamin Scofield; 1791, Maj. John Davenport, William Fitch; 1792, Maj. John Davenport, Thaddeus Weed; 1793, Maj. John Davenport, Benjamin Scofield; 1794, David Waterbury, Thaddeus Weed, John Davenport; 1795, David Waterbury, Thaddeus Weed, John Davenport, George Mills; 1796, Joshua King,\* William Forrester, John Davenport, George Mills; 1797, George Mills, Noyes Mather; 1798, George Mills, Noyes Mather, Isaiah Tiffany; 1799, Isaiah Tiffany, Isaac Lockwood, Nathan Weed, Jr.; 1800, Isaac Lockwood, Nathan Weed, Jr.; 1801, Isaac Lockwood, Edward McLaughlin, William Waterbury (4th); 1802, Isaac Lockwood, William Waterbury (4th), Nathan Weed, Noyes Mather; 1803, Isaac Lockwood, John William Holly, Nathan Weed; 1804, Nathan Weed, James Stephens, Thaddeus Bell, Jr.; 1805, James Stephens, Thaddeus Bell, Jr., Nathan Weed; 1806, Isaac Lockwood, Thaddeus Bell, Jr., Josiah Smith, Nathan Weed; 1807, Thaddeus Bell, Ezra Lockwood; 1808, William Waterbury (4th), Isaac Lockwood, Jr., James Stephens; 1809, James Stephens, Isaac Lockwood, Jr., Smith Weed; 1810, James Stephens, Nathan Weed, Thaddeus Bell; 1811, Thaddeus Bell, Isaac Lockwood, Jr., Henry Hoyt, Jr., John Weed, Jr.; 1812, John Weed, Jr., Henry Hoyt, Jr., Nathan Weed, Simeon H. Minor; 1813, John Weed, Jr., Simeon H. Minor, Isaac Lockwood, John Augur; 1814, James Stephens, John Augur, Isaac Lockwood, Henry Close; 1815, James Stevens, Thaddeus Bell, Isaac Lockwood, John Weed, Jr.; 1816, John Brown, Jr., Solomon Clason, Isaac Lockwood; 1817, James Stephens, Simeon H. Minor; 1818, James Stevens, Thaddeus Bell; 1819, Thaddeus Bell, Isaac Lockwood; 1820, Thaddeus Bell, John Augur; 1821, Joseph Wood, Charles Hawley; 1822, Joseph Wood, Daniel Lockwood; 1823-24, Charles Hawley, Daniel Lockwood; 1825, Isaac Lockwood, T. Davenport; 1826, Chas. Hawley, Jotham Hoyt; 1827-28, Chas. Hawley, Abel Reynolds; 1829, Charles Hawley, Simeon H. Minor; 1830, S. H. Minor, Wm. Waterbury, Jr.; 1831, Wm. Waterbury, Sol. Clason; 1832, Wm. Waterbury, Selleck Scofield; 1833-35, Selleck Scofield, Royal L. Gay; 1836, Royal L. Gay, Joshua B. Ferris; 1837, Selleck Scofield, Joshua B. Ferris; 1838, Joshua B. Ferris, Seth Clason; 1839, Selleck Scofield, S. Lockwood; 1840, Andrew Perry; 1841, Wm. T. Minor, Josephus Brush; 1842, Selleck Scofield, Wm. T. Minor; 1843, William T. Minor, Josephus Brush; 1844, Selleck Scofield, Wm. T. Minor; 1845, Selleck Scofield, Royal L. Gay; 1846, Selleck Scofield, William T. Minor; 1847, Amzi Scofield, Wm. T. Minor; 1848, Heth Stevens, S. Lockwood, Jr.; 1849, Heth Stevens, Henry J. Sanford; 1850, Stephen B. Provost, Josiah Smith; 1851, Seth Miller, John Clason; 1852, William T. Minor, S. B. Provost; 1853, James H. Hoyt, Charles Brown; 1854, Wells R. Ritch, John Clason; 1855, J. D. Warren, Hickford Marshall; 1856, Charles A. Weed, E. P. Whitney; 1857, William W. Holly, George Lounsbery; 1858, Charles H. Leeds, Wm. W. Scofield; 1859, Charles H. Leeds, George Scofield; 1860, H. M. Humphrey, I. S. Jones; 1861, W. R. Ritch, I. S. Jones; 1862, Morgan Morgans, I. S. Jones; 1863, Selleck Scofield, J. D. Warren; 1864-65, J. B. Hoyt, Alfred Hoyt; 1866, J. D. Ferguson, Seth S. Cook; 1867, J. D. Ferguson, H. G. Scofield; 1868, W. T. Minor, H. G. Scofield; 1869,† Phineas S. Jacobs; 1870, James H. Olmstead, Wm. A. Keeler; 1871-73, Edward Gay, John Clason; 1874, Samuel Fessenden, John Clason; 1875, Benjamin J. Daskam, John Clason; 1876, Francis A. Marden, George H. Hoyt; 1877, Edward Gay, Wm. R. Lockwood; 1878, Charles A. Weed, Francis A. Marden; 1879, Samuel Fessenden, Charles A. Weed; 1880, Albert G. Weed, William C. Harding; 1881, James D. Smith, George H. Hoyt.

#### STATE SENATORS FROM 1643 TO 1865.

1643-44, Thurston Raynor; 1646, Andrew Ward; 1647, Richard Law; 1695-1701, Maj. Jonathan Selleck; 1766-84, Abraham Davenport;

\* Said, in pencil, to be from Ridgefield. Both names are probably by mistake credited to Stamford.

† But one that year.

1790-97, James Davenport; 1830, Charles Hawley; 1850, Joshua B. Ferris, James H. Hoyt; 1859, Matthew F. Merritt; 1863, Morgan Morgans; 1865, Charles W. Ballard.

#### TOWNSMEN OR SELECTMEN FROM 1640 TO 1879.

The following catalogue of "townsmen" or selectmen is as complete as the town records enable us to make it. From 1642 to 1666 there are no records to show who were appointed; and in 1673 the records, which are otherwise full, make no mention of the choice of townsmen. The other years for which there is no record of a choice are 1681, 1682, 1683, 1685, and 1699:

- 1640.—Rev. Richard Denton, one year; Matthew Mitchel, two years; Andrew Ward, two years; Thurston Raynor, two years; Richard Crabb, two years.
- 1641.—John Whitmore, one year; Richard Law, six years.†
- 1666.—Lieut. Francis Bell, Sr., five years; John Holly, four years; Wm. Newman, two years; Richard Hardy, three years; Jos. Garnsey, one year; Richard Ambler, two years.
- 1667.—Peter Ferris, seven years; Richard Webb, two years; Abraham Ambler, thirteen years.
- 1668.—Robert Usher, one year; Jonathan Bell, fourteen years.
- 1669.—John Green, three years; Francis Brown, one year.
- 1670.—Jonathan Selleck, one year.
- 1671.—George Slawson, Sr., three years; John Pettit, one year; John Holmes, two years; Joshua Hait, six years; John Slawson, two years.
- 1674.—John Bates, three years.
- 1676.—Samuel Hoyt, eight years; Daniel Weed, five years; Daniel Westcott, five years.
- 1677.—Joseph Theal, three years.
- 1680.—Samuel Dean, one year; James Weed, one year; Jonas Weed, eleven years.
- 1684.—Steven Bishop, five years; John Waterbury, six years.
- 1686.—Joseph Hoyt, two years.
- 1687.—David Waterbury, eleven years.
- 1689.—Daniel Scofield, twenty years; John Scofield, two years; John Bates, Jr., nine years.
- 1690.—Eleazar Slason, one year; Benjamin Hoyt, one year.
- 1694.—Increase Holly, one year.
- 1695.—Elisha Holly, six years.
- 1696.—Jonathan Selleck, one year; John Holly, Sr., one year.
- 1700.—Richard Scofield, one year; Samuel Holly, one year.
- 1701.—Benjamin Green, two years; Jonathan Bell, nineteen years; Jos. Ferris, seven years.
- 1703.—Deacon Samuel Hoyt, six years.
- 1704.—Capt. Joseph Bishop, ten years.
- 1709.—John Ambler, two years; Lieut. Samuel Weed, fourteen years.
- 1713.—John Bell, one year.
- 1714.—John Slason, Sr., four years; Deacon John Hoyt, thirteen years; Samuel Blachley, four years.
- 1716.—Capt. John Knapp, one year; Capt. Samuel Hoyt, Jr., seventeen years.
- 1717.—Deacon Jonathan Hoyt, one year.
- 1719.—Lieut. Joseph Webb, nine years; Sergt. John Scofield, one year; Jonas Weed, nine years; Benjamin Hoyt, Jr., four years.
- 1725.—Samuel Scofield, three years.
- 1728.—Capt. Jonathan Hoyt, twenty-nine years; Maj. Jonathan Maltby, twenty years.
- 1734.—Lieut. John Waterbury, four years.
- 1735.—Lieut. Samuel Weed, three years.
- 1738.—Joseph Bishop, eight years.
- 1740.—Sergt. Jonathan Clason, seven years.
- 1741.—Sergt. Samuel Scofield, five years.
- 1742.—Capt. Nathaniel Weed, eight years.
- 1746.—Col. Abraham Davenport, thirty-one years.
- 1747.—Lieut. Jonathan Bell, nine years.
- 1750.—Ensign John Holly, twenty-one years.
- 1754.—Sergt. Stephen Ambler, two years; Capt. David Waterbury, one year; Lieut. Eliphalet Seeley, twenty-two years.

† The most of the above served probably through the next twenty years, of which there is no record.



1756.—Jonathan Selleck, four years; Capt. Stephen White, one year.  
 1757.—Col. Charles Webb, twenty years.  
 1760.—Samuel Broker, one year.  
 1761.—Sergt. Samuel Bishop, four years.  
 1763.—Joseph Husted, two years; Abraham Hoyt, ten years.  
 1769.—Thomas Youngs, two years; Benjamin Weed, two years.  
 1771.—Gen. David Waterbury, seven years.  
 1775.—Lieut. Samuel Hutton, two years; David Webb, two years.  
 1776.—John Bell, three years; Capt. Isaac Lockwood, nineteen years; Thomas June, one year.  
 1777.—Joshua Ambler, ten years; Daniel Bouton, two years; Ebenezer Ferris, two years; Capt. Sylvanus Knapp, twenty-three years.  
 1778.—Capt. Charles Smith, twelve years.  
 1779.—Capt. Gershom Scofield, six years; Capt. Reuben Scofield, one year.  
 1780.—Charles Webb, five years; Capt. Amos Smith, two years.  
 1781.—Isaac Webb, two years; Samuel Richards, two years; Sergt. Jonathan Waring, two years; Jesse Bell, two years.  
 1786.—Lieut. Seth Weed, Jr., ten years.  
 1789.—Hon. James Davenport, six years.  
 1790.—Thaddeus Hoyt, one year.  
 1791.—Nathaniel Webb, five years; Capt. Thaddeus Weed, two years.  
 1792.—Nathan Weed, Jr., eight years.  
 1794.—David Maltby, one year; Stephen Rockwell, one year; Frederick Hoyt, one year.  
 1795.—Hon. John Davenport, one year.  
 1796.—Josiah Smith, twelve years; Benjamin Weed, one year.  
 1799.—Amos Weed, eleven years; Alexander Mills, one year.  
 1800.—Carey Leeds, one year; Isaac Penoyer, two years.  
 1801.—Ezra Lockwood, three years; William Waterbury (4th), nine years.  
 1802.—Thaddeus Bell, Jr., eight years; George Mills, four years.  
 1807.—Isaac Wardwell, six years; David Smith (3d), one year.  
 1809.—Smith Weed, one year; Simeon H. Minor, Esq., one year; Carey Bell, four years; Seth Smith, six years.  
 1810.—John Weed, Jr., eight years; Henry Hoyt, Jr., one year; Jeremiah Andreas, one year; Abishai Weed, five years.  
 1811.—Timothy Reynolds, four years; John Browning, two years.  
 1812.—Jonathan Brown, three years.  
 1813.—Daniel Lockwood, Jr., eight years.  
 1814.—Isaac Lockwood, Jr., three years.  
 1815.—James Stevens, Esq., three years; Philo Weed, three years.  
 1817.—John Bell, two years; Solomon Clason, three years.  
 1818.—Epenetus Hoyt, five years.  
 1819.\*—Nathaniel Webb, one year; Luther Weed, one year; Isaac Holly, one year.  
 1820.—Dr. Lockwood, one year.  
 1821.—Joseph Wood, Esq., three years; Abashai Scofield, three years.  
 1824.—Jotham Hoyt, six years; Abel Reynolds, six years.  
 1825.—Theodore Davenport, three years.  
 1828.—David Hoyt, one year.  
 1829.—Ezra Knapp, one year.  
 1830.—William Waterbury, two years; Selleck Scofield, twenty years; John Brown, one year.  
 1831.—Royal L. Gay, twenty years.  
 1832.—Benjamin M. Weed, eight years.  
 1839.—Heth Stevens, six years.  
 1841.—Edwin S. Holly, one year; Anzi Scofield, one year.  
 1842.—Ebenezer Lockwood, five years.  
 1847.—Abishai Weed, one year; Nehemiah Hoyt, one year.  
 1851.—Charles Brush, one year; Nathaniel Lockwood, one year.  
 1852.—Philip H. Brown, two years; Isaac Jones, one year; Nelson W. Smith, one year.  
 1853.—Edwin Scofield, Jr., one year; Walter Searls, one year.  
 1854.—Seth Miller, one year; Lorenzo Meeker, one year; Hickford Marshall, three years.  
 1855.—Wells R. Ritch, twelve years; Edward Gay, one year.  
 1856.—George Lounsbury, one year; Charles Brown, one year.  
 1857.—Stephen B. Provost, one year.  
 1858.—Floyd T. Palmer, two years; Josiah Smith, one year.  
 1859.—William Wallace Scofield, six years.  
 1861.—Cephas Stevens, four years.  
 1866.—Charles Gaylor, one year; William R. Lockwood, three years; Lewis Raymond, two years.  
 1867.—Erastus E. Scofield, one year.  
 1868.—E. E. Scofield, W. R. Lockwood, Hickford Marshall.  
 1869.—E. E. Scofield, W. R. Lockwood, Lewis Raymond.

\* From this date there have been but three selectmen.

1870.—S. C. Waterbury, W. A. Keeler, S. B. Hoyt.  
 1871-74.—S. C. Waterbury, S. B. Hoyt, Hiram Curtis.  
 1875.—F. B. Scofield, S. B. Hoyt, Hiram Curtis.  
 1876.—F. B. Scofield, J. A. Peck, H. Curtis.  
 1877-78.—F. B. Scofield, J. A. Peck, L. S. Scofield.  
 1879.—F. B. Scofield, J. A. Peck, S. C. Waterbury.

#### POSTMASTERS IN STAMFORD.

Abraham Davenport, down to 1820; Hon. James Stevens; John Crown; William Hoyt, Jr.; Sands Seeley, twice; Roswell Hoyt, twice; Theodore J. Daskam, since 1861.

#### PROBATE JUDGES.

The district of Stamford is composed of Stamford and Darien; the following are the judges:

Jonathan Hait, Abraham Davenport, John Davenport, Ebenezer Davenport, Joseph Wood, James Stevens, Simeon H. Minor, Charles Hawley, Joshua B. Ferris, Henry A. Mitchell, Ephraim Golden, William T. Minor, Ebenezer Smith, James H. Olmstead, William H. Holly, Julius B. Curtis, Francis A. Marden, John Day Ferguson, Charles Brown, Samuel H. Cohen, John Clason.

#### TOWN CLERKS.

1641-64, Richard Law; 1664-68, Jona. Selleck; 1668-70, John Holly, Sr.; 1670-86, Abram Ambler; 1687-99, Jona. Bell; 1699-1708, Samuel Holly, Sr.; 1708-9, Elisha Holly; 1709-22, Stephen Bishop, Sr.; 1722-38, Lieut. Samuel Weed; 1738-60, Joseph Bishop; 1760-75, Samuel Jarvis; 1775-1806, John Hoyt, Jr.; 1806-19, Samuel Hoyt, Jr.; 1819-43, Seymour Jarvis; 1843, Wm. H. Holly; 1843-44, Roswell Hoyt; 1844-74, Edwin Scofield; 1874-81, Charles E. Holly.

#### GRAND LIST, 1879.

1783 dwelling-houses and lots.....	\$29,953.40
20,788 acres of land.....	11,806.25
117 mills, stores, distilleries and manufactories.....	481,560
910 horses, asses, and mules.....	63,165
1626 neat cattle.....	31,815
Sheep and swine, over \$50; poultry, over \$25.....	370
300 coaches, carriages, and pleasure wagons.....	57,030
Farming tools, exceeding in value \$200.....	600
Mechanics' tools, exceeding in value \$200.....	
Clocks, watches, time-pieces, and jewelry, over \$25.....	23,285
Piano-fortes and other musical instruments, over \$25.....	26,565
Household furniture, exceeding in value \$500.....	77,450
Libraries, over \$200.....	
Fishing apparatus, exceeding in value \$200.....	9,360
Quarries, fisheries, and mines.....	338,552
Bank stock.....	
State, canal, and all other stock (except U. S. and railroad in this State).....	62,125
Railroad, city, and corporation bonds.....	246,625
Amount employed in merchandising and trade.....	213,925
Investment in mechanical and manufacturing operations.....	248,675
Investments in vessels, steamboats, and commerce.....	43,730
Money at interest in this State and elsewhere.....	260,185
Money on hand, exceeding \$100.....	29,609
All other taxable property not specially mentioned.....	200,377
Ten per cent. additional on lists not given in and attested.....	92,038
Poll-tax.....	708
Military.....	1,398

#### POPULATION.

Year.	Population.
1665.....	420
1676.....	405
1687.....	410
1700.....	585
1714.....	905
1745.....	1,510
1756.....	2,648
1760.....	2,580
1800.....	4,465
1810.....	4,440
1820.....	3,284
1830.....	3,705
1840.....	3,516
1850.....	4,965
1860.....	7,185
1870.....	9,714
1880.....	11,417

In 1868, including Darien and the part of New Canaan once in the town, the population would not be less than 11,000.

† L. Scofield died, and H. Curtis appointed in place.

## CHAPTER LXXIII.

## STAMFORD (Continued).

## ECCLESIASTICAL.

First Church of Christ in Stamford—Long Ridge Congregational Church—Congregation of North Stamford—Saint John's Episcopal—St. Andrew's Chapel—Emmanuel Church, Shinoh—Baptist Churches—Methodist Episcopal Church—Methodist Episcopal Church, High Ridge—Long Ridge Methodist Episcopal Church—Bangall Chapel—Hamburg Ridge Chapel—Universalist Church, Long Ridge—Stamford Universalist Church—Catholic Church—First Presbyterian Church.

## FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN STAMFORD.\*

"THE first known records of this church, distinct from the town records, were those begun by Mr. Welles, at his ordination, Dec. 31, 1746. He prepared the folio in which the records were to be kept, as if for a permanent depository of all the doings of the church in Stamford. Its title page, in large round hand, reads:

"Notitia Parochialis Stamfordiensis  
or  
Stanford Church records,  
Begun Jan. 1st, A.D. 1747.

By Noah Welles, who under the conduct of divine providence was called to office by the church and society in said Stamford, and by ordination fixed in the work of the gospel ministry there. The day of my ordination and solemn investiture according to divine institution, by fasting and prayer with the imposition of the hands of the presbytery, the elders of the churches of Christ in the western association of Fairfield County; The Rev. Messrs. Noah Hobart, John Goodsel, Benjamin Strong, Jonathan Ingersol, and Moses Mather, was Dec. 31, 1746.

"N.B. In the following records the year begins with the 1st day of January, being the day after my ordination."

"The first record made is that of all the names of those who were in full communion in the church at the time of his ordination. That list, just as it appears on the third and fourth pages of the records, is as follows: Jonathan Hait, Esq., Deacon, Samuel Hait, Esq., Deacon, Jonathan Maltbie, Esq., Benjamin Hait, Samuel Blatchley, Samuel Scofield, Benjamin Weed, Lieut. Daniel Weed, Stephen Ambler, Deacon Joseph Bishop, James Bishop, Benjamin Bunnell, Jonathan Waterbury, Jonathan Clason, Ebenezer Hait, John Scofield, Thomas Waterbury, Miles Weed, Nehemiah Bates, Abraham Davenport, Esq., Deacon David Bishop, Capt. Bishop, E. Bishop, Joseph Webb, Lieut. Nathaniel Webb, Nathan Hait, Nathan Bishop, Benjamin Weed, junr., Esq., Daniel Weed, junr., Daniel Weed, 3d, Joshua Lounsbury, John Scofield, junr., Nathaniel Stevens, Epenetus Lounsbury, Josiah Scofield, Charles Scofield, Reuben Scofield, Israel Bordman, Zebulun Husted, Nathan Scofield, Baptist, Abraham Hait, Peter Knap, Benjamin Jones, Ebenezer Scofield,

Charles Bishop, Miles Scofield, Lieut. John Bates, John Weed, Ebenezer Weed, jr., Timothy Curtis, Josiah Holly, Joseph Judson, Epenetus Webb, Benjamin Hait, junr., Ensign Charles Knap, David Hait, Jagger Hait, Hezekiah Weed, (1769) Joseph Scofield, Ensign Israel Weed, Thomas Potts, Jonas Scofield, Jeremiah Hait, Gideon Lounsbury, Episcopal, Capt. Amos Weed, Nathan Lounsbury, Joseph Husted, Nathaniel Cressy, Reuben Weed, Joseph Finch, Jonathan Garnsey, Lieut. Hezekiah Weed, jr., Ezekial Roberts, Quaker, Samuel Weed. Whole number, 75 males.

"Madam Davenport, Hannah, Dan, We of David; Sarah, wife of Nathan Scofield; Ruth Bishop; W'w of Deacon Hait; W'w Burnham; Mary, wife of Lieut. Eb. Weed; Elizab. we of Lieut. Danl. Weed; W'w Hait; Mrs. Blatchely, we of Saml.; Elizab. W'e of Benj. Hait; Millescent, W'e of Col. Hait; Experience, W'e of Sam'l Ferris; W'w Blatchely, W'e of Abr'm Hait; Rose, W'e of Joseph Weed; Mary, W'e of Sam'l Hait, Esq.; Deborah, W'e of Stephen Ambler; Wife of Lieut. Waterbury; W'e Bishop, of Capt. Bishop, W'w Blackman, w'e of Josiah; W'w Martha Leeds; Azubah, W'e of Simeon June; W'w Hannah Thorp; Sarah, W'e of Jona. Maltby, Esq.; Mary, W'e of Chs. Sturges; Elizabeth, W'e of Jona. Clason; Mary Bishop; Sarah, W'e of Josiah Scofield; Deborah, W'e of Lieut. N. Webb; Elizab., dau. of Lieut. D. Weed; Hannah Slason; Mary, W'e of Lieut. Ezra Smith; Elizabeth Jessup; Mary, W'e of Josiah Scofield; Joanna, W'e of Miles Weed; Hannah, W'e of Jos. Lounsbury; Susanna, W'e of Nehem Bates; Hannah, W'e of Abr'm Hait; Sarah, W'e of James Bell; Rebecca, W'e of Samuel Weed; Sarah, W'e of Jno. Lockwood; Hannah, W'e of Samuel Weed, jun.; W'w Susanna Waterbury; Mary, W'e of Benj. Weed, jun.; Marg., W'e of Ebenr. Hait; Lydia, W'e of Seremiah Hait; Abigail, W'e of Reub. Scofield; Sarah Hait; Lydia, W'e of Reub. Weed; Mrs. Sarah Slayd; Abigail, W'e of David Dibble; Wid. Abigail Clason; Kezia, W'e of Daniel Weed, 3d; Ruth, W'e of Nathan Brown; Anna, W'e of Nath'l Brown; Abigail, W'e of Zab. Hustead; Mary, W'e of Peter Knap; Susanna, W'e of Dan'l Weed; Mary, W'e of Ebenezer Scofield; Mary, W'e of Chris'n Sturgis; Hannah, W'e of Sam'l Scofield; Rachel Lounsbury, W'e of J. Scofield; Abigail Lounsbury; Deborah, W'e of Jonath. Garnsey; Bethia Brown; Sarah, W'e of Dan'l Lockwood; Rebecca, W'e of Jos. Gales; Hannah, W'e of Lieut. Sam'l Scofield; Susanna, W'e of Timothy Curtis; Sarah, W'e of Capt. Knap; Mrs. Hannah Wright; Martha, W'e of Jos. Smith, now of B. Weed, Esq.; Mercy, W'e of Jona. Weed; Mercy, W'e of Quinton Patch; Sarah, dau. of Jonas Weed; Elizabeth Hunt; Eliz., W'e of Sam'l Scofield; Mary Holly; Deborah Webb, now We of Dan'l Smith; Mary, W'e of Charles Buxton; Abigail, W'e of Wm. Blanchard; Abigail, W'e of Richard Webb; Rebecca, W'e of

\* Condensed from Huntington's History.



Jona. Ayres; Deborah, W'e of Jos. Husted; Kezia, W'e of Jas. Roberts; Thankful, dau. of Mrs. Weed; Martha, W'e of — Waring; Hannah, W'e of Jas. Scofield; Elizab. Bishop; Esther, W'e of Dan'l Whiting; Mary Bouton; Bethia Scofield; Mary Lounsbury; Sarah, W'e of Gershom Mead; Mary, W'e of Sergt. Jno. Scofield; Mary, dau. of Sergt. Sam'l Scofield; Mrs. Hannah Mather; Hannah Dan, W'e David; Mary, W'e Benj. Jones. Whole No. 99 Females. Total, 174.

"The above list comprises probably all the resident members of this first church of Stamford in 1746.

"Dr. Welles continued here until his death, in 1776. Under his ministry there was a steady growth of the church.

"The three town notables of that day, Col. Jonathan Hoyt, Capt. Jonathan Maltby, and Mr. Abraham Davenport, were made a committee to 'manage that affair.' A few years later, 1762, the society add a hundred pounds of new metal to the bell, and have it run anew. The clock seems to have been a bill of expense and trouble to them, and it was soon removed.

"Another innovation was introduced in 1747. The society, probably out of regard to the wishes of their new pastor, voted to change the form of their service of song in the sanctuary; and this change took place, both in the First Church at the centre and in the new church in Middlesex parish, now Darien. The vote of the First Society in 1747 is: 'Per vote, the society agree to sing according to regular singing, called ye new way of singing, in ye public worship of God.' The vote in the Middlesex society was: 'Yt Mr. Jonathan Bell, or any other man agreed upon to sing or tune ye salm in his absence, in times of publicht worship, may tune it in ye old way or new, which sutes you best.'

"This change from the old to the new way of singing had been introduced in 1721. The eight or nine tunes brought over with the pioneers 'had become barbarously perverted,' and Rev. Thomas Walter, of Roxbury, Mass., composer in that year, published 'The Grounds and Rules of Music Explained; or, an Introduction to the Art of Singing by Note.' The treatise 'contained twenty-four tunes, harmonized in three parts.'

"In 1750 one other innovation seems to have completed the changes which were deemed of absolute need. After due deliberation, doubtless, 'the society agrees that Doctor Watteses avartion of ye psalms shall be introduced into ye prsbeterian congation.'

"Dr. Welles died in 1776, after the struggle of our Revolution had fairly begun; and the church was left without a pastor until its close.

"The last record in the fair handwriting of Dr. Welles bears date Dec. 8, 1775, and simply preserves the appointment of Stephen Bishop as deacon in the church.

"Several candidates, it would seem, officiated here after Dr. Welles' decease. The church has no record

to show that they invited either of them to settle. The society, in 1780, make application to Rev. Mr. Kettletas to supply the pulpit, if possible; and from baptisms performed during this interval, he probably preached some months.

"The peculiar language employed in the records of the society of date March 24, 1777, would suggest that they were not prepared to settle any one as pastor. By 1781 they had evidently become tired of being without a settled minister, and formally voted to endeavor to settle one. They vote, also, to apply to Rev. Mr. Searl to accept the pastorate.

"In August, 1777, they unanimously vote to settle Rev. John Avery. They vote him a hundred pounds annually, for three years, in silver or gold, and to give him three hundred pounds also, in three equal payments, and after the third year to give him one hundred and twenty-five pounds annually.

"The Rev. John Avery was ordained Jan. 16, 1782, and the record is again resumed.

"Mr. Avery continued to preach here until September, 1791, in which month his death occurred. The last records made by his hand are of September 4th, in this year, the one enrolling Abraham Smith as member of the church, and the other witnessing the marriage of John Larkin and Elizabeth Hoyt.

"April 11, 1792, the society unanimously vote Mr. Coe a call to settle, on a salary of one hundred and fifty pounds; and the committee were to write to Mr. Coe and to the Presbytery of New York to inform them of the proceedings. The church, on the 13th of the same month, after listening to Mr. Coe, vote also, unanimously, to approve the call. The answer of Mr. Coe does not appear in the records of either the church or society. Daniel Smith was ordained pastor of the church June 13, 1793.

"A new house on the corner of Atlantic and Bank Streets was dedicated Sept. 23, 1858.

"The following is a list of ministers who have served this church from its organization: Richard Denton, 1641-44; John Bishop, 1644-94; John Davenport, 1694-1731; Ebenezer Wright, ordained in 1732, and died here in May, 1746; Noah Welles, D.D., ordained Dec. 31, 1746, and died here Dec. 31, 1776; Abraham Kettletas, preacher in 1780. He was licensed by Fairfield East Association in 1756; John Avery, ordained Jan. 16, 1782, and died here in September, 1791; Daniel Smith, ordained June 13, 1793, and died here, 1846; John W. Alvord, installed colleague with Mr. Smith, March 16, 1842, and dismissed Oct. 14, 1846; Isaac Jennings, installed Sept. 1, 1847, and dismissed April 28, 1853; James Hoyt, preacher from June, 1853, to January, 1855; Henry B. Elliot, installed Dec. 4, 1855, and dismissed July 6, 1858; Joseph Anderson was called Dec. 9, 1858, installed March 27, 1860, and dismissed Feb. 26, 1861; Leonard W. Bacon, pastor-elect from Nov. 17, 1861, until January, 1865; Richard B. Thurston, G. B. Wilcox, Samuel Scovel."

## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, NORTH STAMFORD.

"This church was organized June 4, 1782, and consisted of twenty-two members, as follows:

"Benjamin Weed, Ebenezer Weed, Zebulon Husted, Amos Weed, Israel Weed, Joseph Ambler, John McCullum, Ebenezer Dean, Miles Weed, Reuben Scofield, Mercy Hoyt, Elizabeth Ambler, Abigail Weed, Kezia Dean, Mary McCullum, Mercy Hoyt, Jr., Prudence Weed, Sarah Seeley, Elizabeth Scofield, Rebecca Ayres, Rebecca Curtis, and Rebecca Beedle.

"Previously to this date the celebrated Dr. Samuel Hopkins, of Newport, R. I., who had left his parish when the British took possession of the town in 1776, and who had come to Stamford in 1778 to supply the pulpit of his deceased classmate, Dr. Welles, had been also supplying this pulpit for about a year and a half. He left in 1780, and the church was supplied with temporary preachers until March 23, 1784, when Solomon Wolcott was ordained first pastor. He continued to labor until his dismissal, June 21, 1785.

"The other ministers of this parish have been: John Shepperd, ordained June 27, 1787, and dismissed June 11, 1794; Amzi Lewis, installed June 17, 1795, and died here April 5, 1819; Henry Fuller, installed June 6, 1821, and dismissed Jan. 23, 1844; Nathaniel Pierson, preached here from April, 1844, to January, 1846; William H. Magie, from January, 1846, to January, 1849; William E. Catlin, from March, 1849, to March, 1850; F. E. M. Bachelor, for several months in 1850 and 1851; Livingston Willard, installed March, 1852, and dismissed in June, 1856; John White supplied the pulpit from May, 1857, to October, 1858; W. S. Clark, 1859-61; H. T. Ford, 1862; Roswell Smith, 1863-64; H. L. Teller, 1866-68; Josiah Peabody, 1868-73; R. H. Wilkin, 1874-75; Jesse Brush, 1876-80; R. J. Billings, 1880, present pastor. The church building was burned, and has since been rebuilt."

## LONG RIDGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

"About the year 1840 a union church was built on Long Ridge, which the Congregational portion of the community secured in 1842, when they organized a church and society. The names of the members of the church were Isaac Ayres, Jared Holly, Charles E. Smith, William L. Holly, Alfred Ayres, Ransford A. Ferris, Polly Holly, Harriet M. Holly, Sally Scofield, Harriet E. Ayres, Hannah R. Raymond, Mary W. Smith, Ann M. Holly, Lydia Ferris, Clarissa Smith, and Phebe Scofield.

Rev. Frederick H. Ayres was engaged to supply the pulpit, commencing his ministry Nov. 6, 1842, and preaching until 1853.

From that time meetings have been kept up for the most of the time, the church having enjoyed the labors of the following ministers, none of whom have been installed: Mr. Perry, Augustus B. Collins, John Smith, Ezra D. Kinney, Dennis Platt, — Timloe, — Gilbert, and S. C. Fessenden, present pastor."

## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.\*

"The first services according to the rites of the Episcopal Church held in Stamford were conducted by Rev. Henry Caner in the winter of 1726-27.

"In 1738 a very earnest and lengthy plea was sent to the General Assembly of Connecticut, asking that the members of the Church of England in the State might be excused from paying for the support of the Congregational mode of worship. This plea has attached to it the signatures of 636 Episcopalians in nine towns. Fifty of these names are from Stamford and Greenwich. They are Gershom Lockwood, Samuel Mills, Caleb Knapp, John Lockwood, William King, Henry Jones, Benjamin Knapp, James Knapp, Joseph Knapp, Jeremy Peck, Hezekiah Lockwood, Jonathan Lockwood, Jonathan Austen, Thomas Johnson, Thomas Ballis, David Reynolds, John Avery, John Johnson, John —, James Wilson, Benjamin Young, Robert Arnold, John Burley, Nathaniel Hubbard, Peter Demill, John Finch, Benjamin Day, John Hicks, Mills Riggs, Israel Knapp, Charles Southerland, Richard Charlton, Samuel Morine, Isaac Quintard, Joseph Barton, Nathaniel Lockwood, John Kirkham, Nathaniel Worden, Thomas Roberts, and Abraham Rundal, Jr. The above list is preceded by this memorandum:

"Under the care of Rev. Mr. Wetmore. The subscribers belonging to Greenwich and Stamford to be annexed to the general address of the members and professors of the Church of England, in the colony of Connecticut, To the Honorable General Court, in May, 1738; which address having been communicated to us, the subscribers, we hereunto sign our names."

"In addition to the above-named address, these Stamford petitioners drew up a plea of their own, of more than three closely-written foolscap pages, urgently demanding at least a partial exemption from the tax imposed upon them to support a ministry which they could not approve. They asked that at least they might be allowed to join with those of their own church in a neighboring colony (Greenwich), and that they might use their tax for the support of the ministers of their own choice in that colony, 'provided, always, that the said minister's settled abode and residence be within five miles of this colony, and that by officiating alternately in each colony he performs divine service at least twelve times in the year in this colony.' In addition to the preceding names, this special petition has the following: Abraham Nichols, John Matthews, and Nathaniel Worden, Jr.

"The petition was negatived in both houses of the Legislature. In 1740 the Rev. James Wetmore was preaching in Stamford once in four weeks, and this seems to have been the only Episcopal service held at that time in the town.

"The following votes of the town give us our only knowledge of the progress made by the Episcopalians at this time. The first was under date of Dec. 2,

\* Condensed from Huntington's History.



1742, and is in answer to an appeal made by the Episcopalians for a grant of land on which to build:

"The town agree to put in a committee to view the place by Mr. Eliphalet Holly's where the professors of the Church of England have petitioned for setting a church house, whether it may be granted without damage to the town, and to make return to the adjourned town meeting; and Ensign Jonathan Bell, Sergeant Nathaniel Weed, and Joseph Bishop to be the court for the purpose aforesaid."

"The result of the examination made by the committee appears under date of Dec. 10, 1742:

"The town agree to give the professors of the Church of England a piece of land, to set a church house upon, on the hill between the widow Holly's house and Nathan Stevens' house—the piece of land to be 45 feet long, east and west, and to be 35 feet wide, when the committee shall lay it out; the committee to be Ensign Jona. Bell, Sergeant Nathaniel Weed, and Joseph Bishop."

"The lot granted, as above, to the Episcopalians was the southeast corner of the present lot held by St. John's Parish, in front of their parsonage. On this lot the first church was built. It was so far finished in March, 1747, that it could be used.

"Mr. Wetmore seems to have been succeeded by the Rev. Henry Caner, of Fairfield, who, with his brother Richard, of Norwalk, and a Mr. Miner, supplied the Episcopalians with what preaching or service they had down to the commencement of Mr. Ebenezer Dibble's long and successful ministry.

"In 1746 we find Mr. Caner, of Fairfield, bitterly lamenting the want of ministers for both Norwalk and Stamford. He reports both places as losing ground, for want of a more constant service than he can supply.

"Rev. Mr. Dibble was rector in 1748. In 1757 he reports his parish united and prosperous. He says: 'We have sundry accessions to the church since my last of the 29th of September.'

"John Lloyd, the same, doubtless, whose name appears as one of the vestry of the church in 1759, in consideration of £343 6s. 11d., received from St. George Talbot, Esq., of Barn Island, N. Y., makes over 'to the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts' two tracts of land, one of eighteen acres one rood and twenty-three rods, in Northfield, on the west side of Mill River; and the other of four acres, twenty-nine, at North Street, bounded south by North Street, west by Church of England parsonage, and east by highway. These lands, by the terms of the surrender, were 'to be and inure to the use of the missionary, for the time being, the rector or incumbent of St. John's Church, and his successors, as the glebe lands of the Church of England in said Stamford.'

"Under the administration of Mr. Dibble and his successors the parish was greatly prospered. Their first house of worship answered for the use of the congregation until 1843, when the present church was built, where it now stands. This, in its turn, was soon found too small, and was enlarged in 1855 to its present dimensions. But even this enlarge-

ment was not found to answer the needs of the parish long, and May 14, 1860, they were called to lay the corner-stone of their new mission chapel, St. Andrew's, between Washington Avenue and Northfield Street. The only rectors of this period were Revs. Jonathan Judd and Ambrose S. Todd. From the summer of 1858, the labors of Dr. Todd having become too great for his failing strength, the parish employed an assistant, Rev. Walter Mitchell, then in deacon's orders, and who was ordained priest April 27, 1859.

"Dr. Todd continued in the rectorship of the parish until his death, June 22, 1861; and his assistant, Mr. Mitchell, was instituted rector Nov. 13, 1861. Under his rectorship the church was increasingly prosperous. He was assisted by Rev. F. W. Braithwaite. On the resignation of Mr. Mitchell, in 1866, Rev. William Tatlock entered on the rectorship, Aug. 30, 1866. He is assisted by the Rev. Joseph W. Hyde. The continued prosperity of the parish is evinced by the building of Emmanuel church at Shinoh in 1867, to meet the wants of the northeast part of the parish.

"The following is the list of the clergy who have officiated in this parish, as far as the records of the church and contemporaneous history have furnished their names: James Wetmore, 1735–41; Henry Caner, 1744–47; Ebenezer Dibble, D.D., 1747–97; Calvin White, 1798; J. H. Reynolds, S. Wheaton, and Ammi Rogers, the latter of whom was degraded from the ministry by Bishop Jarvis, in 1804; Jonathan Judd, instituted rector Oct. 10, 1810, and resigned in 1822; Bennet Glover; Ambrose Todd, D.D.; Walter Mitchell, instituted rector Nov. 13, 1861, and resigned Feb. 4, 1866; William Tatlock, instituted rector Aug. 30, 1866."

#### ST. ANDREW'S CHAPEL.

"The corner-stone of this chapel, between Washington Avenue and Northfield Street, was laid May 14, 1860, and the house was finished and consecrated May 8, 1861. The persons who have officiated at this chapel have been Thomas W. Punnett, who in November, 1861, accepted the rectorship of St. Paul's Church, Staten Island, and Arthur Mason, Nathaniel E. Whiting, and F. Windsor Braithwaite, who was ordained deacon in St. Andrew's chapel June 17, 1862, and ordained priest June 17, 1865. About the same time St. Andrew's was organized into an independent parish, and Mr. Braithwaite was called to be rector, and is the present incumbent."

#### EMMANUEL CHURCH, SHINOH.

"The corner-stone of this church was laid June 29, 1867. This neat Gothic structure, of stone, was built by the Missionary and Benevolent Society of St. John's, as a chapel of the parish church. It stands on the New Hope road, about three miles from the village."

## BAPTIST CHURCHES.\*

"The first item of information respecting the Baptists in this town is a statement made in 1769 by Ebenezer Ferris. He had united with the Congregational Church, here, with his wife, Abigail, Feb. 12, 1769, and by October 27th of the same year he had become so far convinced of the invalidity of his baptism as to seek immersion at the hands of Elder Gano, of New York City. His own statement of the change is as follows:

"Having been some time exercised in mind in disputes upon religious subjects, searching the Scriptures for understanding, and becoming convinced that the Baptists, in their practice, are agreeable to the order of the gospel, (I) made application to the Baptist Church in New York, under the pastoral care of Elder Gano. Desiring to unite with them in the privileges of the gospel, after being examined, they manifested their freedom. Was baptized Oct. 27, 1769, and received into church fellowship."

"From the same records we learn that Elder Gano, in April, 1770, preached here, and baptized Nathan Scofield and John Ferris, of Stanwich, the former having been a member of the Congregational Church from the settlement of Dr. Welles, in 1647. In June he came again, and baptized Nehemiah Brown and David Wilson, of Horseneck, and Moses Reynolds, of Stanwich.

"In the following March, 1770-71, the persons above named, as being baptized 'with Moses Fountain, a Baptist, who lately came to this place, having joined the church of New York, our number (seven) was by said church considered as a branch of the same, residing in Stamford; and to have the privilege of having ordinances of the gospel administered here by the Elder Gano, and to receive into church fellowship such persons as should be judged meet subjects by this branch and the elder.'

"It was further provided that Mr. Gano should preach here once a month for six months; upon which the branch 'agreed to meet stately on Lord's day, for public worship, at the house of Moses Fountain. Begun first in April, 1771.'

"The following persons were baptized during this year: Oliver Sherwood, of Horseneck; James Winchel, Elizabeth Davis, Hannah Ferris, Rebecca Reynolds, of Stanwich; Elizabeth Rowel, of Horseneck; Mindal Smith, of Bedford; William Brundage and Nathan Sutton, of Horseneck,—making the number, at the end of 1771, sixteen.

"In July of this year Ebenezer Ferris had been chosen deacon. The record states that of the above persons Mindal Smith had been previously baptized.

"Deacon Ferris purchased a piece of land in October, 1771, for a church site, for which he paid £4 10s., York money; and on this site the frame of the first Baptist church this side of New York was raised, June 11, 1772. The same frame stands on the same lot, in the Bangall district, to this day. It is the only surviving representative in town of the almost uni-

versal type of the 'Lord's house' which prevailed in New England a hundred and fifty years ago.

"On the 6th of November, 1773, those Baptists who were living in this vicinity were organized into a separate church, Elder Gano being present, and giving them 'the right hand of fellowship.' The list of the new church numbered twenty-one names. They are Ebenezer Ferris, Ezariah Winchel, Nathan Scofield, John Ferris, Nehemiah Brown, Sylvanus Reynolds, Gabriel Higgins, Joseph Webb, Jonathan Whelpley, Moses Reynolds, John Higgins, Elizabeth Brown, Mindal Smith, Hannah Ferris, Rebecca Reynolds, Mary Reynolds, Elizabeth Davis, Mary Miller, Sarah Higgins, Esther Smith, and Hannah Tyler.

"The ministers who labored here for the next ten years were Elder Coles, 1773; Thomas Ustic, 1775; President Manning, of Providence, 1775; and Robert Morris. Mr. Morris had been licensed by the church to preach, in 1776, but he became loose in his doctrinal views, and in 1780 his license was withdrawn, and he was excommunicated. In October of this year, Elkanah Holmes, of Nine Partners, came here and took the charge. His family followed him the next spring, and he continued here until October, 1784. Mr. Ferris, who had well discharged the office of a deacon, was also thought worthy of the ministerial office, and accordingly, in October, 1783, he was licensed to preach, and on the 3d of the next July he was ordained formally to the work of the gospel ministry.

"Elder Ferris remained in charge of the Stamford Church for the rest of his life.

"The Baptists in the lower part of the town, becoming more numerous, demanded a place of worship nearer than the one on Fort Hill, and accordingly, on the 24th of June, 1790, they raised the second Baptist house of the town, on the lot on River Street, a few rods south of the bridge. This house—similar in form to that on Fort Hill—gave way, in 1856, to a neat church, and this, in 1860, on the completion of the present elegant house on the corner of Broad and Atlantic Streets, was converted into the block now overlooking our village pond.

"In 1791, Marmaduke Earl assisted Mr. Ferris.

"The old church on Fort Hill was finally, in 1806, transferred to the Long Ridge Baptists, and became the Second Baptist Church of Stamford.

"The ministers of this church who have officiated since Mr. Earl's co-pastorship with Mr. Ferris have been Frederick Smith, co-pastor, from August, 1807, to February, 1817; Greenleaf S. Webb, co-pastor, from June, 1816, to April, 1821; John Ellis, pastor, from December, 1822, to October, 1836; William Bidle, from October, 1836, to January, 1839; James M. Stickney, from April, 1839, to April, 1842; Addison Parker, from April, 1843, to April, 1845; Henry H. Rouse, from November, 1845, to April, 1848; James Hepburn; J. H. Parks, to the union of this and the Bethesda Church.

\* Condensed from Huntington's History.



"In 1848, the Bethesda Baptist Church was organized, by sixty-two members from the First Church. They built on the corner of Atlantic and Cottage Streets, where they continued a separate organization until the two were happily reunited in 1858.

"On the organization of the Bethesda Church, in 1848, Mr. Rouse became the pastor of the new church, where he continued to officiate until January, 1857.

"Alanson H. Bliss succeeded him, and remained until the reunion of the two churches, in October, 1858.

"At the union of these two village churches, disposing of the two lots and church buildings which they owned, they purchased a lot on the corner of Broad and Atlantic Streets, and erected the elegant brick structure which now stands there. Its cornerstone was laid in August, 1859, and the house was dedicated.

"Its two pastors have been Philip S. Evans, installed in November, 1858, and resigned in 1865, and Edward Lathrop, D.D., who was installed Feb. 22, 1866.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.\*

"There seems to have been no record of the early Methodist movement in this vicinity, and it is doubtful whether any was made for several years after this denomination began its labors here. The earliest records now existing are those begun in 1830 by Rev. Daniel De Vinne, who was then stationed here. He introduces his records with a historical sketch, from which I take the following statement:

"The first regular society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this town was formed about the year 1788. What circumstance led our ministers to this place, who was the first preacher, or who formed the first class, cannot at present be ascertained. But it is most probable that it was the Rev. Samuel Q. Talbot or Peter Moriarty, who traveled on the New Rochelle Circuit. The next year, 1789, the Rev. Jesse Lee and Andrew Van Nostrand were appointed to Stamford Circuit. On their arrival at this place they found kindred spirits, who had drunk at the same fountain with themselves,—Sister Elsie Scofield, who is now (1830) living, had been awakened by his ministry in this village, at the house of Mr. Gurnsey, some years previous to 1791, the time at which she joined the infant society in this place; Mrs. Martha Reed, who has been awakened by the ministry of the Rev. Freeborn Garretson, in Shelburn, Nova Scotia, settling in this village in 1790. Immediately on her arrival she attached herself to the class, which consisted of about twelve, over which one Enos Weed was placed as leader. The stated meetings were held at the house of a Mr. Lockwood, now owned by Mrs. Smith, near the present Methodist Episcopal church; and the preachers were entertained by Gen. Waterbury, near the harbor, whose wife and sister were members.

"Mr. Isaac Reed, who during the Revolutionary war had become a Christian, joined the church at the same time, with his wife, and invited the congregation and ministers to hold their public meetings in his house. In this place the ark of Methodism rested for nineteen years, and this excellent family subjected themselves, during all this time, to the inconvenience of accommodating, almost weekly, meetings, supporting the preachers and their horses, and also furnishing more than their quota of traveling expenses.

"After frequent petitions, the town, which was at that time under the influence of the Congregational order, granted to the 'Fanatics' a place—a mud-hole—on the commons on which to build a church. About 1813 the church was finished and dedicated, and six years after was cleared of debt."

"Such, probably, was the origin of this enterprising denomination of Christians in this village. Our town records show that the selectmen were empowered, Feb. 17, 1814, 'to give a lease for ninety-nine years to the trustees of the Methodist Society of a spot of ground near the dwelling-house of Fred. Hoyt, on the west side of the old burying-ground, for the purpose of erecting a meeting-house.' This must have been the 'mud-hole' referred to in the preceding statement. It was a little to the east of the present site of the Methodist church on the park, and the frame of that first church still stands on River Street, the second house from the corner of Park Place.

"The only names on the record of this church for thirty years are the following: Martha Reed, Elsy Scofield, Lanney Garnsey, Jonathan Brown, Ezra Garnsey, John Thompson, William Waterbury, Lois Waterbury, Hannah Brown, Richard Scofield, Hephzibah Scofield, Joseph Selleck, Phebe Selleck, Solomon Smith, Polly Smith, Isaac Wardwell, Jane Weeks, Mary Trowbridge, Joanna Augusta Devinnie, Nancy H. Lockwood, James H. Trowbridge, Phebe Adams, Nancy Knapp, and Margaret Valentine.

"The second Methodist church built in the village was finished and dedicated Oct. 12, 1843. It stood northwest of the first house, where it was used by the society until 1859.

"The present Methodist church was dedicated Feb. 16, 1859.

"The following is a list of the ministers of this denomination, so far as we have been able to secure them: 1788, S. Q. Talbot and P. Moriarty; 1789, Jesse Lee and Andrew Van Nostrand; 1790, Freeborn Garretson; 1812, Samuel Luckey; 1813, Thomas Drummond and Benjamin Griffin; 1814, Phineas Rice and Benjamin Griffin; 1815, Coles Carpenter and Theodosius Clark; 1816, Theodosius Clark and Aaron Hunt; 1817, John Reynolds, two years; 1819, John M. Smith and Samuel D. Ferguson; 1820, Elisha P. Jacob and John M. Smith; 1821, John B. Matthias, two years; 1822, Eli Denniston, two years; 1823, Jarvis Z. Nichols; 1824, Nathaniel Porter and Noble W. Thomas, two years; 1825, Cyrus Foss; 1826, Elijah Woolsey, two years, and Luman Andrews; 1827, Samuel U. Fisher, two years; 1828, Daniel De Vinne, two years; 1829, Edward Oldren; 1830, Samuel Corcoran and Daniel I. Wright, two years; 1831, Henry Hatfield, two years; 1832, John Lovejoy; 1833, E. Hibbard, Abraham S. Francis, and George Brown; 1834, Oliver V. Ammerman and Charles Stearns; 1835, Richard Seaman and Zachariah Davenport; 1836, A. S. Hill, two years, and D. B. Ostrander, Jr.; 1837, William Gothard, two years; 1838, Edward Oldren, two years; 1839, S. J. Stebbins, two years; 1840, John Tackerbury; 1842, George Brown; 1844, Peter C. Oakley; 1846, Aaron Rodgers; 1850, Friend W. Smith; 1852, Albert Nash; 1854, Samuel Smith; 1856, George Dunbar; 1858, Robert M. Hatfield, D.D.; 1860, L. S. Weed, D.D.; 1862, Thomas Burch, D.D.;

\* From Huntington's History.

1864, E. G. Andrews, D.D.; 1867, William C. Steele, Dr. J. M. Bulkley, J. S. Willis, J. M. Bulkley, George E. Reed.

#### HIGHRIDGE.

"From the historical sketch drawn up by Mr. De Vinne in 1830, we learn that this organization, then called the Dantown Church, is the oldest Methodist Church on the Stamford Circuit. We learn, also, that the Stamford Circuit is the oldest circuit in New England. It appears that one Henry Eames, who had been converted under Wesley's preaching in Ireland, came to this country and settled in the south part of Poundridge. He soon gathered about him a number 'of the sons in the gospel of his spiritual Father, and invited them to his house.' These became the nucleus of a church and society.

"Some time in the year 1787 the Rev. Samuel Q. Talbot, stationed on New Rochelle Circuit, came to these neglected parts, preached in several places, and formed several in a class, some of whom remain to this day (1830).

"The first house of worship built by this society stood just across the Stamford line, in Poundridge, where the church held their meetings until 1841, when the present chapel was built for them on Highridge. The only two names now on the records of the Dantown Church for the year 1787 are Samuel and Ruhamah Dann. In 1797 these two are added: Sarah Selleck and Hannah Deforest; and in 1799 these four: John Slauson, Rhoda Slauson, Enoch Stevens, and Ruhamah Bishop.

"The Stamford Circuit was already organized before 1790, the year in which the three circuits of New Haven, Hartford, and Litchfield were established, and when, according to the "Contributions to the Ecclesiastical History of Connecticut," there were but four Methodist ministers in New England. The ministers of this church have been the same as those who have officiated at Huntingridge and Poundridge. The present pastor is Rev. A. R. Goodenow.

#### LONG RIDGE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

"My account of this church is also taken from the records of the Stamford Circuit, as made out in 1830 by Mr. De Vinne: 'About the year 1809, Mrs. Phebe Mead moved into this neighborhood, and, finding no religious meetings, invited the Methodist ministers to come and preach at her house. The first who accepted the invitation and preached was Daniel Welpley, a local preacher. Some time after him the Rev. Eben Smith occasionally visited the place and preached.

"When the Rev. John Reynolds was appointed to this circuit, he preached here some time steadily, although it was even to a single family. About the year 1819, when the Rev. John M. Smith traveled, the preaching was moved to the school-house, in which place it has continued ever since; that is, until 1830."

#### BANGALL CHAPEL.

"This chapel was built before 1834."

#### HUNTING RIDGE.

"This chapel was built in 1850, the Rev. Walter W. Brewer having previously labored successfully for two years in gathering a congregation on the Ridge. Mr. Brewer subsequently made the Ridge his home, where he died, in 1868, much esteemed for his piety and usefulness, and among the ministers who have officiated since then have been Miles Olmstead, Joseph Heuton, John A. Silleck, Harvey Husted, T. D. Littlewood, William Crawford, William Ross, — Monson, — Maguire, and Rev. A. R. Goodenow."

#### UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, LONG RIDGE.\*

"For the following facts, respecting this society, I am indebted to Rev. Eber Francis, formerly of this town:

"During the Revolutionary war, Richard Sibley, a Universalist, came from Long Island and settled on Long Ridge; and, so far as is known, he was the first resident who openly avowed Universalist sentiments in the town. Solomon Glover, of Newtown, Conn., a few years later, came down occasionally and preached in the school-house on the Ridge. Mr. Ferris, Mr. Dykeman, Mr. Babbitt, and Thomas F. King were successively employed as preachers on the circuit to which Long Ridge belonged. This Mr. King was father of the late lamented lecturer and preacher, T. Starr King, of San Francisco. From the removal of Mr. King in 1825 to 1832 there was no stated preaching here. Rev. Shaler J. Hillyer was settled here at this date, preaching a part of the time.

"The formal organization of the society bears date April 27, 1833. Fourteen persons gave in their names to constitute the society.

"Of them the late Ebenezer Dean, Esq., was chosen moderator, and Smith R. Sibley clerk. The first committee were Geo. Lounsbury, William Todd, and Aaron Dean.

"In October, 1834, the present house of worship having been completed, it was formally 'dedicated to the worship of Almighty God,' with appropriate solemnities, the Rev. Dr. Sawyer, of New York, preaching on the occasion. For years this was the only house for public worship in that part of the town. Rev. J. C. Partridge is the present pastor."

#### SECOND UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY.\*

"For a number of years there had been irregular preaching here by ministers of the Universalist denomination, when in the spring of 1835 the Rev. F. Hitchcock accepted a call to settle here. He was succeeded by Rev. S. J. Hillyer, who also remained but a short time, and was succeeded by Rev. B. B. Hallock. The society was not organized until 1841, at which time thirteen persons subscribed the constitution. Its committee were William H. Potts, William E. Young, and James B. Scofield. In 1844 the society took steps towards building, having

\* From Huntington's History.



mainly depended upon the town-house for a place to worship. They purchased the corner lot on which their church now stands. The church was dedicated Feb. 5, 1846, during the ministry of Mr. Hallock. The following ministers have succeeded Mr. Hallock: J. J. Twiss, J. H. Moore, two years; C. H. Fay, two years; Asa Countryman, one year; Eben Francis, and J. Smith Dodge, Jr. Rev. M. Nash is present pastor."

#### CATHOLIC CHURCH.

"The first Catholic services in Stamford, of which we have any account, were held by Rev. John Smith, in September, 1842, in the house of P. H. Drew, in West Stamford. At that date there were but three Catholic families in the town. Services were held there monthly until 1846. Mr. Drew removing to the old 'Webb Place' on South Street, services were there held, first, by the Right Rev. Bishop Tyler. Here the meetings of this denomination were continued by several ministers until the church on Meadow street was built in 1851. Since then the Catholic population has increased very rapidly.

"The following priests have been stationed here: James Brady, Edward Coney, James Reynolds, James O'Neil, John Fagan, Michael Tierney, and William H. Rogers, H. T. Walsh, assistant.

"In 1869 the church commenced the erection of a church edifice, which is now in process of construction, and when completed will be one of the finest and most substantial in the State."

#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF STAMFORD.

The first records of any movement towards organizing a Presbyterian Church in Stamford are found among the records of the Congregational Church. After the communion service of Jan. 2, 1853, in a church-meeting, the following members of the Congregational Church called for letters of dismission from the church, to constitute a Presbyterian Church about to be formed: Augustus R. Moen, Alexander Milne, George Elder, James D. Haff, Luke Baker, Hiram Warner, James Robinson, John Holmes, Mrs. Sophia A. Moen, Miss Cornelia A. Moen, Hannah E. Elder, Mrs. Mary E. Haff, Mrs. Almira Baker, Mrs. Sophia Warner, Miss Elizabeth M. Warner, Mrs. Georgette A. Robinson, Mrs. Catharine Helmes.

Letters of dismission were voted to these members of the church, according to the rules of the church, Jan. 16, 1853. During the next few weeks similar letters were given to the following members of the Congregational Church: Wells R. Ritch, Mary Ann Sturges, Elizabeth Sturges, Mrs. Amzi Ayres, Miss Matilda Moen, Mrs. Sarah A. Ritch, Miss Sarah L. Ritch.

This church was organized Feb. 25, 1853, with twenty-six members. It has since then added about two hundred and fifty to its membership, and is one of the wealthiest of our churches. Its ministers have been J. L. Corning, installed April 19, 1853, and

resigned Oct. 15, 1856. He is now settled in Poughkeepsie. R. R. Booth, D.D., installed March 4, 1857, and resigned in February, 1861, to accept the pastorate of the Mercer Street Presbyterian Church, in New York; James P. Leeds preached very acceptably one year; Dwight R. Bartlett, installed April 14, 1862, resigned in February, 1864; Samuel P. Halsey, installed March 8, 1865, and resigned Feb. 7, 1867; A. S. Twombly, installed April 30, 1868; — Van Slyke, Rich. P. H. Vail.

The church edifice was enlarged, remodeled, and repaired in 1877, and the seating capacity about doubled.

*Mission Chapel.*—This chapel of the First Presbyterian Church grew out of a movement organized in 1859 to supply a local want in the Wescott neighborhood. It is situated on the "Cove" road, and was built in 1868.

*Union Chapel*, at New Hope, was built in 1858, and was dedicated Jan. 27, 1859.

*Union Chapel*, turn of the river, was built and dedicated in 1860.

There is also an Episcopal chapel located at Spring Dale.

#### MILITARY RECORD.

##### SIXTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company D.*

This company was mustered in Sept. 5, 1861, re-enlisted Dec. 24, 1863, and mustered out Aug. 21, 1865.

Lorenzo Meeker, commissioned captain Aug. 23, 1861; pro. to major, July 24, 1862, and to lieutenant-colonel Nov. 27, 1863; res. Sept. 30, 1864.

Charles H. Nichols, commissioned first lieutenant Aug. 23, 1861, and captain July 24, 1862.

John Stottlar, commissioned second lieutenant Aug. 23, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant July 24, 1862, and to captain Feb. 19, 1864, and assigned to Company C; disch. Dec. 2, 1864.

William H. Meeker, first sergeant; commissioned second lieutenant July 24, 1862; res. Feb. 10, 1863.

Martin Stottlar, second sergeant; commissioned second lieutenant Feb. 10, 1863, and first lieutenant Jan. 19, 1864; res. March 17, 1864.

Norman Provost, third sergeant; re-enlisted; commissioned second lieutenant March 17, 1864; pro. to first lieutenant May 31, 1864. He brought back with him the medal which testifies to his good conduct on the battle-field.

John H. Botts, wounded in the eyes at Bermuda Hundred; commissioned first lieutenant March 3, 1865, and assigned to Company C.

John Vandervalt, sergeant; served in the signal corps.

Giles Carey, sergeant; disch. for disability in 1863.

George W. Finch, sergeant; wounded at Fort Darling, May 20, 1864.

Robert Wilson, corporal; wounded at Pocotaligo; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 30, 1863.

Thomas Scriber, wounded at Fort Darling, May 15, 1864.

George W. Youngs, detailed for quartermaster's department.

William H. Innes, disch. for disability, Jan. 7, 1863.

Edward J. Bing.

Joel M. Anderson, re-enlisted; wounded May 20, 1864; disch. by reason of his wounds, June 28, 1864.

James McGee, re-enlisted; wounded July 9, 1863.

William H. Reynolds, re-enlisted.

Georgs Lord, musician.

Charles H. Lockwood, musician; trans. to Inv. Corps, July 1, 1863.

Frederick Bates, re-enl. Jan. 4, 1864.

George W. Anderson, re-enlisted.

Edward Arents, trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 1, 1863.

Seth S. Bouton, re-enlisted; captured June 17, 1864.

John Bohan, disch. for disability, May 24, 1863; re-enl. in Company I, 10th Regt.

Dennis Burns, wounded at Pocatigo and trans. to Inv. Corps.  
 John Clark, re-enlisted.  
 William H. Coyne, re-enlisted.  
 Albert W. Crocker, wounded at Pocatigo and re-enlisted.  
 Thomas Craw, re-enlisted.  
 Alonzo Dixon, re-enlisted.  
 John Drew, re-enlisted.  
 David Finch, trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 1, 1863.  
 Charles E. Finch, re-enlisted.  
 John Grady, wounded at Fort Wagner, July 18, 1863.  
 John F. Hassenau, re-enl.; taken prisoner and escaped.  
 Roper Hounslow, re-enlisted.  
 George Hoyt, disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 John L. Hoyt, disch. to re-enl. into the United States Army.  
 James H. Jerman, enl. Sept. 6, 1862, and after being on detailed service at Fort Trumbull, Conn., and elsewhere, joined his regiment in May, 1865.  
 James Jones, re-enlisted.  
 George W. Kent, disch. for disability, April 29, 1863.  
 Lewis Lower, re-enlisted.  
 Robert McDonald, re-enlisted; taken prisoner near Bermuda Hundred and sent to Andersonville and other rebel prisons; paroled Dec. 13, 1864.  
 Michael Morgan, re-enl.; had arm broken at Morris Island; disch. Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Silas Northrup, re-enl. and was wounded in the shoulder.  
 Frank O'Brien, re-enl.; wounded May 15, 1864.  
 Thomas Pickler, re-enl.; taken prisoner June 17, 1864.  
 James A. Potts, re-enlisted.  
 Edgar L. Pratt, re-enl. Jan. 4, 1863; wounded May 15, 1864.  
 Andrus Provost, wounded; disch. May 28, 1863.  
 Henry Scofield, re-enl.; wounded May 20, 1864, and again the following August.  
 Smith Scofield, wounded May 16, 1864.  
 Edward Searles, re-enl.; wounded May 10, 1864.  
 George E. Searles, re-enl.; taken prisoner June 17, 1864.  
 Irving L. Sniffin, re-enlisted.  
 John S. Sparks, disch. for disability, April 22, 1863.  
 Oscar E. Snyder, re-enlisted.  
 Barney Tonar, re-enl.; taken prisoner June 17, 1864.  
 Joseph A. Toepfer, re-enlisted.  
 Oliver W. Vernal, re-enl.; was twice wounded.  
 Charles C. Walters, re-enlisted.  
 Edward H. Walters, re-enl. and trans. to Inv. Res. Corps, March 15, 1864; disch. in October, 1865.  
 John D. Ward, re-enlisted.  
 Charles H. Weed, re-enl. Jan. 4, 1864; wounded at Pocatigo, and again May 10, 1864.  
 John R. Youngs, disch. for disability, May 24, 1863.  
 James Wright, Co. B; enl. Sept. 12, 1861; disch. to enl. into the United States Army.  
 De Forest W. Ferris, Co. E; enl. March 11, 1862; commissioned second lieutenant Feb. 2, 1865; must. out August 21st, same year.  
 Edward M. Abbott, Co. A; enl. March 16, 1864.  
 George Brown, Co. B; enl. Jan. 29, 1862.  
 William Brown,\* Co. A; enl. Oct. 15, 1863.  
 Harry Bush,\* Co. D; enl. Feb. 16, 1864.  
 James B. Cunningham, Co. D; enl. Dec. 31, 1863.  
 Carl Diener,\* Co. B; enl. Oct. 20, 1863.  
 Charles Drew,\* Co. F; enl. Oct. 15, 1863.  
 Isaac Dinger, Co. D; enl. Feb. 20, 1864.  
 Patrick Fox, Co. D; enl. Nov. 7, 1862.  
 Eugene Gay,\* Co. H; enl. Oct. 15, 1863.  
 Stephen Ganung, Co. A; enl. Feb. 25, 1864.  
 William Halpin, from Co. H, 28th Regt., Co. D; enl. Sept. 5, 1864; must. out June 26, 1865, at Goldsborough.  
 George Hanford, Co. B; enl. Feb. 29, 1862.  
 Joseph Hoovey,\* Co. F; enl. Oct. 15, 1863.  
 John Hunter, Co. F; enl. Oct. 14, 1863.  
 John J. Haight, Co. D; enl. Dec. 9, 1863.  
 Hanford Avery, Co. B; enl. Feb. 25, 1864.  
 John Hull, Co. A; enl. Feb. 26, 1864.  
 Theron B. June (?) ; Feb. 25, 1864.  
 Henry Jackson,\* Co. C; enl. Aug. 15, 1863.

\* Substitutes or drafted.

Charles H. Kreig, Co. E; enl. Jan. 29, 1862.  
 Frederick Kapf, Co. C; enl. Oct. 12, 1863.  
 John Lawler, Co. B; enl. Jan. 29, 1862.  
 Charles M. Lockwood, Co. K; enl. Jan. 29, 1862.  
 James Morann,\* Co. G; enl. Oct. 10, 1863.  
 James Morriss,\* Co. K; enl. Oct. 13, 1863.  
 Charles Newman,\* Co. H; enl. Oct. 16, 1863.  
 William C. Oakes, Co. B; enl. Feb. 19, 1862; disch. for disability Nov. 9, 1862; re-enl. Jan. 19, 1864.  
 John W. Pender, Co. B; enl. Feb. 24, 1862.  
 George G. Smith, Co. B; enl. Feb. 27, 1862.  
 Theophilus F. Smith, Co. B; enl. Feb. 25, 1862.  
 Francis L. Still, Co. B; enl. Feb. 11, 1862; trans. to Signal Corps, United States Army.  
 Clarence E. Searles, Co. D; enl. Feb. 16, 1864; wounded in the arm at Deep Run.  
 John Trechardt,\* Co. K; enl. Oct. 14, 1863.  
 Orlando Townsend, Co. D; enl. Feb. 2, 1864.  
 Benj. S. Timson, Co. D; enl. Feb. 20, 1864.  
 Nehemiah Taylor, Co. D; enl. Feb. 23, 1864.  
 Samuel Waterbury, Co. D; enl. Jan. 2, 1864.

#### TENTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company G.*

Mustered in Oct. 2, 1861; re-enlisted Jan. 1, 1864; mustered out Aug. 25, 1865.  
 Benjamin L. Greaves, first sergeant; enl. Jan. 1, 1862; com. second lieutenant May 20th, first lieutenant Aug. 25th, and captain Oct. 25th, of same year; must. out Oct. 25, 1864.  
 Theodore Miller, com. second lieutenant Sept. 25, 1861; res. Dec. 4th, same year. His name appears again with the 139th N. Y. State Militia.  
 John M. Simms, must. Oct. 9, 1861, as second sergeant; pro. to second lieutenant Aug. 15, 1862; wounded Dec. 14, 1862; died Jan. 11, 1863.  
 Andrew F. Jones, re-enl.; com. second lieutenant Jan. 7, 1865; wounded at Fort Gregg.  
 Henry M. Capper, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; wounded; disch. Sept. 21, 1862.  
 Alfred C. Arnold, enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. June 15, 1865.  
 Morris Carrol, wounded May 13, 1864; died July 28, 1864.  
 Samuel B. Hoyt, disch. for disability Oct. 31, 1861; died Nov. 2, 1861.  
 Alfred N. Husted, re-enlisted.  
 Thomas S. Ingersoll, re-enl.; died Oct. 24, 1866.  
 Rufus S. Knapp, re-enlisted.  
 Smith O. Keeler, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; lost an arm; disch. Dec. 10, 1862.  
 George E. Lockwood, enl. Oct. 16, 1861; disch. Oct. 28, 1861.  
 Sidney R. Lounsbury, re-enl. Feb. 19, 1864.  
 James Lynott, re-enlisted.  
 Edmund G. Nugent, enl. Oct. 9, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 6, 1864.  
 Nicholas F. Nichols, disch. for disability, Feb. 22, 1863. Two others of his brothers, Joseph and John, both natives of the town, were in the service during the war, though not on the Stamford quota.  
 Reuben Peatt, re-enl.; died.  
 Samuel S. Rambo, re-enl. Feb. 6, 1864.  
 Sylvanus Smith, disch. for disability Dec. 18, 1861; re-enl. 28th Regt.; died Aug. 19, 1863.  
 Henry Tucker, enl. Oct. 26, 1861; disch. for disability March 27, 1863; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; wounded Oct. 13, 1864.  
 Isaac L. Tucker, enl. Oct. 26, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863.  
 John Whaley, wounded Aug. 14, 1864.†  
 James M. Cragur, Co. C; enl. Jan. 28, 1864.  
 Benjamin G. Blake, Co. D; enl. Sept. 1, 1862.  
 John B. Newell, Co. D; enl. Aug. 6, 1862; com. second lieutenant Jan. 7, 1865; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.  
 James Barber, Co. H; enl. Dec. 26, 1863.  
 John Bohan, Co. I; enl. Dec. 26, 1863; killed.  
 Joseph Corris, Co. I; enl. Jan. 5, 1864.  
 Wm. H. Ferris, Co. I; enl. Dec. 28, 1863.  
 William L. Hays, Co. I; enl. Jan. 25, 1863.  
 Aaron J. Moger, Co. I; enl. Jan. 1, 1864.  
 Aaron J. Sherwood, Co. I; enl. Jan. 1, 1864.  
 John Sherwood, Co. I; enl. Jan. 1, 1865.

† To the above we should add the following: Alfred Bishop, who enlisted with the company and drilled with them in Hartford until an attack of bleeding at the lungs disabled him. He afterwards applied to be mustered in and was rejected, but on being drafted still later, was passed by the surgeon. Finding himself unable to bear the exposure, he procured a substitute.



## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

The men on this roll were mustered in separately in 1862, and mustered out with the regiment, July 19, 1865.

Allen G. Brady, com. captain Aug. 1, 1862; pro. to major Aug. 19, 1862; he had already done good service as lieutenant-colonel in the 3d Regt.; wounded at Gettysburg; disch. for disability Oct. 21, 1863; appointed major in the Inv. Corps.

Marcus Waterbury, com. second lieutenant July 22, 1864; pro. to first lieutenant July 21, 1862; captain Co. I, Aug. 22, 1863; captured; exchanged.

Charles A. Hobby, com. first lieutenant Aug. 1, 1862; pro. to captain Aug. 29, 1862; wounded May 2, 1863; taken prisoner with his command May 19, 1864, in Florida.

Edgar Hoyt, first sergeant; enl. Aug. 6, 1862; com. second lieutenant Aug. 29, 1862; received an injury on the railroad between Washington and Baltimore in the spring of 1863; he was compelled to resign May 12, 1863.

John Harvey, enl. July 25, 1862; com. first lieutenant Sept. 19, 1863; pro. to captain June 29, 1865.

George A. Scofield, enl. July 24, 1862; taken prisoner May 19, 1864, and released in the spring of 1865.

Lewis W. Scofield, enl. July 22, 1862; pro. to sergeant; taken prisoner at Welaka, May 19, 1864.

Edwin O. Harrison, enl. July 11, 1862; taken prisoner May 2, 1863.

Selah R. Hobby, enl. July 28, 1862; pro. to sergeant; wounded at Gettysburg; taken prisoner in Florida, May 19, 1864.

Murray H. McCrea, enl. July 22, 1862; pro. to sergeant; captured; died in prison Jan. 1, 1865.

Alfred V. Scofield, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; captured May 19, 1864.

Edwin B. Jessup, corporal; enl. July 21, 1862; died March 2, 1863.

Christopher Stottlar, corporal; enl. July 21, 1862; taken prisoner May 19, 1864.

Edson C. Beardsley, corporal; enl. July 21, 1862.

Martin Cash, corporal; enl. July 23, 1862; taken prisoner in Florida, May 19, 1864, and sent to Andersonville; disch. Nov. 25, 1864.

Henry I. Lounsbury, musician; enl. July 22, 1862; disch. for disability Feb. 7, 1863.

William Dunham, musician; enl. July 25, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps Sept. 1, 1863.

John H. Chadwick, wagoner; enl. July 18, 1862.

Elbert Ayres, enl. July 18, 1862; taken prisoner at Chancellorsville, sent to Richmond, and again captured in Florida.

Dennis Burns, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. for disability Aug. 12, 1863.

John Buttry, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; captured; supposed to have died in Andersonville.

George B. Christison, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; wounded at Gettysburg.

Ebenezer S. Crabb, enl. July 22, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps Feb. 15, 1864.

John Collins, enl. July 28, 1862; wounded at Gettysburg.

George W. Chamberlain, enl. July 18, 1862; trans. to U. S. Cav.

Michael Egan, enl. Aug. 12, 1862.

George D. Feeks, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. for disability March 10, 1863; re-enl. Jan. 28, 1864; captured; died May, 1865.

Joseph Feeks, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; taken prisoner May 19, 1864, sent to Andersonville, Florence, Millen.

John Fitzpatrick, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, Oct. 17, 1864; disch. July 13, 1865.

Patrick Fitzpatrick, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; trans. to Pioneer Corps.

William Farnold, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; captured; died March 19, 1865.

Michael Fox, enl. July 22, 1862; killed July 1, 1863.

John Farrel, enl. July 19, 1862; prisoner at Chancellorsville.

William Gillespie, enl. July 13, 1862; captured; died in prison.

Thomas R. Graham, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; killed May 2, 1863.

Samuel T. Hall, enl. Aug. 2, 1862.

John Hartman, enl. July 29, 1862; re-enlisted; wounded.

George Heiser, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; taken prisoner at Chancellorsville; soon released.

Martin Heiser, enl. July 15, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps May 8, 1864; taken prisoner in Florida, Feb. 5, 1865.

Patrick Hennesy, enl. July 18, 1862; wounded at Chancellorsville.

Eli Hounslow, enl. July 26, 1862.

Joseph N. Hoyt, enl. Aug. 4, 1862.

Lorenzo L. Hoyt, enl. July 25, 1862; taken prisoner May 19, 1864; disch. Aug. 5, 1865.

William H. Jackson, enl. July 25, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps Nov. 15, 1863.

John L. June, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; wounded at Gettysburg; taken prisoner in Florida, May 19, 1864.

John Kelley (2d), enl. July 28, 1862.

Daniel Kennedy, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability Jan. 10, 1863.

Jacob Kreig, enl. Aug. 5, 1862.

George W. Lincoln, enl. July 29, 1862; wounded at Chancellorsville; trans. to Inv. Corps July 1, 1863.

Lewis McDonald, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. for disability Jan. 19, 1864.

George H. Meeker, joined this company in the spring of 1864; must. out with the regiment.

Charles E. Morrel, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; died Oct. 3, 1863.

Hugh Mahan, enl. July 18, 1862; killed May 2, 1863.

Richard Marlin, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. for disability July 20, 1863.

Lewis Parketon, enl. Aug. 1, 1862.

Joseph W. Potts, enl. Aug. 6, 1862.

Edward H. Quigley, taken prisoner at Welaka, Fla., June 10, 1865.

John Repke, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; disch. for disability May 21, 1863.

Jacob Stottlar, enl. July 18, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps Sept. 30, 1863.

William T. Stevens, enl. July 21, 1862; died Feb. 1, 1863.

Albert Stevens, enl. July 29, 1862; died June 18, 1864.

James Theodore Scofield, enl. July 24, 1862.

Samuel Scofield, enl. July 25, 1862; disch. Dec. 19, 1863.

William H. Scofield, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability Feb. 9, 1863.

Edwin L. Smith, enl. July 26, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps July 1, 1863; Co. A, Ninth U. S. Res.

Mortimer Searles, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; wounded at Gettysburg; taken prisoner in Florida, May 19, 1864.

George Steinert, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability March 28, 1863.

John Smalart, enl. Aug. 7, 1862.

Jacob Vanderhoff, was taken down with typhoid fever before the regiment went to the front. He joined the regiment in St. Augustine, Fla., in the spring of 1864.

Emanuel Vandervaldt, enl. July 28, 1862.

Jacob W. Vincent, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; captured; died.

Joseph Void, enl. July 22, 1862; wounded May 2, 1863; taken prisoner in Florida, May 19, 1864.

John Wesley Walters, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; taken prisoner at Chancellorsville, May 2, 1863; returned to the regiment Oct. 12, 1863; disch. July 17, 1865.

George Weed, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; captured May 19, 1864.

Edward Whaley, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; taken prisoner May 19, 1864.

John H. Wilson, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. for disability Feb. 9, 1863.

William Williams, enl. July 28, 1862.

Andrew Scofield, enl. July 30, 1862.

John D. Buttry, Co. A; enl. Aug. 4, 1862; wounded July 2, 1863; taken prisoner; paroled June 28, 1864; disch. Aug. 27, 1864.

Samuel C. Morrison, Co. A; enl. Aug. 8, 1862, from Norwalk.

John W. Stockton, Co. E; enl. March 5, 1864.

George Hoyt, Co. F; enl. Aug. 22, 1862, from Norwalk; taken prisoner at Chancellorsville; held two weeks.

Levi Dixon, Co. H; enl. Aug. 20, 1862; had his right leg shattered at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863; disch. Oct. 4, 1864.

Samuel S. Osborn, Co. H; enl. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. for disability April 30, 1863; re-enl. Co. M, Second Conn. Art.

Levi St. J. Weed, corporal, Co. H; enl. Aug. 18, 1862.

David C. Comstock, Jr., Co. H; enl. Aug. 12, 1862; was disch. for disability to enlist as hospital steward.

Alfred Z. Brodhurst, Co. H; enl. July 29, 1862.

George W. Weed, Co. H; enl. Aug. 22, 1862, from the 71st N. Y. Infantry.

Warren Kirk, Co. K; enl. Aug. 15, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, March 15, 1864.

## TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT.

*Field and Staff.*

Samuel Peters Ferris, colonel; com. Oct. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Charles H. Brown, adjutant; com. Oct. 18, 1862; pro. to capt. Co. A, Feb. 20, 1863.

Frederick R. Warner, com. adjutant Feb. 20, 1863; disch. Aug. 28, 1863; enl. in the Hawkins' Zouaves.

William A. Bailey, sergeant-major; com. Oct. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Nelson B. Bennett, commissary-sergeant; com. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Henry Rockwell, M.D., second assistant surgeon; com. Nov. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863, and appointed surgeon in the U. S. Army.

*Company A.*

Francis R. Leeds, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; com. captain Sept. 1, 1862; died Feb. 17, 1863.  
 Charles H. Brown, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; com. first lieutenant Sept. 1, 1862; appointed adjutant Oct. 18, 1862; pro. to captain Feb. 20, 1863.  
 Philip Lever, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; com. second lieutenant Sept. 1, 1862; first lieutenant Oct. 24, 1862.  
 Frederick R. Warner, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; com. second lieutenant Oct. 24, and adjutant, Feb. 10, 1863. He had already seen service in the 9th New York, and been wounded at Harper's Ferry, July 4, 1861. After his discharge with the regiment he re-enlisted into the 64th N. Y.  
 Eugene B. Daskam, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; com. second lieutenant Feb. 20, 1863.  
 Ashbel W. Scofield, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; left in hospital at Cleveland, Aug. 18, 1863.  
 Stiles Raymond, enl. Aug. 14, 1862.  
 Stephen S. Smith, enl. Aug. 29, 1862.  
 George A. Mead, sergeant; enl. Aug. 20, 1862; died Sept. 6, 1863.  
 Seymour J. Bodey, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; appointed quartermaster's sergeant.  
 Robert Buntin, enl. Aug. 12, 1862.  
 Alexander Weed, enl. Aug. 12, 1862.  
 Alonzo S. Morgan, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; left sick at Cleveland, Aug. 18, 1863.  
 William O. Webb, corporal; enl. Aug. 12, 1862.  
 Gabriel W. Platt, corporal; enl. Aug. 20, 1862.  
 James Vail, enl. Aug. 30, 1862.  
 Wells R. Whitney, enl. Aug. 12, and appointed ordnance sergeant.  
 Jacob Waters, enl. Aug. 18, 1862.  
 Henry J. Howell, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Philip B. Keeler, enl. Aug. 18, 1862.  
 Charles J. Brown, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; left in Cleveland sick, Aug. 1, 1863.  
 Seely Brown, enl. Aug. 27, 1862.  
 Isaac Barrett, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; wounded June 14, 1862.  
 Aaron Billings, enl. Aug. 21, 1862; left sick in Memphis, Aug. 13, 1862.  
 Isaac Billings, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 Adam F. Billings, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 John E. Bouten, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; died Sept. 29, 1863.  
 Theodore W. Bouton, enl. Aug. 27, 1862.  
 Wm. C. Bouton, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. Dec. 6, 1863.  
 Wm. H. Bouton, enl. Aug. 28, 1862.  
 Spencer Bouton, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; died June 7, 1863.  
 James N. Buxton, enl. Aug. 28, 1862.  
 James B. Cunningham, enl. Aug. 22, 1862; discharged, and re-enlisted in 6th Conn.  
 George Crabb, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 George R. Crabb, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 George W. Clock, enl. Aug. 27, 1862; died July 2, 1863.  
 Smith Dann, enl. Aug. 23, 1862.  
 Stephen S. Dixon, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 James N. Ferris, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Dec. 3, 1863.  
 Edward A. Ferris, enl. Oct. 30, 1862.  
 Albert E. Farrington, enl. Aug. 26, 1862.  
 Joel M. Gilbert, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 Alexander J. Holly, enl. Aug. 13, 1862.  
 John E. Hoyt, enl. Aug. 13, 1862.  
 Noah W. Hoyt, enl. Aug. 23, 1862.  
 Frederick Hayward, enl. Aug. 26, 1862; wounded at Port Hudson June 14, 1863.  
 Harrison Hicks, enl. Aug. 27, 1862.  
 John D. Jessup, enl. Aug. 28, 1862.  
 Henry F. Jimmerson, enl. Sept. 1, 1862.  
 Theodore Knapp, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; left in the hospital, Memphis, Aug. 13, 1863.  
 Charles W. Litchfield, enl. Aug. 20, 1862.  
 John Lower, enl. Sept. 1, 1862; left sick at Cleveland, Aug. 18, 1863.  
 Henry Lower, enl. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Andrew J. Lockwood, enl. Aug. 27, 1862; died Sept. 19, 1863.  
 Sherman D. Lockwood, enl. Aug. 26, 1862; died Sept. 9, 1863.  
 Thomas W. Mollett, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; died July 15, 1863.  
 Hanford Mead, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 Lewis Provost, enl. Aug. 26, 1862; sick in hospital at Brashear City when the company left.  
 Alonzo L. Parker, enl. Aug. 30, 1862.  
 Theodore H. Peck, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; died Nov. 4, 1863.

Cyrus J. Raymond, enl. Aug. 15, 1862.  
 Jerome Rafferty, enl. Aug. 15, 1862.  
 Charles A. Rosborough, enl. Aug. 26, 1862; wounded; died July 11, 1863.  
 Stephen Smith, enl. Aug. 12, 1862.  
 George R. Searles, enl. Aug. 20, 1862; died Aug. 19, 1863.  
 George E. Scofield, enl. Aug. 14, 1862.  
 Sylvester L. Schofield, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 Smith Scofield, enl. Aug. 26, 1862.  
 Loomis Scofield, enl. Aug. 26, 1862.  
 Gilbert Scofield, enl. Aug. 20, 1862; died Aug. 25, 1863.  
 John V. Swertscop, enl. Aug. 18, 1862.  
 Henry A. Sherwood, enl. Aug. 23, 1862.  
 Nathan Sherwood, enl. Aug. 27, 1862; died July 30, 1863.  
 Arba S. Selleck, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 William H. Totten, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; died March 28, 1863.  
 William S. Taylor, enl. Aug. 27, 1862; in hospital at Brashear City when the company left.  
 George W. Todd, enl. Aug. 30, 1862.  
 Henry M. Whitney, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; left sick at Cleveland, Aug. 18, 1863.  
 Edmund M. Williams, enl. Aug. 13, 1862.  
 Jason Wardell, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; killed June 14, 1863.  
 Andrew C. Waterbury, enl. Aug. 26, 1862; died Aug. 2, 1863.  
 Stephen R. Waterbury, enl. Aug. 26, 1862; died Aug. 4, 1863.  
 Ammi L. Wessels, enl. Aug. 27, 1862.

*Company B.*

Cyrus D. Jones, enl. Aug. 29, 1861, and com. captain Sept. 30, 1863.  
 Charles Durand, enl. Sept. 3, 1862; com. first lieutenant Sept. 13, 1862; killed June 14, 1864.  
 Henry L. Wilnot, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; com. second lieutenant Sept. 13, 1862.  
 Abel Tanner, first sergeant; enl. Sept. 8, 1862.  
 Benjamin W. Card, sergeant; enl. Sept. 10, 1862; com. second lieutenant July 23, 1863.  
 Andrew Boyd, sergeant; enl. Sept. 8, 1862; died Oct. 5, 1863.  
 George A. Waterbury, sergeant; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; taken prisoner July 14, 1863, at Port Hudson, and released.  
 Charles H. Conley, sergeant; enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Lewis Jones, corporal; enl. Sept. 9, 1862.  
 Charles Weed, corporal; enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Edmund P. Bailey, corporal; enl. Sept. 30, 1862.  
 William H. King, corporal; enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 James H. Nichols, corporal; enl. Sept. 2, 1862.  
 David C. Scofield, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Eben P. Lawrence, corporal; enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 George A. Eldridge, musician; enl. Aug. 30, 1862.  
 Samuel M. Bouton, musician; enl. Aug. 30, 1862.  
 Charles L. Weed, wagoner; enl. Sept. 8, 1862.  
 Elah Ballard, enl. Aug. 30, 1862.  
 William H. Banks, enl. Sept. 3, 1862.  
 Nathaniel Barmore, Jr., enl. Sept. 9, 1862; died.  
 Charles Bell, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Nelson Bennett, corporal; enl. Sept. 13, 1862, and soon commissary sergeant, returning to his company Jan. 13, 1863.  
 George R. Buntin, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; sick in Utica when the regiment was mustered out.  
 John Butcher, enl. Sept. 13, 1862.  
 Charles W. Caldwell, enl. Sept. 8, 1862.  
 Samuel Caldwell, enl. Sept. 13, 1862; died Aug. 15, 1863.  
 Edward T. Clark, enl. Sept. 4, 1862; died Aug. 17, 1865.  
 William H. Crabb, enl. Sept. 6, 1862; in hospital at Memphis, Aug. 13, 1862.  
 Andrew Crissy, enl. Oct. 3, 1862; in hospital at Brashear City, May 23, 1862.  
 Origen S. Ensley, left sick at New Haven, Nov. 8, 1862.  
 Aaron P. Ferris, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. for disability July 27, 1863, at Port Hudson, La.  
 Benjamin P. Ferris, enl. Sept. 3, 1863.  
 Isaac Ferris, enl. Sept. 2, 1862.  
 Joel G. Foster, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; appointed corporal Oct. 18, 1862.  
 Peter Fryermuth, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; disch. for disability Jan. 19, 1863.  
 John Gagan, enl. Sept. 15, 1862.  
 Isaac F. Hoyt, enl. Sept. 2, 1862.  
 Seth H. Hoyt, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; wounded June 14, 1863; died.  
 Andrew Hoyt, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; died in 1863.  
 Lyman Hoyt, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.



Hiram S. Holly, enl. Sept. 6, 1862.  
 William L. Hall, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 George W. Hartson, enl. Sept. 4, 1862; died from wounds, 1863.  
 Nahor Jones, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Alva Jones, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; wounded at Port Hudson.  
 Henry R. Jackson, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 William H. June, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; was in the assault on Port Hudson, June 14, 1863.  
 George W. June, enl. Sept. 11, 1862, was in the assault on Port Hudson, June 14, 1863.  
 Charles Jennings, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; died in 1863.  
 Charles W. Knapp, Jr., enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Frederick Lowe, enl. Sept. 4, 1862.  
 Samuel Lockwood, (2d), enl. Sept. 1862.  
 Samuel R. Lockwood, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 William H. Lockwood, enl. Sept. 24, 1862.  
 Thomas Lowney, enl. Sept. 11, 1862.  
 Charles W. Miller, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; died Sept. 13, 1863.  
 Thomas Nodyne, enl. Sept. 6, 1862.  
 Elias E. Palmer, enl. Sept. 13, 1862; wounded at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863.  
 Henry H. Roscoe, enl. Sept. 9, 1862.  
 Daniel Randall, enl. Sept. 11, 1862.  
 Charles J. Ruscher, enl. Nov. 18, 1862; wounded July 6, 1863, before Port Hudson.  
 Sylvanus Smith, enl. Sept. 3, 1863; died Aug. 14, 1863.  
 Charles L. Smith, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; wounded at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863.  
 Selleck S. Scofield, enl. Sept. 6, 1862.  
 George E. Scofield, enl. Sept. 10, 1862, and appointed commissary-sergeant.  
 Lewis B. Scofield, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; died June 13, 1863.  
 William Scofield, enl. Sept. 11, 1862.  
 James E. Scofield, enl. Sept. 11, 1862; in hospital at Brashear City, May 23, 1863.  
 Noah Franklin Scofield, enl. Sept. 13, 1862.  
 William W. Saunders, enl. Sept. 10, 1861.  
 George E. Saunders, enl. Sept. 11, 1862.  
 John Slater, enl. Sept. 13, 1862.  
 Thomas Stanley, enl. Sept. 23, 1862.  
 William H. Stevens, enl. Oct. 3, 1862.  
 Samuel A. Wood, enl. Sept. 3, 1862; wounded June 14, 1863, at Port Hudson.  
 Charles W. Waterbury, enl. Sept. 3, 1862.  
 Philip Waterbury, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 Joseph Wilmot, enl. Sept. 8, 1862.  
 James T. Wilmot, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.  
 William H. Walton, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; died June 16, 1863.  
 William H. Waring, enl. Sept. 23, 1862.

#### *Company C.*

Thaddeus L. Bailey, enl. May 12, 1862; died Sept. 16, 1863.  
 Joseph Paignt, sergeant; enl. Sept. 9, 1862.  
 Francis H. Jones, enl. Aug. 27, 1862; re-enlisted July 23, 1863.  
 Clement E. Miller, enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 Nathaniel H. Nichols, enl. Oct. 7, 1862.  
 Miles J. Stephens, enl. Aug. 23, 1862.  
 Addison P. Scofield, enl. Aug. 20, 1862.  
 John Waters, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; died Aug. 1, 1863.  
 George W. Wilmot, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; killed June 17, 1863.

#### *Company G.*

George H. Meeker, corporal; enl. Sept. 8, 1862; re-enlisted in 17th Conn.

#### *Company H.*

Richard Armstrong, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; re-enlisted, and has never been heard from.  
 Phineas Brown, enl. Aug. 22, 1862.  
 Theodore Delcroix, enl. Aug. 13, 1862.  
 Cornelius Dever, enl. Aug. 20, 1862.  
 Weight H. Feeks, enl. Aug. 20, 1862, and was later in a New York regiment.  
 William Halpin, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; re-enlisted in 6th Conn.  
 Thomas Lawler, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; storming party, June 14; wounded in shoulder.  
 Hibbard Mead, enl. Aug. 28, 1862; died Aug. 13, 1863.  
 Thomas O'Brien, Jr., enl. Aug. 18, 1862.  
 Joseph A. Sutton, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; reported dead.

#### FIRST REGIMENT.

William Keller, Rifle Co. B; enl. April 22, 1861; disch. for disability April 24, 1861.  
 Allen Webb, Co. H; enl. April 23, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861, and re-enl. into the 2d Conn. Light Battery.

#### SECOND REGIMENT.

John Lilley, Co. B; enl. May 7, 1861, from Norwich; disch. as first sergeant Aug. 7, 1861, and re-enl. into the 17th Conn.

#### FOURTH REGIMENT.

John A. Holton, M.D., Co. I; afterwards 1st Art.; enl. June 12, 1861; disch. March 29, 1862.

#### FIFTH REGIMENT.

William H. Card, Co. A; enl. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, Jan. 29, 1882.  
 Thomas M. Welsh, Co. A; enl. July 22, 1861.  
 Michael Collins, Co. K; enl. April 6, 1864.

#### SEVENTH REGIMENT.

Grosvenor Starr, adjutant; com. Sept. 17, 1861; died March 5, 1862.  
 George Adams, Co. A; enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863.  
 John H. Vernal, Co. I; enl. Sept. 13, 1861.  
 Lewis A. Cook, Co. E; enl. Sept. 7, 1861; re-enlisted.

#### EIGHTH REGIMENT.

James Conlan, enl. Oct. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863.  
 Timothy Cahill, enl. Sept. 23, 1861.

#### NINTH REGIMENT.

James Collins, enl. Feb. 17, 1863, to June 30, 1864.  
 John Connelly, enl. April 25, 1864, to June 30, 1864.  
 Thomas Irving, enl. April 30, 1864, to June 30, 1864.

#### ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

Henry Beresford, enl. April 11, 1864, to June 30, 1864.  
 William Chaney, enl. April 19, 1864, to June 30, 1864.  
 James Farrel, enl. April 23, 1864, to June 30, 1864.  
 William Johnson, enl. Feb. 27, 1864, to June 30, 1864.  
 Frank McQueen, Co. D; enl. May 3, 1864.  
 Pierre Poinsett, Co. C; enl. May 10, 1864.  
 Peter Simpson, Co. G; enl. April 23, 1864.

#### TWELFTH REGIMENT.

Ebenezer Norman, Co. E; enl. Nov. 19, 1861; disch. for disability July 17, 1863.  
 Corvus Northrop, Co. E; enl. Dec. 28, 1861.  
 Nathan Palmer, Co. E; enl. Dec. 3, 1861; disch. for disability Feb. 27, 1862.  
 Charles Council, Co. G; enl. Dec. 5, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864.  
 John McCabe, Co. F; enl. April 23, 1864.

#### THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.

John J. Haight, Co. B; enl. Dec. 22, 1861; disch. for disability June 30, 1862, and re-enl. into the 6th Conn. Vol.  
 George H. Pratt, enl. Jan. 11, 1862; re-enl. and com. second lieutenant May 1, 1864, and pro. to first lieutenant Dec. 30, 1864. His name is on the roll of honor for meritorious service, June 14, 1862, at Port Hudson.  
 George W. Taylor, enl. Dec. 31, 1861.  
 Abraham E. Ackley, enl. Jan. 6, 1862; died Aug. 9, 1863.  
 Aaron S. Avery, enl. Jan. 11, 1862; disch. Jan. 14, 1863.  
 Martin Bell, enl. Dec. 22, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 8, 1864.  
 Clark Dixon, enl. Jan. 11, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 8, 1864.  
 William I. Ferris, enl. Feb. 10, 1862; died May 9, 1863.  
 Thomas S. Harris, enl. Feb. 27, 1862; disch. for disability June 30, 1862.  
 Banister H. Jones, enl. March 5, 1862; disch. for disability May 21, 1862.  
 James R. Knapp, enl. Feb. 10, 1862; disch. for disability March 5, 1862.  
 Edward C. Lockwood, enl. Dec. 22, 1861.  
 George H. Searles, enl. Jan. 18, 1862; disch. for disability June 30, 1862.  
 Henry C. Searles, enl. Feb. 18, 1862; disch. for disability July 5, 1862, and re-enl. into a New York cavalry regiment.  
 John Ennis Searles, enl. Jan. 6, 1862; was taken prisoner at Winchester.  
 George B. Selleck, enl. Dec. 22, 1861; died Sept. 29, 1862.  
 Benjamin O. Searles, enl. Feb. 26, 1862; killed April 14, 1863.  
 John J. Taylor, enl. Dec. 22, 1861; died Feb. 17, 1864.  
 John W. Thorne, enl. Feb. 20, 1862; died Sept. 6, 1863.

Joseph Thorne, enl. Feb. 10, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 29, 1864; taken prisoner Sept. 19, 1864.

John P. Weed, enl. Dec. 31, 1861; wounded at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863.

Benjamin Jones, Co. H; enl. Jan. 11, 1862.

Edward A. Lockwood, Co. H; enl. Jan. 11, 1862; disch. for disability, Sept. 22, 1862.

#### EIGHTEENTH REGIMENT.

John Lilley, from Co. B, 2d Conn., was com. second lieutenant of Co. I, Oct. 19, 1863, in the 18th Conn.; pro. to first lieutenant, June 5, 1864, and captain, Oct. 17, 1864; must. out June 27, 1865.

#### TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

William H. Trowbridge, M.D., com. surgeon, Sept. 25, 1862, in the Banks' expedition, and taken prisoner near Brashear City; he was complimented with gift of sword, sash, and belt from the citizens of the town; on his return from the South was detailed surgeon of Board of Enrollment at Bridgeport, Conn., from which service he was discharged Aug. 31, 1863.

George Benedict, assistant surgeon; com. Jan. 22, 1863; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Henry H. Anderson, Co. I; enl. Oct. 27, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863; re-enl. in the Navy.

#### TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT.

Joseph L. Pember, Co. K; enl. Aug. 21, 1862; disch. Aug. 26, 1863.

#### TWENTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.

Elisha T. Payne, Co. C; enl. Sept. 9, 1862; disch. July 27, 1863.

#### TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

Joseph Fermin, Co. A; enl. Nov. 28, 1863.

Wilson Essex, Co. B; enl. Nov. 24, 1863.

Stephen Gray, Co. B; enl. Nov. 28, 1863.

Robert Mitchel, Co. B; enl. Jan. 4, 1864.

Richard Myers, Co. B; enl. Nov. 24, 1863.

George Vandivere, Co. B; enl. Nov. 24, 1863.

William Nellis, Co. B; enl. Dec. 4, 1863; wounded at Kell House, Va., Oct. 27, 1864.

Thomas L. Brown, Co. G; enl. Dec. 28, 1863.

Joseph Holmes, Co. B.

Allen Banks, Co. G; enl. Jan. 5, 1864; was shot in leg at Fair Oaks.

John Brown, Co. G; enl. Dec. 28, 1863; killed Oct. 27, 1864.

David Snively, Co. G; enl. Dec. 28, 1863.

George E. Brown, sergeant, Co. H; enl. Dec. 31, 1863.

Joseph Ellis, Co. H; enl. Dec. 30, 1863.

William H. Brown, Co. H; enl. Dec. 9, 1863; disch. Oct. 24, 1865.

Charles E. Treadwell, Co. H; enl. Dec. 31, 1863.

Randolph Williams, Co. H; enl. Dec. 28, 1863.

Robert Wilson, Co. H; enl. Dec. 30, 1863.

Simon Greene, corporal, Co. I; enl. Jan. 4, 1864; disch. for disability, June 27, 1864.

John H. Cline, Co. I; enl. Jan. 1, 1864.

Abram Lattan, Co. I; enl. Jan. 5, 1864.

Josiah Walton, Co. I; enl. Jan. 4, 1864.

William H. Hawkins, Co. K; enl. Jan. 4, 1864.

William Banks, enl. April 20, 1864.

David Johnson, Co. H; enl. June 2, 1864.

Henry Starr, enl. Dec. 9, 1863.

#### THIRTY-FIRST REGIMENT.

Charles E. Asia, first sergeant, Co. B; enl. Oct. 7, 1863.

Joseph Hood, first sergeant, Co. D; enl. Feb. 16, 1864.

John H. Smith, corporal, Co. D; enl. Feb. 20, 1864.

James W. Yates, Co. D; enl. Feb. 16, 1864; must. out at hospital David's Island.

#### FIRST HEAVY ARTILLERY.

Jeremiah O'Riley, Co. C; enl. May 23, 1861; disch. May 22, 1864.

James W. Webb, Co. A; enl. April 10, 1862; died Aug. 8, 1862.

Michael Burke, Co. E; enl. May 23, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 10, 1863.

Joseph D. Pinkham, Co. C; enl. May 23, 1861; re-enl. Nov. 16, 1863.

Patrick Baker, Co. K; enl. May 23, 1861; he was afterwards in the Navy.

James Lind, Co. K; enl. May 23, 1861.

John Mulholland, Co. K; enl. May 23, 1861; disch. May 22, 1864.

Francis B. Avery, Co. H; enl. Nov. 30, 1863; died March 12, 1864.

Theodore Bedient, Co. H; enl. Nov. 30, 1863.

Squire S. Birdsell, Co. H; enl. Nov. 28, 1863.

George W. Finch, Co. H; enl. Nov. 30, 1863.

William Fagan, Co. H; enl. Nov. 30, 1863.

William H. Monroe, Co. H; enl. Dec. 8, 1863; died May 16, 1864.

George H. Pott, Co. H; enl. Nov. 28, 1863.

Benjamin Selleck, Co. G; enl. Dec. 7, 1863.

Eli Starr, Co. I; enl. Jan. 4, 1864.

#### SECOND HEAVY ARTILLERY.

William H. Brewer, Co. A; enl. Jan. 2, 1864.

Ezra C. Bouton, Co. C; enl. Jan. 5, 1864; killed June 3, 1864.

Edgar W. Conklin, Co. D; enl. Dec. 30, 1863.

John L. Conklin, Co. D; enl. Dec. 30, 1863.

Joseph H. Canfield, Co. C; enl. Jan. 5, 1864.

James Henry, Co. D; enl. Jan. 1, 1864.

Jacob June, Co. A; enl. Jan. 14, 1864.

Banks Lounsbury, Co. I; enl. Jan. 28, 1864; died Feb. 23, 1864.

Alexander McCormick, Co. F; enl. Jan. 18, 1864.

John O'Brien, Co. B; enl. Jan. 1, 1864.

Samuel S. Osborn, Co. M; enl. Feb. 11, 1864.

Patrick Rairden, enl. Feb. 5, 1864; disch. for disability, May 23, 1864.

Chauncey Stevens, Co. K; enl. Jan. 5, 1864.

George Taylor, Co. C; enl. Dec. 30, 1863.

Jeremiah Conner, enl. Jan. 5, 1864.

#### SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

Allen Webb, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. Aug. 9, 1865.

Thomas Carrol, enl. Feb. 18, 1864, to June 30, 1864.

Michael Donnelly, enl. Feb. 18, 1864, to June 30, 1864.

Patrick Kelley, enl. Feb. 18, 1864, to June 30, 1864.

Alonzo Peck, enl. Jan. 5, 1864.

William Taylor, enl. Feb. 16, 1864, to June 30, 1864.

James W. Welch, enl. Feb. 18, 1864, to June 30, 1864.

#### FIRST CAVALRY.

James R. Straut, sergeant, Co. D; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. second lieutenant, Jan. 2, 1864; pro. first lieutenant, Feb. 26, 1864, and captain, Nov. 17, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

Michael Carrigan, Co. G; enl. April 8, 1864.

Daniel Conner.

Wardell Hendricks, Co. H; enl. Dec. 8, 1863.

John A. McClellan, Co. M; enl. Dec. 30, 1863.

James E. Bishop, Co. D; enl. Jan. 11, 1864.

William H. Bishop, Co. E; enl. Jan. 11, 1864; disch. Aug. 20, 1865.

#### NEW YORK REGIMENTS.

Henry V. Smith, 1st Cavalry, and re-enl. into 12th Cavalry, serving about two years.

James E. Bishop, 1st Mounted Rifles, and re-enl. into 1st Conn. Cavalry.

Anthony Miller, 2d State Militia.

Richard More, 2d State Militia.

Henry Packet, 2d State Militia.

Peter O'Neil, 4th Heavy Artillery.

Charles W. Knapp, first sergeant, Co. B, 5th, Duryea's Zouaves; was taken prisoner June 29, 1862; paroled July 25, 1863.

Matthew M. Walsh, Co. B, Duryea's Zouaves; was taken prisoner Aug. 31, 1862.

Albert Seaman, in Duryea's Zouaves.

Charles W. Smith, served about three years in Duryea's Zouaves.

James L. Taylor, Duryea's Zouaves; mortally wounded; died June 11, 1861.

Watson B. Nichols, Duryea's Zouaves; enl. April 19, 1861; must. out May 18, 1863; re-enl. Nov. 14, 1863, into Co. G, 1st Michigan Heavy Artillery; appointed hospital steward, Feb. 14, 1864, at Jackson, Miss.; trans. Aug. 31, 1864, as second lieutenant to 86th United States Infantry, and pro. to captain Oct. 12, 1865; appointed provost-marshal and judge-advocate for Southern District of Alabama; resigned and was must. out April 30, 1866.

Thomas Skelding, enl. April 20, 1861, in Co. B, Duryea's Zouaves; com. captain Co. B, 10th New York, McChesney's Zouaves; res. in Feb., 1862.

Michael O'Neil, Co. K, 5th Cavalry, Ira Harris Guard; re-enl.; wounded.

David H. Scofield, Co. K, Ira Harris Guard.

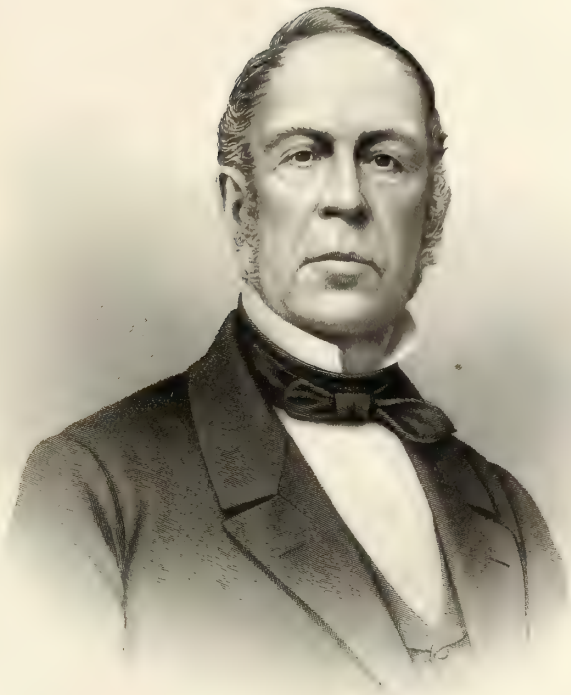
George W. Toms, Co. K, Ira Harris Guard; enl. Oct. 5, 1861; pro. to commissary sergeant, 1864; returned home as first sergeant, July, 1865.

Theodore Nichols, 6th Cav.; enl. 1861; re-enlisted; killed.

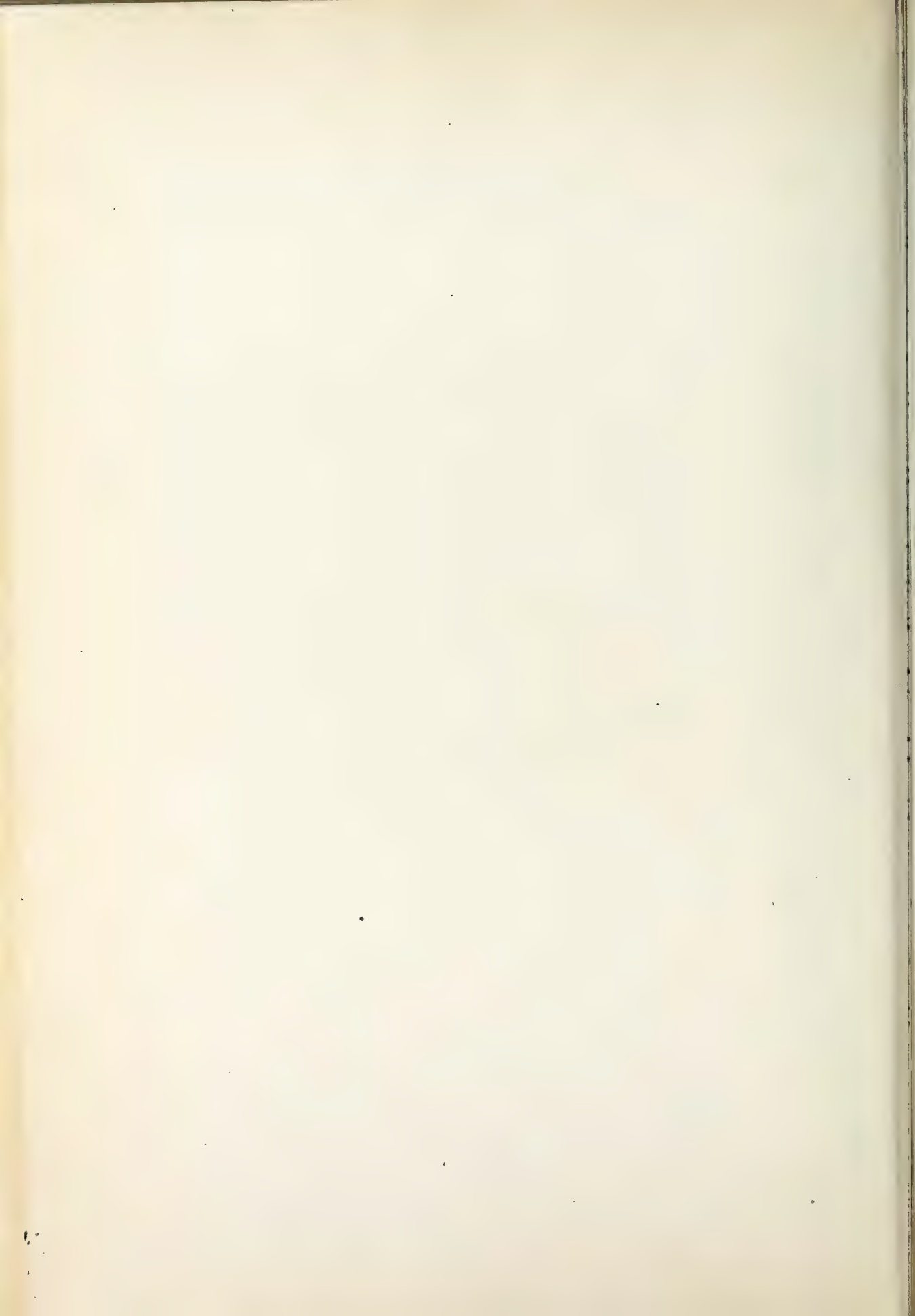
William H. Romer, 6th H. Art.

James W. Daskam, 7th National Guard.

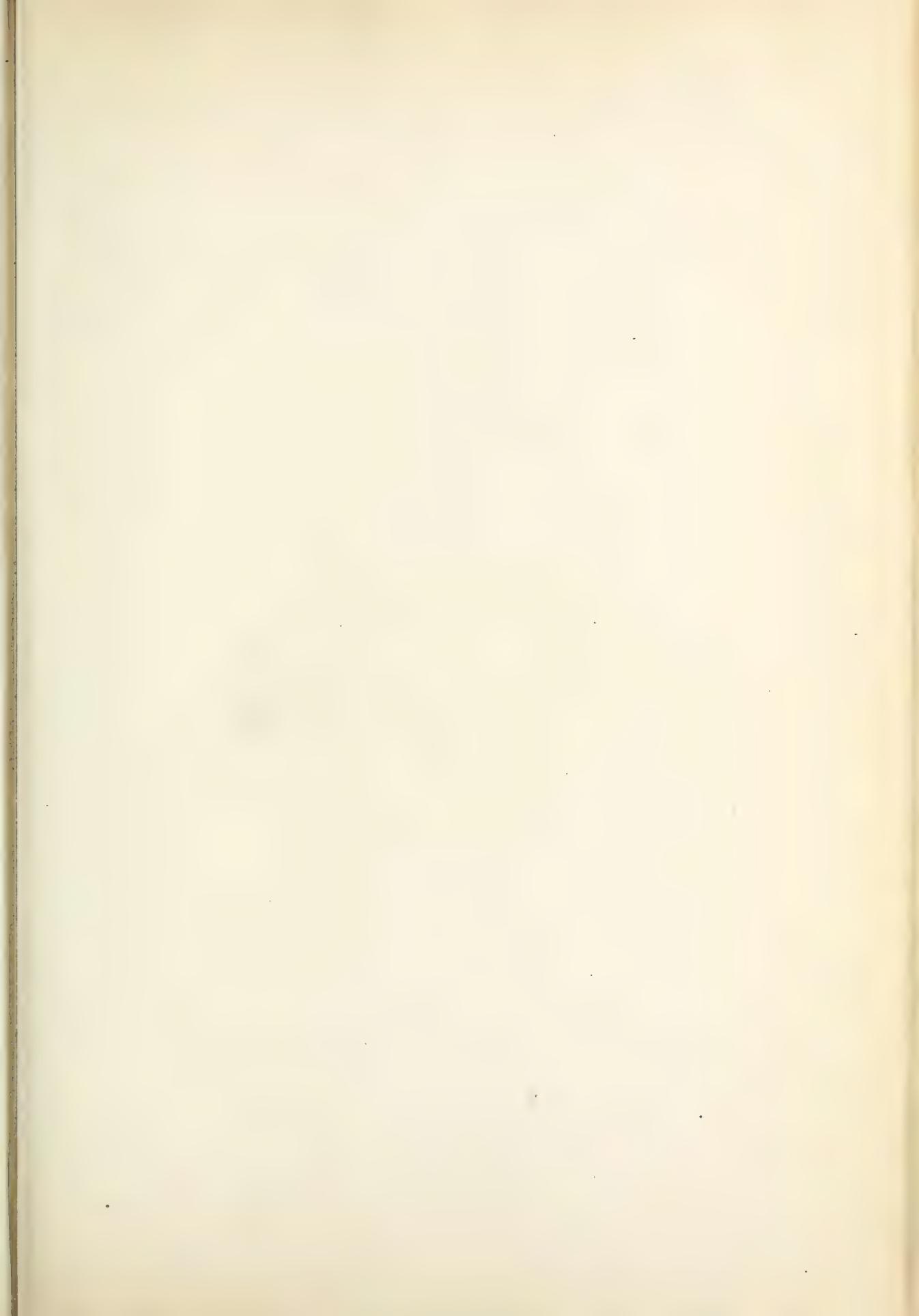




*Isaac Quintord*









Wm H Liddle





Wm. H. L. L.

Henry H. Holly, Co. D, 7th National Guard.  
 William W. Smith, National Guard.  
 James R. Warren, National Guard.  
 Joseph C. Warren, National Guard.  
 William Powell, 8th N. Y. S. M.  
 George A. Youngs, Co. K, 8th N. Y. H. Art.  
 Horace Gardiner, 9th Regt., Hawkins' Zouaves; enl. 1861; com. second lieutenant, 127th (Monitor) Regt.; pro. to first lieutenant, serving about three years.  
 Lewis Gardiner, Hawkins' Zouaves; enl. 1861; com. second lieutenant 127th (Monitor) Regt.  
 John Parker, Co. B, Hawkins' Zouaves; served two years.  
 William Parker, Hawkins' Zouaves.  
 John Hoyt, Hawkins' Zouaves; served two years.  
 Edgar Toms, Co. B, Hawkins' Zouaves; enl. 1861; served two years.  
 George Toms, Co. B, Hawkins' Zouaves; enl. 1861; wounded at Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862.  
 Edward Krollpfeiffer, Hawkins' Zouaves.  
 Frederick Warner, Hawkins' Zouaves; enl. 64th N. Y.; com. second lieutenant, 10th Army Corps d'Afrique.  
 Allen Chamberlain, Co. I, 12th Cav.; enl. 1862; re-enl. in Navy.  
 Rev. P. S. Evans, chaplain, 13th H. Art.  
 William J. Wilson, 17th Inf.  
 Charles E. Petts, 22d Inf.  
 Hiram Totten, Jr., 22d Inf.  
 James E. Bouton, 22d Inf.  
 William F. Halleck, 22d Inf.  
 Charles Scofield, 22d Inf.  
 Charles Weston, 22d Inf.  
 William Nolan, 25th Inf.; enl. 1861; wounded.  
 William McDonald, 25th Inf.; enl. 1861.  
 Oscar Lasher, 37th Inf.  
 George Lockwood, 38th Inf.  
 Frederick Shower, 39th Inf., Garibaldi Guards.  
 Samuel M. Phye, Co. C, 47th Inf., near Annapolis, Md.  
 John Sullivan, 47th Inf.  
 Bradford Raymond, Co. K, 48th Inf.; enl. in the 5th Army Corps.  
 George Fish, 49th Inf.; was color-bearer in the Army of the Potomac.  
 Alva Ingersoll, 49th Inf.; wounded.  
 Charles H. Palmer, 49th Inf.; trans. with a captain's commission to the 6th N. Y. Art.; wounded.  
 John E. Weed, 49th Inf.; re-enlisted.  
 Joseph Gibson, Co. K, 59th Inf.; trans. to 54th Inf., then to 84th Ohio Inf.  
 Edwin R. Bailey, Co. G, 67th Inf.; killed May 6, 1864.  
 Michael Hannagan, 69th Inf.  
 John W. Miller, Co. B, 71st Inf.  
 Edward A. Quintard, com. captain Co. B, N. Y. National Guard Eng. Corps.  
 George W. Weed, 71st Inf.; re-enl. in 17th Conn. Regt.  
 William E. White, 90th Inf.; died Feb. 4, 1865.  
 John H. McDonald, 82d N. Y.; pro. to first lieutenant; killed July 3, 1863.  
 Rev. Eben Francis, chaplain, 127th (Monitor) Regt.  
 Edward Oldrin, 127th (Monitor) Regt.; disch. for disability.  
 Theodore Miller, 10th Regt.; re-enl. in Co. A, 139th N. Y. Vol.; com. lieutenant, Sept. 9, 1862; pro. to captain, March 9, 1863, and major, Oct. 14, 1864; appointed colonel in the Corps d'Afrique, April 12, 1865, but did not muster.  
 Franklin A. Jones served in Scott's Life Guard.  
 Benjamin R. Saunders was in a N. Y. H. Art. Regt.  
 John Hanford was successively in two regiments of New York.  
 John McCarty, enl. in a N. Y. Regt.; served two years.  
 John H. Searles, enl. in 17th Regt.  
 Henry C. Searles, enl. 13th Conn. Regt.; re-enl. in a N. Y. Cav. Regt.

## REGIMENTS OF OTHER STATES.

James R. Ayres, Co. C, 3d Mich.; killed June 17, 1864.  
 Frederick Bishop, 5th N. J. Battery; disch. for disability.  
 Hanford Bishop, 5th N. J. Battery.  
 John Carrol, Co. A, 32d Ohio; enl. Nov. 22, 1864, from Toledo.  
 Samuel Fessenden, enl. March 3, 1864, sixteen years of age, as a private in 7th Maine Battery, 1st Regt. L. Art.; was appointed first lieutenant 2d Regt. U. S. Inf., Dec. 14, 1864, and captain of Inf. Dec. 20, 1864; com. second lieutenant 1st Battery, Maine L. Inf., Jan. 18, 1865, and detailed to the staff of Maj.-Gen. A. P. Howe, May 1, 1865, serving in that position till the close of the war.

Philo C. Fuller, 2d Ill. Vol.  
 Emmet M. Hoyt, 3d Maryland, and also in a N. Y. Regt.; died.  
 Samuel C. Ingersoll, 3d Maryland; wounded at Antietam and discharged.  
 Peter Hurd, 14th R. I. H. Art.; enl. Oct. 14, 1863.  
 James Keegan, Co. K, 18th Ky.; enl. 1864.  
 Joseph S. Lockwood, 141st Penn.; died April 3, 1863.  
 Richard Pierson, 3d Md.  
 William E. Scofield, 74th Ill.; died May 17, 1863.  
 George Vandervaldt, 1st Res. Cav. Pa.; killed.  
 Pierre R. Holly, M.D., appointed assistant surgeon in the spring of 1863, and assigned to the Douglas Hospital, Washington City; subsequently was assigned to the 22d Wis. Inf., and remained in the service until disch. in 1864.

The following citizens of the town were in the service of the government, though not connected with any particular regiment:

George E. Badger, M.D., who left his practice here, with a commission as contract surgeon, and was stationed at David's Island.  
 John Davenport was aid to Col. John H. Almy, assistant quartermaster-general of Connecticut, and stationed at New York for supplying the Conn. and R. I. Vols.  
 John C. Minor, M.D., com. April 1, 1863, acting assistant surgeon, U.S.A., after having voluntarily served on Hospital Ships of the Sanitary Commission during the preceding year, was in the Army of Cumberland until Feb. 3, 1864, when he was ordered to Harrisburg, Pa., to take charge of Port Hospital; res. Oct. 4, 1864.  
 Rev. J. H. Parks, com. chaplain, July 5, 1862, and assigned to Carver Hospital, Washington City.  
 John T. Riley was acting quartermaster at Washington and elsewhere.  
 Samuel C. Staples, assistant paymaster U.S.A.  
 Hannel Stevens entered the service as medical purveyor at Cairo, Ill., in 1862, and was ordered to Memphis in May, 1863.

## UNITED STATES ARMY.

David C. Comstock, Jr., from Co. H, 17th Regt.; entered the U.S.A. as hospital steward; disch. Jan. 31, 1867.  
 George W. Chamberlain, enl. Co. B, 17th Conn. Vols.; re-enl. in U. S. Cav., Feb. 3, 1863.  
 Patrick Farrel, enl. in 1859 in the regular army; he had one of his legs broken at Petersburg, Va., where he was struck by nine balls.  
 Samuel B. Ferris, educated at West Point, class of 1861; graduated second lieutenant, and assigned to the 8th U. S. Inf.; he was with his regiment at the first Bull Run rout of June 21, 1861, and until his commission as colonel of the 28th Conn. Vol. On the expiration of his commission he returned to his regiment as first lieutenant, until transferred with captain's commission to the 20th U. S. Inf.  
 Francis M. Holly, appointed assistant surgeon in the winter of 1862, and assigned to hospital at Portsmouth, opposite Norfolk, Va.; he res. in 1863. In 1868 he was appointed surgeon in the U.S.A.  
 John L. Hoyt, Co. B, 1st U. S. Reg. Art.; enl. Nov. 4, 1862; disch. Sept. 5, 1864.  
 William P. Jones was appointed aid-de-camp on the staff of Maj.-Gen. John E. Wool, April 24, 1861, with rank of colonel of volunteers. Sept. 20, 1861, he was appointed aid-de-camp, with the rank of major in the regular army; appointed provost-marshal-general of the Department of Virginia, and assisted at the taking of Yorktown and Norfolk. On the removal of Gen. Wool, in 1862, to Baltimore, he was appointed military provost-marshal of the Mid. Dept., embracing Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey; res., though not before he had earned "for gallant and meritorious service" his commission of brevet brigadier-general of volunteers, dating from March 13, 1865.  
 John Manning, enl. June 16, 1860, 3d U. S. Cav.; disch. July 14, 1867; on the staff of Gen. Grant, and afterwards orderly to Gen. Sherman.  
 Henry O'Neil, Co. B, 5th U. S. Inf.  
 Albert M. Powell, com. first lieutenant, 13th U. S. Inf.; graduated at West Point; pro. to lieutenant-colonel, in charge of artillery 17th Corps; died June 10, 1863.  
 Henry Rockwell, M.D., surgeon in the U.S.A.  
 James Scofield, in 1859 entered the U.S.A., and was assigned to the 4th Regt. of Inf.  
 Edwin L. Smith, enl. Sept. 2, 1864; trans. from the 17th Conn. Vol. to Co. A, 9th U. S. Res.; taken prisoner in Florida.  
 Francis L. Still, enl. Oct. 13, 1863; trans. from 6th Conn. Vol. to Signal Corps in the U.S.A.



he retired from business, going back to Danbury. After ten years' residence there he again moved to Stamford, and bought the place where his son William now lives. He had by inheritance forty acres of land, lying immediately opposite his purchase, which Nehemiah had bought after the Revolution for one pound per acre. In 1827, when Mr. Dibble made this purchase, there was but one house between his residence and the village. Mr. Dibble died with sunstroke, aged seventy-six years, leaving two sons, William H. and Samuel Benjamin.

From the removal to Stamford, William H. was the real head of the family. His father knowing nothing of farming, William had to supervise everything, and from that time he has resided there as proprietor. About 1848, Mr. Dibble opened a select boarding-house for summer entertainment of the *élite* of New York City. He has conducted this since that time, entertaining sometimes as many as eighty guests at once. He has also engaged largely in fruit culture, and has now some twenty acres of choice varieties of large and small fruits. He has been very successful in business and extremely fortunate in dealing in stocks, and holds a high financial standing.

Mr. Dibble married, April 19, 1835, Ann Eliza, daughter of Alpheus Webber, of Kinderhook, N. Y. She died in 1839. They had one child, Harriet E., who lives with her father. June 26, 1840, he married Mary Ann, daughter of Philip and Aurelia (Booth) Walker, of Bridgeport. She was born Dec. 28, 1813. Their children attaining maturity are Mary Catharine (Mrs. Benjamin F. Mosher, of Greenwich; she died Aug. 9, 1869, leaving one daughter, Clara Dibble, who has been cared for by Mr. and Mrs. Dibble ever since) and Carrie Augusta, who died Aug. 5, 1876, aged twenty-three years.

Samuel B. Dibble was born Sept. 1, 1813. He went as a dry-goods dealer to New Jersey when only fifteen, and established in Rahway and Trenton. He lived there some years, married, and moved to New York, his wife's former home, and shortly afterwards, March, 1843, died, aged not quite forty years.

#### CAPT. BENJAMIN L. WAITE.

Benjamin St. Leger Waite, son of Capt. Isaac Waite and Elizabeth St. Leger, was born in Liverpool, England, the birthplace of his mother, about 1805.

His father was born in Portland, Maine, about 1774, and was for a long time commander of the favorite packet-ship "Anna Maria," running between New York and Liverpool. He was one of the oldest navigators engaged in the packet business, and even at that early day the foundation of the packet popularity, which grew to such a magnitude of prosperity, was strongly laid. He died at Westport, Conn., Feb. 14, 1849, much respected.

Capt. B. L. Waite was trained to the sea from

infancy, crossing the Atlantic repeatedly while but a child. His education, begun in England, was finished in New York. His taste for a seaman's life became so marked that at the age of sixteen, having finished the study of navigation, his father sent him in a ship to China, that by the discipline of so long a voyage he might be the better fitted for his life-work. When only nineteen he was placed in command of the Liverpool packet-ship "Superior." In 1832 he was made captain of the "Pacific," in 1834 of the "Britannia," and in 1835 of the "England,"—all three of the once famous "Black Ball" line of Liverpool packets.

Capt. Waite very early acquired the reputation of a skillful and careful navigator, and the confidence reposed in him by owners and passengers was well justified. During his life he crossed the Atlantic more than one hundred and sixty times, and while captain of the "Black Ball" line conveyed over twelve hundred first-class passengers, yet never met with serious disaster, although he encountered some of the most severe storms, where promptitude, caution, and skill all were needed to save his ship. In the "England" he made some of the shortest passages ever accomplished by sailing-ships. Numerous and valuable testimonials from his passengers show how highly he was appreciated. These comprised many of the most distinguished persons crossing the ocean in his day; and his urbane and gentlemanly character and thorough seaman-ship alike won confidence and regard.

As a commander Capt. Waite was unsurpassed. When his quick, clear, full voice was heard from the deck every man was on the alert, and his sailors became so attached to him that they would wait weeks to re-ship with him. Resolute and without fear in the hour of danger, he had a large amount of tenderness and charity, and never soiled his manhood by a cruel act. He fully exemplified the truth that "the bravest are the tenderest," and none who knew him could breathe malice against him.

When steamships superseded packet-ships in transportation of first-class passengers, and the "Black Ball" line was devoted to steerage passengers only, Capt. Waite retired from work a veteran, although not forty years of age. He was requested and solicited to assume command of steamships, but he did not favor them, and at the close of his last voyage, in 1843, retired to his home in Westport, Conn. This was too far from the sea for one so long accustomed to its melody, and, selling his property there, he removed to Stamford, and for the last twenty years of his life resided at Sound View, where after an illness of more than two years he died, May 11, 1874.

Capt. Waite was married to Miss Eliza Hayes, of New York, Oct. 11, 1855. She died March 12, 1861. The captain subsequently married, June 17, 1863, Miss Margaret A. Flynn, of Kingston, N. Y., who still survives.

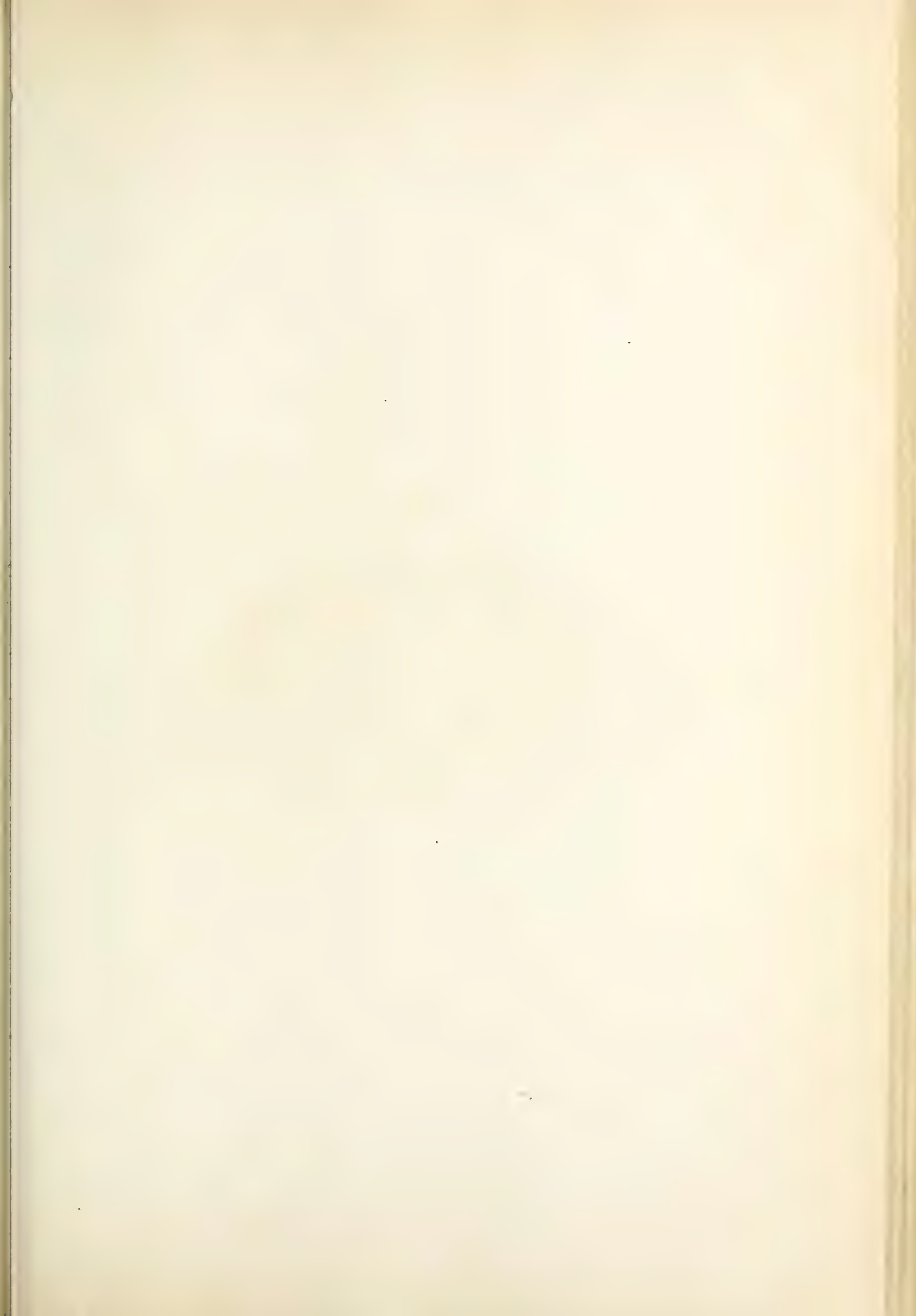
We append a few press notices and other testimo-



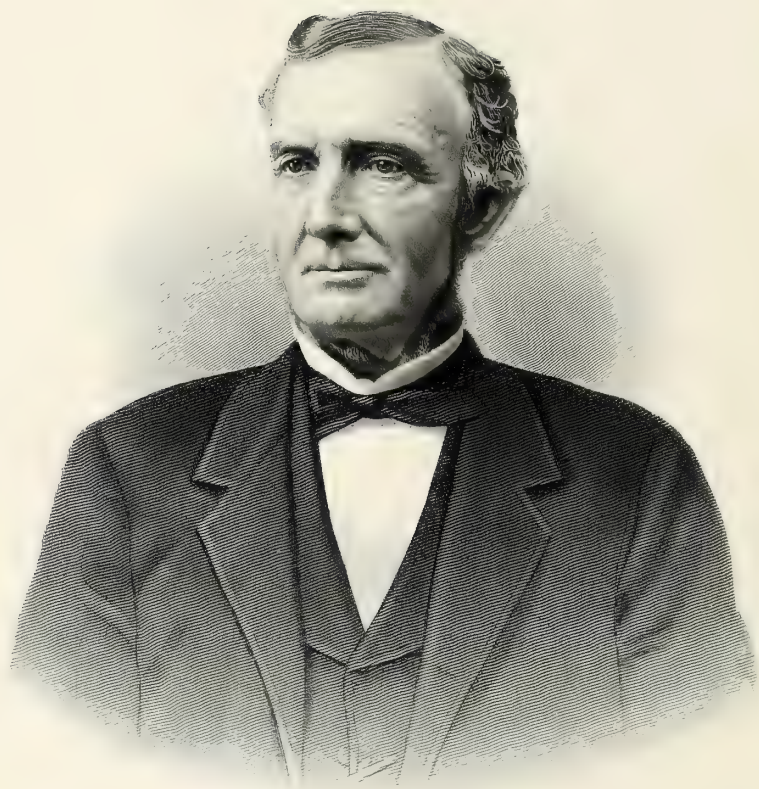
*Benjamin L. White*











Alfred Hoyt

nials as better tributes to his worth than any words of ours.

*New York Herald*, May 12, 1874: "When sailing-ships were the only communication with Europe, he was known as one of the most intrepid as well as skillful and careful of navigators. Numerous stories of his feats while commanding the 'Black Ball' ship 'England' are still spun by old 'sea-dogs' with a readiness and zest that are in themselves good tributes to Capt. Waite's ability. The affectionate references made in them to the 'old man' apparently indicate a mariner of almost fabulous age, and yet Capt. Waite had but reached thirty-nine years."

*New York Sunday Atlas*: "The worthy commander of the 'England,' Capt. Benjamin Waite, is justly entitled to the cognomen 'The Prince of Captains.' In our foreign news we omitted to state that Capt. Waite had undoubtedly saved the lives of a ship's company, which he did by supplying them with provisions and a compass. This was done by means of his life-boat (one of the first constructed by Francis), and under circumstances when any other boat would undoubtedly have swamped, as it was blowing a gale and the sea was very high and breaking. We know this, that our old friend Waite felt more pleasure in relieving the wants of his distressed fellow-beings with his life-boat than he ever could experience by receiving silver plate for stuffing his passengers with champagne and canvas-back ducks."

*S. M. News*, February, 1841: "The gentlemanly character of Capt. Waite, added to his consummate skill in the management of his vessel, has always insured the respect and confidence of those who have been his passengers, and elicited frequent and valuable tokens of well-deserved compliment."

From a Liverpool paper: "The ship 'England' arrived yesterday in nineteen days from New York, a remarkably short passage. On Saturday the cabin passengers entertained Capt. Waite at the 'King's Arms,' and the chairman agreeably surprised him by presenting him, in the name of the company, with a beautifully chased, massive, and solid gold snuff-box, valued at sixty pounds, assuring him that it was only an acknowledgment of his skill as a seaman and his courteous deportment as a gentleman, of which they had had abundant evidence during the voyage. The box bears a suitable inscription, and is the *eleventh* testimonial of the sort that Capt. Waite has received from passengers."

From a New York paper: "The bell rang; Capt. Waite, 'a good fellow and true,' made his appearance. His ruddy and good-natured face, lighted up with a smile for every one, diffused a new feeling among the company. 'How is it,' thought we, 'that some men possess the faculty of making all around them happy and satisfied, while other people produce on the spectator a completely opposite result?' We looked at Capt. Waite intently to see if we could unravel the anomaly. There he was, with his straw hat

bound with a yellow ribbon, moving among the passengers, taking off the names with the utmost good humor, and being introduced to the ladies who were going in his noble ship. He was affable, courteous, and kind, and all seemed at once to repose confidence in his skill and judgment as a seaman. His passengers looked up to him as a commander into whose hands they would willingly commit their safety. The same feelings came over us, and we could not tell why. There is a something in the face of a man that bespeaks his character more broadly than all your phrenological lore."

An autograph letter from the renowned Charles Kemble contained the following:—

"SHIP 'PACIFIC,' Sept. 1, 1832.

"*Resolved*,—That we return our grateful thanks to Capt. B. L. Waite for his urbane and gentlemanly conduct during our passage, and take pleasure in expressing our full confidence in his skill and care as a navigator."—CHARLES KEMBLE, FRANCES ANNE KEMBLE, and twenty others.

This was accompanied with an elegant silver pitcher, with an appropriate inscription. These are but a few of hundreds of testimonials that might be given.

#### ALFRED HOYT.

Alfred Hoyt was born in Stamford, Conn., Jan. 13, 1813. He was the only son of Silas and Charlotte (Smith) Hoyt. His family has for years been accounted one of Stamford's worthiest. Rev. Mr. Huntington says, in his "History of Stamford," of Mr. Hoyt's great-grandfather, "Abraham Hoyt, son of Benjamin, who was the son of Benjamin, who was the son of Simon, the pioneer, was born in Stamford in 1704. He was a man of solid and substantial worth, and was much in public life. He was also an active member of the Congregational Church. . . . His descendants are very numerous, and they have been as enterprising as they are numerous." Simon Hoyt, or Hait, was doubtless one of the earliest settlers in the town, dying here in 1657.

Silas Hoyt, grandfather of Alfred, was born March 2, 1738–39, and died in January, 1825. He served in the Revolution, was selectman and reared a large family, and built the house in which Alfred now resides. Alfred's father was born in the same place, Nov. 8, 1775. He died March 22, 1852. His wife was Charlotte, daughter of Stephen Smith, Esq., of Stamford. Alfred was educated in the private schools of Stamford. His home has always been where he now resides. Shortly after arriving at manhood his father relinquished to him the management of his business, which, in course of time, was also inherited by him. In 1838, Mr. Hoyt engaged in the West India trade in company with Capt. William Lockwood. This copartnership existed till 1845, when it was dissolved by the death of Capt. Lockwood, and Mr. Hoyt sold his interest. They first built the



"Julia Ann," one hundred tons, and ran her to San Domingo, trading in pine-apples, etc. They succeeded the "Julia Ann" with the barque "Texidor," two hundred tons, and that by the "Henry Delafield." One of these vessels was wrecked, and, while another one was building, Capt. Lockwood died, and Mr. Hoyt severed his connection with commerce.

Mr. Hoyt has never sought public position, but has been willing to take a share of those duties and has held various local offices, and represented Stamford in the Legislature in 1864, 1865, and 1869. He is inspector of votes in the First National Bank of Stamford, and has been for years.

Mr. Hoyt believes that every citizen is interested in every election, and since he was of age has not failed to vote at a State or Presidential election. In politics he was an Old-Line Whig, but since the formation of the Republican party has voted and acted with that.

He is an attendant of the Congregational Church, and a liberal supporter of it.

Mr. Hoyt married, Nov. 4, 1868, Miss Emily Knowlton, daughter of Rev. Farnham Knowlton and Sarah (Ingersoll) Knowlton, of Greenwich. Mr. Knowlton graduated at Hamilton College, New York, in 1826, and for many years was an acceptable Baptist clergyman. Mrs. Hoyt was born in Stanwich, town of Greenwich. Her great-grandfather and his brother lived in Ashford, Conn. Both were officers in the American army of the Revolution. One was captain; the other, colonel. The latter was killed at the battle of Harlem Heights. The family has ever been patriotic and brave. Gen. N. B. Lyon, who fell in the late civil war, and whose death was so much regretted, was a cousin of her father.

#### ISAAC SELLECK.

Isaac Selleck, fourth and youngest son of Joseph and Phebe Selleck, was born in Stamford, Conn., where his parents were old residents, in 1807. His ancestors were Puritans, and his parents were brought up in the Congregational belief. In middle life they were converted to the Methodist faith, and were among the first to join the first Methodist Episcopal organization in the town of Stamford. Their house was for many years the home of the weary and worn itinerants of early Methodism, and they also entertained some of the most eminent preachers in the connection, among whom was Bishop Asbury, first bishop of the church. They lived many years honored and beloved, and died in the fullness of time, worthy members of the church of their choice.

Isaac Selleck was educated at the common schools of Stamford, and followed his father's avocation, a farmer, and all of his life occupied the old homestead, and, what is worthy of note, died in the same room where he was born, after sixty-seven years' residence in the same house.

Mr. Selleck married, Nov. 7, 1830, Phebe, daughter of Ebenezer and Phebe (Todd) Webb, also of an old Stamford family. She was born Aug. 15, 1808. For forty-four years this Christian couple lived happily together, when death canceled their bond of earthly union, leaving the partner of his youth and riper years to lay down the endearing appellation of wife and assume the lonely one of widow.

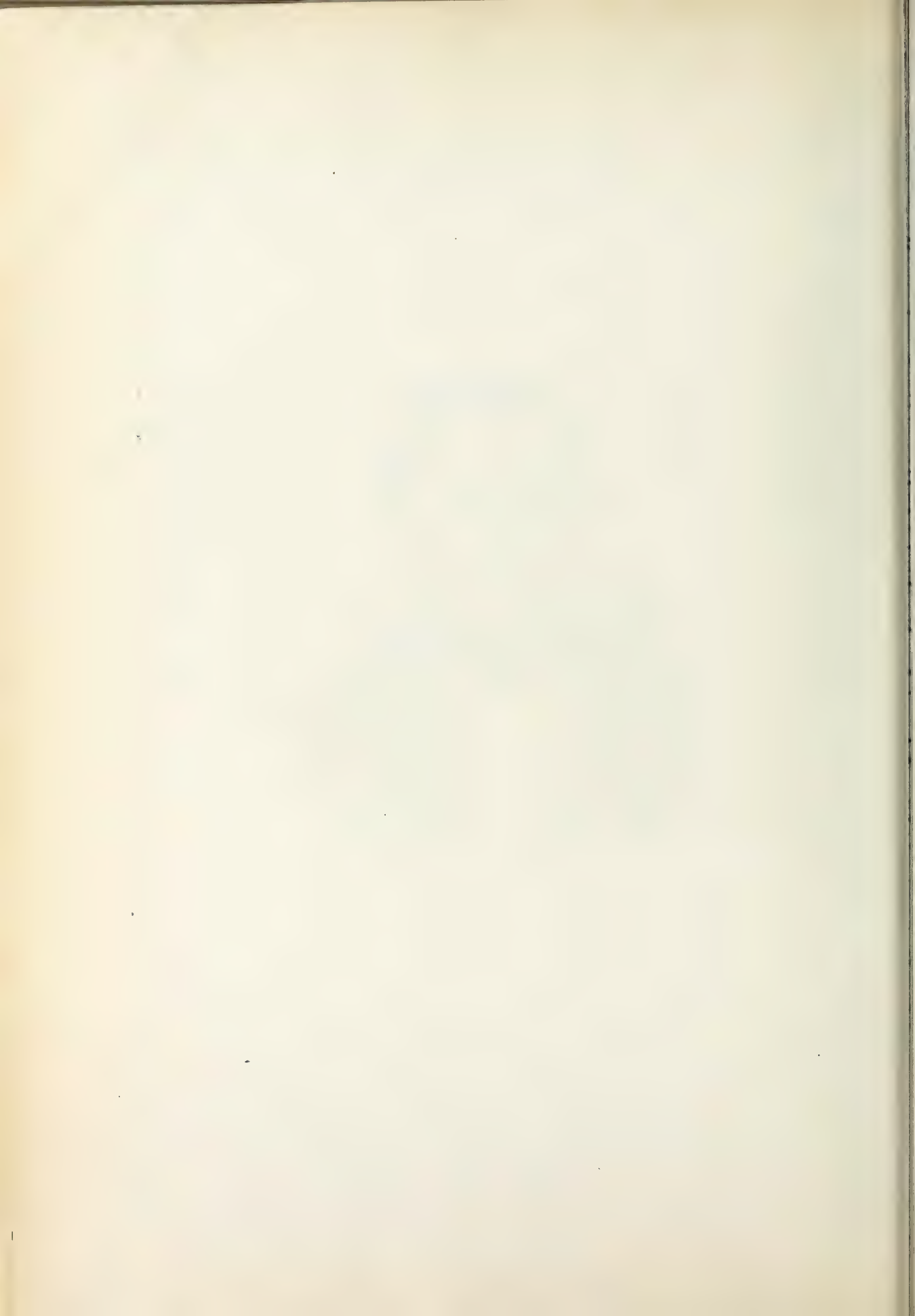
Mr. Selleck was a man of strong character, of slow and deliberate action, quiet and retiring in his nature, and only accepting positions of honor and as matters of Christian duty, and it was mostly in connection with his church that his greatest activity was shown. The inheritor of a comfortable estate, his industry and economy, supplemented by the care and prudence of his wife, placed him in circumstances where he was able to contribute largely to the church he loved. He was in politics an unswerving advocate of right, and on the organization of the Republican party became a member of it. From a personal sketch of the life and character of Mr. Selleck, prepared by Rev. H. F. Pease, a former pastor and friend of years' standing, we abstract the following:

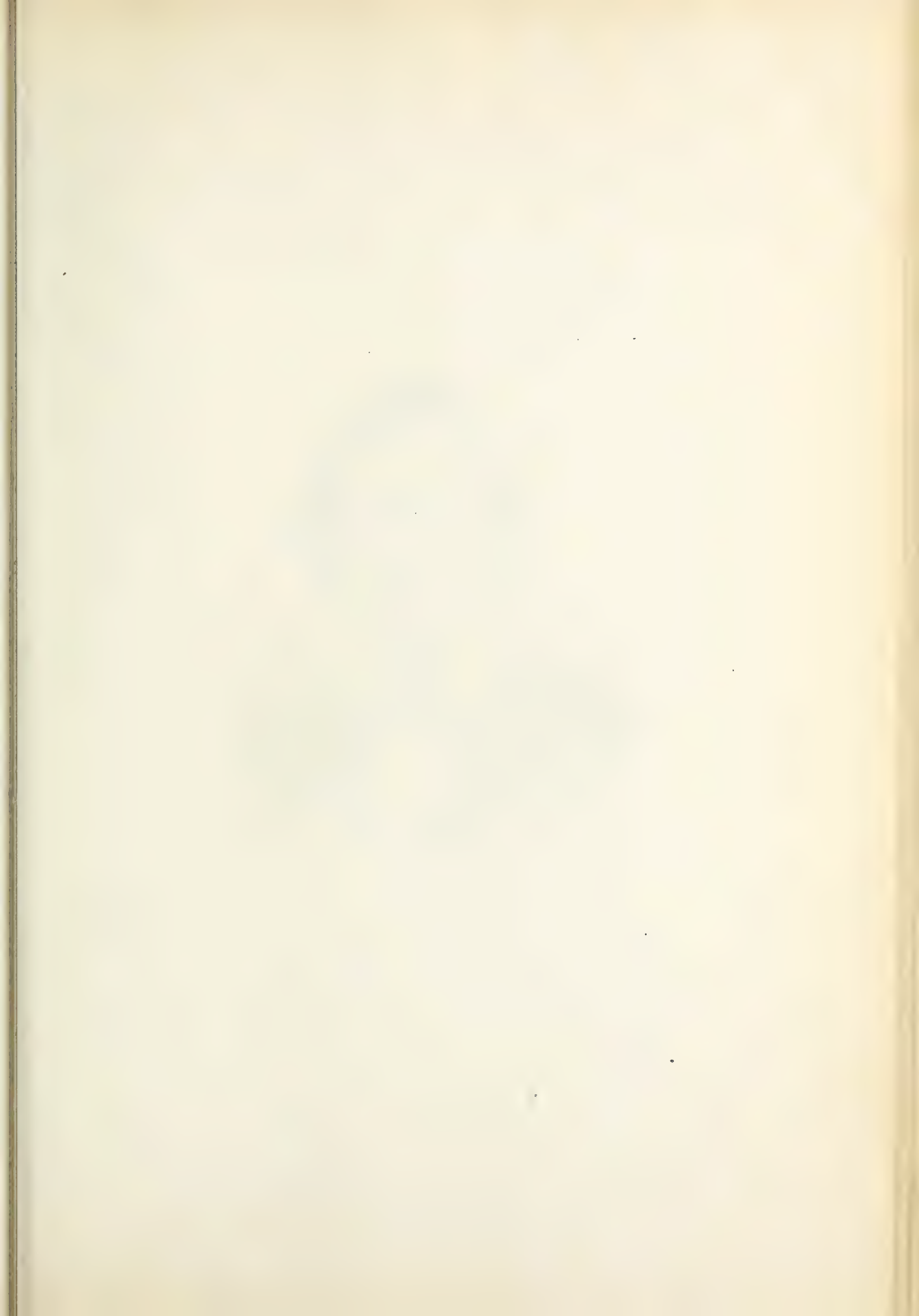
"At eighteen years of age Mr. Selleck was converted and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in its days of feebleness in Stamford, and soon became to it an element of strength. He was early made an officer and for years was steward and trustee, discharging the duties with fidelity and acceptability. When appointed to Stamford charge, in 1847, I first met Brother Selleck, and found him one of the most regular attendants on Divine worship, and one of the most liberal supporters of the church. An appeal to save the church from a crushing debt was responded to in a most liberal manner, but by none with greater liberality than Mr. Selleck. The society to this day is largely indebted for its prosperity to that liberality in the days of its feebleness. Mr. Selleck's piety was not demonstrative. It had little of the noisy element in it, yet for principle, sincerity, constancy, and true God-fearing, not many at the present day excel it. It has been said that he was not *progressive*,—did not keep up with improvements in this fast age of the world. In reply we would say no man should be progressive in the way some are, for their progress is away from policy, principle, and truth. Neither should all be progressive in the sense in which it is proper for others to be. Mr. Selleck's progress was not one always in the direction of the last popular wind, but rather that of the prophet Jeremiah: 'Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the *old paths*, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.' That cannot be bad progress that brings to Christ, to rest, and to heaven. For sixty-seven years he was an epistle known and read of all men, and his neighbors and fellow-townsmen will bear witness that he was a man of the strictest veracity and most unbending



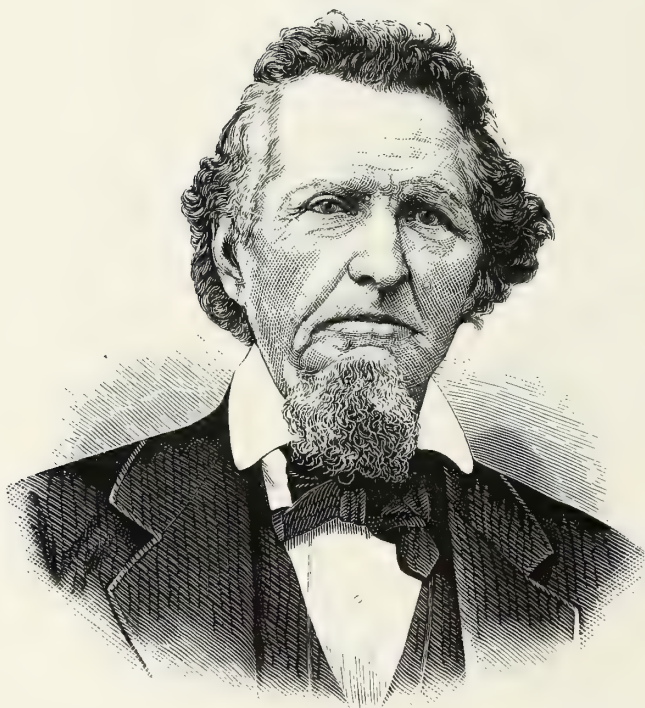
*Isaac L. Lusk*



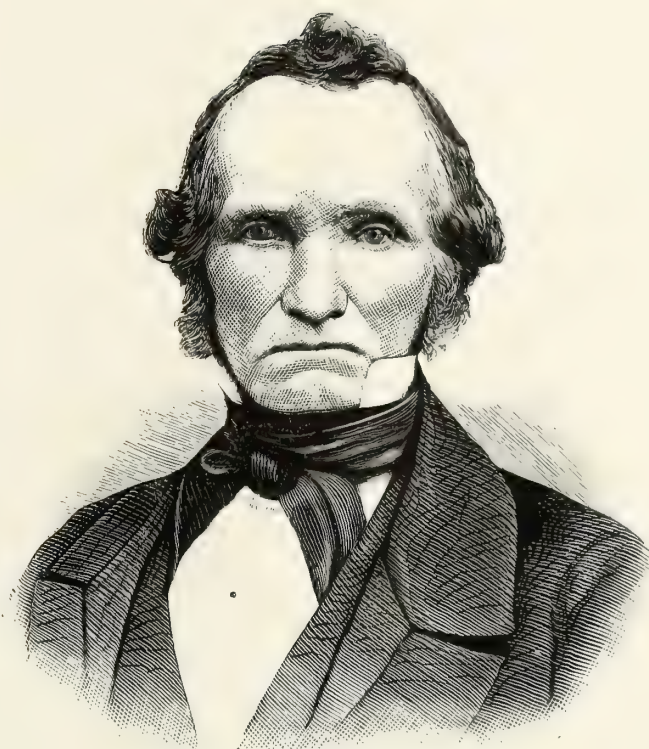








*Wm. L. Adams*



TIMOTHY REYNOLDS.





integrity,—his word as good as his bond, neither needing legal process to enforce their obligation. His death was sudden, but who that knew him doubts that it was safe? that in his case sudden death was sudden glory?"

His death occurred Nov. 6, 1874. Mrs. Selleck, with her sister, still resides at the old home, maintaining the same Christian hospitality that was ever dispensed there, and waiting, patiently, the summons to join her husband in the "land beyond the river."

#### TIMOTHY REYNOLDS.

Timothy, son of Abel and Anna (Mead) Reynolds, was born March 23, 1802, in Roxbury, town of Stamford, Conn. He was of English ancestry and Puritan stock. His grandfather, Timothy, was captured by the Indians during the Indian wars previous to the Revolution. He was an officer before the Revolution, and held a colonial commission in that war, which has been preserved with great care by his descendants.

Abel Reynolds was born in Greenwich, and after marriage settled at Roxbury, where he lived many years as a farmer, dying much respected about 1850.

Timothy Reynolds was reared on the farm with his parents, and, with the other youth of that day, attended common schools winters and "worked on the farm" summers until he was about eighteen years old. Then he went to learn the carpenter's trade with an uncle, George Reynolds, in Stanwich, and remained with him until after he was twenty-one. Commencing business for himself, he worked at his trade until his love of home life and failing health caused him to cease that business and become a farmer. He married, Nov. 10, 1827, Prudence, daughter of Solomon and Susannah Smith. She was born in Stamford, April 6, 1804. Her family was one of the old-time families in this town, emigrating originally from England to Long Island, and from thence to Stamford.

Mr. Reynolds was a farmer, frank and outspoken, without anything savoring of fraud or deceit in his nature; never seeking official position, but often called upon to settle estates, which he did to the satisfaction of those interested. Quiet, loving home and its associations, he was a true friend, and honored and respected by all. He died Aug. 23, 1863.

He was an Old-Line Whig, and became a Republican on the organization of that party.

Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds were for years members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and always liberal supporters of the same. Since Mr. Reynolds' death Mrs. Reynolds has, among many gifts, contributed the sites of the Roxbury Methodist Episcopal church and its parsonage.

For thirty-six years this worthy couple walked together life's pathway, doing each duty well as it presented itself, and lending a helping hand to all good enterprises. Since her husband's decease Mrs.

Reynolds has resided at the old home, continuing the same life of well doing, and, with all the vivacity and cheerfulness of youth, patiently waiting the summons to follow her beloved husband to "the land beyond the river." Of them both it can be truly said, "They have done their work well."

#### NATHANIEL E. ADAMS.

The ancestry of Nathaniel E. Adams were not only men of repute in New England, but the line goes back and develops itself in many a page of history in "Merrie England." The full genealogy of the Adams family is now in course of preparation, and we will not trace the lineage farther than to John, grandfather of Nathaniel, who was a worthy citizen of Greenwich, Conn. His son John married Mary Hobby, and Nathaniel E., his son, was born in Greenwich, July 7, 1807.

Nathaniel passed his childhood on the old homestead with his parents, and was apprenticed at an early age to a carpenter in Stamford, to learn, as in those days expressed, the art and mystery of carpentering. He was an apt student, learned his trade thoroughly, and began business for himself before he was twenty-one, but, by engaging with a drunken partner, not only lost his hard-earned capital, but became indebted four hundred dollars to various persons. That was a larger amount than many times that sum would be now, for he was compelled to go to New York, where he obtained work from Locke & Coleman, on Scudder's Museum, but was forced to borrow money to provide for the necessities of his family, and it was two years before the last of the indebtedness was paid. He remained in New York ten years, then, returning to Stamford, he became a coal- and lumber-dealer, and commenced to deal in real estate by purchasing a lot of land and laying it out, in 1850, into lots, surveying new streets, and building and selling houses, so that where was a wild waste of almost valueless land is now a beautiful portion of the village of Stamford. Mr. Adams is emphatically a self-made man, and has invariably been the advocate of law, order, and improvement. He is of winning manners, of great and pleasing conversational powers, and possesses a remarkable faculty of applying poetical quotations to any subject under conversation. His memory is wonderful and his reading extensive. He has a large fund of humor, and is of a most cheerful temperament. In 1864, carrying letters of introduction to President Lincoln from ex-Gov. Minor, ex-Congressman Smith, and others, he went to Washington, had a long and pleasant interview with Mr. Lincoln, and finally leased a cotton plantation of sixteen hundred and fifty acres in Louisiana from the United States Government, and commenced raising cotton. His peculiar frankness and honesty won him at once the friendship of all, even the most bitter rebels, and his plantation was protected by the Confederate



troops. The experiment promised to be a success, financially and otherwise, but through a defaulting partner and the ravages made on the growing crop by caterpillars he lost ten thousand dollars. After this disastrous termination of his venture, Mr. Adams returned to Stamford, and has ever since resided there, having, notwithstanding his loss, a very handsome competency. He is a member of the First Congregational Church of Stamford, and has been for more than forty years a deacon. With a strong love for children, he has been an ardent Sabbath-school worker, both as teacher and superintendent.

Mr. Adams cast his first vote, as a Democrat, for Simeon H. Minor for member of Legislature, and by it gave him his majority of one. Afterwards Mr. Adams became a Whig, then a Republican. He was for many years, and until disqualified by age, a magistrate, and by his decisions and actions in that capacity drew warm encomiums from the best citizens.

Mr. Adams married Sarah Ann Dixon, of an old Stamford family, March 23, 1829. She was born in New York, May 23, 1806. Their children were Charles W., James E. (deceased), Julia H. (who is the widow of Brevet Lieut.-Col. Alfred M. Powell, U.S.A.), James E. (deceased), John, Franklin.

#### JOHN CLASON.

In the early records of Stamford appears the name of Clason, Cloyson, Clawson,—all different spellings of the same name. At the assignment of land by lot, Dec. 26, 1699, there were sixty-nine lots drawn by seventy-five persons. Of these Stephen Clawson drew the first.

Among the soldiers of the Revolution were Nathaniel, Isaac, Samuel, and Stephen Clason.

From that day to the present has the Clason family been domiciled in Stamford, and now the historian records with pleasure the leading incidents in the life of one who may justly be called a representative man of the family.

John Clason, son of Benjamin and Nancy (Ayres) Clason, was born Sept. 8, 1825. The educational advantages of a farmer's son, in those days, were mostly comprised in the three months' winter term of school in the country school-house. Such, John received while he remained at home. He commenced the active duties of life, however, for himself at the age of fifteen, and, as he could afford it, supplemented, from time to time, his early education by instructions under John Lyell, A.M., a graduate of the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, with a view to civil engineering as a profession, for which he thoroughly prepared himself in the mathematical branches. In 1851 he entered the store of Alanson Studwell, at Stamford, as a clerk, and stayed one year. For about two years subsequently he was a teacher in the public schools.

About 1844, Mr. Clason purchased a farm, engaged in farming and dealing in native timber, and enjoying the reputation of being the most successful farmer (financially and otherwise) Stamford had ever produced, until about 1862, when he sold his farm, continuing, however, farming operations on a small place of twenty acres, which he has brought to a high standing in productiveness.

Mr. Clason has held all of the local offices connected with schools in the town, and was member of the Board of Education for four years, resigning his position when elected judge of Probate. He was elected member of Legislature from Stamford in 1851, and was the youngest member of that body. In 1854 he again represented his town in the Legislature, and from 1871 to 1875, five years, held the same position, a length of continued service, in that capacity, unprecedented in Stamford since the adoption of the Constitution in 1818. In 1855 he was elected assessor, and held that office twenty-five years. He was elected judge of Probate in 1876, and re-elected in 1878, and has rendered entire satisfaction in the performance of his judicial duties. He has held, also, various other town offices, such as justice, etc. He was for several years a director of Stamford Savings Bank, resigning that office, in accordance with the law of the statute, to become a director of Stamford National Bank. In politics Judge Clason was originally a Whig, afterwards a Republican. He is a generous supporter of all churches, societies, and enterprises that tend to elevate, improve, or educate mankind. In the Legislature, Mr. Clason was, emphatically, a working member, clear-headed and practical, and in committee work a patient and careful investigator, opposed to all "jobbery," and with judgment rarely at fault. Strictly honorable and upright, the repeated number of times his fellow-townsmen have called him to office evidence their appreciation of these qualities. He has never married.

#### WILLIAM W. SCOFIELD.

William Wallace Scofield was born in Stamford, Conn., March 2, 1825. His father was Amzi and his mother Polly (Davenport) Scofield.

The Scofield family is an old Stamford family. In the town records, under date of Dec. 7, 1641, mention is made of an award of a home-lot and wood-land to "Dan Scofield." From this hardy pioneer have proceeded many branches of this family, until at this writing the name is borne by more people in Stamford than any other.

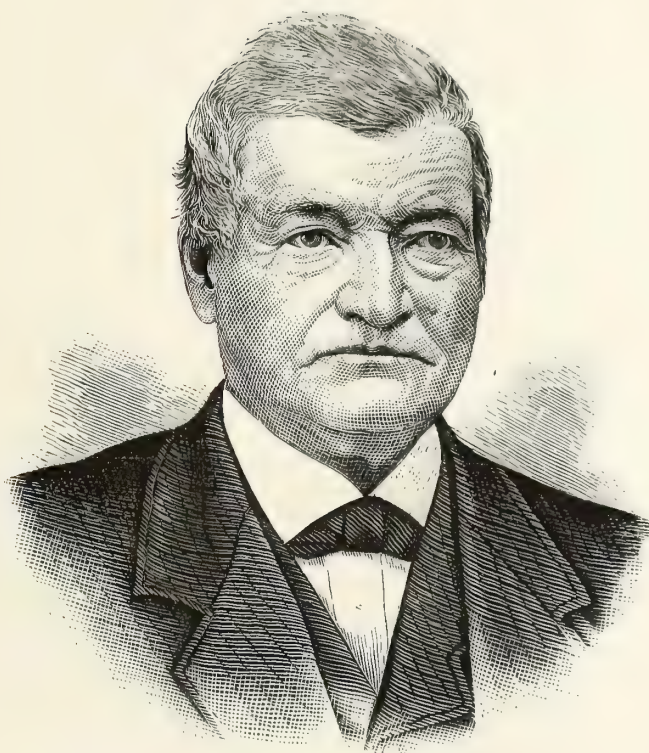
The paternal great-grandfather of W. W. Scofield was Peter Scofield, and his grandfather was Warren. This grandfather married a daughter of Capt. Reuben Scofield, who was a captain of the town guards in the Revolution. Both Reuben and Peter were deacons in the Congregational Church, and both served in the French and Indian war under Gens. Abercrombie





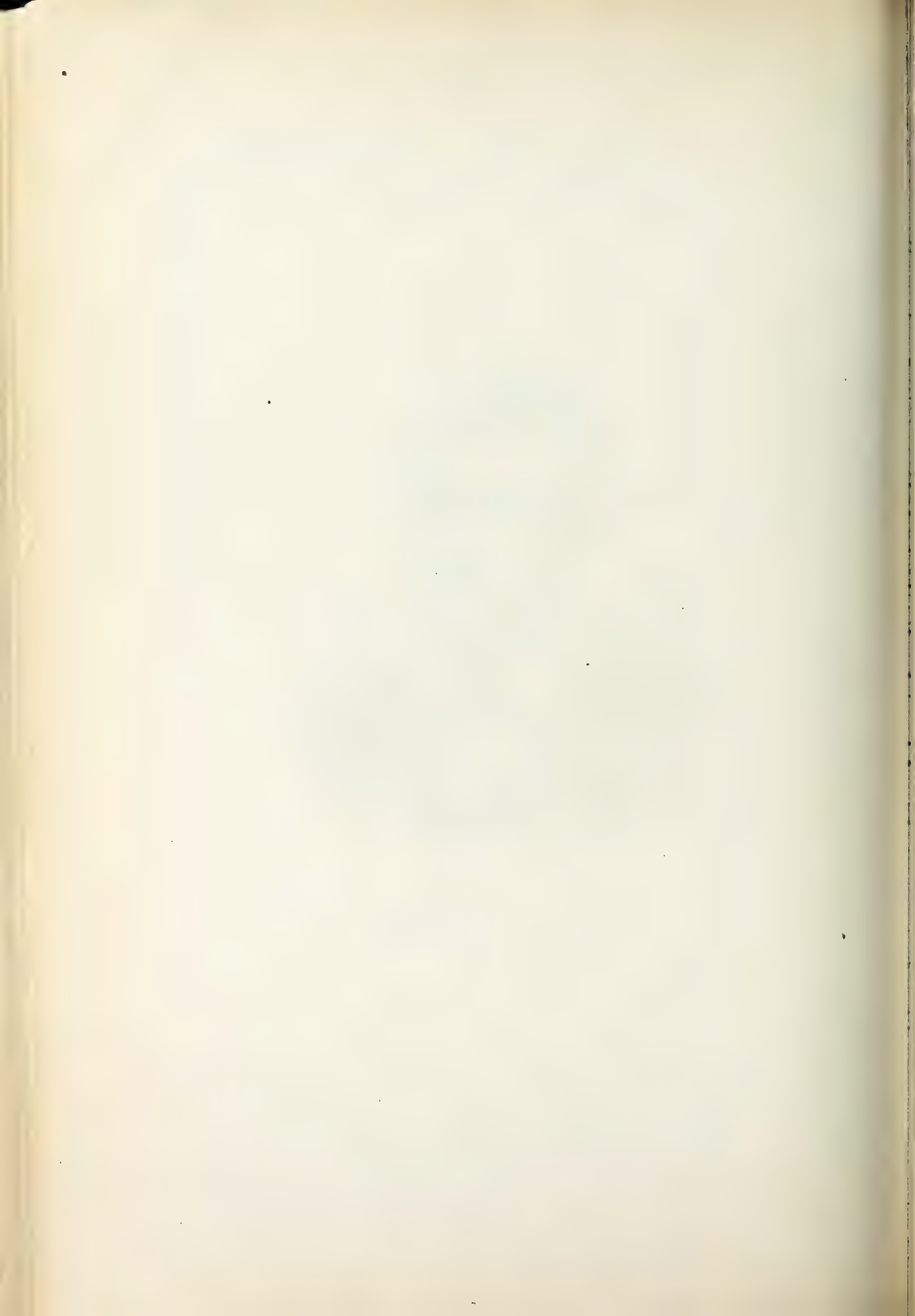


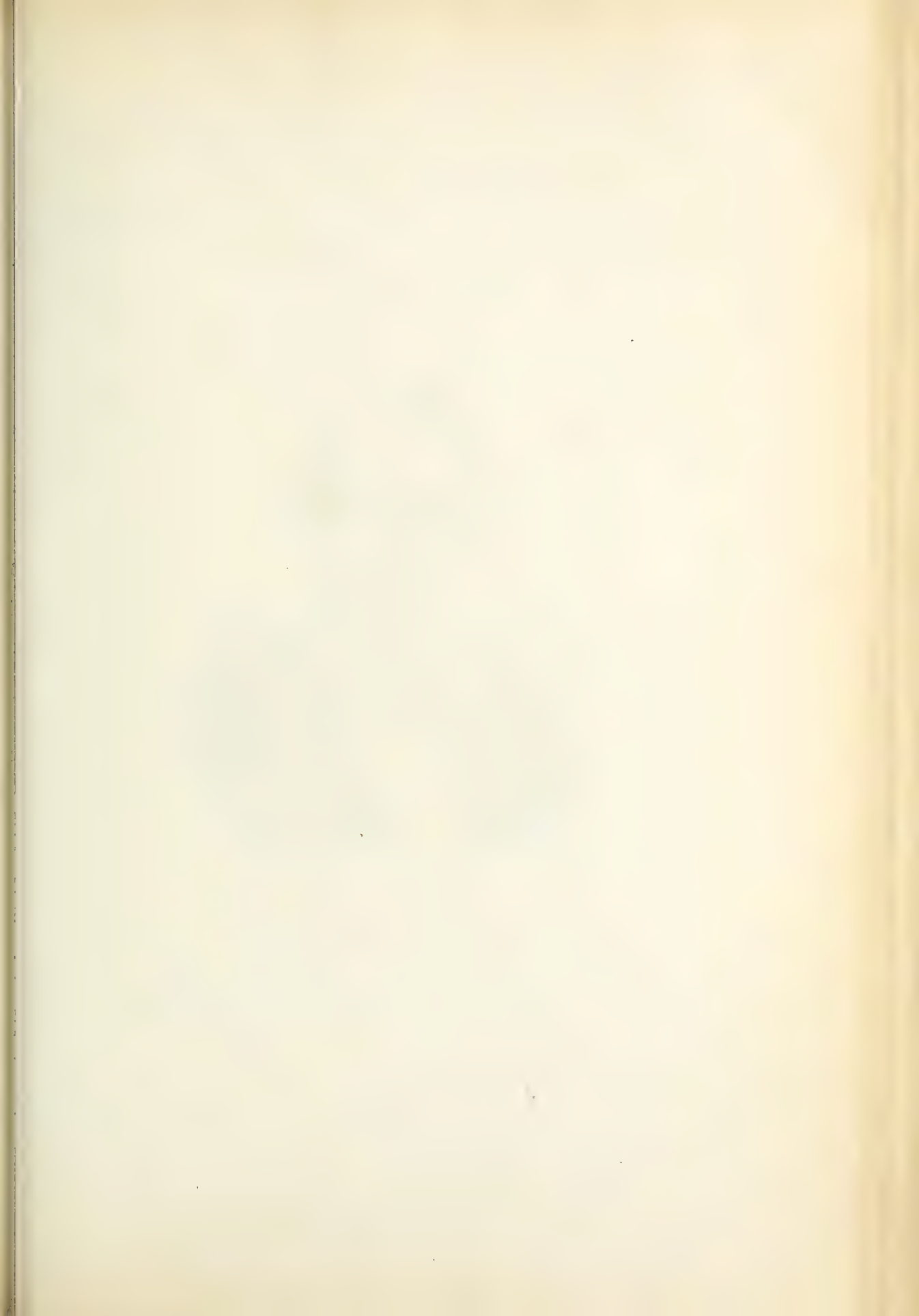
*W. H. Scoville*



W. W. Scofield









partner. This changed the firm to Scofield, Cook & Co. In the spring of 1866, Mr. Cook sold his interest to his partners, and they continued the business as Lounsbury & Scofield for one year, Mr. Cook during that time representing Stamford in the State Legislature.

In the fall of 1866, Mr. Cook erected the manufactory used by the firm Cook & Lounsbury. This firm was formed in 1867, the members being Mr. Cook and Charles H. Lounsbury. From that time to the present Mr. Cook has not only been identified with the business, but given it his close personal attention. Under the shrewd management, diligence, and active efforts of the two partners, the demand for their goods has rapidly increased, and their manufactory is to-day occupying a place among the prominent manufacturing interests of Stamford.

Mr. Cook has, besides being representative, been assessor, and often pressed to accept positions of public trust, but with these exceptions, he has steadily refused them, preferring to attend to his own business rather than that of others.

Mr. Cook was one of the three men in Stamford who had the moral courage to vote for Martin Van Buren as Free Soil candidate for President, and to the same convictions that actuated him then he has steadfastly adhered. He never could see how one workingman should try to "lord it" over another, whatever the color of his skin. With these sentiments he has naturally affiliated with Republicanism since it was a political power, and was by that party elected representative. In 1872 he followed his old leader, Horace Greeley, and voted for him for President, returning to his old bearings after the death of Mr. Greeley.

Mr. Cook was one of the incorporators of the Citizens' Savings Bank of Stamford, and has been one of its directors since that time. He is also a director in the First National Bank of New Canaan, Conn.

He is a member and a most liberal supporter of the Universalist Church, and has been clerk of the one at Long Ridge ever since he was twenty-one years old.

Sept. 29, 1851, he married Mary L., daughter of George and Louisa (Scofield) Lounsbury. Their children are Nettie L., who married Benjamin M., son of Rev. F. H. Ayres, of Long Ridge, and Mary W., aged now eight years.

#### CAPTAIN DAVID WATERBURY.

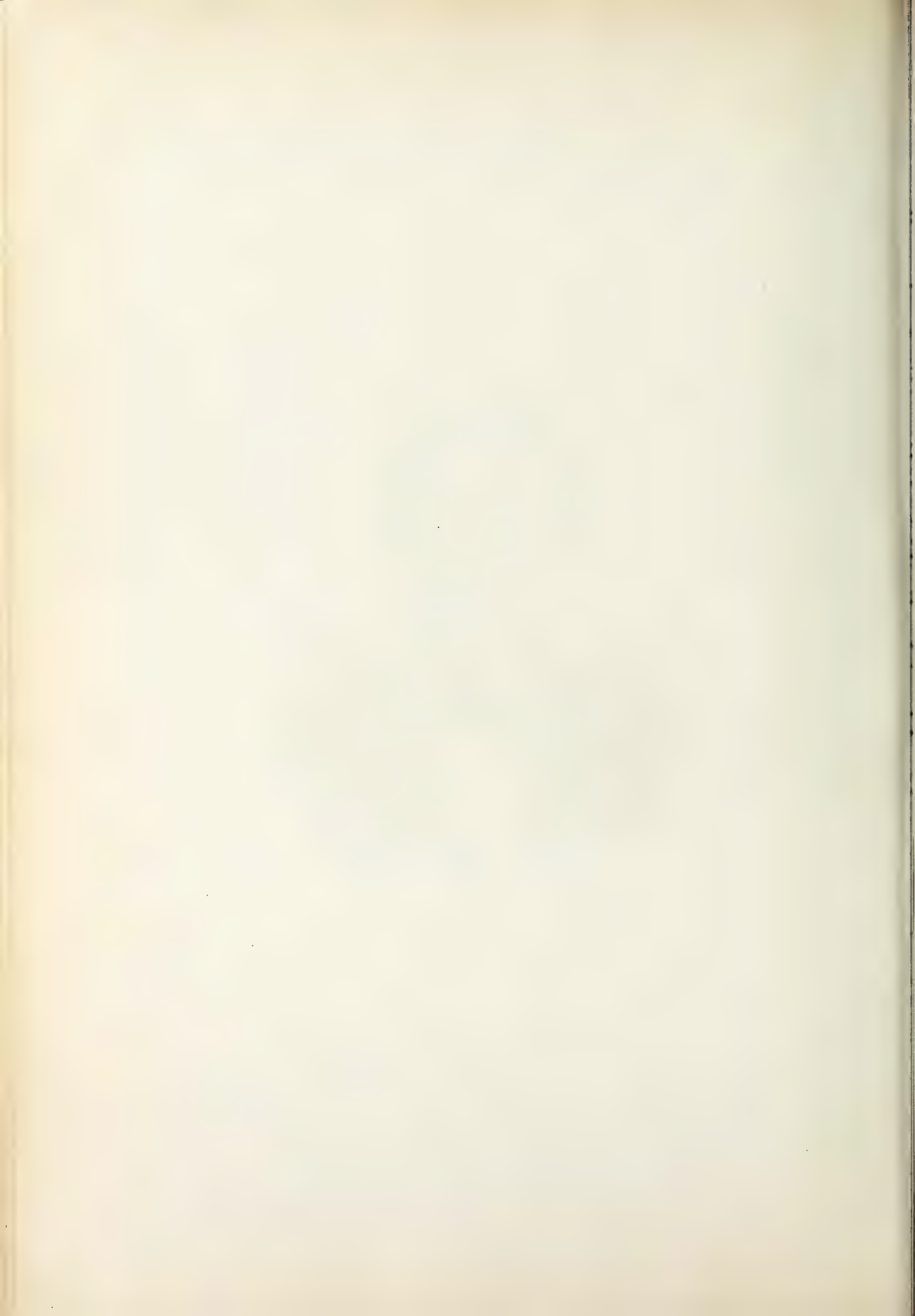
One of the oldest as well as most honorable of Stamford families is the Waterbury family. Probably none has exercised more influence on its history. John Waterbury came to Stamford soon after the settlement, had land recorded to him in 1650, and died in 1658. From him sprang the numerous families now resident here. The lineage is traced in Huntington's "History of Stamford," and we will only state that David Waterbury, Jr., grandfather of the one

of whom we write, did excellent service in the French and Indian wars, attaining the rank of major. He was representing the town in the Assembly at the commencement of the Revolution, and did good service for the colonial cause. (Rev. Mr. Huntington heads his list of the military men of that time thus: "There were the Waterburys, then known as senior and junior, the former long a colonel in the Continental service, who had earned some reputation for good judgment and military ability in the field, and the latter, soon to earn, by his personal fitness for it, the rank of a general of brigade.") He was born in Stamford, Feb. 12, 1722. Probably no other citizen of Stamford reached so high a position or did so much service for the United Colonies as he. He was in the confidence and enjoyed the friendship and high esteem of the leaders of the Revolution, and great complaint was made of his conduct to Tories. He seems to have given them no mercy. He was promoted from a colonelcy, with which he entered the war, to brigadier-general in June, 1776; was captured by the English, but soon exchanged. He was a gallant soldier, an able officer, and a brave man. After returning to Stamford he was selectman and representative. He died June 29, 1801, leaving one son, Capt. William Waterbury, fourth, who was born Oct. 10, 1765, and died Jan. 10, 1842. He was long in public business, and showed the family trait of resistance to oppression in his persistent refusal to pay the annual tax for the Congregational society, expending money as freely to establish freedom from the church as he had freely given his services to establish freedom from British tyranny. He married Mrs. Sally Jessup, daughter of Philip Lockwood, of Greenwich, and his eldest son, David, was born in Stamford, April 17, 1819. This was the present Capt. David Waterbury. He remained with his parents, and had such common-school advantages as the place and times afforded, until he was about fifteen, when he shipped as a sailor, at twelve dollars per month, on a market-boat trading weekly between Stamford and New York. He passed through the various grades of first hand, etc., rising steadily, until, before his twentieth birthday, he was captain of the "Rival," a sloop of about fifty tons. Capt. Waterbury continued in that business until 1852, when, in company with Edmund Lockwood and Lewis Waterbury, he purchased the steamer "William W. Frazier." The company ran her as a daily passenger- and freight-boat between Stamford and New York, Capt. Lockwood commanding her, Capt. Waterbury being superintendent, agent, etc., with office at Stamford. In 1859 the "Frazier" was superseded by the "Ella," which the same company built. The "Ella" was run on this route until 1862, when they sold her to the United States Government, and Capt. Lockwood retired from business. The two remaining of the firm, with Oliver Scofield, built the "Stamford," and in 1863 placed her on the same route as the



*David Waterbury*











RICHMOND FOX.



*W. H. Lowbridge*





"Ella." The next year they sold the "Stamford," and then a stock company built the ship "Ann," of about five hundred tons, and in 1865 placed her on the same route. She continued running here until May, 1870, when she was burned at the wharf at Stamford, together with the storehouse and other property of the company, the entire loss being about seventy thousand dollars, only one-half covered by insurance.

Capt. Waterbury then commenced dealing in coal and wood, and has continued in that till the present. After a lapse of three years he became interested in the steamboat business again, and is still connected therewith.

Capt. Waterbury married, Jan. 23, 1842, Sarah M., daughter of John Selleck, of Stamford. Their surviving children are Wm. T., now captain of steamer "Meta," running between Stamford and New York; John S., an engineer residing in Stamford; Mary E., who married Edwin S. Webb, of Brooklyn; Sarah M.; Charles F., engaged with his father in the coal business; and Lottie A. Mrs. Waterbury died Sept. 26, 1867. April 29, 1875, Capt. Waterbury married Mrs. Josephine E. Colby, sister of the first Mrs. Waterbury. Her parents, John and Charlotte (Mead) Selleck, were life-long residents of Stamford. Mr. Selleck was born on the old Selleck homestead, and lived within half a mile of there all his life.

The life of Captain Waterbury presents a good example of what a poor boy, aided by honesty, integrity, and hard work, may accomplish for himself; and he stands to-day, with the confidence and regard of his fellow-townsmen, a successful business man, his word as good as his bond, and neither ever repudiated.

Democratic in politics, he has preferred holding fast to the good old ways rather than going into brilliant but rash speculations. He has never taken an active part in politics, always voting quietly, as he thought best, and for the best man, irrespective of party, in local matters. Broad and liberal in his religious views, he for years has been a member of the Universalist Church.

#### RICHMOND FOX.

Richmond Fox was born at Newfield, town of Stamford, Conn. He was the son of Richard and Clara (Scofield) Fox. His childhood and youth were passed in Stamford, acquiring a common-school education and learning the carpenter's trade. Soon after his twenty-first birthday Mr. Fox went to the Southern States to take charge of a manufacturing establishment, and for five years was absent from Stamford. Returning after that length of time, he worked at carpentering in Stamford for two years, going then to Fairfield, and, after a short space of time, to Bridgeport, where he remained long enough—six months—to become acquainted with Miss Mary E. Blakeman,

whom he married Dec. 24, 1843. She was born in Woodbury, Litchfield Co., Conn., Nov. 2, 1821, and was daughter of David and Sarah (Hammond) Blakeman. From the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fox were residents of Stamford, moving, in the spring of 1844, to the place on Strawberry Hill where at the present writing Mrs. Fox is resident.

After a few years' business as contractor and builder, Mr. Fox engaged in the manufacture and sale of lumber with Mr. John St. John, under the firm-name of Fox & St. John. This proved a successful financial enterprise, and the partnership continued until the death of Mr. Fox, which occurred Nov. 15, 1897.

Mr. Fox was of genial disposition, positive, blunt, and straightforward in business, social and large-hearted in all the relations of life, liberal in relieving suffering, of winning personal magnetism and strong home love. He was an attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church (of which Mrs. Fox has been a faithful and consistent member since 1833), and a liberal contributor to its support. In person large and handsome, a stranger would at once be attracted to him, and an acquaintance would soon ripen into a finer friendship as the result of the candor and integrity of his outspoken nature.

In politics Mr. Fox was an unyielding supporter of the principles enunciated by Thomas Jefferson, and he, with Andrew Jackson, believed that in Democracy alone rested the glorious mission of preserving the integrity of our Union, and giving "the greatest good to the greatest number" of all our citizens.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Fox are Mary (Mrs. Charles C. Chadwick), now living at Detroit, Mich.; Franklin, George, Emma (deceased), Charles, and Sarah Frances (Mrs. Nathan Murdough).

#### WILLIAM H. TROWBRIDGE, M.D.

William H. Trowbridge was born in Danbury, Conn., Feb. 2, 1822. His parents both came of good old English stock, his father, James H. Trowbridge, dating back through six generations direct to Thomas, whose three sons, Thomas, James, and William, came to America in 1634, and his mother, Mary (Banks) Trowbridge, reaching through the Hoyt family back to England also.

When William H. was two years old his parents moved to Stamford, where his father engaged in the manufacture of hats, which he followed until the death of his wife, when he returned to that portion of Danbury now called Bethel. William received his early education in district and private schools, and even in childhood developed a fondness for medicine, but kept his preference secret, feeling that his parents were not in such a financial condition as to properly help him in pursuit of his studies. When about seventeen he desired to engage as teacher in a district school, but, yielding to his parents' wishes, he entered as apprentice to a tailor in Bethel, then Danbury.



and served faithfully until he was twenty-two years old, preferring always, however, the *cutting* of clothes to sewing them up. During these years his books were not forgotten, but through his labors and the attraction of youthful society, with its rides and parties, the idea of surgery was ever before him, and while here an accident brought this proclivity into prominence. An old man, in an attempt at self-destruction, cut his throat, and, in a village like Bethel, everybody knew of it and thronged to see, among the number was William, then eighteen years old. The physician was, on his arrival, engaged in dressing the gaping wound in the old man's throat, with the aid of such help as could be obtained from the inexperienced and faint-hearted crowd. William was at once drawn, instinctively, to patient and physician. Seeing his interest, the doctor said, "Young man, you are not pale; take hold of this and help me, and let these chicken-hearts go away." The youth did such good service, holding the lips of the wound, handling dressings, etc., so well, that the physician, Dr. Hanford Bennett, said, "Boy, you'll be a surgeon some day, and no one can help it."

Finishing (prematurely) his trade, William went to Stamford, married Miss Sylvia Peck, and soon moved to Orange Co., N. Y., and after two years spent in that State returned to Stamford and engaged as teacher in the district school, where his early school-days were spent. He succeeded, gained reputation, and soon taught higher grades of school, all of the time studying medicine diligently from 5 A.M. till school-time, summer and winter, and laboring with all his might in the school-room to provide for his family and attend medical lectures. Teaching and studying alternately, he attended one course at Yale, two courses at New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, and graduated at Yale Medical College. After spending one year in the office with Dr. George Lewis, in New York, he opened an office in Stamford, where, excepting his army life, he has enjoyed a thriving practice. In the late war of the Rebellion, Dr. Trowbridge was first engaged as surgeon of the Twenty-third Regiment Connecticut Volunteers. To this work he was impelled by a sense of duty, and left a lucrative and fast increasing practice solely to do good. His regiment proceeded to New Orleans with Gen. Banks, and on arriving there Dr. Trowbridge sought the medical director of that department, and told him he came there for *work*, and if he was needed anywhere he would be on hand. As a result, during his stay in the department there was not a battle fought in which he was not called upon to give service. After the battle of La Fouché Crossing he was called, without assistance, to attend to more than two hundred wounded Confederate prisoners. Their injuries ranged from flesh wounds to broken skulls and shattered limbs. He commenced his work at four o'clock Sunday after-

noon, and worked incessantly, without sitting down to eat, or sleeping, until Tuesday at midnight. The day thereafter he was left in the rebels' hands with the wounded, but by them kept in the same place and service. This captivity lasted six weeks. Soon after he accompanied his regiment to Connecticut, and with it was mustered out of service on expiration of term of enlistment. He was soon selected as surgeon of board of enrollment in the Fourth District of Connecticut, and placed on duty at Bridgeport. He attended so well to the duties that he held that position till the close of the war, when he was again honorably discharged, and returned to his home in Stamford. He resumed his professional practice, and from that time has been identified with the town, his practice and reputation for skill increasing yearly. Four of his children have attained maturity. The oldest, a teacher, is married and father of four children, yet Dr. Trowbridge remains young, and alert and active as of yore. His talents are those of solidity rather than brilliancy. He is not blatant, nor freely expressive of his knowledge, but well posted in his profession. He is not a boaster, and despises one as much as an intriguer or trickster, and is always on good terms with his brethren. He especially excels in surgery and midwifery. In both his skill is from natural aptitude. His army experience has largely aided his skill as a surgeon, while that of midwifery has grown upon him, through the exceptionally large practice given him by his gentleness and kindness of manner, aided by an untiring patience and a coolness that never flurries to hinder his success or make nervous his patient. In this department he stands at the head of his profession in this section. For many years he has numbered more than one hundred obstetric cases per annum, having in one year one hundred and forty-four, out of a total, in the town, of three hundred and fifty-four.

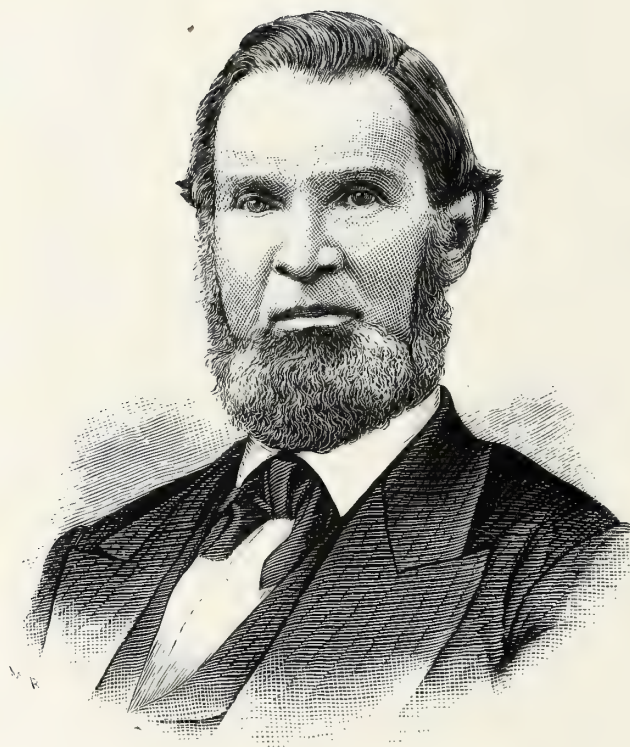
#### CHAUNCEY AYRES, M.D.

The ancestor of the Ayres family in this country was a Dr. Ayres, who was a surgeon in the British army. He came to America with his regiment during the Revolutionary war. After its close he resigned his commission and permanently located here. He had a number of sons, one of whom settled in Stamford. The first of the name recorded in Stamford was Richard Ayres. He was a married man, and his son Ebenezer, born in 1716 and married in 1739, had a son Reuben, born in 1741. Reuben was the father of Jonathan, who married Deborah Scofield. They had nine children. Among these was Frederick, born in 1782. He married Rebecca Seymour, and of their numerous family of children Dr. Chauncey Ayres was oldest.

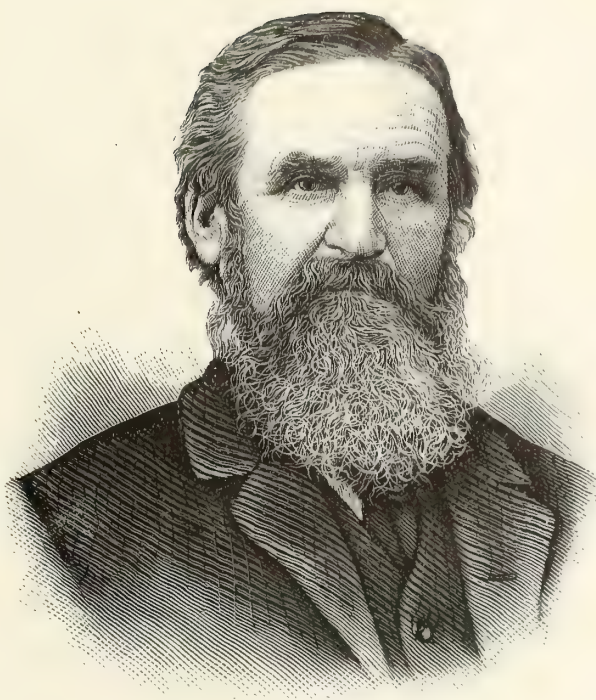
Chauncey Ayres, M.D., was born in New Canaan, Conn., Aug. 8, 1808. He graduated in medicine at Yale College in 1831; first opened an office in Green-







Chauncy Ayes MD



*Chas. C. Keweenaw*











*J. P. Daskin*

wich, and afterwards in New York, and was one of the surgeons in the New York Cholera Hospital in 1832. He was for a time attached to the United States Coast Survey as a surgeon. In 1834 he settled permanently in Stamford, where he soon acquired a good practice, and where he has since been a resident. His first wife was daughter of Dr. Percival, of Darien. Their children were a son, now chief engineer United States Navy, and three daughters. The second wife was Julia A. Simpson, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They have had three children. Dr. Ayres is still in active practice, and is the oldest practicing physician, save one, in Fairfield County. Dr. Ayres has been located in Stamford for forty-six years, and of all who were practicing in the county in 1834, the year he located here, all are dead but Dr. Ayres and Dr. Mead, of Greenwich.

Dr. Ayres has enjoyed the confidence and esteem of the community through a very long professional life, has been called to fill various positions of honor and trust, and to-day, among the many aspirants for the popular good-will, none carry with them a greater portion than Dr. Ayres, and no professional man, for years, will have the broad circle of friends and the extensive practice which he possesses.

#### CHARLES C. LOCKWOOD.

Charles C. Lockwood, son of Ebenezer and Polly Lockwood, was born Aug. 26, 1823, in Stamford, Conn. His father was a farmer and stock-dealer. He also was born in Stamford. Mrs. Lockwood died when Charles was three years old. After remaining with his father till he was about twelve years of age, Charles went to Olean, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., with a cousin, Dr. Andrew Mead, and attended school two years. Returning to his father's home in Stamford, after a short attendance at school, he shipped as a common sailor on a vessel leaving New York. Following the sea two years, he returned to Stamford and taught district school for two years, and then engaged in the cattle trade with his father, buying cattle in Chicago, and other points in the West and New York State, and shipping them to various points in the Eastern States. After two years' connection with his father, he engaged in the business on his own account.

In 1858, while shipping cattle from Chicago, Mr. Lockwood was injured on the New York Central Railroad, from which injuries he has never fully recovered. He was going along the track, at night, looking for the number of a car containing some of his cattle, when he fell into a road running under the track, and, among other injuries, received such a shock to his nervous system that his eyes never have had proper sight since. As soon as he could attend to business he instituted a suit for damages against the railroad. This suit lasted *fourteen years*, going from court to court, and from district to district, until

Mr. Lockwood received a decision from the United States Supreme Court awarding him fifteen thousand dollars damages. This decision settled a question never before adjudicated, that the release signed by drovers to obtain transportation on a railroad does not exonerate the company from damages for injuries arising from their own neglect. To successfully combat such a gigantic corporation, and carry on a case for so many years, required a will, an energy, and a persistency which shows Mr. Lockwood to be a person of no ordinary calibre. Men eminent in the law have said that there was not one other man in America who would have done this.

Since that decision was given Mr. Lockwood has lived on the old farm, near his place of birth, and is considered a live, progressive farmer, and, with his intelligent family, is making what may well be termed a typical New England home. Dec. 30, 1851, he married Eliza A., daughter of Elder E. S. Raymond, a Baptist clergyman of Westchester Co., N. Y. She died Jan. 17, 1856. Their only child, Charles Stanley, is also dead. April 11, 1861, he married Anna Rosselle, daughter of Nicholas and Elizabeth Rosselle, of Lewis Co., N. Y. Their daughter Clara was born May 23, 1870. Mr. Lockwood was an old Henry Clay Whig, casting his first Presidential vote for that statesman. Since the formation of the Republican party he has acted and voted with it.

#### THEODORE J. DASKAM.

Theodore J. Daskam was born in Stamford, Conn., March 3, 1833. His grandfather, Capt. William Daskam, served under La Fayette in the Revolution, and received his discharge direct from Washington. He commanded a company in the war of 1812, and for his services received a pension. His family consisted of thirteen children, of whom Benjamin J., father of Theodore, was youngest.

His birthplace was in that portion of Stamford since set off as the town of Darien, and he was born in January, 1810, and married Mary Ingraham, also a native of Stamford. They had seven children. Mr. Daskam first learned the carpenter's trade, but not liking it went to Brooklyn, N. Y., and as a clerk familiarized himself with mercantile pursuits. Returning to Stamford, he engaged in trade, and is to-day one of the oldest merchants here, having been in active business for forty consecutive years, for thirty years occupying the premises where he is now located. He has been for years one of Stamford's representative men, enjoying the confidence of his fellow-townsmen; has worthily filled all of the various local offices and represented his town in the State Legislature.

Mr. Daskam was the eldest of his father's family, and from his early youth assisted his father in his business, becoming chief manager, while his father attended to the purchase of goods in New York. An ardent believer in the principles of the Republican



party, he has ever been active in their support, and it is a token of the esteem and confidence with which that party held him, and the value they placed on his services, that he received one of the first appointments of President Lincoln. He was appointed postmaster of Stamford by commission dating April 17, 1861. This position he has held by commissions successively from Lincoln (1861-65), Johnson (1866), Grant (1870-74), Hayes (1878), and is now one of the oldest of these officials in the United States, three others only dating back their appointment (approximatively) to the same time. He was United States Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue for nearly ten years, and, by request of the tax-payers of Stamford, was appointed Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue. He held this office about three years, as long as there was a necessity for it. During this period Mr. Daskam was holding three Federal offices, and thus had three distinct franking privileges.

In 1864 he was engaged in the insurance business, and he now represents some of the best companies in fire insurance, and the "Mutual Life" of New York City.

He was one of the incorporators of the Gulf Stream Engine Company, No. 2, of Stamford. He was foreman of it for many years, and is now an active member. The only time he has been off the rolls of this company was while acting as chief engineer of Stamford, which office he held for several years.

He cast his first vote for William T. Minor, who was the Native American, or "Know-Nothing," candidate for Governor. Since the Republican party was in existence he has supported its candidates, voting for John C. Fremont for President in 1856.

He has for years held membership in Union Lodge, No. 5, F. and A. M.; was Senior Warden in 1858, Master in 1860, and Treasurer from 1861 to 1864. For about twenty years he has been a member of Ripowam Lodge, No. 24, I. O. O. F., and is a director in Stamford Savings Bank.

Mr. Daskam is a man of thorough business qualities, possessed of energy and force of character, and at the same time has winning social qualities and a large number of personal friends. He is always awake and active in anything tending to advance, elevate, or improve the interests of Stamford.

Mr. Daskam was married Dec. 6, 1864, to Sarah Remer, daughter of Edward T. and Sarah (Remer) Stanley, of New Haven, Conn. Their only child, Walter Duryee, was born Sept. 18, 1865.

## CHAPTER LXXIV.

### STRATFORD.

Geographical—Topographical—The Indians—The Indian Purchase—Settlement of the Town—Home-Lots and their Owners—Ecclesiastical Troubles—Detailed Account of the Schisms which Resulted in the Settlement of Woodbury—View of Ancient Stratford.

THIS town lies in the southeast part of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Huntington and Trumbull; on the east by the Housatonic River, which separates it from the town of Milford, in New Haven County; on the south by Long Island Sound; and on the west by the towns of Bridgeport and Trumbull. The town is generally level and remarkably free from stone when compared with many other towns in the county, and along the river and harbor the land is rich and very fertile.

### THE INDIANS.

It is evident that this section was from a remote period a favorite resort for various Indian tribes, attracted hither no doubt by the abundance of shell and other fish. From time to time various relics of Indian occupancy have been unearthed, such as pestles, stone hatchets, arrow-heads, etc., and vast deposits of bleached shells may still be found marking their favorite haunts.

Upon the advent of the white settler the natives were numerous, but seemed to constitute no distinct tribe, and were not of a warlike disposition. These Indians belonged to Pagussetts, whose dominion extended to Derby, but were commonly styled Pequonnocks.

### THE INDIAN PURCHASE.

The first purchase of the Indians was made in 1639, and included an area of ten miles square. Upon the execution of this sale the Indians retired to their two reservations, one at Golden Hill, Bridgeport, and the other at Coram, on the borders of Huntington.

### SETTLEMENT OF THE TOWN.

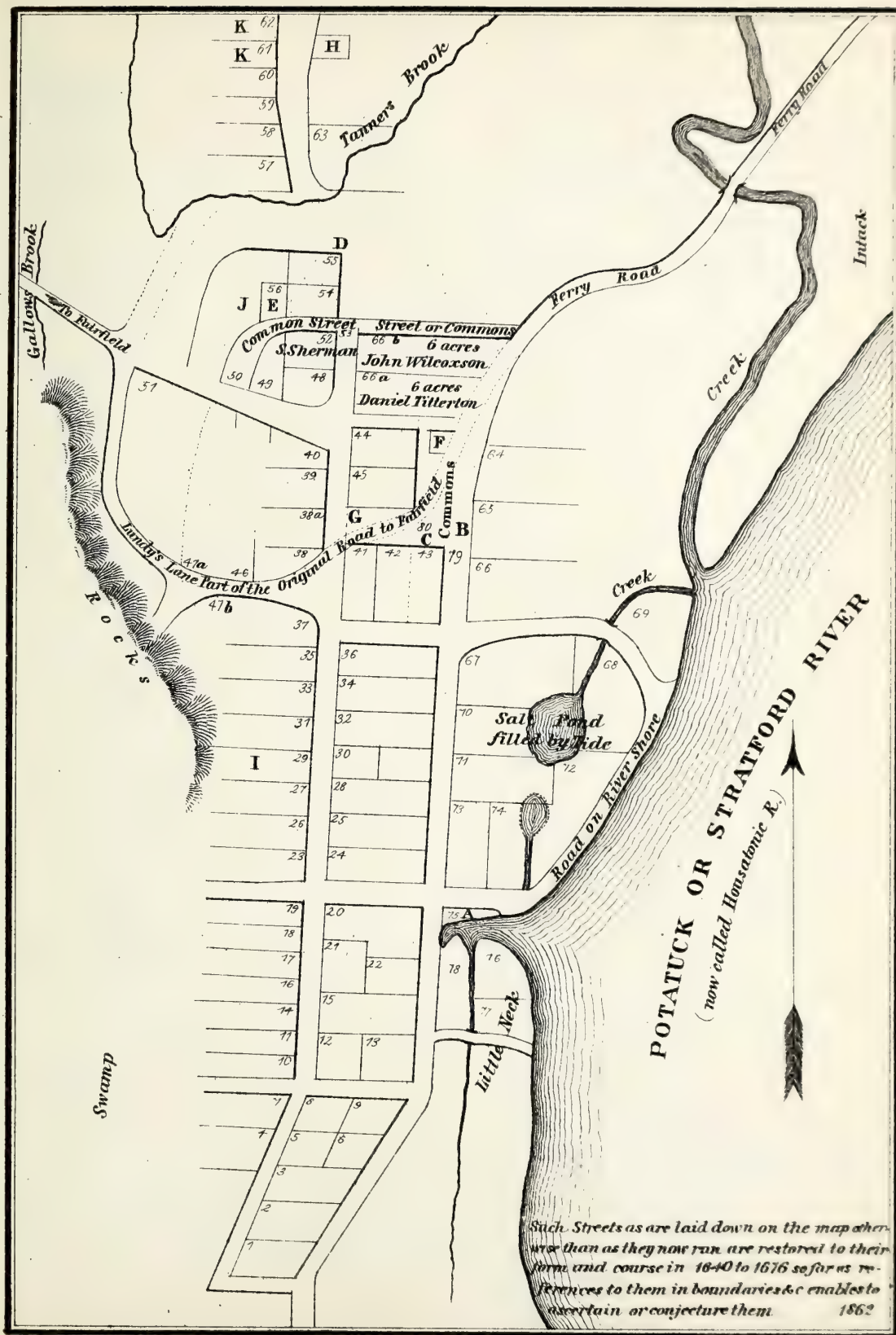
As stated above, the first purchase of lands was made in 1639, and in that year also the permanent settlement of the town was effected. The original proprietors were seventeen in number, but their names have not come to us. Neither did they all settle here. A number simply "entered their rights" and sold.

The favorable location, abundance of fish, and fertility of the meadows, however, soon attracted the attention of others, and within ten years from the first planting of the settlement it numbered a list of forty-one names.

The following is a list of the early settlers, as they appear on the land-records, between the years 1654 and about 1668. The numbers refer to the accompanying map of ancient Stratford.

1. John Birdseye, Jr.

2. John Birdseye, Sr. The eastern half was in 1679 sold to Hezekiah Dickinson, ancestor of President Jonathan Dickinson, of Princeton College. H. Dickinson married a granddaughter of Rev. Adam Blakeman.







3. Thomas (and then his son John) Sherwood.
4. Elizabeth Beardsley (widow of ————).
- 5 and 8. Jeremiah Judson.
6. John Minor.
7. William Burritt.
9. Nathaniel Porter.
10. David Mitchell, ancestor of the late Prof. Mitchell, of North Carolina.
11. John Hurd.
12. } 1st, Thomas Seabrook; then, 12th, to John Birdseye, Jr.,
13. } and, 13th, to Thomas Fairchild, Jr.
14. John Peacock, and then to his daughters, Miss Phebe Burgess and Mrs. Deborah (James) Clarke.
15. Henry Wakelyn, now written Wakelee.
16. Thomas Uffoot. This property is still in the family.
17. Robert Coe. Afterwards exchanged with Uffoot for a piece across the street, which Uffoot had bought, and where the Coes have ever since lived.
18. Samuel Sherman; then John Picket. Mr. Sherman seems to have afterwards moved to the western part of Stratford (Pequonnock), and the Pickets were among the first settlers of Durham.
19. Philip Groves, the first and only ruling elder in Stratford church.
20. Rev. Adam Blakeman, first minister of Stratford. His descendants are written Blakeman and Blackman. His only daughter, Mary, married Joshua Atwater, of New Haven, and Rev. Thomas Higginson, of Salem, Mass.
21. *John Barlow*; then *John Hurd*; then *Uffoot*; then *Coe*.
22. Mr. Bryan bought of James Harwood (original owner) and sold to Rev. Adam Blakeman, who gave it to his son, Joseph B. Through J. Harwood the Blakemans became acquainted with Joshua Scottow, merchant of Boston, whose daughter, Rebecca, Benjamin Blakeman married.
23. Edward Higbee.
24. John Jenner; then John Wells; then *Widow Elizabeth Curtis*, who, with her two sons, William and John, originated that name in Stratford.
25. Arthur Bostwick.
26. Jeremiah Judson. His gravestone yet stands in Stratford.
27. Joshua Judson (brother of Jeremiah); then John Hurd.
28. Thomas Fairchild, Sr.
29. Richard Booth, whose land extended beyond the lots north and ran northerly to the rocks.
30. Isaac Nichols, Sr., west side; Stiles Nichols, and then Caleb, east side.
31. Adam Hurd.
32. Francis Nichols; then Caleb Nichols.
33. *Thomas Quenby*; then *Joshua Atwater*; then *Henry Tomlinson*.
34. William Curtis; afterwards, west end, Thomas Curtis, who subsequently went, among the first settlers, to Wallingford.
35. Adam Hurd's duplicate lot.
36. John Beach, ancestor of the Wallingford and Stratford name.
37. Joseph Hawley's original lot.
38. John Thompson.
- 38a. Francis Jecockes.
39. *William Read*; then, by exchange, *Joseph Hawley*.
40. William Crooker.
41. Joseph Judson; in 1640, William Judson, the father. The original stone house stood about four rods from the northeast corner.
42. Rev. Zachariah Walker's half of parsonage lot.
43. Rev. Israel Chauncy's half of parsonage lot.
44. Hugh Griffin; then John Wheeler.
45. Richard Harvey; then John Bostwick; then Congregational society for parsonage.
46. Francis Hall.
47. }
- 47a. } John Blakeman.
48. A strip of lowland, given to widow of Abraham Kimberly in 1680.
49. Daniel Sherman, son of Samuel, Sr.; then Ebenezer Sherman.
50. Common or highway, now the west half of B. Fairchild's lot. It was originally the outlet of a short highway (coeval with the town settlement) that passed from Main Street round the low, wet land, now W. A. Booth's lot, and led into the old mill road through No. 50, as above said. Of this road the present burial-ground lane is all that encroachments have left, from Main Street to the burial-place, though its width, resurveyed and confirmed in 1738, is above four rods.
51. Land of Isaac Nicols.
52. House-lot of Samuel Sherman, Jr. (now the Roswell Judson lot).
53. The eastern section of the street, of which No. 50 was a portion.

54. John Beers; then Samuel Beers; then, after 1786, *Barton, Prindle, Tomlinson, McEwen*.
55. Nathaniel Foote; then Benjamin Lewis; then Congregational parish, for Mr. Cutler; then Rev. Mr. Gold.
56. Burial-place.
57. Daniel Titterton, Jr.
58. Timothy Willcoxson.
59. Jabez Harger, who went to Derby at its settlement, 1679.
60. John Hull, ancestor of Commodore Isaac; went to Derby, 1679.
61. John Pickett; went to Durham.
62. Robert Lane; above him was John Cooke, bounded north by Back Lane or Street.
63. John Young, who died April, 1661, and his lot went to John Rose; afterwards Robert Walker.
64. Thomas Wells, above whom James Blakeman owned eight acres.
65. John Thompson, who lived on No. 38.
66. John Wells.
- 66a. Daniel Titterton, Sr.
- 66b. John Willcoxson, Sr.
97. John Peat (sometimes spelt Peake).
68. Moses Wheeler; then, very soon, Richard Harvey; then his sons-in-law, Benjamin Peat and Thomas Hicks, of Long Island. Hicks' wife first married, in 1655, John Washborne. Thomas Hicks was ancestor of Elias Hicks, the Quaker.
69. Thomas Curtis, from his father, John (now Chatfield and Gorham lots).
70. William Willcoxson, ancestor of all of that name in and of Stratford.
71. William Beardslee, ancestor of all of that name in and of Stratford.
72. John Brinsmade.
73. Nicholas Knell, whose wife was Gov. Francis Newman's daughter.
74. Robert Rise; then Wheeler; then Richard Beach; then Rev. Israel Chauncy.
75. First church edifice and burial-ground.
76. Originally Uffoot's, who in 1661 sold to Nicholas Gray, from Flushing, Long Island, who had a tide-mill where the lane or highway crosses Little Neck Creek.
77. Granted in 1671 by town to N. Gray, if he maintain his dam wide enough for a passable cartway.
78. Jehiel Preston, 1662.
79. Site of the second church edifice, from 1679 to 1743. Whitefield preached in it, October 26, 1740.
80. Site of the third church edifice, from 1743 till burned by lightning in 1785.
- A. Site of first church edifice and burying-ground.
- B. Site of second church edifice, from 1679 to 1743. Whitefield preached in it, Oct. 26, 1740.
- C. Site of third church edifice, from 1743 till burned by lightning in 1785.
- D. Site of fourth church edifice, from 1786 to 1859.
- Site of fifth church edifice. Erected in 1859.
- E. Burial-place, opened 1678.
- F. Site of first Episcopal church edifice in Connecticut, 1723, with its graveyard, which still occupies the spot.
- G. Site of second Episcopal church edifice, from 1744 to 1858.
- Site of present Episcopal church edifice, erected in 1858.
- H. Methodist Episcopal church.
- I. Richard Booth's house-lot.
- J. Joseph Booth's house-lot.
- K. John Booth's house-lot.

#### THE FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement was made at a place now known as Sandy Hollow, an arm of the Sound or creek, which penetrates a short distance from the Housatonic River, the ancient name of which was Potatuck.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL TROUBLES.

From the settlement of the little town until 1665 nothing occurred to mar its peace and prosperity. In that year, however, a religious dissension arose which finally resulted in the secession of a large and



respectable number of the church and the colonization of Woodbury.

The history of this schism is condensed from Cothern's "History of Ancient Woodbury:"

"The first ministers in the colony being dead, and a new generation coming on the stage of action, alterations in respect to church membership, baptism, and the mode of church discipline were imperiously demanded. Great dissensions on these subjects accordingly arose in the churches at Hartford, Windsor, Wethersfield, and other places, and continued in various parts of the colony from 1656 to about 1670. The discord not only affected all the churches, but it 'insinuated itself into all the affairs of societies, towns, and the whole commonwealth.'

"About 1664, while these contentions were going on at Hartford and other places, the people at Stratford fell into the same unhappy divisions and controversies in regard to the same subjects. During the administrations of Mr. Blackman,\* their first pastor, the church and town enjoyed great peace, and conducted their ecclesiastical affairs with exemplary harmony. About 1663, being far advanced in years, he became very infirm and unable to perform his ministerial labors. The church, therefore, applied to Mr. Israel Chauncy, son of President Charles Chauncy, of Cambridge, to make them a visit and preach among them. A majority of the church chose him for their pastor, and in 1665 he was ordained in the independent mode. But a large and respectable part of the church and town were opposed to his ordination. It was therefore agreed that if, after hearing Mr. Chauncy a certain time, they should continue to be dissatisfied with his ministry, they should have liberty to call and settle another minister, and have the same privileges in the meeting-house as the other party. Accordingly, after hearing Mr. Chauncy the time agreed upon, and continuing to be dissatisfied with his ministrations, they invited Mr. Zachariah Walker to preach to them, and finally chose him for their pastor. Both ministers performed public worship in the same house. Mr. Chauncy performed his services at the usual hours, and Mr. Walker was allowed two hours in the middle of the day. But, after some time, it so happened that one day Mr. Walker continued his services longer than usual. Mr. Chauncy and his people, finding that Mr. Walker's exercises were not finished, retired to a private house, and there held their afternoon devotions. They were, however, so much displeased that the next day they went over to Fairfield and made a complaint to Maj. Gold, one of the magistrates, against Mr. Walker. The major, upon hearing the case, advised pacific measures, and that Mr. Walker should be allowed three hours for the time of his public exercises.

In May, 1669, these disputes came before the General Court, by petition of the parties, and

"Upon the petition of the church of Stratford, this court doth declare that whereas y<sup>e</sup> church haue settled Mr. Chancey their officer and doe desire that they may peaceably enjoy the full improuement of their minister and administrations without hindrerance or disturbance, the court grants their petition therein, onely the court seriously aduiseth both parties to choose some indifferent persons of piety and learning to compose their differences and settle an agreement among them, and that till October Court there may be liberty for Mr. Walker to preach once in the day, as they haue hitherto done by their agreement, the church allowing him full three howers between the church two meetings for the same.†

"Notwithstanding this advice of the General Court, all attempts at a reconciliation were unsuccessful. The parties became more fixed in their opposition to each other, and their feelings and conduct more and more unbrotherly. At length Mr. Chauncy and the majority excluded Mr. Walker and his hearers from the meeting-house, and they convened and worshiped in a private dwelling. They were expelled in the face of the recommendation of the court in October, 1669, advising them that

"This Court therefore recommend it to the Church of Stratford that Mr. Walker haue liberty the one parte of the Sabboth, whether parte Mr. Chauncy will, and that they would hold communion together in preaching & prayer. But in case Mr. Chansey and the Brethren wth him will not agree to that, it shall not be offensive to this Court if Mr. Walker and his Company doe meet distinctly elsewhere; provided each of them provide well for the comfortable supply of their ministers.‡

"The principal cause of difference was in regard to church membership, baptism, and the discipline of church members. What the precise nature of the controversy was could not be distinctly understood by the most learned and pious even of that day. It was the same as that which existed at Hartford, Wethersfield, and other places. One would say, at this distance of time, that the question to be decided was, whether the 'Half-way Covenant Practice' should be introduced into the church or not. Upon this question there was the most grave difference of opinion among the best and most distinguished men in New England. By this plan a person of good moral character might own or renew the covenant of baptism, confessing the same creed as members of churches in full communion, and affirming his intention of becoming truly pious in heart and in life, and have the privilege of presenting himself and children for baptism. Nor did the privilege stop here: he might also present for baptism his grandchildren, children bound to him as apprentices, and even his slaves, by giving a pledge for their religious education. Persons thus owning the covenant were considered church members to all intents and purposes, except that they might not come to the communion table. For conduct unbecoming church members they could be and were dealt with and punished in the same manner as members in full communion. In this way a church could never run down in point of numbers, so long as unconverted persons enough to keep it up were willing to own the covenant of baptism. Abundant proof of the foregoing statements is found in the first book of

\* Trumbull's Hist. of Conn.

† Trumbull's Colonial Records, p. 110.

‡ Ibid., p. 124.

ministerial records of the Second Church of Stratford, now the First Church of Woodbury, happily in a fine state of preservation. Consequent upon this practice baptisms followed close upon births; very many instances may be found upon these records where the child was but from one to eight days old at the time of the ceremony. If the child appeared to be in danger of "non-continuance," it was baptized on the day of its birth. The children of ministers, deacons, and other leading men in the church were generally less than a week old when presented for baptism. Young persons did not usually own the covenant till they became parents, and wished baptism for their children.

"Previous to 1650 great watchfulness had been exercised to admit only such as gave visible evidence of piety. The choice of pastors, also, had been confined exclusively to the church, and nearly all the honors and offices of the colony had been distributed to professors of religion, who in the New Haven colony were the only ones possessed of the right of suffrage in meetings of a political character. In the colony of Connecticut, not only these, but also other orderly individuals, having a certain amount of property, were entitled to the privilege of being admitted freemen. During the lives of the early fathers little trouble had arisen on these points, nearly all the first emigrants being professors of religion. But this generation had passed away and a new one had succeeded, many of whom, on account of their not belonging to the church, were excluded from their proper influence in community. Most of them had been baptized, and, by virtue of this, it was claimed that they might own their own covenant, have their children baptized, and thus perpetuate the church. All New England became interested in this controversy, and in 1657 the matter in dispute was referred to a council of the principal ministers, who met at Boston and declared,—

"That it was the duty of those come to years of discretion, baptized in infancy, to own the covenant; that it is the duty of the church to call them to this; that if they refuse, or are scandalous in any other way, they may be censured by the church. If they understand the grounds of religion, are not scandalous, and solemnly own the covenant, giving up themselves and their children to the Lord, baptism may not be denied to their children."

"In consequence of this decision many owned their covenant, and presented their children for baptism, but did not unite with the church in the celebration of the supper nor in most other duties of members in full communion. Hence it was termed the *half-way covenant*. In process of time the privilege here mentioned was enlarged in some of the churches. Many churches in Connecticut never adopted this practice, and towards the end of the eighteenth century it was generally abandoned throughout New England.

"The first church at Stratford would not adopt this practice, although a large and influential part of its members were in favor of it, together with a majority of the town, who were not church members. Rev.

Mr. Chauncy, who was not in favor of the practice, was settled over the church in Stratford in 1665, though there was strong opposition to him on this and other accounts. The efforts of the dissenting party to settle their difficulties seem to have been sincere. Their communications to their brethren were couched in respectful and brotherly terms, and their arguments were not easily refuted. In fact, little pains seem to have been taken by the church proper during the whole controversy to answer the reasoning of the dissatisfied party, but it seemed rather to throw itself back on its dignity, with an intention of allowing the malcontents to take their own course. The latter were in the majority in the town-meetings, and John Minor, one of their leaders, was town clerk during the whole time of the controversy, and for several years after, with the exception of a year.

"The controversy opened with a letter to Mr. Chauncy from eight of the dissatisfied party. It was a respectful and kind letter, offering to forget past grievances and soliciting a union with the rest of the church in a truly fraternal and Christian feeling, but received no attention, either from Mr. Chauncy, or the remainder of the church, who were of his way of thinking. Accordingly on the 9th of the following month, the dissentients addressed them another letter in the same spirit, still further making known their wishes, and mildly reproaching them for their want of courtesy and kindness.

"By this letter their desire to be reconciled to the church was so great, that they were willing to be again examined in regard to their 'faith and knowledge,' that the church might be convinced that their peculiar views had not, in any manner, undermined their religious principles, or purity of character. More than two months elapsed before any answer was vouchsafed them.

"Then they received a rather short and crispy reply to letters as humble and inoffensive as the two former had been. The 'Church' begins with calling the dissenters '*neighbors*,' and ends with characterizing them as '*the men*.' They assume a very lofty and somewhat arrogant tone; sufficiently so, one would think, to have prevented further efforts towards an accommodation of their differences. This was undoubtedly written by Mr. Chauncy, the former letters having been addressed to him, and it is probable that the remainder of the papers on the side of the church were written by him.

"Although by this communication they had been flatly refused admittance to the church, even on a satisfactory examination, yet they persevered in their efforts to accomplish the desired end. It is to be recollected that Stratford belonged to the Connecticut colony, and consequently had other freemen besides the members of the church. The freemen joined with the dissentients in their efforts. It is to be further noted that Mr. Chauncy had been settled by



a majority of the members of the church alone, the other freemen of the town having no voice in the matter. As by the laws of the colony they were obliged to pay taxes for his support equally with the church members, they wished a voice in the selection of the minister. The dissenting part of the church, together with the other freemen of the town, as we have seen, constituted a majority in the meetings of the freemen. So that, although the church could choose and settle a minister, it took a majority of the voters of the town to provide for his support. Failing, as individuals and members of his church, to effect an arrangement with Mr. Chauncy, they held a town-meeting and passed a vote embracing the conditions under which they would contribute to his support.

"It does not appear that Mr. Chauncy made any reply to this proposition, contained in said vote, though, as the matter had now assumed a serious aspect, it was doubtless discussed during the next few months with much frequency by the two parties. Efforts were also made by the minority of the church, together with others of the town, to procure another minister for themselves, probably with the tacit consent of the other party; and it would seem that they applied to Mr. Peter Bulkley to preach to them. It does not appear, however, that they were successful in obtaining him. But later in the year the two parties were able to agree that each party should have its own minister, and also agreed upon a division of the land sequestered for the use of the ministry between the two ministers.

"At the October session of the General Court in 1667 this action of the parties was approved and established, on motion of Ens. Joseph Judson.

"Early in the year 1668 the minority engaged Rev. Zachariah Walker, of Jamaica, L. I., to perform pastoral labors among them. Having obtained a minister, they perceived they had no house of their own to worship in. They had contributed equally with Mr. Chauncy's party towards the construction of the meeting-house occupied by the first church, and the first idea that occurred to them was that they might agree with the other party to allow Mr. Walker to preach one part of each Sabbath in the meeting-house, and Mr. Chauncy the other part, thus joining the two congregations. They accordingly made known their proposition to Mr. Chauncy's party, to which they received two elaborate answers, in better spirit than former communications, and in which the plain word 'neighbors' had been exchanged for 'loving neighbors.'

"In this letter it was proposed that the meetings be united. But this evidently was not the best way of obtaining the end desired. Although their differences might not be 'fundamental,' as admitted in this communication, yet their opinions being so diverse in regard to church membership, they could hardly have been much 'edified' in being obliged to listen to the defense of what they did not believe. It

would be not unlike the mingling of the worship of the various religious denominations of the present day. While the ministers might have confined themselves to points upon which all agreed, they would be in danger of treading, at times, on forbidden ground.

"It seems that Mr. Walker's party was becoming somewhat incensed at the disposition shown by the other party. A question of veracity is raised between them, and we begin to see how really good men, as the individuals composing both these parties undoubtedly were, may forget themselves and do things unworthy of their position and character. Some of the men of these two parties were among the leading men in the colony, and none were more frequently appointed by the General Court to act on committees for composing similar differences elsewhere than they. At the close of the communication they gave notice of their intention of occupying their joint property, the meeting-house, on the next Sabbath. This design was not carried into execution, but the matter was compromised by allowing Mr. Walker two hours in which to hold his services in the meeting-house on the Sabbath, in the middle of the day, between the two services of Mr. Chauncy, till the meeting of the General Court in May, 1669.

"Their principal difficulty continued to be in regard to the manner in which they should 'enjoy the meeting-house.' Without reflecting upon the matter, one might say that the simplest way of arranging the difficulty would have been to have built another church. But it is to be borne in mind that the country was new and the inhabitants poor. It was a great undertaking to erect a suitable building, and heavy taxes for years were necessary to be laid to complete it.

"The first church petitioned the General Court to take the case into consideration, and do *something*.

"The court took the case into consideration, as desired, confirmed their choice of Mr. Chauncy, advised both parties to choose 'some indifferent persons of piety and learning to compose their differences,' and gave Mr. Walker liberty to occupy the church three hours each Sabbath, in the middle of the day, between Mr. Chauncy's two services, till the October session. Previous to this session several attempts were made by the parties to carry out the advice of the court to submit their differences to arbitration, and several extended and learned communications passed between them. They, however, resulted in no definite action, as they could not agree upon the points to be submitted to the arbitrators.

"At the October session the matter was again before the court, which passed a resolution advising the first church to comply with the desire of Mr. Walker's party, to have union services, allowing Mr. Walker to preach one part of each Sabbath. Some communications passed between the parties in relation to this advice, but the first church, instead of granting them this privilege, which they had so long sought, excluded

them from the house entirely. After suffering this indignity they only addressed a letter to the first church, complaining of the injustice done them, and proposed to divide the town into two parts, that they might go and live by themselves and have no more dissension. They further inform them that they shall ask the same of the General Court.

"They did apply to the General Court at its session in October, making the same proposal, and a committee consisting of Captain Nathan Gold, Mr. James Bishop, Mr. Thomas Fitch, and Mr. John Holly was appointed

"To view the said lands desired, and to meet some time in November next to consider of the aforesayd motion, and to labour to worke a compliance between those two parties in Stratford; and if their endeavours prove unsuccessful then they are desired and ordered to make returne to the Court in May next what they judg expedient to be attended in the case."

"Nothing was effected by this committee, nor did they even report to the General Court, as directed. There is no record of any other action in the matter, on the part of the authorities of the colony, till May, 1672, when, as we have seen, on the advice of Gov. Winthrop, Mr. Walker and his church were allowed to found a new town at Pomperaug.

"For two years after Mr. Walker was called to preach to the dissenting party in Stratford he had done so without ordination. Amid the other difficulties under which they labored, they had found no opportunity to accomplish this desirable point. But now, being taunted by the first church on account of their disorganized state, being excluded the meeting-house, and there being no longer any hope of arrangement with the other party, they took the necessary steps to 'embody in church estate.'

"At the ordination of Mr. Walker his church consisted of twenty male members. This number was as large as that of the other churches at their organization up to this date, with the exception of those in four or five of the larger towns. Seven more were added a few days after, and four males and six females were also added previous to the removal to Woodbury, in 1672. More than one-third of these were members by the half-way covenant system, yet it is seen that they subscribed and publicly owned the same covenant as those in full communion. This practice went on, and this identical covenant was owned, during the ministry of Mr. Walker and that of the Rev. Mr. Stoddard, the second minister, till the ordination of Rev. Noah Benedict, the third minister, in 1760, ninety years from the first gathering of the church, when it was abolished.

"In 1672, by permission of the General Court, the second church of Stratford made preparations for removing to Pomperaug, and early the next year a majority of its members emigrated thither. Mr. Walker ministered to his church in both places till June 27, 1678, when he took up his abode permanently in Woodbury. The settlers had now become so numerous that it was no longer problematical that

the settlement would be permanent. After the troubles in Stratford were settled by colonizing the new town, and the angry feelings that had been aroused had subsided, both Mr. Chauncy, who was an able and learned man, and Mr. Walker became sensible that their conduct towards each other during the long controversy had not at all times been brotherly, and after some time made concessions to each other, became perfectly reconciled, and conducted themselves towards each other with commendable affection. The two churches were also on the most friendly terms, and Mr. Chauncy, in 1702, after the death of Mr. Walker, assisted at the ordination of Mr. Stoddard, his successor in the ministry."

#### VIEW OF ANCIENT STRATFORD.

"The primitive settlers of Stratford were of respectable origin, though in humble circumstances as to the luxuries and many of the conveniences of life. The very causes and conditions of the Puritan exodus to New England insured among the first-comers good character and, to a remarkable extent, more than ordinary respectability of social position. Their plain and even scanty household equipment in their new homes, their want of money, and other usual accessories of gentility are readily explained without disparagement of their previous standing. In that day of comparative rudeness in the furniture and appliances even of aristocratic life, little might be expected in the dwellings or the style of younger or collateral branches of ancient and dignified families. Besides, the stress under which our fathers came out of England subjected them to much sacrifice and loss. Their chief men shared with the rest in privations. Deputy Governor Dudley himself, in March, 1631, writes, 'Having yet no table nor other room to write in than by the fireside, upon my knee, in this sharp winter,' etc. Necessity compelled every one to acquire such aptness as he might in all manual labor, for which the help of a skilled mechanic could not readily be obtained or afforded. But however narrow or humble the lot of the first planters, they belonged for the most part to the better classes of English society. 'Actual examination' (says Hollister, 'Hist. Conn.') 'shows that more than four-fifths of the early landed proprietors of Hartford, Wethersfield, and Windsor belonged to families that had arms granted them in Great Britain.' This fact applies also to the settlers in Stratford, several of whom were of very ancient and honorable lineage in the motherland.

"The great simplicity of manners and superior regard for heavenly above secular distinctions among our ancestors induced much neglect of ancestral titular pretensions, the very tradition of which in many cases had expired, until revived by antiquarian researches or the usually vain attempt to secure properties lying in the family name unclaimed in England.

"A single fact deserves note in judging the re-



sources of Stratford planters, as compared with those at New Haven, Hartford, and elsewhere. While in these latter places the people were convened for worship, and on other public occasions, by drum or horn, or the blowing of a shell, Stratford enjoyed from the beginning a church-bell. Whether it were a special boon, or is indicative of superior means, cannot be determined.

"The earliest houses, besides their smallness and cheap construction, must have been very bare of comfort and attraction. When Deputy Governor Dudley, of Massachusetts, already named, built a house for himself in 1632, and was censured of some for wainscoting it in time of such impoverishment and need, he showed that this alleged extravagance consisted merely of 'clapboards nailed to the wall, in form of wainscot.'

"The ordinary dwellings were log huts, which gave place after some years to frame houses, larger indeed, yet, by our present standard, generally very humble and poor.

"Glass and nails were expensive, imported luxuries, if indeed the former could be afforded. Hence the windows were small and few. Aged people were living not long ago who remembered when nails were at two shillings per pound. In 1674, 1000 shingle-nails were inventoried at 13 shillings sterling. The price of a house in 1664 is £20; another, in 1674, £22. The inventories of estates from 1650 to 1674, on Stratford records, disclose no glassware, only one carpet, one silver spoon, no chinaware, nor any crockery, excepting two shillings' worth of earthenware. The common utensils were of pewter, iron, or wood. For money values barter was substituted, and the General Court regulated for this purpose the commercial worth of corn, peas, wheat, beef, pork, cider, etc. Wampum was likewise legalized as money. It was neatly made, the white of the core of the periwinkle and the black of muscle-shell, each strung in parcels, the white at six for a penny and the black at three for a penny. The strings represented respectively, in white wampum, one penny, three pence, twelve pence, and five shillings; and, in black, two pence, six pence, two shillings and sixpence, and ten shillings.

"In 1660 summer wheat was current at 4s. 6d. per bushel; winter wheat, 5s.; peas, 3s. 6d.; Indian corn, 3s. In 1678 a mill was sold for £140, payable in pork, wheat, rye, Indian corn, beef, and '£40 in good and well-conditioned winter cider, made in October.'

"In 1707 a house and lot in Main Street, with 24 acres of land (the house-lot being that now Thomas Stratton's), were given by Samuel Hawley, Jr., for a negro man.

"Salaries were paid in produce. The first instance of payment in money to the minister here was in 1714, when Rev. Timothy Cutler, then pastor in Stratford, was allowed for his stipend of £140 (produce pay) £93 6s. 8d. in paper money of the colony, a difference in favor of the paper bills of 33½ per cent. Lands

were for a long time extremely cheap. Their value in Stratford was not less than in the other thriving towns, yet in 1665 they are appraised: village lots, 25s. per acre; unimproved lands, 12d. per acre.

"Contributions for benevolent objects, which were not unknown from the earliest times, were paid in produce. In 1664, at the instance of the Rev. Mr. Shepard, of Cambridge, funds were collected in the colonies for the indigent students. These collections were repeated from time to time. In 1646, Stratford gave £6 14s., for which it is credited on the books of Harvard College. The produce thus donated was shipped to Boston, and the granary building, used as a receptacle for such collections, is said to have given name to the 'Granary Burial-Ground, as it is still termed, in Tremont Street, near Park Street Church, Boston.'—*Swan*.

## CHAPTER LXXV.

### STRATFORD (Continued).

#### THE REVOLUTION, Etc.

Gen. David Wooster—Stratford in 1781—Olden Time Accounts—Slavery—Old Fishing Place—Incident of 1812—The Stratford Post-Office.

STRATFORD responded promptly to the patriot call, and of her gallant sons who risked their lives in that arduous struggle conspicuously stands the name of the intrepid Wooster, who fell on that fatal day at Ridgefield.

"Daniel Wooster, the martyr to American liberty, was born in Stratford, Conn., March 2, 1710–11 (old style), and was the youngest of six children. He was educated in the Puritan principles of New England, and after he came to manhood entered Yale College, where he graduated in 1738, in the twenty-eighth year of his age."

In Peters' "General History of Connecticut," published in London in 1781, the following reference is made to Stratford: "Stratford lies on the west bank of the Osootonic River, having the sea or Sound on the south. There are three streets running north and south, and two east and west. The best is one mile long. On the centre square stands a meeting-house with steeple and bell, and a church with steeple, bell, clock, and organ. It is a beautiful place, and from the water has an appearance not inferior to Canterbury. The people are said to be the most polite of any in the colony."

#### OLDEN TIME ACCOUNTS, Etc.

The following extracts from an account-book kept by John Blackleach, of Stratford, "begun March 23, 1756," give a glimpse of olden time prices for various commodities and rates of labor:

October 10, 1756.

Capt. Adams, Dr.

	£	s.	d.
to a Horse to Woodbury.....	0	2	6
to Soul Leather for a pair of Shose.....	0	1	0
to a Horse to New Haven.....	0	2	2
to one pair of oxen one Day.....	0	1	0
to Two Hands and Team one Day.....	0	8	0
to a Horse to Fairfield.....	0	2	0
to Cash Six Shillings paid By Skidmur.....	0	6	0
to Half Bushel of Barley Molt.....	0	1	3
to one Bushel of Ears of Corn.....	0	1	0
to one Bushel of Corn.....	0	2	0
to Boson to Kill two Hoggs.....	0	0	8
to a Bushel and half of Turnups.....	0	1	6
to making a Shirt for Elijah.....	0	3	0
to making one more.....	0	3	0
to making two Shirts.....	0	8	0

1758.

to two Bushel of Barley Molt.....	0	2	6
to a man and yoke of oxen one Day.....	0	3	0
to man and Team one Day.....	0	6	0
to Boson one Day.....	0	2	0
to Bushel of Corn.....	0	2	0
to Boson and Team part of a Day.....	0	5	0
to Carting two Load of Wood.....	0	1	0
to Carting part of a Day.....	0	2	0
to Carting a Load of Wood.....	0	0	6
to a peck of Corn.....	0	0	9
to a peck of Butter.....	0	0	8
to Carting wood part of a Day.....	0	4	0
to Eleven pound of Cheese.....	0	4	6
to a pound of Butter.....	0	0	8
to a Day and Half.....	0	3	0
to Carting a Load of wood.....	0	0	6
to Carting a Load of wood.....	0	0	6
to pasturing yr Horse 2 weeks.....	0	2	0
to Half pound of Butter.....	0	0	4
to Eighteen pound and half Beef.....	0	4	7

29 July, 1761.

Joseph Smith, Dr.

half Busel of Corn.....	0	1	0
Carting a Load of Hay.....	0	1	6
two Bushel of oats.....	0	2	0
half Bushel of Corn.....	0	1	3
half a Bushel of Corn.....	0	1	3
Six ounces of flax.....	0	0	3
Ten ounces of flax.....	0	0	4
Bushel of Rie.....	0	2	6
Bushel of Rie.....	0	2	6
Making a Shirt.....	0	3	6

July 14, 1758.

paster yr Colt 2 Wks.....	0	1	4
two Bushel of Corn in Ears.....	0	2	6
one Bushel of Con in Ears.....	0	1	3
Niting one pair of Stockings.....	0	3	0
Carting a Load to the fere.....	0	5	6
a Small Chees weigh <sup>d</sup> 2 pound and half.....	0	0	10
pound of flax.....	0	0	6
my Self and Team part of a Day.....	0	2	6
making a Shirt.....	0	3	0
Load of Hay.....	0	14	0
7 pound and Six ounces of Chees.....	0	2	6
Bushel of Ears of Corn.....	0	1	3
half Bushel of Corn.....	0	1	3
7 Bushel of Turnups.....	0	7	0
4 pound and quarter of tow.....	0	1	0
7 pound and ten ounces of Beaf.....	0	1	3
pound and quarter of Sewit.....	0	0	5
two pigs.....	0	14	0
the youse of a Small pen.....	0	3	0
a Load of hay.....	0	14	0

Deer. 10, 1761.

Bushel of Corn.....	0	3	0
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January 2, 1762.

Boson and Team one Day.....	0	6	0
fourteen pound of flax which you Had in 1761			
Charged in 1762.....	0	7	0

August, 1762.

Bushel of Wheat.....	0	5	0
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Octr. 26, 1762.

two Barils of Cyder.....			
part of a Load of Hay mo'd & by himself.....			

10 Day of August, 1767.

Mr. Seth Crain, Dr.

to 3 Peks of Indian Corn.....	0	0	10
Horse to Cary a Grist to Darby Mill.....	0	1	9
a Horse to Hubbel Pullings.....	0	0	6

16 Deer.

	£	s.	d.
Boson and team.....	0	2	6

Deer. 28.

Boson and team one Day.....	0	5	0
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May.

Horse, fishing & Carrying fish to market.....	0	3	0
½ Bushel of Seed Corn.....	0	1	6
to my Horse, a fishing and to Cary the Fish to market.....	0	3	0
Bushel & half Corn.....	0	3	9

June.

George one Day to How.....	0	2	6
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July.

one Bushel of Indian Corn.....	0	2	6
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Augt.

two Bushels and half Seed Rie.....	0	8	9
one Bushel Rie and a Peck.....	0	4	2
yoke of Oxon to Cart Cyder.....	0	1	0
Pound Butter at 10¢.....	0	0	10
Pastering Cow about 2 weeks.....	0	1	6
5 Pound 10 Ounces Chees.....	0	2	0

Novr., 1769.

1 lb. Butter.....	0	0	9
my mare to Geo: Tomsons.....	0	0	8
to Schooling your Children.....	0	2	9
1 pound of Butter.....	0	0	9
1 Bushel of Corn.....	0	2	0
this act in Page 52.....	-	-	-

Contra By Barils.....	1	1	2
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James Wells, Dr.

Whippos Boards Sold to Silas Hubbel.....	3	13	0
to Benton Dayton.....	4	2	0
	7	15	0

August ye 5, 1761.

Fith Kimberly, Dr.

Half Bushel Wheet.....	0	3	0
Souling a pair of Shoues.....	0	2	0
a pair of Shoues for yr Wife By Mr. Deforest.....	0	6	0
Cash.....	0	1	6
two Bushel Ears of Corn.....	0	2	6

Jany. 27, 1762.

Boson and team to Cart a Load from Npaster point.....	0	10	0
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10 July.

Six pound of Veal.....	0	1	3
------------------------	---	---	---

Aut. 21.

half of a Lam.....	0	4	0
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Novr. 22.

Cash.....	0	1	2
	1	11	5

About August 25, 1763.

Isaac Hill, Dr.

to half Bushel wheet.....	0	2	6
two Pound tuler.....	0	1	0
Beaf Eleven Pound quarter.....	0	2	10

23 Decr., '63.

Bushel of Mesling.....	0	4	6
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7 January, 1764.

Six Pound Same two ounces of flax.....	0	2	11
Cash to Phineas Hill p <sup>r</sup> order.....	1	0	0
	1	13	9

Isaac Hill, Dr.

Pound Buter, 18d.....	0	0	8
Pound Butter.....	0	0	8
4 pound & 2 ounces of fat.....	0	2	2

1765.

one Pair Shoues.....	0	4	0
1 Bushel of Corn.....	0	2	6
10 pound of pork.....	0	2	10
2 Bushel of Corn in the Ears.....	0	3	0



20 Aug<sup>t</sup>., 1765.

Mr. Ogden Mallary, Dr.

	£	s.	d.
2 Load hay.....	1	10	0
1 qt. Rum at 2s. 6d.....	0	2	6
to my Hors to Dover.....	0	6	5
to my Hors two Day.....	0	2	0
to my team to Cart hay.....	0	4	6
Issmil hal Day.....	0	3	0
6 Days 1/2.....	0	19	9
2 yoke of oxon two Days.....	0		
7 1/2 Days one yoke oxon.....	0		
Bushel of wheat Caried home.....			
not Recken <sup>d</sup> .....			
2 Bushels and half Sow <sup>d</sup> .....			
12 Pound 2 ounces of Neck Beaf.....	0	1	10
4 Pound Beaf.....	0	0	10
1 Bushel wheat.....	0	4	6

## CERTIFICATE AND EMANCIPATION.

"This may certify that on the day of the Date of this Certificate before us the Subscribers, two of the Justices of the peace in Stratford, in the County of Fairfield, personally appeared Thaddeus Benedict, Esq<sup>r</sup>., of said Stratford, and made known to us that he was the lawful owner and possessor of a certain Negro man named Cato James, and that he was desirous to emancipate said Cato agreeably to the Statute law in that case made and provided; whereupon we called said Cato, and an actual examination and enquiry found him to be in good health and desirous of being made free, and that he was over the age of twenty-five and under the age of Forty-five.

"Certified by us this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1799, at Stratford aforesaid.

"ABIJAH STERLING,  
"ABIJAH McEWEN,  
"Justices of Peace."

"Know all men by these Presents that I, Thad. Benedict, of Stratford, in Fairfield County, in consideration of the above Certificate and other and divers good causes and considerations me thereunto moving, do hereby for myself, my heirs, Executors, and administrators, forever emancipate and make free the above-described Slave named Cato James, and him do set at Liberty.

"Witness my hand & Seal the 28<sup>th</sup> day of Septemb<sup>r</sup>, 1799.

"THAD. BENEDICT.

"Witnesses:

"ABIJAH STERLING.  
"ABIJAH McEWEN."

"FAIRFIELD COUNTY, ss.:

"On the Day and Date within written Personally appeared Thad. Benedict, Esq<sup>r</sup>., and acknowledged the within emancipation to be his free act and Deed before me.

"ABIJAH STERLING,  
"Just. Peace."

## FISHING-PLACE.

"Know all Men By these Presace that we, Silas Hubbill, Phineas Blackman, James Lillingston, and Sam<sup>l</sup>. Curtis Southworth, all of Stratford, Did on the Second Day of June, 1790, go and Clear a fishing place in the Main Chanil on the Easterly flat, then Runing the pint of Compass, Bringing the Old field Rocks So Called to Bar West Northwest, thence Runing East, till it Brings quimbers Neck pint in a South Line."

Oyster-planting was commenced in this town in 1844, and has been followed somewhat extensively since. The cultivation of clams is of more recent date.

Wm. A. Lewis's oyster-bed is situated on Sea View Avenue, West Stratford, fronting Bridgeport harbor and Long Island Sound. His beds extend a mile or more easterly from his residence into the beach, and what is known as Marsh Creek. Also a bed of oysters and clams in front of his residence, and also a bed of oysters in the harbor. It is claimed that the oysters and clams grown in this vicinity are unsurpassed.

## INCIDENT OF THE WAR OF 1812.

"The only military engagement which ever took place within town limits occurred in the war of 1812. There had been for some time rumors that the British were preparing to devastate the coasts of Connecticut, and when one of the enemy's men-of-war anchored off Stratford lighthouse, a thrill of terror ran through the entire town. The authorities met, and it was decided to take instant measures for safety, to post a militia guard near the point, which should keep watch for the invaders, detect their manœuvres, and oppose them if they attempted to land. A sergeant and sixteen men were selected for this dangerous task. 'Not a drum was heard' as the armed company, with great caution and secrecy, proceeded to their post, every man sworn to do his duty. The shades of night never descended more heavily than upon this band of devoted patriots, who felt that not only the destinies of Stratford depended upon their bravery, but the fate of their wives and children as well. The night was black, a driving wind tore the clouds overhead, and the breakers roared against the light-house rocks. Strange sounds were heard, which awoke the direst consternation among the watchers. Unaccountable gleams were seen overhead. Inspired by a belief that the enemy might be at hand, the sergeant valiantly crept along the sands, climbed a low slope, stretched himself flat on the ground, and waited. For a time all was still: then all at once he saw clearly that something moved. It moved again, and yet again! There could be no doubt but what the British were upon them. '*Scatter, men! SCATTER!*' he cried frantically at the top of his voice, and his men, faithful to the least word of their commander, *scattered*. As daylight gradually made the situation visible, the valiant warriors crawled out of their various hiding-places and looked each other in the face. The British man-of war was nowhere to be seen; all that remained to show what the dangers of their midnight encounter had been were the three mullein-stalks which the sergeant had seen waving in the wind. The comrades swore a sacred oath, and declared they would keep it with an equal mind, that the story of the night's adventure should never be told; and with that veil drawn over the secret the conquering heroes returned home to their breakfasts. Two hours afterwards, as the sergeant was chopping wood in his door-yard, one of his neighbors who had not served on military duty, looked over the fence and said, with a grim smile, '*Scatter, men! Scatter!*' The story was too good to keep."—*Mrs. Kirk.*

## THE STRATFORD POST-OFFICE.

It is evident that rotation in office—at least, so far as postmaster was concerned—was not a fundamental principle underlying the government of Stratford, for David Brooks officiated in that capacity half a century!

"If I could but summon up the old postmaster,

David Brooks," says Mrs. Kirk, "as a witness of the good feeling that kept him in office half a century, secure in the affection of friend and adversary, we should see that Presidential elections might be robbed of half their terrors. Is there anywhere now in the land such a post-office as he kept in a little store, where the sunniest and pleasantest corner was provided with cushioned seats for the comfort of the venerable men who 'most did congregate' to meet the arriving post-bag? This generation knows nothing of the pleasurable excitement of having a mail come in. There are nimble fingers and miraculous methods nowadays, and papers and letters are whisked into boxes which show one at a glance what is in store. No such convenient and undignified proceedings were possible when Mr. Brooks was in power. From the moment his trembling old hands grasped the bag and slowly inserted the key until a litter of letters and papers from East and West and North and South was spread on the counter before him, he gradually swelled with importance and solemnity. His was no careless guardianship: marvelous precautions would he take lest the letters should get into wrong hands when they left his own; in fact, from the fierceness of his look and attitude, one might have supposed that he regarded the claimant of a letter as an intruder on his own rights. Gathering the packets into his hand and expanding his lungs to their fullest, he would begin (often interrupting himself by truculent observations on bad ink and bad writing) to read off the names, peering at each superscription through his heavy-bowed spectacles, holding the missive first at arm's length, then directly under his nose. The happy recipient, on hearing his name called, would shout 'Here!' when the old postmaster, after indignantly surveying the aspirant from head to foot, evidently longing to pronounce him an impostor, would make a reluctant surrender."

## CHAPTER LXXVI.

### STRATFORD (Continued).

#### WITCHCRAFT AND KNOCKINGS—ROMANCE AND TRADITION.

Connecticut Witchcraft—Goodwife Basset, of Stratford—Her Trial—Her Execution—The Stratford Knockings—The Stirling-Folsome Marriage—The Blue Laws.

#### STRATFORD WITCHCRAFT.

THE following account of the execution of the first person for witchcraft in New England, and also of "Goodwife Basset" of this town, are extracts from a manuscript article by Maj. William B. Hincks, of Bridgeport, on Connecticut witchcraft:

"The charge so often brought against Massachusetts in debate upon the floor of Congress and elsewhere, of being the only State that persecuted the Quakers

and put to death unfortunate persons charged with witchcraft, is only partially borne out by facts; Connecticut coming in for her share of responsibility in regard to the latter class. It must also be said for Massachusetts that if guilty of the blood of the victims of her witchcraft excitement, she has in part at least expiated the crime by building their sepulchres; and their tragic history has been so often and so graphically related by her historians and poets that there are few persons indeed who have never heard of the fortitude of Giles Corey or the heroism of Rebecca Nurse and her fellow-sufferers. The case has been otherwise with Connecticut. Although in the early days of the colony twelve or more persons accused of witchcraft were tried for their lives, five of whom suffered capital punishment, the names of the victims have barely escaped oblivion; no historian has moralized over their fate, and the facts relating to them are almost unknown, except to the few whose antiquarian tastes have led them to make a careful study of the early history of the Commonwealth.

"Respecting the first victim, a maid-servant named Mary Johnson, who lived at Windsor or Wethersfield, but few particulars can now be obtained, and her case is of special interest only from the fact that her execution, which took place in the early part of the year 1649, was the first instance in which human life was sacrificed for alleged practice of witchcraft in New England.

"Upon her trial she confessed her guilt and owned that she had long been attended by a familiar spirit who helped her about her household duties, but at length prompted her to commit atrocious crimes, among them child-murder. It is not stated whether she carried out these suggestions, but it would not be strange if the crime for which she suffered death was really infanticide instead of intercourse with the invisible world. In her confession, which is preserved by Mather, she says that her first acquaintance with the Evil One came through 'discontent with her situation' (a state of mind not uncommon among her class at the present day, but not always, it is to be hoped, productive of such tragical consequences) and a habit she had of carelessly 'wishing the devil to take this and that,' which ended in his taking possession of her. While in prison her demeanor was exemplary. She seemed penitent under the ministrations of Rev. Samuel Stone, then minister of the church in Hartford, and when finally led forth to the gallows, we are informed that 'she dy'd in a frame extremely to the satisfaction of them that were spectators of it.'

"Two years later, in May, 1651, occurred the trial of Goodwife Basset, of Stratford. Reference is made to the proceedings in the case of this woman, whose previous history it is now impossible to ascertain, in the colonial records of both Connecticut and New Haven, and from the former it seems clear that her trial was conducted before Governor Haynes and several other



magistrates, who came down from Hartford for the purpose. In the latter a confession made by the accused is spoken of. An ancient and apparently trustworthy tradition places the site of the gibbet on which she was hung at the first crossing south of the present railroad depot, in Stratford, and it is believed that that great thoroughfare of commerce, the New York and New Haven Railroad, crosses her grave.

"The tradition further states that while on the way to the gallows her fortitude gave way, and bursting from the procession in which, according to the custom of the time, were magistrates, ministers, and all the dignitaries of the neighborhood, the unfortunate woman threw herself upon a rock by the roadside, clutching it so desperately, that when at length forcibly detached, bloody marks, like finger-prints, were seen upon it. A large quartz stone, streaked upon its face with hornblende, was long shown in Stratford in support of this story, but has lately ceased to be one of the marvels of that quiet village, having been broken up and its fragments built into a cellar wall."

#### THE "STRATFORD KNOCKINGS."

The following sketch of what is known as the Stratford Knockings, which begun in 1850, is from the pen of Mrs. Ellen Olney Kirk:

"One is tempted to believe that the spirit of Goody Basset, taken in 1651 for divers witchlike arts, was never fairly laid, and now, after an unquiet term of one hundred and ninety-nine years, returned to walk the earth. Or it may be that the dust of those early settlers, over whose graves the lofty trees of Elm Street were planted and now extend their leafy aisles, rose for a sort of earthly judgment-day and took possession of the nearest habitation. Evil-minded or angry spirits they must have been who ransacked, pounded, knocked, and almost overturned the quiet, decorous house known in later years as the Stratford Institute. During the early period of this unearthly possession the entire village was convulsed with excitement and lost its character for sobriety; crowds poured hither by every train; editors, reporters, Spiritualists, skeptics explored, watched, investigated and interrogated, and gave an unwelcome publicity to the scandalous details. The single village hackman thrived amidst the universal decline and fall of Stratford: so many were the visitors that he was obliged to set up a huge yellow omnibus, which traversed the streets night and day with a sign in huge capitals which made the village disgrace only too legible: 'Mysterious Stratford Knockings.'

"The 'knockings' began in the house of Dr. A. Phelps, who had resided in the place, with his wife and children, for two or three years. The day was Sunday. When Dr. Phelps' family returned from church they found their door hung with crape, and on entering the house saw signs of strange disturbance during their absence, while in one of the rooms was discovered a figure laid out and shrouded for the

grave. From this moment the house was taken possession of by the 'spirits' or some other unseen agencies, that continued to run riot for the ensuing eight months or more. Every trick, device, horror, absurdity, impertinence ever pressed into the service of ghost, hobgoblin, witch, or modern 'spirit' was now turned against the peace and respectability of this unfortunate family. There were rappings—not merely rappings, but thumpings, and thumpings, too, as if a giant's strength were behind them; there were marvelous noises, with reverberations like thunder up and down the staircases and along the halls; there were apparitions, strange figures in strange places: there were messages from the unseen land of the spirits, not only spelled out in hard knocks and vibrations on headboards of beds, on ceilings, doors, and floors, but written out fairly on slips of paper, which floated down from the invisible like the leaves of the Cumæan Sibyl: the very vegetables from the cellar on being pared and sliced were found to be written over with indelible characters. There were apparently whole legions of spirits hard at work, as if all the tormented souls from one of Dante's lowest circles had been delivered from their pain to communicate certain tidings to all who entered Dr. Phelps' house, then, finding no interpreter, grew angry and waged war upon the unbelievers who rejected them. Their ammunition showed a dearth of all suitable spiritual artillery: flat-irons, large junk ink-bottles, scuttles of coals, poker, bricks, and even toilet-brushes, were the weapons made use of; scissors too, since one of the daily performances was cutting into ribbons the clothes of the son and heir of the house.

"These things may seem incredible, but they were not done in a corner, and the eyes of all men were turned to see what would be the end of it. The unhappy master of the house courted investigation, and for four months everything was investigated and the most widely-differing conclusions were reached. Elm Street—haughty, exclusive, aristocratic Elm Street—echoed to the tread of hundreds who came to find some clew to the strange 'Stratford knockings.' First of all was Parson Weed, startled out of his study-chair by the tidings of these doings of the Evil One in the very midst of the faithful, still wearing his gown and slippers, his luminous eyes bent on space as he strode indignantly forward, eager to encounter and vanquish the adversary. Other divines followed him, but all the light of their orthodoxy could not illuminate the darkness of these manifestations. Some of those who came to suggest an easy remedy for cheap and obvious impostures remained mute, deciding that there might be things in heaven and earth not reached by their little foot-measure of philosophy. Strange things were enacted before clear-sighted and reasonable men, two of whom, sitting alone in a room with two doors,—one opening into the hall and the other into a clothes-press,—heard knockings on the inside of the closet-

door, which on opening they found to proceed from vacancy: as soon as the door was again closed the knockings proceeded, not only with a loud noise, but so vigorously that the very panels shook under their eyes. Sitting before the fire, they beheld the ornaments on the mantel-piece spring from their places to alight unbroken on the floor; bricks started out of thin air and were hurled across the room; pokers jumped up of their own accord and went crashing through the windows; on lifting a lighted candle they saw the flame expand to four times its usual circumference, circle round the wick, then shrink and hang blue and tremulous above, and finally resume its feeble flicker. These sights, and a thousand others as unusual, are related by the most credible witnesses among outsiders. The family themselves were compelled to endure personal demonstrations of ghosts or hobgoblins, who when clasped in the arms of flesh and blood vanished, leaving nothing behind save sheets from the domestic linen-chest.

"Life in Stratford was not an amusement to the worthy Dr. Phelps. Surrounded apparently by a band of hostile forces which threatened flesh and blood, haunted, waylaid, and pursued by spectres, girt about by a sea of mystery which separated him from his fellow-creatures, and, worse than all, forced to have his misfortunes become a show, a coarse stimulus for sensationalists, he saw no resource but to flee from his troubles, and he accordingly left the place. The spirits went with him, or back to their forgotten God's Acre, or into the witch's unmarked burial-place. There are those who still shake their heads over the Stratford knockings, maintaining that they were never in any degree explained, while others find them as easy of solution as the jokes in a last year's almanac."

#### THE STIRLING-FOLSOME MARRIAGE.

The romance of the Stirling-Folsome marriage, or how Sir John Stirling wooed and won pretty Abby Folsome, the blacksmith's daughter, is so well corroborated by history in some of its details that many antiquarians are disposed to accept the whole of it.

Briefly it is as follows: During the Revolution, Gen. Silliman was captured by the British, and in retaliation an expedition was planned from Stratford, with John Folsome, the blacksmith, as leader, for the capture of Judge Jones, a royalist, living on Long Island. The expedition was successful, and Judge Jones was brought to Stratford, and while here met pretty Abby Folsome, whose beauty made such an impression upon him that at a dinner subsequently given him in New York in honor of his return he proposed the "health of the fairest American rebel," meaning Miss Abby Folsome.

Some time after Cornwallis' surrender, Judge Jones and Sir John Stirling, during a tour along the coast, visited Stratford, and while here Miss Abby came under the gaze of Sir John. The beauty and grace

of the Stratford belle caused the peer of the realm of Great Britain to indefinitely postpone his departure from the little village, and the result was that not many weeks elapsed ere the quiet little town was thrown into a great excitement by the announcement that Sir John Stirling had married Abby Folsome and had sailed for England, leaving her behind. Many there were who were ready to say that he would never return; in fact, he never did, but he sent his secretary for her in a vessel richly prepared for her comfort. In Burke's Peerage is the following memorandum:

"Sir John Stirling married Miss Folsome, of Stratford, in North America, by whom he had a numerous family. The title is borne to-day by the grand-nephew of Sir John Stirling."

#### TRADITIONARY.

The following incident concerning the settlement of Mr. Birdsey, one of the earliest inhabitants, is taken from Mrs. Ellen Olney Kirk's article, entitled "Stratford on the Sound," published in *Lippincott's Magazine*, July, 1879:

"Mr. Birdsey removed here from Milford in 1649, and tradition lends a sort of romance to his hegira. Milford was renowned for its orthodoxy, and the 'Blue Laws,' both written and unwritten, were rigidly enforced. One of these insisted that no man should kiss his wife on Sunday. Mr. Birdsey, having been caught offending in this particular, was, on Monday, sentenced to a number of lashes. He escaped from the town officers, however, ran to the river, swam it, and, once on the Stratford shore, shook his fists in his pursuers' faces. His wife followed him, as in duty bound, and his children increased and his grandchildren multiplied until now the Birdsey pedigree is the central stem of all Stratford genealogies."

## CHAPTER LXXVII.

### STRATFORD (Continued).

#### CHURCHES, LODGES, SCHOOLS.

The Congregational Church—Christ Church—Methodist Episcopal Church—Summerfield Church—Trinity Memorial Chapel—St. John's Lodge, No. 8, F. and A. M.—Oronoque Lodge, No. 90, I. O. of O. F.—The Stratford Academy—Present Condition of the Schools.

#### THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

"THE precise date of the organization of the first church of Christ in Stratford, and the names of the original members, cannot be ascertained. All business relative to the settlement, support, and dismission of ministers, and to the building and repairing of meeting-houses, was transacted in town-meeting until the year 1721, and no regular town record prior to 1650 exists.

"Nor does any record of the church prior to 1675



now exist. The settlement of the town began in 1639, and took definite form as a plantation in 1640. In all probability the church was organized as early as this, for the Rev. Adam Blakeman, its first pastor, was then in the town, as his presence is certified by an order of the General Court, dated June, 1640, directing him and others to settle the boundary-line between Stratford and Fairfield.

"The church was certainly in existence in 1644, as in that year the General Court appointed William Judson and John Hurd, 'members of the Stratford Church,' to collect the contributions for indigent students at Cambridge College.

"The Rev. Adam Blakeman, the first pastor, was born in Staffordshire, England, A.D. 1599, and was matriculated at Christ's College, Oxford, May 28, 1617. He was a preacher for some years in Leicestershire and Derbyshire, and in 1638 came to New England. He was one of the original company of settlers in Stratford in 1639-40, and was minister of the church until his death, Sept. 7, 1665.

"The Rev. Israel Chauncey was a native of Massachusetts, and the son of the Rev. Charles Chauncey, president of Harvard College. He was born at Scituate, Mass., 1644, graduated at Harvard College in 1661, was chosen assistant to Mr. Blakeman in the ministry, and upon Mr. Blakeman's death was called in June, 1666, to the pastoral charge. He was chosen rector or president of the college Nov. 11, 1701, but the honor he declined. He died March 4, 1703.

"Upon Mr. Chauncey's settlement an active opposition developed itself, which culminated in the division of the church.

"After Mr. Chauncey's death the church and town, in April, 1703, 'chose Capt. Judson and the two deacons to supply the pulpit, and to obtain help of the elders of the County to keep a day of fasting and prayer for God's direction in seeking a minister.' For six years the church was without a settled pastor.

"Rev. Timothy Cutler, D.D.—A call was extended to Dr. Cutler, Sept. 16, 1709, and in or near the December of that year he was ordained. He was born in Charlestown, Mass., June 1, 1684, and graduated at Harvard College in 1701. In 1719 he was chosen President of Yale College. In 1722, professing a preference for the Church of England, and renouncing his connection with the churches of the colony, he was requested to resign his position as President of the college. Soon after he was settled over Christ's Church in Boston. He died Aug. 17, 1765.

"In 1719 a call was extended to Rev. Samuel Russell (grad. Yale Col. 1712), but as there was a large minority in opposition to him he did not settle, though for three years he supplied the pulpit and had the pastoral care of the church. In November, 1721, for the first time in the settlement of the town, the town as such, ceased to determine, by vote, the affairs of the Congregational parish. This change arose from the introduction of an Episcopal Church,

which, although it had been in embryo for some years previous, took permanent form now through accessions derived from the controversy with Mr. Russell.

"Rev. Hezekiah Gold.—In February, 1722, a call was extended to Rev. Hezekiah Gold. He was ordained on the first Wednesday in June, 1722.

"Mr. Gold was dismissed July 3, 1752. He died in 1761.

"The church remained without a pastor two years.

"Rev. Izraiah Wetmore was the son of Hezekiah Wetmore, of Middletown, was born in 1728; was graduated at Yale, 1748, and was ordained pastor over this church, May 16, 1753. He resigned his charge in 1780. The church was pastorless for over four years.

"Rev. Stephen William Stebbins, the next pastor, was born in East Long Meadow, Mass., June 26, 1758, and was graduated at Yale College, 1781. He was ordained pastor of this church, July 7, 1784. He was dismissed August, 1813.

"Rev. Matthew R. Dutton was born in Watertown, Conn., June 3, 1783, was graduated at Yale College, 1808, and was ordained in Stratford, Sept. 20, 1814. Mr. Dutton continued pastor, universally esteemed and beloved, until the autumn of 1821, when he accepted the appointment of 'Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy' in Yale College. He died July 17, 1825.

"Rev. Joshua Leavitt, D.D., was born in Heath, Franklin Co., Mass., Sept. 8, 1794, and was graduated at Yale College, September, 1814. He was ordained over the church in February, 1825, and was dismissed in 1828.

"Rev. Thomas Robbins was born in Norfolk, Conn., Aug. 11, 1777, entered Yale College in 1792. He graduated at Williams College in August, 1796. In September following he took the same degree, B.A., in his former class at Yale. In 1803 he was ordained missionary of the Home Missionary Society to the northern part of Ohio, where he labored until impaired health obliged him to return. In February, 1830, he was installed pastor over this church, and on September 9th, the following year, he was dismissed.

"Rev. Frederick W. Chapman was born in Canfield, Trumbull Co., Ohio, Nov. 17, 1806; was graduated at Yale College in 1828; was ordained and installed pastor of this church Sept. 5, 1832, and was dismissed April 16, 1839.

"Rev. William Boughton Weed was born in New Canaan, March 22, 1811, and was graduated at Yale College, 1830. He was ordained at Stratford Dec. 4, 1830. He died Dec. 3, 1860.

"Rev. Joseph R. Page was born in New Brunswick, N. J., and was installed pastor of this church Feb. 11, 1857. In October, 1858, he was dismissed.

"Rev. Benjamin L. Swan was born in Medford, Mass., July 31, 1813; received the honorary degree of A.M. from Yale in 1844. In September, 1858, he

accepted the invitation of this church and was installed October, 1858, and was dismissed in 1863.

"Rev. Lewis Charpiot was installed pastor of this church May 25, 1864, and was dismissed April 12, 1866.

"Rev. William K. Hall was installed Oct. 24, 1866.

"Rev. Frank S. Fitch was ordained June 17, 1873; pastoral relations ceased Oct. 31, 1878.

"Rev. Samuel Howard Dana was installed March 12, 1879, and is the present (June, 1880) incumbent.

"*Elders.*—But one ruling elder seems ever to have held office in this church; he was Philip Groves, who died in 1676. He was deputy to the General Court for the town of Stratford as early as 1652. In 1654 he was chosen 'assistant,' and as such 'was empowered to marry persons.'

"*Deacons.*—The earliest named officers of this class on record are John Birdseye and John Wilcoxson; the former is referred to as *Deacon* in 1678, and the latter in 1679, but neither of them could have been the first incumbents after the organization of the church, as Mr. Birdseye was born in 1641 and died in 1698, and as Mr. Wilcoxson was born in 1634 and died in 1690.

"3. Thomas Wells is mentioned as a deacon in 1707; died in 1721.

"4. Robert Walker is next named as a deacon in 1722; died in 1743.

"5. John Thompson is also mentioned as a deacon in 1722; died in 1765.

"6. Job Peck is also styled 'Deacon' on his gravestone, though no record of his appointment is extant; died in 1782.

"7. Elnathan Wheeler, appointed in 1751, died 1761.

"8. Isaiah Brown, appointed in 1755, died 1793.

"9. John Judson, appointed in 1773, died —.

"10. Ebenezer Coe, appointed in 1784, died 1820.

"11. Nathan McEwen, appointed in 1791, died 1810.

"12. Samuel Ufford, appointed in 1801, died 1821.

"13. Agur Curtis, appointed in 1801, died 1838.

"14. Philo Curtis, appointed in —, died 1852.

"15. Agur Curtis, appointed in —, died 1868.

"16. David P. Judson, appointed in 1837.

"17. Agur T. Curtis, appointed in 1858.

"18. Lewis Beers, appointed in 1858.

"19. Charles C. Wells, appointed in 1867.

"20. Samuel T. Houghton, appointed in 1877.

"21. Samuel E. Curtis, appointed in 1877."

#### MEETING-HOUSES.

"The first house for public worship was erected near what is now called 'Sandy Hollow.' This fact in reference to it is of interest, and deserves to be remembered. It possessed a bell, with which the people were summoned to worship. How it came to be thus favored is not known, for it was the only church in all the colonies where the people were not called to-

gether by 'drum, the blowing of shell or horn.' In 1681 this house was removed and its materials sold at auction.

"The second house for public worship was built on Watch-House (now Academy) Hill. In 1689 this house was, by vote, fortified for the security of the women and children against any attack that might be made by the Indians.

"The third house for public worship was built in 1743, and stood where the academy now stands until 1785, when it was destroyed by lightning.

"The fourth house for public worship was built in 1786. It occupied the site of the present house.

"The fifth and present house for worship was dedicated on the 27th October, 1859."

#### CHRIST CHURCH.

The first services in the State of Connecticut according to the rights and ordinances of the Protestant Episcopal Church were held in this town in 1706, and here the first Episcopal church in the State was erected in 1723.



FIRST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT.

The following account of the organization of this church is from Trumbull's "History of Connecticut:"

"During the term of about seventy years from the settlement of Connecticut, the Congregational had been the only mode of worship in the colony. But the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in 1704, fixed the Rev. Mr. Muirson as a missionary at Rye. Some of the people at Stratford had been educated in the Church of England mode of worship and administering of the ordinances, and others were not pleased with the rigid doctrines and discipline of the New England churches, and they made an earnest application to Mr. Muirson to make a visit at Stratford and preach and baptize among them.

"About the year 1706, upon their invitation, he came to Stratford, accompanied with Col. Heatheote,



a gentleman zealously engaged in promoting the Episcopal Church.

"The ministers and people in that and the adjacent towns, it seems, were alarmed at his coming, and took pains to prevent their neighbors and families from hearing him. However, the novelty of the affair, and other circumstances, brought together a considerable assembly, and Mr. Muirson baptized five and twenty persons, principally adults.

"This was the first step towards introducing the church worship in the colony. In April, 1707, he made another visit to Stratford. Col. Heathcote was pleased to honor him with his company, as he had done before. He preached at this time at Fairfield, as well as Stratford, and in both towns baptized a number of children and adult persons. Both the magistrates and ministers opposed the introduction of Episcopacy, and advised the people not to attend the preaching of the church missionaries; but the opposition only increased the zeal of the church people. Mr. Muirson after this made several journeys to Connecticut and itinerated among the people. But there was no missionary from the society fixed in Connecticut until the year 1722, when Mr. Pigot was appointed missionary at Stratford. The churchmen at first in that town consisted of about fifteen families, among whom were a few husbandmen, but much the greater number were tradesmen who had been born in England and came and settled there. Some of their neighbors joined them, so that Mr. Pigot had twenty communicants and about one hundred and fifty hearers. In 1723, Christ Church in Stratford was founded, and the Rev. Mr. Johnson, afterwards Dr. Johnson, was appointed to succeed Mr. Pigot."

"From 1723," says Mrs. Kirk, "Christ Church of Stratford has a clear record and an important history. At that time Mr. Samuel Johnson, having returned from England, where he had spent a year and taken holy orders, was settled as pastor, and until 1754, when he became president of King's (now Columbia) College in New York, he gave all his powerful abilities to the advancement of the parish. During his long pastorate there were some lively breezes of doctrinal and social differences between the rival religious bodies.

"In 1743 the second Christ church was erected on the village green at the foot of Meeting-House Hill, where it stood until 1858. It was to this church that Dr. Peters admiringly alluded, and on the top of its steeple was a proud and dominant cock, which has to this day faced the tempest. The bell was given by Dr. Johnson, and the glass for its many windows by another well-wisher, who, however, when he came to pay the bill, is said to have expressed some regrets for his over-lavish generosity, declaring with irritation that the church must all have been made of glass. The organ was the first instrument of its kind used in a place of public worship in Connecticut, and was purchased in 1756 by thirty-three persons, who

'bound themselves to Mr. Gilbert Doblois, of Boston, merchant, in the aggregate sum of sixty pounds sterling, to be paid within six years in six equal payments of ten pounds sterling per annum, without demand of interest.'

"The Revolution brought fresh causes of difference between the churches. The Episcopal ministers, whose strength lay in traditional authority, naturally took the side of England. Having prayed so long for 'our excellent King George,' they found it almost impossible to leave off such supplications. One of them uttered this prayer by inadvertence after the war began; then, seeing a threatening movement in his congregation, he corrected himself, shouting frantically, '*O Lord, I mean George Washington!*' In Stratford church the old prayers were cut short by an arbitrary patriot, who had no notion of uttering 'Amen' to such heresies. 'My grandfather,' so Capt. Pulaski Benjamin has told me, 'went to church the Sunday after the battle of Lexington, and when Mr. Kneeland (the clergyman) read out the prayer for the royal family, he stood up in his pew and declared that no such prayers must be uttered in Stratford, that the name of George III. was the name of the worst enemy of every one in the colony. Mr. Kneeland rose from his knees, shut his prayer-book, raised his hand and pronounced the benediction, and the church was closed until the end of the war.'"

The first church edifice was opened for worship Dec. 25, 1723. It was located in the present church burying-ground, and was in size forty-five and one-half feet in length, thirty and one-half feet wide, and twenty-two feet between joints.

The church, as mentioned above, was erected in 1743, and was opened for worship July 8, 1744. It was sixty feet long, forty-five feet and six inches wide, twenty-four feet high to the roof, with a spire one hundred and twenty feet high.

The present church edifice was dedicated July 29, 1858, with a spire ornamented by the venerable cock which had veered on the steeple-top of the ancient church.

Dr. Johnson was succeeded as rector of this church by Mr. Winslow, then Mr. Kneeland, who was succeeded by Mr. Sayre. The next rector was Rev. Ashbel Baldwin, who commenced his labors in 1792 and remained until 1832.

The rectors since Rev. Mr. Baldwin have been George C. Shepherd, Edwin W. Wiltbank, Alfred A. Miller, John Morgan, Joseph Scott, John A. Pad-dock, John Stearns, Daniel C. Weston, Charles H. Strong, D. L. Lounsbury, and Arthur Sloan, the present incumbent.

The following is the inscription on Dr. Johnson's monument in the Episcopal burying-ground:

"M. S. Samuelis Johnson, D.D.  
Collegii Regalis Novi Eboraci Præsidis  
primi et hujus Ecclesiæ nuper Rectoris.  
Natus Die 14 to Octob 1696, Obiit 6 to Jan. 1772.

If decent *dignity* and modest mien,  
 The cheerful *heart* and countenance serene;  
 If pure *religion* and unsullied truth,  
 His *age's* solace and his search in youth;  
 If *piety* in all the paths he trod,  
 Still rising vigorous to his Lord and God;  
 If charity thro' all the race he ran,  
 Still willing well and doing good to man;  
 If *LEARNING*, free from pedantry and pride;  
 If *FAITH* and virtue, walking side by side;  
 If well to mark his being's aim and end,  
 To *shine thro'* life a *HUSBAND, FATHER, FRIEND*.  
 If these ambitions in thy soul can raise,  
*Excite* thy reverence or demand thy praise;  
*Reader*, ere yet thou quit this earthly scene,  
 Revere his name, and be what he has been.

MYLES COOPER."

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.\*

From the best information I am able to obtain it appears that the first sermon preached by a Methodist in the village of Stratford, Conn., was by Jesse Lee, a noted evangelist, who passed through this place on his way to New Haven, and stopping at Stratford preached in the town-house on the 4th day of July, A.D. 1789. The first Methodist class was organized here on the 19th day of May, 1790, by Jesse Lee, consisting of the following-named persons: John Smith, John Peck, Margaret Plumb and her sister, Amy Plumb, four in all. Bishop Asbury passed this place on June 7, 1791, preached in the town-house, and met the class which, organized only a little over one year before, had now increased its numbers to twenty members. Much opposition was aroused among the people against this then new sect, and from this period to 1810, when the first house of worship was erected, the preaching was had in private houses. The residences of Capt. John Peck and Elnathan Wheeler are named as places where they usually met. No record can be found of the exact date when the first Methodist church was erected, nor of the name or number of the first officers and members. By reference to the Conference records I find that in 1810, the year the first church was built, Nathan Emery and John Russell were preachers on the Stratford Circuit, and preached alternately in the village of Stratford, and Joseph Crawford presiding elder; in 1811, Aaron Hunt, Oliver Sykes, and J. Reynolds were preachers, and William Anson presiding elder; 1812, Seth Crowell, Gilbert Lyon, and S. Beach, preachers, and Elijah Hawley presiding elder; 1813, E. Washburn, Jas. Coleman, preachers, and N. Bangs presiding elder. The following were preachers from 1814 to 1879, inclusive: 1814, E. Wolsey and H. Ames; 1815, E. Hibbard and B. English; 1816, R. Harris and — Dickerson; 1817, R. Harris and E. Canfield; 1818, S. Bushnell and A. Pierce; 1819, B. Northrop and D. Miller; 1820, Bela Smith and D. Miller; 1821, Bela Smith and James Coleman; 1822, Laban Clark and Eli Barnett; 1823, Laban Clark and John Nixon; 1824, E. Denniston and William Pease; 1825, E. Denniston and Julius Field; 1826, S. D. Ferguson

and V. Buck; 1827, E. Barnett and V. Buck; 1828–29, John Lovejoy and J. H. Romer; 1830–31, H. Bartlett and C. Sherman; 1832, S. Martindale and L. C. Cheney; 1833, J. P. Youngs and J. Tackaberry; 1834, R. Gilbert; 1835, D. Miller; 1836, D. Miller; 1837, C. W. Turner; 1838, Clark Fuller (Mr. Fuller left during this year, and Asahel Bronson, a local preacher, was appointed to fill the vacancy for the year); 1839–40, Abram S. Francis (during his pastorate the present church edifice was erected); 1841–42, Paul R. Brown (under his labors the church was favored with a very precious revival, and a number who have since become prominent members were converted); 1843–44, Daniel Smith, whose labors were also greatly blessed in the building up of believers; 1845–46, Harvey Husted; 1847, — Frost; 1848–49, C. Kelsey; 1850–51, Morris Hill; 1852–53, Jacob Shaw; 1854, G. C. Creevy; 1855–56, L. D. Nickerson; 1857–58, William T. Hill; 1859–60, S. A. Seaman; 1861–62, J. W. Simpson; 1863–65, Bennett T. Abbott; 1866–67, T. D. Littlewood; 1868–70, Joseph Smith; 1871–73, Joseph Vinton; 1874–76, A. V. R. Abbott; 1877–79, Benjamin Pillsbury. This completes the list of preachers up to this Conference year, which commenced April 1, 1880, when the Rev. S. A. Seaman, who served this charge in the years 1859–60, was appointed here, and is now preacher in charge of this station.

The present number of church members is 185; Sunday-school scholars, 137; teachers and officers, 23; volumes in Sunday-school library, 413; value of church edifice and land, \$60,000; value of church parsonage and land, \$2000.

*Board of Trustees.*—Wilbur A. Smith, President; H. A. Sutton, Secretary and Treasurer; Henry M. Blakeslee, Otis B. Curtis, Lewis Curtis.

*Board of Stewards.*—E. I. Peck, President, and Acting Secretary and Treasurer; W. French, H. A. Sutton, O. Bouton, James Meachen.

#### SUMMERFIELD CHURCH.

About the 1st of January, 1871, the following persons met in a room on Barnum Street, West Stratford, and established a mission: Rev. W. W. Bowdish, pastor of Washington Park Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. George A. Parkington, George W. Bacon, Solomon Batchelor, W. W. Stannard, and a number of others. Rev. George A. Parkington, then a local preacher, but since a member of the New York East Conference, was selected to preach in the mission. He preached his first sermon Jan. 15, 1871. Jan. 29, 1871, a Sabbath-school was organized; Wesley W. Botsford, Superintendent; Frank N. Cox, Secretary and Treasurer; David Clark, Librarian. The school began with thirty members. In due time a class and regular prayer-meeting were established. Solomon Batchelor was the class-leader. As the mission prospered they began to talk of building a church. A committee was appointed for this purpose and a site

\* Contributed by H. A. Sutton.



purchased. A lady by the name of Susan Hubbell sent for the committee and headed the subscription with five hundred dollars. The committee were George W. Bacon, Solomon Batchelor, Calvin Hall, I. Hurd, and L. B. Vaill. George A. Parkington joined the Conference in April, 1872, and was sent to the Summerfield Church, as this was the name selected for the new church.

On the 30th of the same month the building committee met to adopt a plan for the building, and George W. Bacon gave five hundred dollars, and other subscriptions were received. Solomon Batchelor, Isaac Hurd, P. T. Barnum, and Frances Ford each gave one hundred dollars. May 5, 1872, the first members were received by letter: Gilead T. Andrews, Maria Andrews, Solomon Batchelor, Joanna Batchelor, George H. Batchelor, Flavia A. Batchelor, Wesley H. Botsford, Alice M. Botsford, Wallace M. Botsford, Romeo Botsford, Edith A. Botsford, Margaret E. Bacon, Elizabeth M. Bacon, Henry C. Bennett, Jennie A. Bennett, Mary E. Batchelor, Frederick Cox, Abby E. Cox, Sylvanus Granger, Calvin Hall, Increase Hoyt, Mary E. Hoyt, James Lobdell, Elizabeth Lobdell, Augusta O. Lobdell, Rebecca N. Lobdell, Martha J. Lund, Irving C. Peck, Emmagene H. Peck, Sarah E. Parkington, Charles Shailor, Alice M. Shailor, Immanuel Sciviter.

First stewards, elected May 18, 1872, M. L. Scudder presiding elder: Charles M. Shailer, F. N. Cox, George Batchelor, John Wragg, Wallace Botsford, Henry C. Bennett, Irving C. Peck, Frank Fairchild, Charles Riddle.

Trustees, elected June 3, 1872: Solomon Batchelor, L. B. Vaill, James Lobdell, Calvin Hall, Smith Lewis, Sylvester Bradley, Gilead T. Andrews, Emmanuel Sciviter, Frank Fairchild.

The corner-stone was laid by Bishop Simpson, April 15, 1872. The first Quarterly Conference was held May 18, 1872, Rev. M. L. Scudder presiding elder. The church was dedicated by Bishop Edmund S. Janes, March 16, 1873. Rev. F. S. De Hass preached in the evening.

The Conference held in Brooklyn, April, 1874, appointed A. P. Chapman to this charge, and he remained till April, 1876, when Larmon W. Abbott was appointed by the Conference, which met that year in Hanson Place Methodist Episcopal church, in Brooklyn. He remained till April, 1878, when Edward L. Bray, the present pastor, was appointed by the Conference, which met that year in the First Place Methodist Episcopal church, Brooklyn. Present membership, seventy.

Officers: Stewards, John S. Fray, Wallace M. Botsford, George Steeples, William H. Curtis, Joseph Lewis, James B. Lobdell, Joseph Johnson, George Batchelor; Trustees, J. S. Fray, George Batchelor, Joseph Johnson, James B. Lobdell, Joseph Lockwood, Samuel Fray, Elihu N. Lewis, Romeo Botsford, Anthony Bennett.

#### TRINITY MEMORIAL CHURCH, WEST STRATFORD.

On the 20th of September, 1871, the first of a series of Wednesday evening services was held in West Stratford, at the house of Silas Scofield, Esq., Revere Place, by the Rev. Sylvester Clarke, rector of Trinity Church, Bridgeport. On the following Sunday, September 24th, a Sunday-school was begun in the common school-house of the same (Newfield) district. The corner-stone of a chapel was laid by Rt. Rev. Bishop Williams, of Connecticut, on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 1871. The building, after being inclosed, waited through the winter before it was plastered. The first service in it was the celebration of the holy communion on Sunday morning (Whitsunday), May 19, 1872. The chapel is in memory of the Rev. Gurdon Saltonstall Coit, D.D., rector for nearly thirty years of St. John's Church, Bridgeport, who died in Southport, Conn., Nov. 10, 1869.

This parish is a mission of Trinity Church, Bridgeport. It contains thirty families, twenty-five communicants, and nearly a hundred Sunday-school scholars, and has a record of great usefulness.

#### NEWFIELD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

On the second Sunday of May, 1871, D. W. Currier and Theodore Courtright called on the neighbors of the Newfield School District, and gave out that they would open a Sunday-school on the following Sunday afternoon in the barn of Nirum Hawley. On the Sunday named two children—ages, six and eight years, names, Charles and ——— Jelleffe—came to Sunday-school; on the following Sunday there were fifteen present. Theodore Courtright was elected superintendent. The school increased in numbers and interest until the barn became too small, and they moved to larger quarters in a store owned by John French. In the mean time a society was formed and a Sunday-school organized, called a Union Sunday-school, formed Sunday, Sept. 24, 1871. This school was commenced in the district school-house with twenty-six scholars, and continued until the completion of a chapel, which was erected and ready for use on the 3d of March, 1872.

Much self-denial and labor was necessary in order to complete the work. The land on which the building rests was leased to the association for the nominal sum of one dollar per year by Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Kingman, they having bought the ground for this purpose, paying therefor eight hundred dollars. The two schools were growing, and it was decided among the officers of the two schools that whichever society became the strongest, or the first to grow into sufficient strength, to organize an efficient church, and Aug. 18, 1872, both schools united, and the whole was turned over to Rev. A. C. Eggleston, pastor of the Washington Park Methodist Episcopal Church, who had charge of the Newfield District, under the New York East Conference. At the joint meeting of said schools Theodore Courtright was chosen superinten-

dent, and has held said position up to the present time.

The Newfield Methodist Episcopal Society thus called assumed all the debts of the church and land and paid all the bills, and bought the land of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Kingman for the sum of thirteen hundred and twenty-eight dollars. The following spring, 1873, they applied to New York East Conference for a preacher, and the Rev. R. S. Eldridge was sent, who labored faithfully and earnestly, and many souls were added to the church. The next pastor was the Rev. E. A. Blake, who served one year.

Since that time the church has had no regular pastor, but has various supplies from other churches. The Sunday-school has been continued, and has steadily grown in interest and numbers.

#### ST. JOHN'S LODGE, NO. 8, F. AND A. M.

The following history of St. John's Lodge is kindly furnished by Mr. Nathan Wells, being extracts from a historical address delivered at the centennial anniversary of the lodge in 1866, by Rev. C. H. W. Stocking:

"The original charter of St. John's Lodge, Stratford, was granted by the R. W. George Harrison, Provincial Grand Master of the then Colony of New York, bearing the date of April 22, 1766. On the 7th of May following, a meeting preliminary to the formal opening of the lodge was held, and Monday, the 12th of May, designated as the day for organizing.

"On the appointed evening, there were present Joseph Clark, W. M.; James Dunn, S. W.; John Harpin, J. W., *pro tem.*, and 'visitant' Brother Lemuel Brooks. The lodge having been 'opened in due form and clothed with all their Honours, after having dedicated the same to the Holy St. John, they proceeded to raise the following Brethren to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, to wit: Brother Henry Van Dyck, Brother Ephraim Peet, Brother Abijah Beach, Brother William McIntosh.'

"On the 15th of the same month the four new brethren were appointed to the subordinate offices. Henry Van Dyck, S. W.; Ephraim Peet, J. W.; Abijah Beach, Treas.; James Dunn, Sec.

"The element of discipline early entered into the workings of the lodge. Refusal to obey the Master's gavel was punished by a fine of two shillings, to be paid immediately, or suffer expulsion. Obscenity paid a fine of one shilling; talking, one shilling; profanity, two shillings. Initiation fees were £3 to the box and three shillings to the Tyler.

"Twelve successive times Samuel Benjamin represented the lodge at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, walking the distance with glad though weary feet, that so his candlestick should not be removed. Matthias Nichols and Benjamin Fairchild and Rev. Ashbel Baldwin appear as frequently representing their lodge at the grand communications in honest discharge of their Masonic obligations.

"This lodge worked under its old colonial charter as St. John's, No. 1, until Oct. 9, 1792. It then came in under another charter—from the newly-formed Grand Lodge of the State—as St. John's, No. 8. The Nicholls, the Benjamins, the Fairchilds, the Johnsons, and others whom we might mention, appear among their fellows as zealous craftsmen who knew their work and wrought it well.

"The following are the names of the Past Masters of this lodge, with their terms of office: 1766-68, Joseph Clarke; 1768-69, Henry Van Dyke; 1769-70, Joseph Clarke; 1770-73, Stiles Lewis; 1773-79, Joseph Clarke; 1779-80, Stiles Lewis; 1780-84, John Thatcher; 1784-86, Peter Nicoll; 1786-88, Matthias Nicoll; 1788-90, John Thatcher; 1790-95, J. L. Wooster; 1795-96, John Thompson; 1796-97, Matthias Nicoll; 1797-98, Ashbel Baldwin; 1798-1804, Matthias Nicoll; 1804-7, John Thompson; 1807-8, Nathaniel Kennedy; 1808-11, Ashbel Baldwin; 1811-12, George Smith; 1812-15, Matthias Nicoll; 1815-21, William T. Shelton; 1821-27, Matthias Nicoll; 1827-33, Samuel Benjamin; 1833-36, Benjamin Fairchild; 1836-40, John Goulding; 1840-46, Benjamin Fairchild; 1846-60, John Goulding; 1860-62, A. B. Judd; 1862-63, N. B. Wells; 1863-66, George Jewell; 1867-68, Ezra Whiting; 1868-70, William A. Lewis; 1870-72, Walter J. Bristol; 1872-73, Melville J. Curtis; 1873-75, Henry G. B. Cuzner; 1875-77, Lasper K. Whitney; 1877-79, Samuel A. Patterson.

"The present officers are Nathan F. Wilcoxon, W. M.; John W. Beach, S. W.; Henry F. Meechan, J. W.; Charles D. Curtis, Treas.; Joseph W. Dufour, Sec.

"The number of members is one hundred and forty-four."

"The following is the roll of members up to 1800:

"Joseph Clark, Henry Van Dyke, Ephraim Peet, Abijah Beach, James Dunn, Joseph Prince, William McIntosh, Abel Beach, David Osborn, charter members; George Benjamin, Abram Tomlinson, John Rutgers Marshal, Elisha Wilcox, Samuel Jones, Stiles Lewis, Isaac Brown, Thomas Selby, David Brooks, Edward Nicols, Ephraim Nicols, Purson Hawley, Philip Jacobs, William Sidney, Richard Samuel Breat, Dr. George Hurd, John Forrister, Hamilton Ballantine, Isaac Brooks, Agur Booth, Rev. Dr. Kneeland, James Clow, James Ward, Jonathan Burnham, John Thatcher, James Sherman, John Barlow, Stephen Burritt, Benjamin Brooks, Philip Wells, John Fitz, Matthias Nicoll, Aaron Eliott, Nehemiah Gorham, Philip Nicols, Jonathan Prindle, G. Jennings, Oliver Davison, Philo Perry, Elna Hoyt, John Richards, James Wade, Joseph Brooks, Stephen Titus Hosmer, Richard Salmon, G. Kettlas, Isaac Bateman, B. Burnett, Isaac Whippo, George Burroughs, Treadwell Jackson, David Barlow, Joseph L. Wooster, John C. Fairchild, John Benjamin, Jr., David C. Wainwright, Charles Johnson, Elisha Treat Mills, John Thompson, Zalmon Clinton, Isaac Mills, Benjamin



Barlow, Daniel Judson, Jr., Jabez Beers, Hezekiah Clark, Joseph De Forest, Joseph Allen, Joseph Thompson, Eli Judson, James W. Allen, Samuel William Johnson, Russell Edwards, Joshua Poor, William Thompson, Lyman Edwards, Gideon Benjamin, Nathaniel Burton, William Curtis, Peter H. Robinson, William Walker, Peter Clark, David Seeley, Philo Lewis, Ezra Curtis, Ephraim Beardsley, Rev. Ashbel Baldwin, Jasper Jones, Daniel De Forest, Benjamin Ufford, Lewis Beers, Asa Curtis, Ephraim Burritt, James Beach, William Kettlas, Benjamin Hall, Joseph Tomlinson, Philip Benjamin, Jr., John Curtis (3d), Prosper Wetmore, Enoch Foot, Gideon Booth, George Haley, Lewis Wakeley, Andrew Lyon, Nathaniel Lewis, Daniel Booth, Thomas Scott, John Wells, M. A. Marks, Robert Fairchild, Abel Judson, A. McDonald, Stephen L. Booth, Stephen Morse."

#### ORONOQUE LODGE, NO. 90, I. O. O. F.

This lodge was instituted by Grand Master A. W. Phelps, in the old Masonic Hall. The first officers installed were J. W. Dufow, N. G.; G. T. Lewis, V. G.; Charles D. Curtis, Treas.; H. A. Sutton, Sec.

Charter members: Joseph W. Dufow, George T. Lewis, Francis S. Avery, Lucius E. Hendic, H. A. Sutton, John Craddock, Charles D. Curtis, William Shilston, Perry Beardsley, C. Lister Young, Laspoore K. Whitman, Lewis S. Hubbull, Abram T. Peck.

The following is a list of Noble Grands from organization to present time: Joseph W. Dufow, George T. Lewis, John Craddock, Francis S. Avery, Laspoore K. Whitney, John Kugler, Charles E. Curtis, A. S. Allen, D. W. Judson, A. C. Ellis, William Young, Lewis S. Hubbull, A. C. Ellis, A. McEwen, George Craddock, William Bloriny.

#### THE STRATFORD ACADEMY.

The Stratford Academy was founded in 1805, and in the following year received its charter from the Legislature of Connecticut. It soon won and has since uniformly maintained a high stand as an English and classical school, making little display of superficial knowledge and partially learned accomplishments, but furnishing a solid basis of education, and from year to year sending its pupils to take the highest rank in the best colleges in our land, and to fill places of honor and trust in the largest cities. Never has its reputation as an institution of learning been higher or better sustained than during the quarter of a century which has elapsed since, in 1847, Mr. Frederick Sedgewick, A.M., entered upon the duties and responsibilities of its management. He resigned as principal of the institution in 1872, and has since conducted a select school. Mr. Sedgewick has been, and still is, a very successful teacher, and during the years he officiated as principal of the academy more than one thousand pupils received instruction at that institution.

*The Stratford Institute*, Mrs. E. E. Clark, Principal, is a flourishing school and justly merits its present popularity.

#### SCHOOLS.

For the present condition of the schools, see General History.

### CHAPTER LXXVIII.

#### STRATFORD (Continued).

#### CIVIL AND MILITARY, Etc.

Original Name and Area—Representatives—Selectmen—Extracts from Records—Ear-Marks—Borough of West Stratford—Organization—First Officers—Officers from Organization to Present Time—Stratford of Today—Military.

THE original name of Stratford was Cupheag, and it embraced the present towns of Bridgeport, Trumbull, Huntington, and Monroe.

#### LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following is a list of representatives from 1646 to 1880:

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1646 TO 1880.

1646, Thomas Fayerchild; 1650-52, Will Beardsly; 1653, Philip Graues, Will Beardsly; 1654-55, Phill Graues, Tho. Fairechild; 1656-57, John Wells; 1658, Will Beardsley; 1659, Thomas Fairechild, Joseph Judson; 1660, Philip Groues, Tho. Fairchild; 1661-63, Philip Groues, Joseph Judson; 1664, Mr. Tho. Fayrechild, Ens. Judson; 1665, Mr. Thomas Fayrechild, Joseph Judson, Philip Groue; 1666-67, Mr. Fairfield, Ens. Judson; 1668-71, Lieut. Wm. Curtice, Mr. Jos. Hawley; 1672, Lieut. Wm. Curtice, Mr. John Brinsmead; 1673, Capt. Wm. Curtice, John Picket; 1674, Capt. Wm. Curtice, Mr. Jos. Hawley; 1675, Capt. Wm. Curtice, Mr. John Picket, Sr.; 1676, Francis Hall, Jehiel Preston; 1677-78, Capt. Wm. Curtice, Mr. Joseph Hawley; 1669-80, Capt. Wm. Curtice, Mr. Francis Hall; 1681, Mr. Joseph Hawley, Ens. Stive Burrett; 1682-83, Capt. Wm. Curtice, Mr. Joseph Hawley, Sergt. Jehiel Preston, Mr. Samuel Sherman; 1684, Capt. Wm. Curtice, Mr. Jos. Hawley; 1685, Capt. Wm. Curtice, Francis Hall; 1686, Sergt. Joseph Curtice, Mr. Robert Lane; 1687, Mr. Jos. Hawley, Mr. Sam. Sherman; 1689-90, Mr. Joseph Curtis, Mr. Josiah Niccols; 1691, Ensign Stephen Buret, Mr. Joseph Curtice; 1692, Capt. Wm. Curtice, Mr. Joseph Curtice; 1693, Mr. Joseph Curtice, Mr. Sam. Sherman; 1694, Mr. Joseph Curtice; 1695, Mr. Ephraim Stiles, Mr. Nath. Sherman; 1696, Mr. Richard Blackleeche, Mr. Eph Stiles; 1697, Mr. Ambrose Thomson, Mr. Ephraim Stiles; 1698, Mr. Richard Blackleeche; 1699, Mr. Richard Blackleeche, Capt. James Judson; 1700, Capt. James Judson, Mr. Nathan Sherman; 1701, Capt. James Judson, Mr. Ben. Beach, 1702, Lieut. Thomas Knowls, Mr. Nathaniel Sherman; 1703, Capt. James Judson, Lieut. Tho. Knowles; 1704, Mr. Jno. Burrett, Mr. Ephraim Stiles; 1705, Mr. Ambrose Thomson, Mr. Ben. Curtis; 1706, Capt. James Judson, Mr. Benjamin Curtis; 1707, Mr. Benjamin Curtis, Lieut. John Hawly; 1708, Capt. James Judson, Mr. Samuel Hawly; 1709, Capt. James Judson, Mr. Ephraim Stiles; 1710, Mr. Ambrose Thomson; 1711, Mr. Samuel Hawly, Mr. Benjamin Sherman; 1712, Capt. John Hally, Mr. Ambrose Thomson; 1713-14, Capt. James Judson, Capt. John Halley; 1715, Lieut. Jeremiah Judson, Mr. Edmund Lewis; 1716, Capt. John Hawley, Capt. Josiah Curtice; 1717, Mr. Ambrose Thompson, Mr. John Wells; 1718, Capt. James Judson, John Tompson; 1719, Mr. Jeremy Judson, Mr. Edmund Lewis; 1720, Capt. John Hawley; 1721, Capt. John Hawley, Mr. Benjamin Curtice; 1722, Capt. James Lewis, Mr. John Wells; 1723, Mr. Edmund Lewis, Mr. John Thompson; 1724, Capt. John Hawley, Mr. Eben. Curtice; 1725, Capt. James Lewis, Mr. John Wilcoxson; 1726, Mr. Edmund Lewis; Mr. Danl. Hawley; 1727, Mr. Edmund Lewis, Mr. Jos. Judson; 1728, Mr. Edmund Lewis, Mr. Ephraim Curtice; 1729, Mr. Edmund Lewis, Mr. John Thompson; 1730, Mr. Edmund Lewis, Capt. John Wells;

1731, Capt. James Lewis, Mr. Ephraim Curtice; 1732, Mr. Ephraim Curtiss, Mr. Abiel Birdsey; 1733, Mr. Joseph Judson, Mr. Ephraim Curtiss; 1734, Mr. Ephraim Curtiss, Mr. Joseph Booth; 1735, Mr. David Judson, Mr. Daniel Halley; 1736, Mr. Theophilus Nichols, Mr. Ephraim Curtiss; 1737, Mr. David Sherman, Mr. Joseph Blackleach; 1738, Mr. Joseph Blackleach, Mr. Theophilus Nichols; 1739, Mr. Daniel Halley, Mr. Joseph Booth; 1740, Capt. Theophilus Nickols, Mr. David Sherman; 1741, Capt. Theophilus Nickols, Capt. David Judson; 1742, Capt. Theophilus Nickols, Mr. Joseph Booth; 1843, Capt. Theophilus Nichols, Capt. Joseph Blackleach; 1744, Capt. Theophilus Nickols, Col. Edmund Lewis; 1745, Mr. Robert Walker, Capt. Theophilus Nickols; 1746, Capt. Robert Walker, Capt. David Judson; 1747, Capt. Theophilus Nichols, Mr. Joseph Booth; 1748, Capt. Robert Walker, Mr. Elnathan Wheeler; 1749, Capt. Robert Walker, Capt. Joseph Blackleach, Elnathan Wheeler, Ephraim Judson; 1750, Capt. Theophilus Nickols, Elnathan Wheeler, Capt. Samuel Addams; 1751, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Capt. Samuel Addams, Capt. Theophilus Nickols; 1752, Capt. Samuel Adams, Elnathan Wheeler, Agur Tomlinson; 1753, Capt. Theophilus Nichols, Capt. Stiles Curtis, Hezekiah Gold, Capt. Robert Fairchild; 1754, Capt. Daniel Porter, Capt. Samuel Adams, Capt. Theophilus Nichols, Capt. Robert Fairchild; 1755, Capt. Daniel Porter, Capt. William Peet, Agur Tomlinson, Capt. Theophilus Nichols; 1756, Col. Joseph Worster, Joseph Nichols, Capt. Isaiah Brown, Samuel Adams; 1757, Agur Tomlinson, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Capt. Theophilus Nichols; 1758, Agur Tomlinson, Capt. Theophilus Nichols, Ichabod Lewis; 1759, Col. Robert Walker, Capt. Samuel Adams, Ichabod Lewis; 1760, Col. Robert Walker, Ichabod Lewis; 1761, Capt. William Samuel Johnson, Capt. Samuel Adams, Col. Robert Walker, Ichabod Lewis; 1762, no record; 1763, Col. Robert Walker, Capt. Ichabod Lewis; 1764, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Capt. Theophilus Nickols, Joseph Curtiss, Capt. Ichabod Lewis; 1765, Capt. William Samuel Johnson, Joseph Curtiss; 1766, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Capt. Ichabod Lewis; 1767, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Capt. Ichabod Lewis, Capt. T. Nickols, Capt. A. Tomlinson; 1768, Capt. T. Nickols, Capt. A. Tomlinson; 1769, Capt. Theophilus Nickols, Capt. Samuel Adams, Capt. Agur Tomlinson; 1770, Capt. T. Nickols, Capt. Samuel Adams, Nathan Birdsey; 1771, Capt. Theophilus Nichols, John Brooks; 1772, Capt. Theophilus Nichols, Capt. Robert Fairchild; 1773, Capt. Robert Fairchild, John Brooks, Abner Judson; 1774, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Abner Judson, Capt. Daniel Judson; 1775, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Capt. Ichabod Lewis; 1776, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Capt. Ichabod Lewis, Capt. Daniel Judson; 1777, Capt. Abraham Brinsmade, Capt. Daniel Judson; 1778, Capt. Abraham Brinsmade, Capt. Stephen Burroughs, Daniel Bennet; 1779, Capt. Abraham Brinsmade, Elisha Mills, Capt. Samuel Blackman; 1780, Capt. Robert Fairchild, Elisha Mills, Stephen Burroughs, Daniel Bennet; 1781,\* Elisha Mills, Daniel Bennett, Capt. Daniel Judson; 1782, Elisha Mills, Capt. Daniel Judson, Maj. Agur Judson, Stephen Middlebrook; 1783, Maj. Agur Judson, Capt. Joseph Walker, Capt. Robert Fairchild; 1784, Maj. Agur Jackson, Capt. Robert Fairchild, John Blackleach, Elisha Mills; 1785, Daniel Bennet, Capt. Daniel Judson, Samuel Bennet, Abijah McEwen; 1786, Abijah McEwen, Daniel Bennet; 1787, Abijah McEwen, Capt. Bench Tomlinson, Maj. Joseph Walker, Abraham Brinsmade; 1788, Elisha Mills, Capt. Nathaniel Wheeler; 1789, Abijah McEwen, Maj. Aaron Hawley, Capt. Robert Walker; 1790, Capt. Matthias Nicholl, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Samuel William Johnson; 1791, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Aaron Hawley, Matthias Nicholl, Samuel William Johnson; 1792, Abijah McEwen, Jeremiah Beardsley, Abijah Starling, Samuel W. Johnson; 1793, Abijah McEwen, Zachariah Coe, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Jeremiah Beardsley; 1794, Jabez H. Tomlinson, John Thompson, Samuel William Johnson; 1795, Samuel William Johnson, Abijah Brooks, Jabez H. Tomlinson, John Thompson; 1796, Matthias Nicholl, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Sam'l Wm. Johnson; 1797, Sam'l Wm. Johnson, Jabez H. Tomlinson, J. Thompson; 1798, Jos. Lacey, Jos. Walker, Abijah Sterling; 1799, Roswell Judson, Jos. Walker, Abijah Sterling, John Thompson; 1800, Roswell Judson, J. Walker, J. Thomson; 1801, J. Walker, A. Sterling, J. H. Tomlinson, Roswell Judson; 1802, J. H. Tomlinson, Robert Fairchild, Roswell Judson, Matthias Nicholl; 1803, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Robert Fairchild, Samuel Wheeler; 1804, Elnathan Wilcoxson, Robert Fairchild, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Roswell Judson; 1805, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Robert Fairchild, Pixley Judson,

Matthias Nichols; 1806, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Robert Fairchild, Roswell Judson, Samuel Hawley; 1807, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Elijah Ufford, Jr., Samuel Wheeler; 1808, Samuel W. Johnson, Jabez H. Tomlinson; 1809, Samuel W. Johnson, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Elijah Ufford, Jr., John S. Cannon; 1810, Joseph Walker, Daniel Sterling, Jabez H. Tomlinson; 1811, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Daniel Judson, Jr., Samuel Wheeler; 1812, Daniel Judson, Jr., Daniel Sterling, Jabez H. Tomlinson, John S. Cannon; 1813, Victory Wetmore, Salmon Hubbell, Elijah Ufford, Jr., Daniel Sterling; 1814, Jabez H. Tomlinson, David Peant, John S. Cannon, Elijah Ufford; 1815, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Levi Curtis, Matthias Nicholl; 1816, Levi Curtis, Nathan'l L. Wheeler, Joel Curtiss, Jeremiah W. Beardslee; 1817, David Peant, David Minott, Isaac Burroughs; 1818, David Peant, Ephraim J. Wilcoxson, James E. Beach; 1818, David Peant, Reuben Tweedy; 1820, David Peant, Noah Plumb; 1821, Wilson Hawley, Asa Curtiss; 1822-23, Robert Fairchild; 1824, Josiah Gorham; 1825, Silas Burton; 1826, Joel Curtiss; 1827, Elijah A. Booth; 1828, Nathaniel L. Wheeler; 1829, Robert Fairchild; 1830, Edwards Johnson; 1831, Nathaniel L. Wheeler; 1832, Robert Fairchild; 1833, Josiah Gorham; 1834, John Welles, Jr.; 1835, Charles Gilbert; 1836, Stiles Judson; 1837, Nathaniel L. Wheeler; 1838, Stephen Curtiss; 1839, Lewis Wells; 1840, David Gorham; 1841, Judson Peck; 1842, — — —; 1843, Eli W. Lewis; 1844, Philo Curtiss; 1845, Gould Blakeman; 1846, John Wilcoxson; 1847, Everett Wheeler; 1848, David Peant; 1849, Levi Curtiss, Jr.; 1850, John Coe; 1851, John Wilcoxson; 1852, I. Wells; 1853, Alfred Burritt; 1854, Gould Blakeman; 1855, Charles Gilbert; 1856, Josiah Gorham; 1857, William M. Perry; 1858, J. W. Stagg; 1859, William R. Hubbell; 1860, Henry Dikeman; 1861, John Mitchell; 1862, A. B. Judd; 1863, Henry Peant; 1864, C. D. Wheeler; 1865-67, Curtis Thompson; 1868, Charles L. Beach; 1869, Lewis W. Burritt; 1870-71, J. W. Knowlton; 1872-74, A. B. Judd; 1875, Nathan B. Wells; 1876, Charles B. Curtiss; 1877, Edmund B. Peck; 1878, Daniel C. Wood; 1879, Charles G. Wells; 1880, Stiles Judson.

In 1671 John Curtis, Henry Tomlinson, Francis Hull, Richard Battlen (?), and Robert Clark were chosen townsmen.

In 1686 —† Sherman, Thomas Wells, James Judson, Robert —,† Samuel Hawley were chosen townsmen.

#### LIST OF SELECTMEN.

1768, Joseph Curtis, Capt. Isaiah Brown, Le Grand Cannon, Elisha Mills, John Middlebrook, Jr., Capt. Ezra Hawley, David Wilcoxson; 1774, Nathaniel Wheeler, Joseph Lewis, Joseph Curtis, Maj. A. Judson, Zachariah Coe, Edward Burroughs, John Judson; 1780, Nathaniel Wheeler, Capt. Ebenezer Coe, Lieut. Stephen Wells, Capt. Joseph Birdsey, Stephen Summers, Stephen Middlebrook, Silas Nichols; 1790, Jabez Curtis, Jabez H. Tomlinson, Nathan —, Zachariah Coe, Benjamin Burton, Aaron Hawley; 1800-2, 1806-8, 1810, Roswell Judson; 1800-4, 1808, Elnathan Wilcoxson; 1809, Amos Hubbell; 1801, Elias Wills, Josiah Lacy; 1803, Samuel Warden; 1802-3, John Booth; 1802, Aaron Hawley; 1803-4, John G. Coe; 1804-7, Jabez W. Tomlinson; 1804-5, William Walker; 1804, Pixlee Judson, Samuel Warden; 1804-9, Joel Curtiss; 1805-8, 1810-14, Samuel Hawley; 1806-7, Lewis Le Grand Cannon; 1808-9, Samuel Ufford; 1809-13, Charles McEwen; 1809, Abijah Hawley; 1811-19, 1822-23, Levi Curtiss; 1811, Daniel Judson, Jr.; 1811-13, Agur Curtis, Jr.; 1813, Stephen Booth; 1814-18, David Plant; 1815-16, Ezra Gregory; 1817, Enoch Foote; 1818-20, Reuben Tweedy; 1819, Asa Curtiss; 1820-23, Elijah Booth; 1821, E. J. Wilcoxson; 1821-22, J. Gorham; 1823, Samuel Curtis, Jr.; 1824-31, Eli W. Lewis; 1824-25, Stephen Booth; 1824-26, 1829, Abner Judson; 1826, Abram C. Lewis; 1827, Abner Booth, Henry Ufford; 1828, John Wells, David B. Brooks; 1829-31, 1837, Judson Peck, Jr.; 1830-35, Elijah Curtis; 1831, Lewis Wells; 1832-34, Stiles Judson, Jr.; 1832-38, Lewis Wells; 1835, Daniel Williams; 1836, Joseph Ufford, Job Peck; 1837, Lewis Wells.

#### FIRST SELECTMEN.

1838-40, Lewis Wells; 1841-44, Philo Curtiss; 1845-50, Levi Curtis, Jr.; 1851-53, 1860, John Coe; 1854, Joseph Ufford; 1855, Isaac Wells; 1856, Lewis Wells; 1857-59, William Booth; 1861-66, Otis Beers; 1867-68, Edward L. Wells; 1869, John Coe; 1870, Allen Gregory;

\* No list given in State records. Above procured from Governor Trumbull's diary in Connecticut Historical Society's rooms.

† Names obliterated on records.



1871, V. R. C. Giddings; 1872, F. J. Beardsley; 1873, Edward L. Wells; 1874, Charles B. Curtis; 1875, Lewis Beardsley; 1876, Charles B. Curtis; 1877-79, F. J. Beardsley.

The early inhabitants evidently manifested an interest in the care of their records, as the following shows:

"The Town at a lawful meeting y<sup>e</sup> 24th May 1671 Voted and agreed y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> shall bee a small chest provided at y<sup>e</sup> charge of y<sup>e</sup> Town w<sup>th</sup> a sufficient Lock for y<sup>e</sup> securing of all Records or other writings y<sup>t</sup> are of concernment either for y<sup>e</sup> Town in Gen<sup>l</sup> or any particular Inhabitant of y<sup>e</sup> Town.

"Pr JOHN MINOR,

"Recorder."

#### EAR-MARKS.

The following are specimens of the ear-marks used in the early days to distinguish cattle, sheep, etc.:

"Samuel Hawley of North Stratford his ear mark a slit in y<sup>e</sup> near ear and a half penny each side the right ear. Recorded Feby 25 1760.

"Capt Robt Fairchilds ear mark for his Creatures is a Swallow fork on y<sup>e</sup> end of y<sup>e</sup> Right ear & a half penny & a nick on y<sup>e</sup> upper side of y<sup>e</sup> Left y<sup>e</sup> nick Toward y<sup>e</sup> end of y<sup>e</sup> ear & Recorded June y<sup>e</sup> 7th 1758."

#### BOROUGH OF WEST STRATFORD.

The borough of West Stratford was organized July 3, 1873. According to the charter the first officers held office for sixteen months, and the annual election to take place thereafter the first Monday in December every year. The first officers for 1873 and 1874 were: Warden, W. A. Lewis; Burgesses, Alfred Beers, Jas. Bounds, E. B. Peck, John French, William H. Bunnell, and Harvey Birdsey; Clerk, Charles H. Hinman; Treasurer, H. B. Drew; Collector, D. C. Wood; Bailiff, H. T. Quire; Registrars of Voters, J. R. Lockwood and Frank Bacon. Officers for 1875: Warden, W. A. Lewis; Burgesses, Alfred Beers, Harvey Birdsey, William Meachem, Thomas Lewis, Allen Gregory, and T. V. Boyden; Clerk, Charles H. Hinman; Treasurer, H. B. Drew; Collector, Albert Thompson; Bailiff, H. T. Quire; Registrars of Voters, William F. Thompson and F. O. Reilly; Inspectors of Election, J. W. Bradley and William Lord. Officers for 1876: Warden, Alfred Beers; Burgesses, S. H. Danks, Allen Gregory, Charles L. Beach, William Lord, and H. G. B. Cuzner; Clerk, Charles H. Hinman; Collector, George Bertine; Treasurer, H. B. Drew; Bailiff, Peter Umstratter; Registrars of Voters, J. R. Lockwood and C. E. Sherwood; Inspectors of Election, William B. Blake and William A. Mills. Officers for 1877: Warden, E. B. Peck; Burgesses, William H. Bunnell, Allen Gregory, H. G. B. Cuzner, Leonard Wells, Miles B. Beardsley, and George H. Zink; Clerk, Charles Riddle; Treasurer, H. B. Drew; Bailiff, William B. Youngs; Collector, Lyman S. Catlin; Registrars of Voters, J. W. Bradley and William Lord; Inspectors of Election, W. F. Thompson and J. R. Lockwood. Officers for 1878: Warden, H. G. B. Cuzner; Burgesses, Alfred Beers, S. O. Canfield, George H. Zink, C. H. Huntoon, William Waterhouse, and Burr Jelliff; Clerks, A. C. Ellis (six months), Charles H. Hinman (six months); Treasurer, H. B. Drew; Collector, George Bertine; Bailiff, W. H. Beardsley; Registrars of Voters, J. R. Lockwood and C. E. Sherwood;

Inspectors of Election, H. O. Lund and Charles Meachem. Officers for 1879: Warden, R. T. Jennings; Burgesses, George Lewis, Theodore Quitmeyer, E. Siviter, Burr Jelliff, and D. C. Wood; Clerk, Charles H. Hinman; Treasurer, H. B. Drew; Bailiff, W. H. Beardsley; Collector, George Bertine; Registrars of Voters, J. R. Lockwood and C. E. Sherwood; Inspectors of Election, F. B. Coffin and Charles Meachem. Officers for 1880: Warden, George H. Zink, Sr.; Burgesses, A. M. Scott, John S. Fray, Wheeler Hawley, James Bounds, William S. Burr, and Harvey Birdsey; Clerk, Charles H. Hinman; Treasurer, H. B. Drew; Collector, George Bertine; Bailiff, George Baker; Inspectors of Election, William F. Thompson and William Lord, Jr.; Registrars of Voters, F. V. D. Bogart and J. R. Hull. V. R. C. Giddings has been the borough attorney since its organization.

The number of inhabitants of the borough is about two thousand, according to the present census. The school-house in the lower district has four teachers, with about two hundred and ninety scholars, regular attendance, and the school in the upper district, two hundred scholars regular. There have been about thirty new houses added to the borough during the past three years.

*The Rogers and Brittin Silver Company*, located in this town, has a capital of \$50,000, with an authorized capital of \$250,000. F. D. Rogers is President, F. W. Brittin, Vice-President, S. T. Rogers, Secretary, and E. L. Brittin, Treasurer. This company manufactures the finest quality of nickel silver "flat ware," spoons, forks, ladles, etc., plated and in the metal. It is a new industry for this section, and justly merits its present success.

#### STRATFORD OF TO-DAY.

"The village has never been stirred by those uneasy activities which overturn other New England towns, or if an impulse so little akin to its habits and traditions has been felt, it was sure to result in disintegration, and Stratford has cast off its unruly suburbs, with their enterprises and industries and ambitions. Our Stratford has known no bustles, no excitements, no competitions; no coarse stimulus has intruded into its life. The motto of the place and the expression of its repose has been from the beginning, *'Surtout point de zèle.'*

"Hence one feels more than one sees in the old town. Its wide grass-bordered streets,—almost lawns in themselves,—its immemorial elms, which arch above the silent walks, its glimpses of the wide majestic river, the harbor and Sound, with the blue shores of Long Island on the far horizon,—all have as many suggestions to the mind and the imagination as to the senses, and the happiness one gains in the place has its roots in the finest perceptions. Main Street, canopied by a leafy dome of elms, runs the entire length of the town; after passing the 'Upper Green' it becomes no longer a village street, but a

picturesque country road, wending through wooded nooks and along the banks of the Housatonic into the shadows and silence of the forests. Thus on the north Stratford merges its genuine characteristics in New England hill and river scenery, but on the south stretches a lazy length to listen to the murmur of the sea. Below the Neck are the broad salt meadows, scarcely above the sea line, leveling away to the horizons, through which wind creeks, the water level with the banks at high tide, while at the ebb the sides are left perpendicular, black, and bare. Here grows the salt-grass, dry, stiff, glistening, drowned twice a day by the sea and scorched by the suns, until the farmers cut it and carry it home in great thrifty-looking loads, which creep, a monotonous procession, through the quiet streets under the long shadows toward sunset on September days. Then the meadows, green before, take on mellow autumn tints—warm browns, russet, orange, crimson—and, traversed by wandering shadows on autumn days, these wide monotonous spaces have a beauty and a poetry of their own.

"The chief streets of the village were originally laid out sixteen rods wide. Each generation has encroached a little on the broad stretches of green-sward, but they still remain of wonderful width, and, played over by the shadows and the sunshine which flickers through the branches of the lofty trees, give an impression of illimitable distances and massive repose. Stratford set out to be a city, and was carefully surveyed and laid out in squares; and it is a melancholy thought that instead of fulfilling its destiny, a city it might have become except for the lucky accident that its harbor was neither so broad nor so deep as that of Bridgeport, which lies a few miles westward. As a city it might have been surpassed by others, and the distinction of the strange, soft charm which now wins the eye and fixes the place in the heart would have been lost.

"The Housatonic River widens at its outlet and makes a beautiful bay, which is called 'the harbor.' The river deserves more than a passing word. Until its waters near the sea they flow through a picturesque, mountainous region, which contains some of the most charming scenery of New England. But by the time it begins to feel the languid pulse of the tide it spreads its waters, washing banks rich in all pastoral beauties, and seeming no longer a river, but an arm of the sea. The apparent breadth of the bay is diminished by the low-lying sedgy banks of Well's Island, and to the east Milford Beach runs down its long white taper fingers, fringed with glistening shoals. Then open the far horizons of the Sound, spreading into distances of deep pure color except in the farthest verges, where Long Island shows, or the illimitable waste merges into pale, misty opal tints.

"Whatever commerce once came into Stratford harbor has almost passed away, and except for a few sloops and schooners discharging cargoes of coal, and

an occasional obstreperous steam-tug, it is now less devoted to the larger maritime enterprises than to pleasure-parties and amateur fishermen. Yachts and sail-boats, clean-cut sharpes, and catamarans suggesting phantoms of a wreck, chase each other up and down the bay on a summer's day, cross and re-cross, tacking, jibing, careening from morning till night. Then in the oyster-season a brisk traffic is carried on, and the waters are covered with a flotilla of odd-looking craft buying up loads of baby oysters for bedding."—*Mrs. Kirk.*

## MILITARY RECORD.

## FIRST REGIMENT.

*Company L.*

Louis Thomas, enl. Jan. 5, 1864.  
John Coburn, enl. April 28, 1864; must. out July 8, 1865.  
William Harvey, enl. March 31, 1864.  
Charles Pearl, enl. Jan. 2, 1864.  
Keron Sweeney, enl. April 1, 1864.  
George Wilson, enl. Jan. 2, 1864.

## SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

William M. Barnum, enl. July 31, 1862; disch. March 24, 1863.  
Burr W. Cosier, enl. Aug. 5, 1862; disch. March 3, 1863.  
Anson W. Dart, enl. March 6, 1862; died March 30, 1863.  
George W. Hazard, enl. Aug. 1, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
John C. Newton, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; died Dec. 20, 1864.  
James A. Peck, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; died April 24, 1863.  
Charles F. Roberts, enl. Aug. 2, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Henry Roberts, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
George H. Spall, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
William B. Sniffin, enl. July 31, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Edmund Thompson, enl. July 8, 1862; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
William B. Wilcoxon, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out May 23, 1865.  
Samuel Blair, enl. Jan. 4, 1864.

## ARTILLERY.

*Company B.*

Dewitt F. Clinton, enl. May 22, 1861.

*Company F.*

William Murphey, enl. May 23; wounded May, 1864; disch. May 22, 1864.

*Company M.*

Frederick E. Bassett, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864.  
John B. Beardsley, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; disch. Feb. 4, 1865.  
Charles E. Beers, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Charles E. Curtis, enl. March 5, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Stiles J. Peck, enl. Feb. 7, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Francis O. Wheeler, enl. Feb. 18, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

## SECOND ARTILLERY.

*Company B.*

Isaac Beardsley, enl. Jan. 5, 1864.

*Company K.*

Charles A. Johnson, enl. Jan. 1, 1864; died Oct. 20, 1864.  
William Lee, enl. Feb. 8, 1864.  
James Shay, enl. Feb. 8, 1864.  
Frederick J. Booth, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864.  
Otis G. Lewis, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864.  
Abram T. Peck, enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
William H. Wheaton, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability Oct. 1, 1861.

## SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company B.*

Dexter W. Ingalls, enl. Jan. 30, 1862; died June 23, 1864.



*Company E.*

James F. King, enl. Nov. 15, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 Thomas Quigley, enl. Nov. 17, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 George Kothe, enl. Dec. 2, 1864.

*Company I.*

Roderick S. Beers, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out Sept. 11, 1864.  
 William H. Binton, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; must. out Sept. 11, 1864.  
 Robert C. Peck, enl. Aug. 26, 1862; died July 20, 1863.  
 John Raygan, enl. Nov. 17, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 John Smith, enl. Feb. 6, 1864; must. out May 24, 1865.

## EIGHTH REGIMENT.

*Company E.*

Edwin W. Bassett, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863.  
 John Clark, enl. Nov. 19, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

*Unassigned Recruits.*

Thomas Fitzgerald, enl. Feb. 9, 1864.

## NINTH REGIMENT.

*Company I.*

Charles S. Palmer, first lieutenant; com. Oct. 30, 1861; pro. to captain; res. May 17, 1863.  
 Pierce D. Colburn, corporal; enl. Oct. 1, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; trans. to Co. D; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.  
 George F. Cooke, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 28, 1864; trans. to Co. D; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

*Company K.*

David A. Slawson, enl. March 26, 1862; died July 22, 1862.

## ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Henry Snow, enl. Dec. 15, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

*Company B.*

Frank Terry, enl. Nov. 17, 1864.

*Company H.*

Charles Jones, enl. Nov. 26, 1864.

*Company K.*

John W. Hale, enl. Feb. 16, 1864.  
 James Lorman, enl. Nov. 28, 1864.

## TWELFTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

George H. Nash, enl. Nov. 20, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; killed Oct. 19, 1864.

*Company C.*

Augustine Gray, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; re-enlisted; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Frederick W. Judson, enl. Jan. 15, 1862; killed Oct. 27, 1862.

## FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Oscar R. Beers, enl. Aug. 1, 1862; disch. April 20, 1863.  
 James H. Bartram, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; died in hospital (must. out roll).  
 Hanford Curtis, enl. July 26, 1862; died Dec. 15, 1862.  
 Benjamin Curtis, enl. July 26, 1862; died June 9, 1863.  
 Francis R. Curtis, enl. July 31, 1862; disch. March 10, 1863.  
 Albert DeForrest, enl. July 26, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out May 31, 1865.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

Robert C. McEwen, first assistant surgeon; com. Aug. 16, 1862; res. Sept. 30, 1863.

*Company C.*

Thomas O'Brien, enl. Feb. 9, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company D.*

William H. Keeler, corporal; enl. July 25, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John R. Booth, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; killed July 1, 1863.  
 Selah G. Blakeman, enl. July 29, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Henry J. Blakeman, enl. May 29, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Charles H. Clark, enl. July 29, 1862; disch. April 10, 1863.

Stephen C. Crofut, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; killed July 1, 1863.  
 George H. Gregory, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 George W. Keeler, enl. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 John N. Munger, enl. July 29, 1862; died Feb. 13, 1863.

*Company G.*

Wilson French, first lieutenant; com. Aug. 11, 1862; pro. to captain; disch. May 15, 1865.

## TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company I.*

Edwin L. Woodin, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

## TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

*Company H.*

John L. Williams, enl. Dec. 30, 1863.  
 George Williams, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company I.*

Edwin Freeman, musician; enl. Jan. 2, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.  
 Boston White, enl. Jan. 4, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

## THIRTIETH REGIMENT.

*Company C.*

John Banks, enl. Feb. 4, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 John Steddler, enl. Feb. 8, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.  
 Lame Suttles, enl. Feb. 8, 1864; killed July 30, 1864.

## THIRTY-FIRST REGIMENT.

*Company F.*

John McIntosh, enl. March 31, 1864.

## CHAPTER LXXIX.

## TRUMBULL.

Geographical—Topographical—List of Pioneers—Early Physicians—First Marriages—First Births—Schools—The Revolution—War of 1812—The Revolution of 1809—The Whipping-Post—Post-offices—The Birth-place of Professor Benjamin Silliman.

THE town of Trumbull is located in the southeast-ern part of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Monroe; on the east by Huntington and Stratford; on the south by Stratford and Bridgeport; and on the west by Easton.

The surface of this town is diversified with hills and valleys, and the soil is generally fertile and productive.

As will be seen by reference to a following chapter in the history of this town, Trumbull originally comprised a portion of the old town of Stratford, and the first settlements were doubtless made soon after the settlement of the mother-town.

## THE PIONEERS.

The following is a list of early settlers who were here as early as 1731: Nathan Hawley, David Booth, Thos. Peet, Elijah Nickolls, David Calhoun, William Hawley, Ephraim Booth, Daniel Beach, Josiah Beach, Thos. White, Oliver Hawley, Stephen Mallory, Amos Elmer, Abraham Nickolls, Thos. Lake, John Fairchild, Edward Lake, David Lake, John Nickolls, James Peet, John Sunderland, John Sherwood, Daniel Sherwood, Israel Beach, and Ebenezer Hurd.

Other early settlers were James Beech, A. Salmon, Elijah Turney, Isaac Harris, Samuel B. Edwards,

Michael Seeley, Joseph Wheeler, Salmon Mallett, Minor Higby, Eli Nichols, Robt. Mallett, Stephen A. Gregory, John Giles, Thaddeus Bennett, Eli Plumb, John Nichols, Jr., Benj. Reech, Jonathan Nichols, Philo Peet, Silas Harris, Elijah E. Curtis, James Beardslee, Jr.,\* Reuben P. Seeley, Solomon Peet, David Fairchild, Z. Thorp, Gurdon Sterling, Thomas Stratton, Samuel Clark, Elijah Harris, Josiah Northrop, John B. Hons.

At an election for members of Congress, held in April, 1800, one hundred and sixty-seven votes were cast.

In the early history of the town it was ordered that whoever desired to become a resident must subscribe the freeman's oath, as it was called, and under date of April 2, 1792, "the following gentlemen were admitted freemen by taking the oath: Abijah Curtis, Sherman Edwards, Elijah Beech, Peter Summers, Andrew Lewis, Eli Edwards, Nehemiah K. Edwards, Abijah Edwards, Abijah Uffoot, David Mallett, Jr., Jos. Mallett, Jr., David Edwards, Jr., Thos. Ward, Abraham Middlehawk, Seth Mallett, Elijah Beech, Jr., Amos Osborn, Zachariah Mallett, Lewis Edwards, Joseph Gregory, and Abijah Peet. Recorded by Eliakim Beech, Clerk."

In the following September the following gentlemen were admitted freemen by taking the freeman's oath: Z. Fairweather, Robt. Middlebrook, Nathaniel Beech, Jr., Andrew Curtis, Jos. Hawley, Hezekiah Curtis, Jr., Nathan N. Peet, Elnathan Turney, John Peter, John Cogeshall, Ephraim Peter, David Sherman, Nathaniel Beech (3d), John R. Gregory, Z. Mallett, Jr.

In 1799 the following were admitted as freemen: John Nichols, Wooster Hurston, Elijah Booth, Samuel Haine, Eli Burton, Benjamin Turney, Joseph Hamblin, Joseph Burton, Jr., David Peet, Thomas Hawley, Abijah Hawley, David Middlebrook, Gideon Peet, Jr., Ephraim Middlebrook, Daniel Hawley, Thaddeus Jinnings, Joseph Sterling, Lewis Fairchild, Jr., Daniel Waklee, Alford Beech, Sillie Summers, Nehemiah Fairchild, Levi Summers, David Sherwood, Robert Dashum, Jonathan Tongue, Jr., Eli Starr, Ira Summers, Daniel Barel, Silas Beardslee, Isaac Palichar, Daniel Turney, Joseph Wetmore, Eli Tongue, Eben Beach, Philo Beers, Thomas Daskam, F. Sherwood, James Downs, Silas Beach, Burr Silliman, Abel S. Beach, Hezekiah Nichols, Thomas Peet, Nathan N. Walker, Joseph E. Mallett, and Abraham Brinsmade.

#### EARLY PHYSICIANS.

One of the earliest physicians, and probably the first in the town, was Stephen Middlebrook, father of Dr. Elijah Middlebrook. The latter, famous as the publisher of "Middlebrook Almanac," was in active practice here about half a century.

Among other physicians are mentioned the names of Daniel Beard, Isaac Jennings, Daniel Ufford, and George Dyer. There is but one physician now resident of the town, Dr. Seth Hill, at Tashua.

#### FIRST MARRIAGES.

The following is a list of a few of the first marriages, as kept by Rev. Mr. Miner, who was pastor of the church in 1731: Jeremiah Johnson and Zipporah Mallory, Ebenezer Hurd and Abigail Hubbell, Jos. Lake and Deborah Jackson, James Phippenne and Hannah Smith, Isaac Jackson and Rachel Nickolls, Samuel Shelton and Abigail Nickolls, John Middlebrook and Eunice Bostwick, Israel Munger and May Brinsmead, Andrew Booth and Sarah Patterson.

#### FIRST BIRTHS.

The following is a record of the first births in this town, and in 1731: Lois Hawley, Esther Miner, Ann Booth, Nathan Peet, Jonathan Nickolls, James Calhoun, Charity Booth, Elijah Beach, Ann Beach, Sarah White, Ichabod Hawley, Ogden Mallory, Ann Elmer, Abram Nickolls, and Lucy Lake.

The old parish record of North Stratford (Trumbull) shows that "Peggy, negro servant of Ensign William Peet, was baptized June 27, 1731."

#### SCHOOLS.

The first merchant in town was Stephen Middlebrook, who kept where John Beardsley now lives. Eliakim Beach kept a store at Trumbull, and Robert Nichols was in trade at Nichol's Farms.

#### THE REVOLUTION.

The following is a copy of an interesting Revolutionary document now in the possession of L. N. Middlebrook, Esq., of Bridgeport:

"North Stratford,† March 11th, 1778.

"The following is an exact account of the donations of the parish of North Stratford for the Continental soldiers in the southern army, Valley Ford, belonging to this place sent down by Lieut. Beebe, being fifteen in number, to be divided equally between them, viz. the following persons: John Downs, James Downs, Abraham Hawley, Truman French, William Dascomb, Daniel Evis, Nathan Hawley, Reuben Beach, Joel Mosher, John Craford, Samuel Henman, Daniel Sherwood, Toney Turney, Caesar Edwards, and Nero Hawley.

"The following persons were the donors:

	£	s	d.
Daniel Beers.....	0	1	10
Jonathan Beers.....	0	3	0
Nathaniel Mosour.....	0	3	0
David Stratton.....	0	3	0
Hawkins Nichols.....	0	3	0
Daniel Turney.....	0	3	0
David Turney.....	0	2	0
Elnathan Turney.....	0	3	0
Samuel French.....	0	2	0
John Turney.....	0	12	0
Robert Turney.....	0	5	6
Gideon Peet.....	0	5	0
David Edwards, Jr.....	0	2	0
John Hains.....	0	3	0
David Barsley.....	0	3	0
Thaddeus Barsley.....	0	1	9
James Barsley.....	0	3	0
David French.....	0	4	0
John Burton.....	0	6	0
Ichabod Hawley.....	0	5	0
Eliakim Beech.....	0	6	0
Daniel Beech.....	0	2	0

\* Heretofore spelled in the records *Bardslee*.

† No. 1 Trumbull.



	£	s.	d.
Thomas Edward's wife.....	0	3	9
Joshua Henman.....	0	6	0
John Beech.....	0	5	0
Ruben Sherwood.....	0	6	0
Enoch Henman.....	0	6	0
Josiah Henman.....	0	6	0
Samuel Turney.....	0	3	0
Joseph Burroughs.....	0	5	0
Samuel Edwards.....	0	3	0
Edmon Curtis.....	0	3	0
Gashom Turney.....	0	3	0
Ephraim Sterling.....	0	12	0
Peter Beers.....	0	1	0
Stephen Middlebrook.....	0	6	0

"The subscribers that gave cheese:

	lbs.	oz.
Daniel Salmon.....	5	4
Jabez Beech.....	3	12
Mrs. Starling.....	4	4
Mrs. Beech.....	4	12
Joseph Burton.....	7	4
Benjamin Burton.....	6	0
John French.....	6	8
John Wealer.....	6	0
Josiah Henman.....	5	0
John Edwards, 3d.....	6	0
David Edwards, 3d.....	6	0
John Edwards, 4th.....	5	0
Abigail Mosour.....	4	2
	70	10
Eliakim Walker.....	5	4

"Subscribers for gammon:

	lbs.	oz.
Andrew Beech.....	1	8
Abel Beech.....	4	0
William Burrit.....	2	8
Mrs. Hinman.....	4	8
Josiah Hinman.....	4	8
John Hinman.....	4	12
Ruben Sherwood.....	5	8
John Turney.....	4	0
Agur Beech.....	4	4
	31	0

"Small packs sent:

	lbs.	oz.
By Elnathan Seeley.....	15	4
" Daniel Hawley.....	6	0
" Andrew Hawley.....	8	8
" Peter Lewis' pack.....	4	8

"North Stratford, 12th March, 1778.

"Then received of Mr. Stephen Middlebrook, the sum of seven pounds three shillings and ten pence, lawful money, for the purpose of paying the expense of transporting a donation in provisions, from the parish of North Stratford, to the Continental soldiers of that Parish, Gen. Washington's Headquarters.

"PT. JAMES BEEREE,  
"Captain."

#### WAR OF 1812.

Although none of the citizens of this town were engaged in the battles of the war of 1812, still they held themselves ready to respond to their country's call, and many whose names we are unable now to obtain joined a military organization then stationed at New London.

At the close of the war, when the treaty of Ghent was announced, it created a wild enthusiasm in this vicinity. A very enthusiastic celebration was held at Trumbull church, and a pole was raised amid the rejoicing of the people. Old inhabitants still refer to this celebration with patriotic pride. It is evident that the people of Trumbull were alive to the issues of the day, for under date March 15, 1809, they express themselves in the following trenchant manner concerning the "measures pursued by the general government." David Beardslee was chairman of the meeting, and Abijah Uffort and Noah Plumb reported the following resolutions:

"At the present momentous and alarming crisis,

when the black clouds of invasion and insurrection darken our political horizon, it becomes the indisputable duty of every good citizen to rally round the altar of Freedom reared by the valor of our fathers and defend it against the savage insolence of foreign despots and the nefarious cabals of domestic traitors.

"While by the unparalleled oppressive edicts of the belligerents of Europe our rights are wantonly violated, our national honor insulted, and our commerce insulted, we cannot conceal our astonishment or repress our indignation of those among us who have the effrontery to advocate the inglorious, degrading maxim that power is right, while they are reviling an administration breathing a spirit of amity, peace, and good-will to all nations, and bending to preserve and perpetuate those rights and privileges which the blood of their fathers calls upon them from the ground to support. Still we trust there is yet remaining in the people of this highly-favored country sufficient valor, virtue, and patriotism to maintain and support the Constitution of the United States and the laws proceeding therefrom against all the Joabs which infest our land. Viewing such support as the link of our safety and the bulwarks of liberty, we do therefore

"*Resolve*, That we are unalterably attached to the Constitution of the United States, viewing it to combine all the principal requisites for preserving our independence and promoting our national prosperity; that until gratitude ceases to have a place in our hearts, or we forget suitably to appreciate wisdom, virtue, and patriotism, such as were the peculiar inheritance of the illustrious Washington, we will ever frown indignantly upon the first dawning of any attempt to alienate one portion of the country from the rest or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together its various parts."

It was also

"*Resolved*, We view with mingled emotions of pity and contempt the dastardly, pitiful means which have been employed by many under the semblance of attachment to our rights and dissatisfaction with the Embargo and their laws, while their real object is to bring the administration into contempt," etc.

It was also

"*Resolved*, That we approve of the late acts and doings of Congress."

The last of the series of resolutions was one commendatory of Thomas Jefferson, "late President of the United States." They resolve "that he is entitled to the most grateful thanks and fullest confidence not only of this meeting, but of every legitimate son of Columbus, etc." The resolution was fittingly closed with the following words: "We avail ourselves with avidity of the opportunity to express our sentiments of merit so exalted, and tender our sincere prayers that the evening of his days may be as serene and happy as his former life has been glorious and useful."

## THE WHIPPING-POST.

This relic of by-gone barbarity, as it has often been styled, stood near the Congregational church. Mrs. B. B. Plumb remembers when one James Read, familiarly known as "Jim" Read, was publicly whipped at this old post for stealing sheep of Robert Mallett. He was arrested by Silas Haines, who administered the lashes according to law!

## POST-OFFICES.

The post-office at Trumbull was established in an early day, and the earliest postmaster now remembered by the oldest inhabitant was Elihu Beach. He was succeeded by B. B. Plumb. Mr. Beach was appointed a second time, succeeding Mr. Plumb. He was succeeded by Mr. J. D. Brinsmade, who was followed by the present incumbent, W. S. Wheeler.

The first postmaster at Long Hill was Miles Beardsley. He was succeeded by E. B. Middlebrook, Miles Beardsley, and Edward Platt, the present incumbent.

## THE BIRTHPLACE OF PROF. BENJAMIN SILLIMAN.\*

The old highway which leads northward through the little village of White Plains, or Trumbull Centre, as it is more often called, turns off to the right a little distance before you reach the Trumbull church, and across the headwaters of the Pequonoc; then, as it turns north again to lead you on up the hills to the village of Daniel's Farms, you are confronted by a large gable-roofed house. It is situated upon the left of the road and, standing upon a natural elevation, overlooks to the south the quiet village as it lies stretched out down the valley. Across the stream, to the right and upon an equal elevation, stands the Trumbull church (Congregational), whose historic society in its record of one century and a half have borne the names of "Society at Unity," "Society at North Stratford," and "Trumbull Church."

The old house is of peculiar interest. Although it was built long before the Revolution, it stands upon its foundation with a firmness that commands veneration, and is suggestive of the firm and resolute resolve of our ancestors to build a home for future generations, not only with implements of peace, but, if necessary, with implements of war. There are many historical associations connected with the old house, which, by the way, has within a few years been purchased by the town of Trumbull, and is now used as a town-hall.

Among other of these associations is the fact that at one time John Hancock held a mortgage thereon. During the Revolution it was often a place of refuge, and many a time during the coast ravages of the British did the families of the colonists seek shelter beneath the same roof which now covers Trumbull's colonial mansion.

In this house, Aug. 9, 1779, "Benjamin Silliman,

the most eminent of American teachers of natural science, was born. The home of the family, from which his father (Brig.-Gen. Selleck Silliman) had lately been carried away as a prisoner by a party of British soldiers, and from which his mother, to escape the perils of war, was now a voluntary exile, was situated in the town of Fairfield, at the distance of a few miles from the place of his birth."

Professor Silliman, in the very last years of his life, wrote a biographical sketch of his father, and in it we find the following description of the event of his mother's flight: "My mother had secured an asylum in the house of Mr. Eliakim Beach at North Stratford, now Trumbull, and had made all necessary arrangements for her own removal and that of a part of her family. A British fleet and army which had paid a hostile visit to New Haven between July 4th and 7th, sailed from New Haven on the eve of the 7th, and on the morning of the 8th disembarked at Kinsey Point, on the beach at Fairfield. My mother and family, from the top of our house, witnessed the disembarkation of these troops, and that was the signal of their own retreat to North Stratford, a distance of seven or eight miles, where, with several members of her family, she was comfortably established and kindly treated.

"In their progress on their pilgrim journey (on horseback) the cannon began to roar, and the little boy, Gold Sellick, amused with the sound that brought sorrow to many hearts, at every report cried, '*bang! bang!*'"

"To our ears," writes my mother, 'these were doleful sounds,' and she adds: 'Oh the horrors of that dreadful night! At the distance of seven miles we could see the light of the devouring flames by which the town was laid in ashes. It was a sleepless night of doubtful expectations.'

"My mother's cheerful courage contributed to sustain her; and I ought to be (I trust I am) grateful to my noble mother, and to my gracious God, that the midnight surprise, the horror of ruffians armed for aggression, and the loss of her husband, as perhaps she might fear, by the hands of assassins, had not prevented my life or entailed upon it physical, mental, or moral infirmities. Hope and comfort returned to my mother with the assurance of my father's safety, and with the restoration of correspondence, although restricted to open letters and to the surveillance and jealousy of war."

Upon the records of the Trumbull Church (vol. i. p. 111) is the following record: "Benjamin, son of Brig.-Gen. Gold Syllick Sylliman and his wife. Born August the 9th, and baptized Sept. 12th. The general then being a prisoner on Long Island, his lady fleeing from the conflagration of Fairfield and took refuge in this society."

\* By R. C. Amler.



## CHAPTER LXXX.

## TRUMBULL (Continued).

## CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

Organization of Town—First Town-Meeting—Officers Elected—Selectmen from 1797 to 1881—Representatives from 1798 to 1881—Ecclesiastical History—Congregational Church—Trinity Church, Nichols' Farms—Grace Church, Long Hill—Methodist Episcopal Church, Nichols' Farms—Christ Church, Tashua—Military History.

## CIVIL HISTORY.

THE territory embraced within the bounds of the present town of Trumbull composed a portion of the town of Stratford until 1797. On the "second Thursday of Oct., A.D. 1797," it was incorporated by the General Assembly convened at New Haven. It was formerly known and referred to as the "society of North Stratford."

The act of incorporation directed that the first "Freeman's Meeting shall be holden at the meeting-house in said Trumbull, and the first Town meeting in said town of Trumbull shall be holden on the 20th day of November, 1797, and Jabez H. Tomlinson, Esq., of said Stratford, shall be the Moderator of said first Town meeting, and said town shall have and enjoy at said meeting in said town of Trumbull the same powers and authorities and proceed in the same manner in transacting their business as the other towns in this State."

## THE FIRST TOWN-MEETING.

In accordance with the above the first town-meeting was held at the "meeting house" Nov. 20, 1797, with Jabez H. Tomlinson as moderator, when the following officers were chosen: Selectmen, James Nichols, Jabez Beech, Jr., Judson Curtis, Jr.; Clerk, Eliakim Beech; Treasurer, Dr. Stephen Middlebrooks; Constables, Stephen Bardslee, David Seeley, Jr., David Booth, Jr.; Surveyors of Highways, Everard Curtis, Elijah Beech, Joseph P. Nichols, Daniel Burton, James Beers, Albert Edwards, Daniel Gregory, Nathan H. Nichols, and Daniel Peck; Listers, Ebenezer Wheeler, Daniel Brinsmade, James K. Edwards; Fence-Viewers, Zachariah Curtis and David Beardsley, Sr.; State Collector, Stephen Bardslee; Town Collector, Ebenezer Wheeler; Leather Sealer, David Seeley; Grand Jurors, John Coe, John Middlebrooks; Tithingman, Elijah Sterling; Haywards, Ephraim Booth, Thomas Ward; Chimney-Viewer, Joseph P. Nichols; Granger, Daniel Uffoot; Packer, John Uffoot; Sealer of Weights and Measures, Nehemiah Peet; "Key-keeper," Eliakim Beech.

At a "Freemen's meeting legally warned and convened at the meeting house, Dec. 4, 1797, the following votes were taken according to law to stand in nomination of election as representatives of the People of this State in the present Congress of the United States: Jabez H. Tomlinson, 34; John Davenport, 31; Isaac Mills, 27; Simeon Baldwin, 24; Stephen Middlebrook, 15; Sylvester Gilbert, 16; Lewis

B. Sturges, 11; Samuel W. Johnson, 12; Thaddeus Bennedick, 10; Stephen I. Hawson, 5; Marvin Wait, 4; John G. Smith, 1; Jonathan Brace, 1; Ebenezer Goodrich, 2; Joseph Walker, 1; Elijah Whittlesey, 1."

In 1797 it was voted "that we tax our silver four cents on a dollar, and that Ebenezer Wheeler be appointed to collect that tax."

At a meeting held in October, 1799, the citizens voted to oppose "there having a Turnpike road threw Trumbull from Newfield to New-Milford."

They also voted "that this meeting will send and remonstrate at the General Assembly against there being a Turnpike road, and that James Bardslee be our agent to act in behalf of the town."

It was also voted that he be "Impowered to Employ Counsel if Needed." The people were evidently in earnest in the matter, as a committee was appointed to draw a remonstrance, and empowered to "summon witnesses before the General Court in order to make proof if necessary."

## SELECTMEN FROM 1797 TO 1880.

The following is a list of selectmen of the town of Trumbull from the organization of the town to 1880:

1797-98, James Nichols; 1797-98, 1801, 1810-13, 1819-20, Jabez Beech, Jr.; 1797, 1800-1, Judson Curtis, Jr.; 1798-1800, 1805-9, 1814-16, David Beardsley; 1798, Zachariah Coe; 1798-99, Samuel Hull; 1799-1801, Nehemiah Peet; 1803-4, Benjamin Burton; 1803-8, 1810-12, 1817, Philo Booth; 1803-6, Daniel Gregory; 1807-10, Samuel Gregory, Jr.; 1809-10, David Plumb; 1810-12, Stephen Beardsley; 1813-16, Isaac Booth, Robert Mallett; 1817-20, Frederick Hurd; 1817-18, David Middlebrook; 1818-20, Eli Edwards; 1819-21, Jos. E. Mallett; 1819-20, Lewis Burton; 1820-22, N. M. Edwards; 1821-24, J. B. Curtis; 1822, Aaron Mallett; 1823-26, 1828, 1831-33, 1839-40, Rice E. Beach; 1823-26, David Beach; 1824, 1826-27, Philo Booth; 1827, N. H. Nichols, Ephraim Middlebrook; 1828-29, Isiah Peet; 1828-29, 1831, Samuel Mullett; 1829-30, John M. Wheeler; 1829, Elijah Sterling; 1830-33, D. Curtis; 1831, John Nichols; 1832-34, Abel Mullett; 1834-36, Anson Curtis; 1834-35, 1837, David Beardsley; 1835-36, Ephraim S. Mullett; 1836, Birdsey B. Plumb; 1837-38, Abigail M. Nichols; 1837-39, John C. Mallett; 1838-40, Walker Wheeler; 1840, Asa French; 1841-43, Prosper Nichols; 1841-42, A. S. Beach; 1841-44, Hall Beardsley; 1844, David B. Plumb; 1844-45, D. S. Brinsmade; 1843, F. Beach; 1845, A. B. Sherman, L. W. Clark; 1846-47, D. B. Hinman, E. Wheeler, J. L. Nichols; 1848, D. Curtis; 1849, H. S. Nichols, Edwards Beach, Daniel Curtis; 1850, L. C. Booth, E. Beach, Daniel Curtis; 1851-52, L. C. Booth, Wm. Squire, William Nichols; 1853, Daniel Fairchild, E. E. Edwards, Granville Dunning; 1854, Granville Dunning, E. E. Edwards, Isaac C. Booth; 1855, Granville Dunning, E. E. Edwards, John H. Parry; 1856, Isaac E. Booth, A. S. Beach, E. P. Nichols; 1857, Isaac E. Booth, A. S. Beach, Jr., E. P. Nichols; 1858, Abel S. Beach, E. P. Nichols, William A. Mallett; 1859-60, Charles N. Fairchild, Le Grand G. Beers, William A. Mallett; 1861-63, William Ufford, Burr Watkins, A. B. Mallett; 1864-66, A. S. Beach, Le Grand G. Beers, M. D. Mallett; 1867, E. P. Nichols, A. S. Beach, M. D. Mallett; 1868-70, C. D. Blackman, A. S. Beach, J. A. Treadwell; 1871, E. P. Nichols, A. S. Beach, J. A. Treadwell; 1872, William M. Ufford, S. H. Burroughs, L. A. Mallett; 1873-74, S. H. Burroughs, L. N. Mallett, Isaac E. Booth; 1875, S. H. Burroughs, F. S. Sterling, Lewis Brinsmade; 1876, F. S. Sterling, S. P. Pierson, Lewis Brinsmade; 1877, F. S. Sterling, W. B. Coan, L. N. Mallett; 1878, L. N. Mallett, W. B. Coan, John B. Nichols; 1879, L. N. Mallett, W. B. Coan, David S. Walker; 1880, L. N. Mallett, W. B. Coan, John B. Nichols.

## REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1798 TO 1880.

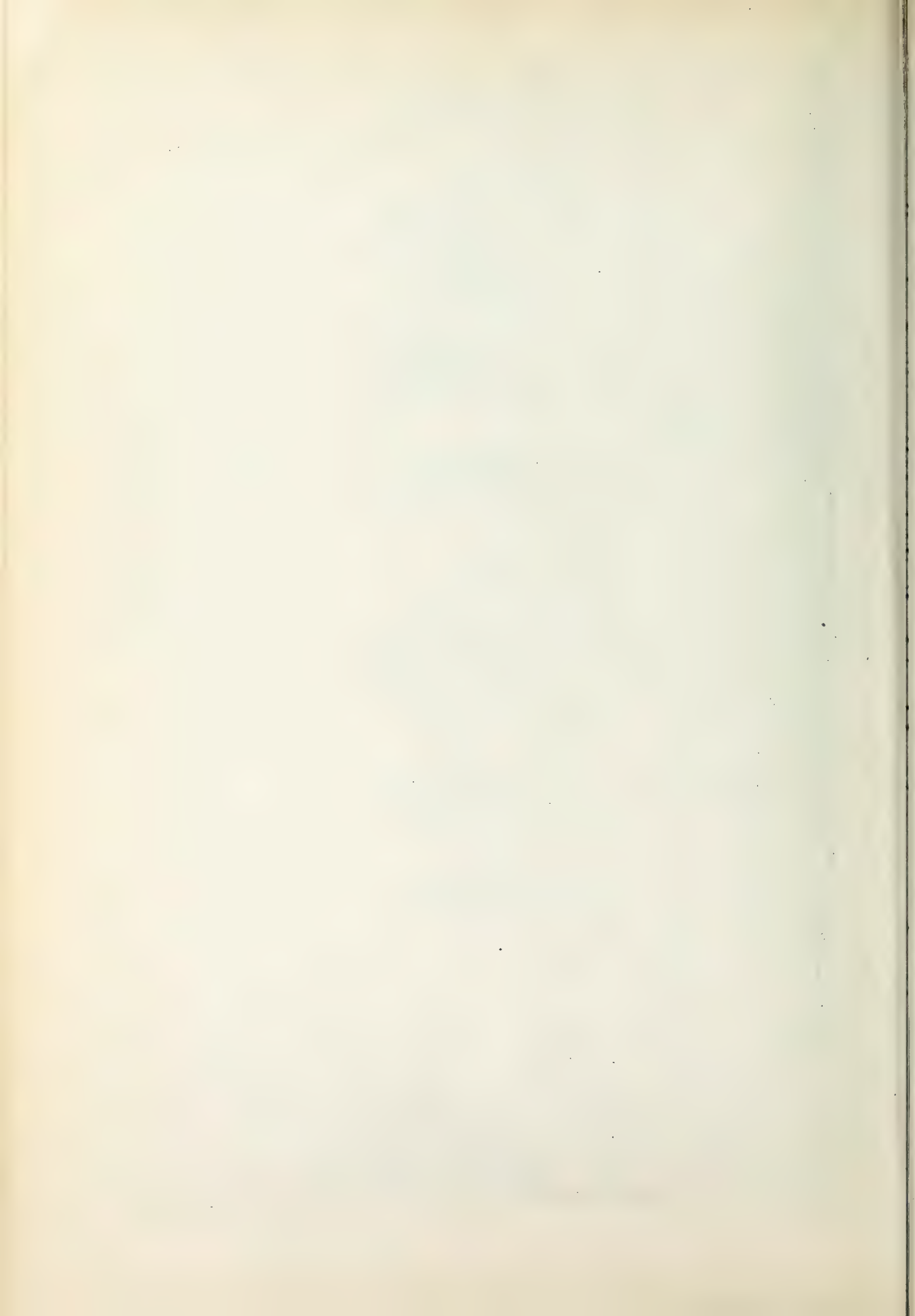
1798, Mr. Edward Curtiss, Mr. Judson Curtiss, Jr.; 1799, Mr. Stephen Beardsley, Mr. James Beardsley; 1800, Mr. James Beardsley, Mr.





RESIDENCE OF AARON SHERWOOD. LONG HILL FAIRFIELD Co Conn.





Nathaniel J. Burton; 1801, Mr. Nathaniel J. Burton, Mr. Hezekiah Curtis; 1802, Mr. James Beardsley, Mr. Stephen Middlebrooks; 1803, Mr. Benjamin Burton, Mr. Stephen Middlebrook; 1804, Mr. Stephen Beardsley, Mr. James Beardsley; 1805, Ebenezer Wheeler, David Beardsley; 1806, Stephen Middlebrook, Philo Booth; 1807, Stephen Beardsley, Jeremiah Osborne, David Beardslye, Salmon Sherman; 1808, Ebenezer Wheeler, James Beardsley; 1809, Abijah Ufford,\* Joseph Bennett, Stephen Beardsley; 1810, Daniel Wakeley, Jabez Beach; 1811, Stephen Beardslee, James Beardslee; 1812, Jabez Beach, David Booth, Jr.; 1813, Daniel Wakely, Samuel Gregory; 1814, Amos H. Wheeler, James Beardsley; 1815, Stephen Middlebrook, David Beebe; 1816, Jonathan Beers, Jr., Amos H. Wheeler; 1817, Isaac Booth, Ebenezer Wheeler; 1818, Daniel Seeley, Lewis Fairchild; 1819, Samuel Gregory; 1820, David Beebe; 1821, Eli Edwards; 1822, Elijah Middlebrook; 1823, Isaac Booth; 1824, Elijah Middlebrook; 1825, Nehemiah R. Edwards; 1826, Stephen Gregory; 1827, Robert Middlebrook; 1828, Eben Fairchild; 1829, Samuel Beardslee; 1830, David Curtis; 1831, Samuel Beardslee; 1832, Lize E. Beach; 1833, Robert Middlebrook; 1834, Isaiah Peet; 1835, Ephraim W. Beach; 1836, Joshua D. Nicholls; 1837, Samuel Edwards; 1838, Stephen Middlebrook; 1839, Francis Beach; 1840, Eli Brinsmade; 1841, Abel Mallett; 1842, George Dyer; 1843, Walker Wheeler; 1844, Ephraim Middlebrook; 1845, Ephraim T. Edwards; 1846, David Hawley; 1847, Plumb N. Fairchild; 1848, Miles Beardslee; 1849, Franklin P. Ambler; 1850, John C. Mallett; 1851, David B. Hinman; 1852, William Squire; 1853, Ebenezer Wheeler; 1854, Daniel Fairchild; 1855, Burr Watkins; 1856, Elam Hawley; 1857, L. W. Clark; 1858, Edward Beach; 1859, F. P. Ambler, Jr.; 1860, Daniel Burtiss; 1861, Le Grand G. Beers; 1862, Isaac E. Booth; 1863, Lucius B. Burroughs; 1864, Charles Ambler; 1865, Saml. G. Beardsley; 1866, C. W. Blackman; 1867, Morse D. Mallett; 1868, Abram Briggs; 1869, Sherman French (2d); 1870, Geo. B. Ambler; 1871, S. H. Burroughs; 1872, Abel S. Beach; 1873, Aaron B. Mallett; 1874, George E. Peet; 1875, John H. Beach; 1876, Chas. U. Fairchild; 1877, Stephen G. Nichols; 1878, William M. Ufford; 1879, Elliott M. Beardsley; 1880, Ormel Hall.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND SOCIETY.†

There was a church gathered and settled at Unity, then a district of Stratford (now Trumbull), Nov. 18, 1730, composed of thirty-eight members, of whom about two-thirds had been members of the Stratford Church, and the same day was ordained the Rev. Richardson Miner as pastor. He ultimately adopted Episcopal views, and was dismissed March 21, 1744, by the Council of Consociation. He soon afterwards went to England for orders, and died there at Salisbury. Unhappy dissensions followed in the church and society, the name of which was changed about this time from Unity to North Stratford.

The Association, the General Assembly of the colony, and two neighboring Associations sought to advise, but the church became so broken that it was gathered anew by the Council at the settlement of the next pastor, Rev. James Beebe.

Thus organized, it was one of the churches of the Standing Order of those early times, one of the "privileged class" of the "Established churches,"—a condition abnormal to pure Congregationalism; hence it was driven to the device of adopting the "Half-way Covenant." This was done in order to extend the ballot to the unregenerate, many of whom were very worthy citizens, but denied the exercise of the elective franchise while out of the membership

of the church. The records show quite a list of those who under this plan "renewed their Baptismal Covenant, but at same time do not see it their duty, under their present circumstances, to approach the Table of the Lord."

Meanwhile the principles of civil and religious liberty were at work, producing a new state of affairs.

At legal meetings of the society for a period of about ten years, from 1787 to 1797, petitions are repeatedly sent, and an agent to act as attorney appointed to appear before the General Assembly, at Hartford, and plead for "Town Privileges to be granted to the Society," and "if so obtained that the business of the Town shall be done at or near the Meeting-House in said Parish." At a society's meeting in 1794 it was voted, "That they claim the Privilege of nominating Town Officers in this Parish, and would proceed to nominate them as they always had Done."

But the principles of civil and religious liberty were bearing their fruit, and men began to claim and the law to allow the right of worshiping when and where each one pleased. "Certificates" now appear of those who renounce their connection with this church of the Standing Order, which declare their intention of being taxed for the benefit of some other church with which they connect themselves, and where they worship. Some of these "certificates" exhibit considerable of the spirit of freedom in worship: as, for instance, one A. B., announcing himself to withdraw from this to a Baptist Church, continues: "Henceforth I consider myself enabled with such control of property as to give what I please and when I please to the support of the same, according to the laws of God and not of man. As witness this my hand."

In 1797 the first town-meeting was held in Trumbull, and a more healthy relation began to appear between Church and State.

In the spring of 1814 a petition was prepared in behalf of the church to the General Assembly, held at Hartford, praying "that they may be incorporated into an Ecclesiastical Society." Deacon Judson Curtis and Capt. David Beardslee were appointed a committee to draw up the petition, and Amos H. Wheeler, agent to present it. This request was promptly granted. As a part of the resolution of the General Assembly, "said church and their successors" were declared to be "an ecclesiastical body, corporate and politic, forever, by the name of the Church of Christ in Trumbull."

For a long period at these legal meetings of the society school committees are annually appointed for the several districts, and the school money is apportioned.

With reference to church government the church has ever held fast to the Congregational polity—the authority of the local church being final. Thus about the beginning of the present century, when the

\* Probably Joseph Bennett should have been credited to Weston, the next town in the list.

† Contributed by Rev. N. T. Merwin.



churches got a tinge of Presbyterianism, though the name was taken more than the form, the Trumbull Church joined the Consociation of Fairfield County, but with this understanding: "We are all willing to consociate for advice and counsel in all matters ecclesiastical, but cannot and will not join in that arbitrary claim to juridical authority . . . compelling all parties to abide by such a juridical consociation."

When, in 1736, the Consociation of Fairfield County was divided into eastern and western, by the dividing line of the two associations, the Trumbull Church became a member of the Fairfield East Consociation. In 1827 the Council declared the "Saybrook platform their platform, and that they had no other." This church held to that construction of Consociation which made it rather a "Stated Council," than a "Presbytery." Both pastor and delegate protested against a decision of joint Council of the two Consociations, held at Danby, January, 1764, against one Mr. White, as "unreasonably severe."

In 1748, the Association of which Mr. Beebe was a member declared against the forming of a general Consociation, to serve as the highest ecclesiastical judicature in the colony. In 1772, Mr. Beebe, with two other divines, were requested to appear and say why they had neglected attending meetings of the Association and of the Council. They came, and replied that it was on account of the judicial power which the Saybrook platform gives to Councils of the consociated churches. By yielding a liberal construction to the platform, these two pastors were pacified. The views held and position taken by both church and pastor in their early history, as to church government, and in their spirit of independence toward the mother country, are to-day matters of just pride.

The Church of Christ in Trumbull, like many of the churches in the State, has a trust fund. In the year 1767, Thomas Sanford, of Stratford, Conn., bequeathed the church his "real estate," consisting of a house, barn, and land, situated in Long Hill, and valued at about three thousand dollars. Other individuals have left smaller sums at times to the church and society, so that the present fund consists of a good parsonage and two thousand dollars at interest. The church and society have made it a rule ever to keep free from debt.

#### HOUSES OF WORSHIP.

The first building for public worship was erected at the foot of White Plains Street, south of the burial-ground there, and was occupied only during the ministry of Richardson Miner. It was a plain, unpretending structure, and would pass more for a barn in these days than for a house of worship. A second meeting-house followed at the beginning of the ministry of Rev. James Beebe. This was built at the head of White Plains Street, on the ground where the present church edifice stands. A mile below on this street is a rocky eminence which marks the foot of a mountain-range running north through the

State, and this cliff is called "Pulpit Rock;" so named—tradition says—from religious service being held there a few Sundays while there was no house of worship, the minister preaching from it to the people below.

The second house of worship was larger than the first. It was a square building, with doors opening within (no vestibule) on three sides. A wide centre aisle led from the double doors at the south entrance, and two side aisles from the single doors on the east and west. There were high seats in the corners, above and below, for negroes, who once were slaves. A "sounding-board" projected over the pulpit. In later years a steeple was built, outside, on the south-east corner; and at the same time, just before the structure was pulled down, a bell was purchased and mounted. It was that now in use. The present meeting-house was built in 1842. The steeple was raised to its present form in 1848. The church was enlarged and improved, and occupied as we now have it, Jan. 1, 1874.

#### PASTORATES.

Rev. James Beebe came to North Stratford (now Trumbull), Conn., and was ordained over the church and society, May 6, 1747. He was married, July 13, 1749, to Ruth Curtis, of Stratford. Five daughters and two sons were the fruit of this marriage. The first son bore the father's name. Mary, the second daughter of Mr. Beebe, was the mother of the venerable man still living in the parish,—Deacon Ali Brinsmade, who has reached the ripe age of eighty-seven years in good possession of his faculties. Mr. Beebe died in the ministry over this church. As a testimonial of the love his parishioners bore him, one evidence is seen in a vote taken at a society's meeting, held April 10, 1794: Voted, "That the Society's Committee procure a pair of grave-stones for the Rev'd Mr. James Beebe, Deceased; and set them up." He was buried in the grave-yard at the foot of White Plains Street, near the situation of the first house of worship. A tablet marks the grave, on which is the inscription:

"This monument was erected by the church and society of North Stratford, out of regard to the memory of Rev. James Beebe, A.M., who departed this life Sept. 8, 1785, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. He was ordained to the work of the ministry over said church and society, May 6, 1747, and continued therein faithful as a pastor for thirty-eight years."

Beside him lie the remains of his faithful wife, with a stone at her grave. She died Jan. 29, 1818, aged ninety-five years.

Mr. Beebe's pastorate was the longest of any in the history of the church. If we call his the first, as, from the defection of Mr. Miner and the reorganization of the church which followed, we prefer to,—Mr. Beebe does so himself at times on the record,—then the first and the last pastorates of its servants in the

ministry are the longest, the former being thirty-eight, and the latter sixteen years. Rev. Mr. Beebe lived a short distance east of the present parsonage, on the north side of the White Plains road, on what is now an open field, where two old cellars may be seen; over one stood his dwelling, and over the other and smaller one was the hut of his slaves, "Nero" and "Pegg." They called them "servants," and in time they were virtually free. Less than one hundred years ago slavery existed in Connecticut.

Mr. Beebe's ministry here covered the Revolutionary period. He caught the spirit of the fathers and left his pulpit for three months and served in the war of independence. He took an active part in the capture of Ticonderoga. His son David was a captain in the colonial army, and did good service. During Mr. Beebe's absence the society hired Rev. Joseph Barker as preacher. On his return, in after payment of his salary, Mr. Beebe takes "continental money," the nominal sum being much larger than its true value: as in the war of the Rebellion, there was a difference between gold and paper currency. Thus where in 1777 he receives eighty pounds lawful (meaning English) money for the year, in 1781 he is paid four hundred and eighty pounds "continental money in full and to his satisfaction," for a year's salary. The church and its pastor were both filled with the Revolutionary spirit. At a society's meeting in 1779, while the seven years' war of the Revolution was in progress, it was voted: "That the society's committee have full power to release all rates that stand against the soldiers in continental service, that belong to this parish, who have enlisted during the war." This spirit of the patriot crops forth at times in the items which Mr. Beebe puts on record. A person whose name stands foremost in science and high in literature was born in this parish under singular circumstances. Mr. Beebe puts it thus on his record: "Benjamin, son of Brig.-Gen. Gold Selleck Silliman and his wife, born Aug. the 8th, and baptized Sept. the 12th; the general then being a prisoner on Long Island, his lady fleeing from the conflagration of Fairfield, and took refuge in this society."

He makes a record, too, of the death of one "Peleg Sunderland, who lost his life at that memorable event, when Tryon, with a band of British butchers and murderous Tories, burned the town of Fairfield."

A humorous incident in Parson Beebe's life in those stirring times is as follows: "He had collected a public meeting at his house one evening to awaken enthusiasm in the war. While he was addressing the people the report of guns at a distance was heard, and fires were seen as if the British were coming. The reverend gentleman was keen as well as patriotic, and suspecting a trick sent a body of men round by a back road, cut off the retreat of this scouting party, and captured them: when, lo! it was some of the young men of the town, who had burnt heaps of

cornstalks and fired their guns to play a joke on the folks at the meeting and test their patriotism."

Sarah, a daughter of Mr. Beebe, was baptized by a clergyman from Ridgefield while her father was at the war.

The Church of Christ here, at its reorganization, May, 1747, starts with a membership of seventy-five persons, the name of Rev. James Beebe heading the list. There are added up to the time of his decease one hundred and sixty-seven persons, making the total two hundred and forty-two who had united with the church. A list of deaths being wanted in the records, we know not how many of these had died. Mr. Beebe kept a good account of infant baptisms; most all being of this class, scarcely any adults. The custom of baptizing infant children was universal through the colonies. Every person born was almost sure to be baptized in about eight days from birth, after the plan, as to time, of the Jewish rite of circumcision.

Among the baptisms occur the names of slaves. This in the minister's own household: "Dinah, a negro servant of Rev. James Beebe, born Oct. 17, 1775, and baptized the 29th inst." Also, "Peter, a negro boy, servant of Rev. James Beebe, born October, 1779, and baptized July the 17th." The first name, and none other, are given of these servants or slaves, with the households to which they belong. The names of slaves occur in baptisms, admission to the church, marriages, and burials.

Rev. Izrahiah Wetmore was installed Oct. 13, 1785, and died here Aug. 3, 1798. His pastorate extends over a period of about thirteen years. He baptized seventy-four persons, most all being cases of infant baptism; he added seventy souls to the church, and joined twenty-six couples in marriage.

Rev. John Giles was installed May 10, 1802, and was dismissed Sept. 21, 1802.

For a few years, about this date, owing to the "injurious tendency of the political dissensions" of the times and "the necessity of union among Christians," the state of religion was brought very low in the churches; many pulpits of this Consociation were without regular pastors for intervals of from one to nine years. The Association, at a meeting held in 1805, lamented that, among other churches, the Trumbull church should be "vacant for three years." However, there were temporary supplies: Rev. Josiah Hawes and Rev. Samuel Monson preached here for months.

Rev. Daniel C. Banks was ordained Aug. 12, 1807, remained over the church five years and a half, and was dismissed Feb. 2, 1813. He lived in a dwelling-house, now gone, which stood on a lot next below the present parsonage. He baptized twenty-five persons, received twelve to the church, joined nine couples in marriage, and attended forty-two funerals.

Rev. Reuben Taylor was installed Sept. 18, 1817, and was dismissed Feb. 12, 1824, having served in a



pastorate of six years and four months. Mr. Taylor lived in an old dwelling near and east of that now occupied by B. B. Plumb, Esq. He went from Trumbull to New Connecticut, in the State of Ohio, and died there. The church enjoyed a "revival of religion" under Mr. Taylor's preaching, and as the fruit of it thirty-eight persons were added to the membership. During his pastorate he baptized seventy persons, forty-six members were added to the church, nineteen couples were married, and there were one hundred and two burials.

Rev. James Kant was ordained Nov. 9, 1825, and was dismissed Nov. 11, 1835. He was a native of Scotland. At the close of his ten years' ministry he married Mrs. Naomi Wheeler. He lived on Long Hill Street, at the south corner of the first road below the Episcopal church, and died there Sept. 10, 1840, and was buried in the cemetery near by. A stone marks his grave. Mr. Kant baptized thirty-five infants and four adults, received into the church fifty-three persons, married seventy-seven couples, and recorded one hundred and ninety-nine deaths.

Rev. Watson Warren was stated preacher from June, 1838, to June, 1839.

Rev. Wm. T. Bacon was ordained Dec. 28, 1842, and was dismissed May 28, 1844, his pastorate being one year and five months. He served again, as stated preacher, for one year, from Sept 1, 1853.

Rev. John S. Whittlesey was ordained Oct. 2, 1844, and was dismissed Nov. 20, 1849. Mr. Whittlesey was a native of New Britain, Conn. He enjoyed a prosperous ministry here, passing through two precious revival seasons in the years 1845 and 1849. During his five years' pastorate over the church eighty persons were added to its membership. His baptisms are twenty-six adults and thirty-six infants. His marriages are thirty-nine, and burials one hundred and seventeen. Mr. Whittlesey went from Trumbull to Bethel, Conn.; from there he went West and served as a missionary. During the war for the Union he became an army chaplain, contracted disease in camp, returned to the State of Iowa, and died there.

Rev. Daniel M. Elwood was ordained Feb. 20, 1850, and was dismissed June 11, 1853. He was born at Norwalk, Conn. At the close of his pastorate in Trumbull he went to Woodstock, Conn., and afterwards to Woodbridge, of this State, where he became a practicing physician. He has since resumed preaching as a clergyman in the Episcopal denomination.

Rev. Ralph Smith was stated preacher for one year, from Dec. 1, 1854, to Dec. 1, 1855.

Rev. Stephen A. Gofer was stated preacher from June 1, 1856, to June 1, 1858. He is still living at a ripe old age in the town of Hartlyme, Conn.

Rev. Benjamin Swallow came from England to this country, and on his arrival served in Trumbull as stated preacher for one year and four months, beginning his work December 1, 1858. Leaving the min-

istry, he has for a number of years been serving as a clerk in the government employ at Washington, D. C.

Rev. Louis E. Charpiot was stated preacher from Jan. 1, 1862, to May 8, 1864. Mr. Charpiot came from France to the United States. On leaving Trumbull he was settled at Stratford, Conn. His present whereabouts is not known. Mr. Charpiot baptized seven adults and nineteen infants. Twenty-five persons were added to the church. He married five couples, and records twenty-four deaths.

Rev. Nathan T. Merwin, the present pastor, is a native of Milford, Conn., and is the son of David Merwin. He was born June 8, 1836; graduated at Yale College in the class of 1861; completed the regular three years' course of study in the Yale Divinity School in 1864. At a meeting of the Fairfield East Association, held in Stratford, Conn., May 26, 1863, he was examined and licensed to preach the gospel. In the autumn of 1864 he was engaged to supply the Congregational Church of Trumbull for six months; then, receiving a call to settle over the church and society, he was ordained pastor of the same June 6, 1865, by the Fairfield East Consociation. He was married, Nov. 1, 1864, to Miss Martha L. Parsons, of Milford, daughter of Samuel Parsons, and has two children,—Florence Loveland, born Nov. 3, 1865, and Nathala Parsons, born July 5, 1867, both of whom are living.

During his pastorate, now of sixteen years, he has baptized thirty-three infants and forty-five adults; has joined sixty-two couples in marriage; received one hundred and forty-four persons to the church, and attended one hundred and forty funerals.

There have been four "revivals of religion" in Mr. Merwin's ministry,—the first in the winter of 1866; the next in the summer of 1868; the third in the winter of 1872, and the last in the winter of 1876 and 1877. During two of these revivals evangelists assisted; the first and last were under the labor of the church and pastor. Meanwhile the membership of the church has steadily increased under the regular ministrations of the word.

In 1864 the membership was one hundred and twenty-four. In the fall of 1860 a manual was published, the first in the history of the church. The list of names was corrected, some being dropped, and, as then revised, the members numbered one hundred and fifty-seven. The present membership is eighty-four males and one hundred females. Total, one hundred and eighty-four.

At the beginning of the ministry of Rev. N. T. Merwin the church edifice was renovated inside. Again, in the latter part of the year 1869, the building was lengthened, a pulpit recess also added, and the interior greatly beautified, at an expense of over three thousand dollars. The present meeting-house thus improved was rededicated Jan. 1, 1874. Rev. J. G. Davenport, of Bridgeport, preached the sermon, and the pastor of the church made the dedicatory prayer.

About this time a beautiful silver communion-service was presented to the church, "In Memoriam of Mrs. Isabella R. Tait." The same year the articles of faith and covenant were revised for the third time; also a covenant for infant baptism was adopted by the church. In the revision there has been no change in doctrine, only a condensation of expression of the same gospel truth. The dates of revision are 1747, 1831, and 1869.

At certain intervals since the year 1800 the totality of church membership has been published; of late years it is done annually. In the year 1833 the membership of the church was 100; in 1846, 132; in 1859, 117; in 1864, 124; January, 1880, 184. The Sabbath-school enrolls 140 persons. Wesley B. Coen is the superintendent. There are 120 families in the parish.

Two ministers have been raised up,—Rev. Daniel Brinsmade, in the early history of the church, and Rev. David H. Gould, since 1800. These men joined the church, the former at fifteen years of age, and the latter at fourteen. It was unusual to receive persons so young to full membership; a note is made of this fact at the time, in the records, as being worthy of special mention. The result seems to justify a practice, now more general than in other days, of receiving persons earlier in life into the church.

A marked change has come over the public mind in regard to the rite of baptism. Most all instances of baptism in the church's early history were in infancy: now as many or more adults are baptized than infants.

During Mr. Taylor's ministry the records begin to show a list of persons who die in the parish, and there is given opposite each name the disease or cause which produced death. This custom obtains with pastors of the church down to the year 1861, Mr. Swallow's record being the last of the kind; after that the name, date of death, and age only are given.

The ordained pastorates are the longest, the inference being that it is profitable to call a young man, or novitiate, into the ministry.

This Congregational Church once had the watch and care of all the families composing the town of Trumbull. For over half a century no other church organization existed here. Let her name be as widely venerated; let the events of the past hallow her memory. The good she has done in preserving order, and in disseminating gospel truth, only eternity can reveal. The work has been deep and far-reaching. To the great head of the church be all the praise. Amen!

#### TRINITY CHURCH.\*

The records of Trinity parish detail the following history of the formation of the society and the building of the church which is now standing:

"TRUMBULL, Nov. 9, 1847.

"After being duly notified of a meeting at the house of James R. Curtis, for the purpose of forming a society to erect a house for the public worship of Almighty God according to the doctrines and usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, accordingly, on the 8th of Nov. 1847, the meeting was held, and Wm. L. Parker in the chair.

"The meeting was called to order and a motion made and seconded that we form ourselves into an ecclesiastical society according to the statute law of the State of Connecticut. The motion was adopted, and the following form was drawn up and signed:

"TRUMBULL, Nov. 9, 1847.

"We, the undersigned inhabitants of the town of Trumbull, Fairfield Co., Conn., do this day associate together and form ourselves into an ecclesiastical society, to be known as the Protestant Episcopal Society of Trumbull, at Nichol's Farms, in conformity to the statute laws of this State,—David Curtis, Prosper Nichols, Charles C. Booth, John C. Beardsley, Lewis B. Curtis, James B. Curtis, William L. Parker, John H. Pardee, George E. Peet, Charles N. Fairchild, Benjamin F. Lockwood.

"After which the following business was transacted: John H. Pardee appointed moderator, and the following officers appointed: Lewis B. Curtis, Clerk; John C. Beardsley, John H. Pardee, Lewis B. Curtis, Building Committee.

"TRUMBULL, Dec. 1, 1847.

"An adjourned meeting of the members of the Episcopal Society was held at the house of Prosper Nichols, and William L. Parker was appointed chairman.

"The meeting was called to order and a unanimous vote taken in favor of building the church on the land of James B. Curtis."

At a meeting held Jan. 1, 1848, the amount proposed for building was seventeen hundred dollars, and the building committee empowered to contract with Messrs. Hotchkiss, Clark & Co. to erect the building.

At a meeting held Sept. 30, 1848, for the purpose of electing church officers, the following elections were made: Senior Warden, Prosper Nichols; Junior Warden, Charles E. Booth; Vestrymen, David Curtis, Lewis B. Curtis, John H. Pardee, John C. Beardsley, Andrew Clark, James R. Curtis, George E. Peet; Clerk, L. B. Curtis; Treasurer, David Curtis.

A meeting was held at the house of David Curtis, March 8, 1856, and at this meeting Prosper Nichols was appointed committee to give the Rev. Collins I. Potter a call to preach in Trinity church one year, one-half the time. It was also voted at this meeting to pay the salary of one hundred and fifty dollars, to be paid quarterly. At this meeting George T. Lewis was clerk *pro tem*. May 30, 1857, it was ordered to have a tea-party, in order to raise twenty-five dollars in addition, to enable the society to pay Mr Potter one hundred and seventy-five dollars.

The rectors of Trinity parish have been the Rev. I. N. Marvins,—who held services in the parish for some time before a regular rector was called,—the Rev. Collins I. Potter, the Rev. Luther Gregory, the Rev. Charles H. W. Stocking, the Rev. Charles Husband, the Rev. J. H. H. DeMille, the Rev. Dexter S. Lounsbury, the Rev. George P. Torrence.

The parish has always been poor and small, and in order to maintain preaching it has found it necessary to unite with other parishes. It united with Huntington during the rectorship of Mr. Gregory, and with Ansonia during Mr. Stocking's rectorship, which

\* By R. C. Ambler.



was the most flourishing period of the history of the parish. Mr. Lounsbury united not only the parish at Nichols' Farms in his labors, but held services in Trinity church (Baptist), as assistant in the Coit Memorial chapel in West Stratford, and in the Church of Nativity, North Bridgeport. He was an earnest worker, and was held high in the love and esteem of his people. He had resigned his rectorship of Trinity parish and accepted a call to Christ's Church, Stratford, only a few months previous to his distressing death, which was caused by a pistol-ball from the hand of his wife, who shot him while he was sleeping. She was declared to be insane.

During the rectorship of the Rev. Charles Husband, the Rev. J. H. H. De Mille, and of the present rector, Rev. George P. Torrence, the parish has united with Grace Church, Long Hill.

The parish is healthy financially, having during 1879 and 1880 repaired the church, at a cost of six hundred dollars, and is entirely out of debt.

The first school-house in Trinity was built at the foot of the hill on the road to White Plains, east of the house of Mr. Brinsmade. The second stood on the highway, above the house of Sidney Nichols, Esq. This burned down about twenty-five years ago, two years after which the present one was built.

#### GRACE CHURCH.\*

Grace Church parish, Long Hill, was originally a part of Christ Church parish (Tashua), Trumbull, and was separated from the mother-parish in 1846. The separation was due to a misunderstanding between the members living in these two districts with regard to their respective pecuniary rights and obligations, and to a feeling upon the part of Grace Church or Chapel division that a separation was the only means of restoring harmony and good feeling. At the annual meeting of Christ Church, Trumbull, held Easter Monday, 1846, resolutions were adopted looking towards a partial separation and defining said rights and obligations, but they were rescinded at a subsequent meeting, held in Grace church or chapel, by those living in that neighborhood, as being opposed to the best interests of that portion of the parish; and this action was followed by the organization of a separate parish, to be called Grace Church, Long Hill, Trumbull, at a meeting held on the afternoon of June 5, 1846, in Grace church or chapel. At this meeting, the action of which was ratified by a subsequent one held June 23d of same year, the following officers were elected: Elijah Middlebrook, David Beach, Wardens; Lee Wooden, Stephen H. Burroughs, Orlando Walker, Ebenezer Wheeler, Vestrymen; Stephen Middlebrook, Clerk; Lucius B. Burroughs, Treasurer; Elijah Middlebrook, Delegate to Convention; L. B. Burroughs, Collector; S. H. Burroughs, Librarian.

This action was followed by a formal application for admission into union with the Convention of the Diocese of Connecticut, which received favorable hearing and was granted. It was presented before Convention June 9, 1846, and was signed by Abel Hawley, David Beach, Jno. Burroughs, Elijah Middlebrook, John M. Wheeler, Stephen Middlebrook, Sherman French (2d), Roswell Seeley, Ebenezer Wheeler, Walker Wheeler, Lee Wooden, L. B. Burroughs, Gideon Mallett, Zalmon Hall, S. H. Burroughs, E. B. Middlebrook, Edward Platt, Robt. T. Middlebrook.

In addition to the above named, the following named asked on June 11, 1846, that their names be stricken from records of Christ Church, Tashua, Trumbull, having united with the parish of Christ Church, Long Hill, Trumbull: Abel Hawley, Jr., E. B. Middlebrook, Elijah Middlebrook, Jr., George W. Knapp, David Y. Beach, Nichols Sherman.

At the meeting held June 23, 1880, to which reference has been made, the parish voted to invite Rev. Wm. W. Bronson, then in charge of Christ Church, Tashua, to officiate upon each alternate Sunday in Grace church, Long Hill. He was therefore the first rector of that parish.

The present church building was erected as a chapel of Christ Church (Tashua), Trumbull, under its present name, Grace Church. The corner-stone was laid in 1836, the first service was held in it Sunday, Jan. 1, 1840, and the building was consecrated by Rt. Rev. T. C. Brownell, D.D., LL.D., Bishop of Connecticut, June 18, 1840.

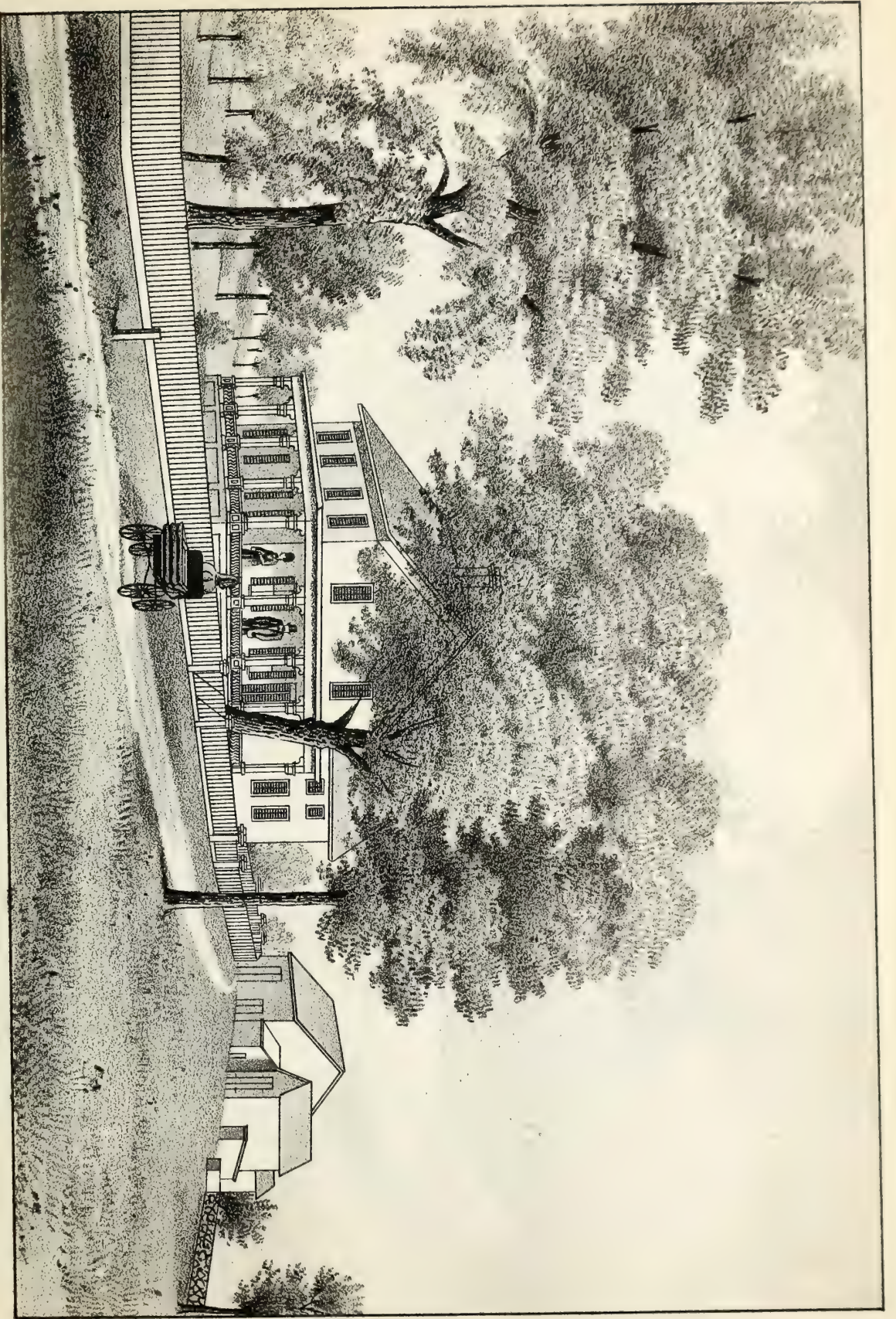
The rectors have been as follows: July, 1846, to October, 1847, Rev. William White Bronson; April, 1848, to March, 1851, Rev. Henry V. Gardner; March, 1851, one year, 1852, Rev. Enoch Huntington; January, 1853, to December, 1853, Rev. D. W. C. Loop; April, 1854, to February, 1856, Rev. William L. Bostwick; January, 1857, to August, 1858, Rev. William Townsend Early; March, 1859, to March, 1864, Rev. D. P. Sanford; April, 1865, to January, 1868, Rev. William Warland; April, 1868, to April, 1870, Rev. Charles Husband; June, 1870, to May, 1874, Rev. John Henry Hobart De Mille; September, 1874, to October, 1878, Rev. Abner P. Brush; Rev. George Paull Torrence, the present rector, entered upon his rectorship June, 1879.

The present officers are: Wardens, Walker Wheeler and Lucius B. Burroughs, who died June 12, 1880, after serving as junior warden for more than twenty years; Vestrymen, Ebenezer Wheeler, Stephen H. Burroughs, Marcus O. Wheeler, David S. Walker, Hobart R. Wheeler; Treasurer and Collector, David S. Walker; Delegate to Convention, Marcus O. Wheeler; Substitute, Stephen H. Burroughs; Chorister, John H. Beach. The present number of families is forty-five; of communicants, eighty-one.

A movement is now (October, 1880) on foot to build a new church edifice on the site of the present one.

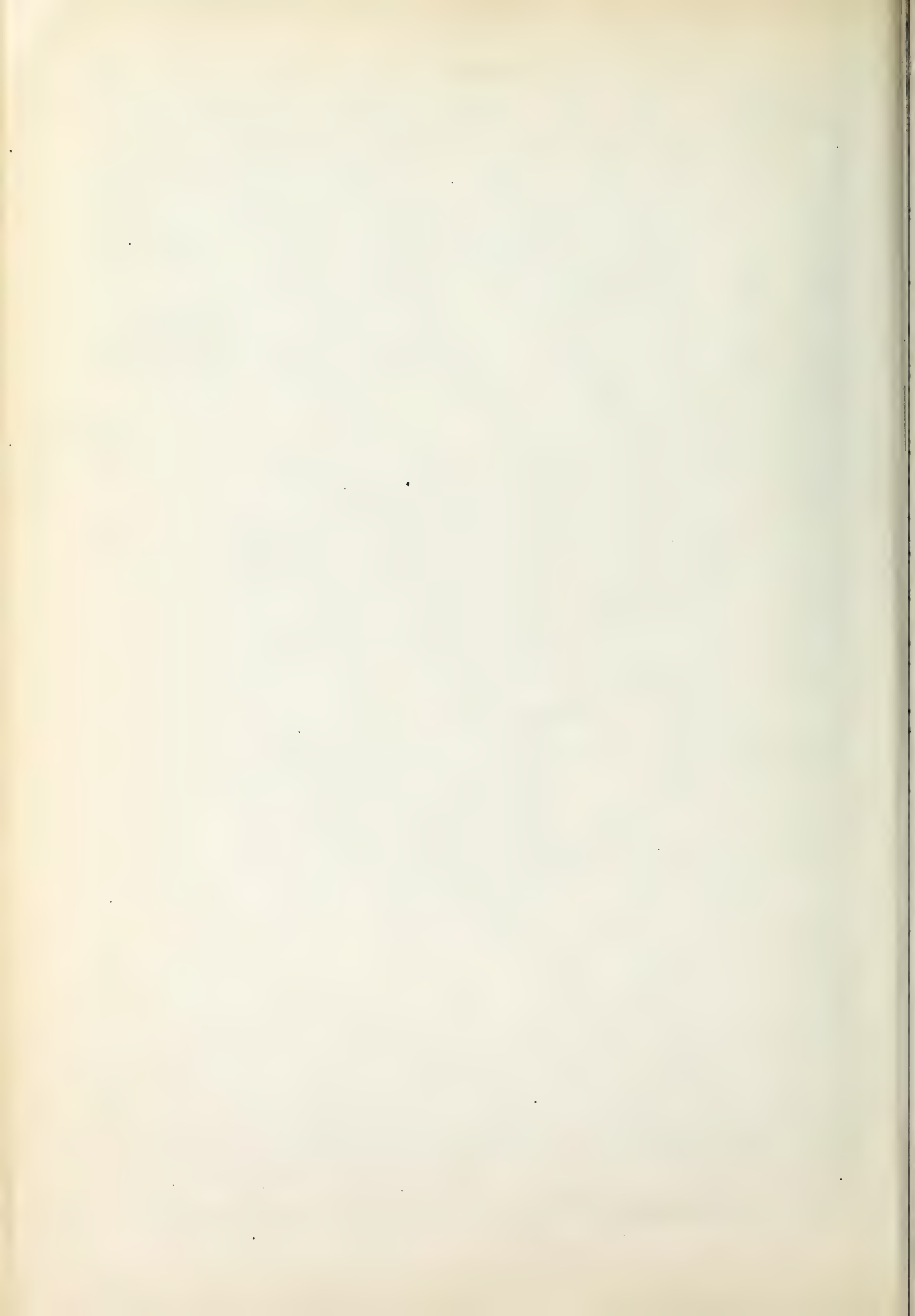
\* Contributed by Rev. George Paull Torrence.





RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH H. WILLIAMS, TRUMBULL FAIRFIELD CO. CONN.





## THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL SOCIETY OF NICHOLS' FARMS.\*

The Nichols' Farms class, connected with the Methodist Episcopal Society, Stratford, had for several years entertained a desire that a meeting-house might be erected in their midst. The first overt act in that direction was made in the latter part of the year 1847. At this time Mr. J. H. Frost, preacher in charge of the Stratford society, appointed a board of trustees for the Nichols' Farms class, as follows,—viz., George Nichols, William Ganderson Nichols, Ira Curtis, David Nichols, E. F. Andrews, James K. Nichols, and Elliott P. Curtis.

The funds for building were raised by subscription. The building committee were Samuel E. Hurd, George Nichols, and William Ganderson Nichols.

In the year 1848, December 12th, the house, being completed, was dedicated to the service of God; C. Pitman, D.D., of New York, performing the dedicatory services. His text was the sixth verse of the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Psalm. Mr. T. H. Oakley, a local preacher, was appointed to take charge of the society. He was followed by Mr. Monson Seeley, who is declared, in the records, as being "strong in the faith, giving glory to God."

He was succeeded by Mr. O. Sykes and Mr. Lewis Penfield. The latter supplied the pulpit, volunteering to do so half of the time provided the debt was removed, twenty dollars of which he would contribute. In 1849, Mr. S. P. Perry, a local preacher, took the place of Mr. Sykes. He was much liked by the people, and the society increased rapidly under his charge, a class being formed at Booth's Hill.

He was followed by Mr. Worth, Mr. G. Waterbury, Mr. P. Chamberlain, and Mr. G. Hubbell. In 1857, Mr. Samuel C. Keeler was appointed by the presiding elders. During his administration the house was struck by lightning and somewhat shattered. In repairing the building it was thought best to enlarge, which was done. Mr. David Osborn, Mr. John L. Peck, to whom the society is indebted for the record of its history, Mr. Robert S. Mathison, Mr. Thomas R. Laine, Mr. A. B. Pulling, Mr. D. S. Stevens, Mr. H. Scofield, Mr. William T. Gilbert, and the present preacher, William H. Stebbins, have been appointed as successors in the pulpit.

The society, though still in debt, is in a healthy condition, for which much is due to the present class-leader, Mr. William G. Nichols, who was one of the original trustees, which position he still holds.

He is an earnest and conscientious worker, most faithful to the society and its cause in all his acts. By his munificence and zeal, it is safe to say that he is most devotedly fulfilling his trusteeship, and laying up for himself a good foundation against the time to come.

## CHRIST'S CHURCH, TASHUA.†

There began in 1718 a new era in the history of the Episcopal Church in this country. A large donation of books had been made to Yale College by friends in England. Among these were the works of the most eminent Episcopal divines, many of them treating with the greatest ability of episcopacy, and of other distinctive doctrines of the church. These were eagerly read by the officers and students of the college. The result was that the president of the institution, Dr. Cutler, and two of the tutors, Messrs. Johnson and Brown, declared for episcopacy, and soon after departed for England to take orders. Mr. Johnson returned and settled as pastor of the Episcopal Church in Stratford in 1723.

Within the limits of that town there were then included the present towns of Stratford, Huntington, Monroe, Trumbull, and Bridgeport. A second parish, in the ancient limits of the town, was founded at Ripton, now Huntington, where St. Paul's parish was organized in 1746.

From that time till 1748 the Rev. Mr. Johnson officiated in St. Paul's four Sundays in the year, while his son, a lawyer, read service for them at other times. Their neighbors, however, of the old standing order, ridiculed them for having, as they phrased it, "a lawyer for their priest," so that St. Paul's parish was led in 1748 to petition the English "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts" to send them a clergyman. This was done in the course of a few years. In the mean time they built a church, and a clergyman of the Province of New York, in a letter to the society in England, speaks of having spent a Sunday there in 1749; that he preached and administered the sacrament in their new church; that the congregation numbered about three hundred, and that the number of communicants was about sixty. This shows a large degree of prosperity for the time the parish had been in existence, and is a good index of the faithfulness of the venerable Johnson, who was laboring alone in this section of the country, in the face of the most bitter and hostile opposition.

The exact date is not known when a missionary was appointed to take charge of Ripton, but the Rev. Christopher Newton must have been sent there by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel soon after 1750. His stipend was twenty pounds, in addition to the support the people could give him.

A letter from him to the Venerable Society, dated at Ripton, June 25, 1760, contains the earliest records extant of his work. It is an account of the founding of the parish at Tashua. In it he says he had baptized twenty-five children, had preached and baptized not only on the Sabbath but during the week, and says, "I have reason to think it has had a good effect on a number of families about eight or ten miles from Ripton, to whom I have often preached, and of late

\* By R. C. Ambler.

† Contributed by Rev. Wm. H. Bulkley.



they have been more ready to hear than formerly, and seem to be religiously disposed and sensible of the importance of attending public worship. They have accordingly built a church 36 feet long and 26 feet wide, and in about six weeks so far finished it that we meet in it for public worship. A large congregation attended, it was supposed upwards of three hundred people." This was the first beginning of what is now known as Christ's Church, Tashua.

Tradition tells us that this house of worship was seated with rough slab benches, such as were common in country school-houses fifty years ago. It was probably never plastered, for twenty-seven years later a committee was appointed to consider upon the matter; but as measures were taken for the erection of a new church in a year or two after their appointment, the original church probably remained, so long as it stood, in the same unplastered condition in which it was when the first service was held in it.

The church stood within the present church-yard, near the north gate. The first grave was dug in the church-yard in 1763, six years after the erection of the church. The gravestone, of black slate, to the memory of Mrs. Eleanor Marrow, is still to be seen. It probably stood directly in the rear of the church.

Mr. Newton, in the same letter, in giving the reasons which led him to labor in Tashua, and which led to the erection of the first parish church, says, "These people live at a great distance from any public worship, and many of them are so poor that they have not horses to carry their families to worship if they would, and others, it seems by their conduct, choose to spend the Sabbath in hunting and unnecessary visits, and are not only dilatory in religious matters, but in secular affairs. Many live but little above the Indian, and are destitute of the comforts of life. This terrible condition of the people influenced some persons of ample means to build a church at Tashua. One gentleman, for years an Episcopalian, declared that he felt it to be his duty to expend a part of his estate in providing what, with the Divine blessing, would prevent the people from becoming heathens. These people," he adds, "have since attended worship, and seem very highly to prize the worship of the church, and have desired me to take the care of them, and I have preached to them every fourth Sunday."

The missionary asked of the society in England an additional allowance for the labor and expense of coming hither from Ripton every fourth Sunday. They granted him ten pounds per annum. This was probably continued to the close of the year 1782, or twenty-two years, making the sum of two hundred and twenty pounds, or about eleven hundred dollars, which was bestowed upon the parish in its infancy by its Christian brethren on the other side of the Atlantic. Of the Rev. Mr. Newton, Dr. Johnson, then rector of Stratford, writes in the highest terms as laborious and worthy.

Any one who has read the "Connecticut History" of Dr. Trumbull, who was a distinguished member of the Congregational Church, or the "standing order," as it was called, could but see that Mr. Newton did not overstate the case when he gave such a melancholy view of the condition of Tashua before the building of the church. There were other places where it was even worse.

The first Episcopal clergy were men of ardent zeal, who labored in season and out of season to gather the neglected and scattered sheep. They preached in school-houses and private houses, visiting from house to house, going wherever they could get a hearing. They catechized the children, distributed tracts, prayer-books, Bibles, and other religious books, all of which were supplied in considerable quantities by the society in England, very few being printed in this country at that time.

Their earnest work for the good of their fellow-men was rewarded with immediate and abundant success. As early as 1760 there were thirty Episcopal churches and fourteen clergymen, three of these churches and two of the clergy being within the ancient limits of the town of Stratford.

In 1762 the Rev. Mr. Newton writes to the Venerable Society in England that "he has reason to bless God that seriousness, peace, and charity appear to prevail in his parishes; that he has at North Stratford and Stratfield about thirty communicants and about one hundred at Ripton; that he had baptized in the last half-year twenty-one children."

The little missionary station at Stratfield, which is here spoken of as containing, together with Tashua, then called North Stratford, thirty communicants, has now grown into the present parish of St. John's, Bridgeport, and its daughter churches; while the North Stratford parish embraced the ground now covered by the Tashua and Long Hill parishes, and by part of that at Monroe, no parish having been formed there till 1800. There are now on the same ground at the very least two hundred and twenty-five or two hundred and fifty communicants, while the thirty communicants of Stratfield and North Stratford have grown to, in 1880, not far from fourteen hundred. Such a growth may well cause us to thank God and take courage.

July, 1762, the members of Tashua parish sent to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel a letter of thanks for their gift of a folio Bible and prayer-book for the use of the church, and also for small Bibles and prayer-books and catechisms, and for the frequent and very acceptable ministrations of Mr. Newton, who, notwithstanding the distance of eight miles on a bad road, and the excessive cold in winter and heat in summer, has been very constant for several years in administering the Lord's Supper to them once in two months, and performing divine service once in four Sundays, and in catechising and instructing their children.

The large Bible and prayer-book, the former of which was printed in London in 1750, and the latter in 1760, are still kept in the church, though they have given place to more modern editions.

In 1766 the Rev. Mr. Newton writes as follows to the Venerable Society in England: "My parishes increase gradually notwithstanding the perils of the times, and many young persons have come to our communion. I have baptized during the past year forty-one." "Perilous times," to which he refers, were the result of the "Stamp Act" and other measures of the British government. The country was even then convulsed with the preliminary throes of the American struggle for liberty. As the attachment of the Episcopal clergy and people to the old country was generally strong before the war broke out, from the fact that they were under God mainly indebted to Christian friends there for their support of the gospel here, they felt more than most others the stress of those times which tried men's souls.

Although there are no reports extant of Mr. Newton of a later date than 1766, yet he survived the Revolution, and continued to serve this parish and Ripton till 1785, for in the parish accounts there is a record of a committee appointed to settle with the heirs of the Rev. Mr. Newton for services rendered up to that year. That committee was appointed in 1787, so that Mr. Newton must have died in or before that year.

The Rev. Abraham L. Clarke, who was ordained by Bishop Seabury in 1786, became the minister of the parish at Tashua soon after Mr. Newton's decease.

In October, 1787, a committee was appointed by the parish to secure his services one-third part of the time, and the next year it was voted to settle Mr. Clark one-third part of the time for life. In 1788, December 1st, it was also voted to build a new church by subscription, and on Christmas day, in the same year, Capt. Abel Hall, Nathan Summers, and David Mallett were appointed to oversee and carry on the building of the new church; and that Amos Van Nostrand proportion the house, not to exceed fifty feet in length, and thirty-four in breadth, and twenty-four in height. Also to be twenty-four windows in said church, of six-by-eight glass, thirty panes in each window, exclusive of the arch.

The next spring the parish appointed a committee to exchange with the selectmen of Stratford a piece of land belonging to the proprietors of the church for a certain piece on the north side of the highway for the purpose of erecting the church thereon. This was probably the ground upon which the church was built, and there the church remained until the present edifice was erected. The same year it was voted to call the parish Trinity Church, and by that name it was known in the records for many years.

In June, 1790, the church was so far advanced that by vote of the parish the pew spots were sold at public vendue, the buyers being obligated to pay the

prices bid, and to build the pews in one year from the time of purchase. The pews were to be in uniform style, as they were in the North Fairfield meeting-house. The purchase money was applied towards the expense of building the church. The pew spots were all sold except two for three hundred and ten dollars and sixty-six cents.

These square pews were sixteen in number, being the wall pews all round the building, except the portions occupied by the doors, gallery, stairs, and chancel. The chancel was on the north side, and there was a door in the opposite side and one also at both the east and west ends. In the body of the church there were long, open seats free to all. A tower and spire were built at the west entrance in 1823. The names of the original purchasers of pew spots were Henry Beardsley, Josiah Sanford, Isaac Wakeley, Zechariah Mallett, Nathan Summers, Andrew Lyon, William Prince, George Chambers, Zechariah Beach, Joseph Mallett, John Edwards, Capt. Abel Hall, William Osborne, and Agur Edwards. A number of the pews soon changed hands,—some before the church was completed, which was probably in 1790, for there is a record of the appointment of a key-keeper in February of that year.

The church was consecrated by Bishop Seabury, June 5, 1795.

The Rev. Mr. Clarke continued to supply this church in connection with Ripton till 1792, when he accepted a call to St. John's Church, Providence, R. I. From the position he occupied, he would seem to have been a man of mark in his day.

In 1792 there was held the first convention of this diocese of which we have any printed records, and Tashua parish was represented by Capt. Abel Hall.

On the 1st of April, 1793, Tashua joined with Christ's Church, Stratford, in settling Rev. Ashiel Baldwin, who officiated in Tashua every third Sunday for many years. He was ordained by Bishop Seabury, in 1785, at the first Episcopal ordination ever held in America. He was a man of small stature, but of quick action, both of mind and body, fine talents, and powerful voice. In his prime he was very popular as a preacher and orator, often being called upon to preach and speak before public bodies on important occasions. He was prominent both in diocesan and general conventions. No man was perhaps more instrumental than he since the Revolution in laying the foundations of the church in this diocese. He continued to officiate in Tashua in connection with Stratford till 1815, and at intervals when the parish became vacant by the removal of other clergymen till 1828, though his connection with Stratford ceased in 1824. He afterwards served other parishes in this diocese till 1832, when he became unable to perform active duties. He died at Rochester, N. Y., in 1846, aged eighty-nine years, full of years and of honors.

In 1817, Rev. Joseph D. Welton was called to



supply this parish one-half the time in connection with the old church in Weston. He continued to officiate till 1819. Mr. Welton removed to Waterbury, and his health giving way, he was not again a settled parish minister, but officiated occasionally and taught school as his strength permitted. He died at Waterbury in 1825, aged forty-two years. He was said by those who knew him to have combined the virtue and grace which adorn the Christian character, and was ardently devoted to the duties of his sacred office.

From 1819 to 1823, Tashua was again supplied a part of the time by Mr. Baldwin. In the latter year it was supplied a portion of the time in connection with St. John's, Bridgeport, by Rev. Henry R. Judah; in 1824, by Rev. Beardsley Northrop; in 1825, for six months, by Rev. E. J. Ives.

After another period supplied in part by Mr. Baldwin, Rev. Rodney Rossiter, in 1829, was settled in Tashua in connection with St. Peter's Church, Monroe, supplying each one-half the time till 1834. Mr. Rossiter was a man of great amiability of character and uprightness and purity in his walk and conversation. He continued to supply the parish of Monroe till his death, in November, 1846.

In 1837, Rev. D. G. Tomlinson was called to Tashua, and officiated three-fourths of the time for two years, giving the other fourth to the church in Weston. From that time till he resigned Tashua he devoted to it his entire services. He resigned in 1843. The chancel-window is a memorial of his earnest zeal and devoted labors for the good of the parish.

The Rev. William W. Bronson served the cure from July, 1843, to November, 1847, when he accepted a call to St. James' Church, Danbury. His removal was universally regretted. In the following spring Rev. Henry V. Gardner succeeded him, serving Tashua and Grace Church, Long Hill, for one year.

During the rectorship of Mr. Tomlinson the erection of the church at Long Hill was accomplished. It was commenced in 1836, and completed in 1839. It was built as a chapel of Christ's church, Tashua, and the whole continued to be one parish till the rectorship of Rev. Mr. Bronson.

In June, 1846, there was held a meeting of the parish of Christ's Church, at which it was resolved to divide the parish. The Long Hill portion immediately organized under the name of Grace Church, and was admitted into union with the Convention the same month.

During the rectorship of the Rev. Mr. Bronson the erection of the present church building, the third which has stood here, was accomplished. It was begun in 1846, and consecrated on the 28th day of May the year following. The first church, erected in 1760, stood thirty years, or till 1790; the second stood fifty-six years; the present one has stood thirty-four years.

The rough, unplastered church of 1760, with its slab

seats, erected by the generosity of two or three for the benefit of a destitute neighborhood, has given place to a beautiful temple completely furnished, erected by the free-will offerings of a whole congregation whom God has prospered. At the first service in the church of 1760 a single struggling missionary carried on his services unaided and uncheered by a single brother in the ministry, with no chief pastor on the continent to consecrate the edifice to the Most High, or to ordain to the holy ministry, or to bless with the laying on of hands those who would confirm their Christian vows. When the present building was consecrated, in 1847, sixteen clergymen were present; a bishop, one of a goodly number whom God has raised up in this Western land, set it apart to the worship of Almighty God. He set apart at the same time one to the holy order of the priesthood, and a goodly number kneeling before the altar were confirmed by him in their Christian profession. Truly the Lord has kept good to this humble branch of His planting the promise, "Lo, I am with you alway."

In 1849, Rev. John W. Hoffman was called to Tashua for the whole time. On his resignation he was succeeded in the following year by the Rev. J. G. Downing, who served the whole time till the beginning of the year 1852. After a vacancy of nine months Rev. De Witt C. Loop served the parish, in connection with Long Hill, the greater portion of 1853. After another vacancy of several months the Rev. W. L. Bostwick served the united cure nearly two years, resigning February, 1856. On the 1st of the ensuing January, Rev. William T. Early took charge till July, 1858. After an interregnum of seven months the Rev. D. P. Sanford took charge, March 20, 1859. He was absent from the parish from Sept. 20, 1862, to April 1, 1863, as chaplain of Twentieth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers in United States service, his place in Tashua being supplied by the Rev. William H. Williams. Mr. Sanford's connection was terminated by his resignation on Easter Monday, 1864, after a rectorship of little more than five years.

He was succeeded by the Rev. William Warland in 1865, who served the parishes at Tashua and Long Hill till late in the fall of 1867, when he resigned.

The Rev. C. C. Adams became rector of the parish in February, 1869, giving it his whole time. The present rectory had been purchased by the parish, so that the rector now has a home within the limits of the parish after it had existed a little more than one hundred years.

On his resignation the Rev. Wm. J. Pigott became rector, Oct. 15, 1870. He resigned in 1872, and was followed in 1874 by the Rev. A. P. Brush, who served the united cures of Tashua and Long Hill till late in the fall of 1878. The church, after being thoroughly repaired and beautified, was reopened by the bishop on May 18, 1874.

The present rector, William H. Bulkley, took

charge of the parish June 13, 1880, serving it in connection with Christ's church, Easton.

Capt. Abel Mallett, for many years a very influential member of the parish, at his death, in the fall of 1877, left a small fund, the income of which was to make good his place in meeting the ordinary expenses of the parish.

Present officers: Rector, William Howard Bulkley; Wardens, Charles Osborne, Aaron B. Mallett; Vestrymen, Stephen G. Nichols, Morse D. Mallett, William A. Mallett, Dr. Seth Hill, Benjamin H. French, S. Mallett Sanford, Joseph A. Tredwell; Clerk, Joseph A. Tredwell; Chorister, William A. Mallett; Librarian, George D. Mallett; Superintendent Sunday-school, the rector.

Present number of communicants, ninety.

#### NICHOLS' FARMS.\*

The village of Nichols' Farms, or Old Farms, as it is often called, is situated in the town of Trumbull, on the eastern of the three or four ridges which transverse the town from the north to the south, dividing it into as many tracts or districts. Its early history is so connected with that of Stratford, of which Trumbull previous to the year 1798 formed a part, that it will be necessary to a certain degree to give some detail of the history concerning the property of the first settlers of Stratford, from whom most of the people of Old Farms are descendants. There were men among the first settlers of Stratford who while they lived in the settlement, still were extensive landowners. Their land or farms comprised large tracts into which their town had been divided.

Upon their death this land was divided among their children as shares of the parent's estate, which, being settled upon, of course soon scattered a sparse population over the town. During these early times, in order to increase the facility of reaching these farms, roads were laid out extending all through the town. The road running from Stratford north through Nichols' Farms was laid out at the generous width of eight rods. It was on this road that most of the settlers built their new homes,—not, as a general thing, of logs, but, being sons of "well-to-do" men, were started in life with a substantial frame house, with its back roof sloping almost to the ground in true colonial style.

During the first fifty years the locality of Nichols' Farms was known by the general name of Stratford. As the people were taxed by the Presbyterian Society in Stratford, they attended "meeting" there until the year 1730, when a "meeting-house" was built† nearer home. Then the name "Society at Unity" was applied to the locality.

In the year 1744, owing to a division of the people of the society, thus rendering the name "Unity" in-

appropriate, it was changed, and was known as the Society at North Stratford until the incorporation of the town of Trumbull in 1798, when it took the name of the town.

The difficulty arose from the fact of the conversion of their pastor, the Rev. Richardson Minor, to a belief in the doctrines of the Church of England. He resigned his charge over the society, but not before dissensions of so serious a character had arisen that about one-half of the society left the faith. After his resignation he went to England, where he was ordained, but on his return home was taken sick and died at sea.

The name of Nichols' Farms undoubtedly arose from the fact of its being there that the portion owned by Francis Nichols or his immediate descendants lay,—not so much, probably, in consequence of the quality or quantity of the land as it was that they were the earliest to convert the wilderness into a farm.

The settlement of the village is not new by any means, for there were clearings made over two hundred years ago. Tradition says that the first clearing was made by a man whose name it has failed to transmit, near where the toll-gate at Mishea Hill now is. Here he planted his rye and built a house, but died ere his crop had ripened. There is also a tradition that there was a clearing on the knoll below the house of Charles B. Nichols at a very early period, and, too, that the only way to reach Stratford at that early time was from this spot, by the way of a forest-path leading towards the Ousatic River, and so circuitously to Stratford. Others claim that here stood the wigwam of an old Indian named Uncle Bill, and that the pile of clam-shells which may yet be seen upon turning the soil are resultant of his appetite for sea food, and that the meadow is still designated as "Uncle Bill's lot" from the fact of his having lived there.

Perhaps as late as 1700 nearly the whole region was thickly covered with forest. A tradition has been handed down that a sick stranger was found by Mr. Joseph Nichols and taken to his home to be cared for, that he died, and was buried on a lonely knoll in the woods some distance back of the house. Fifty years ago, when Mr. Ganderson Nichols was digging the well back of his house, he found the bones of a white man, which had been buried about four feet from the surface in a horizontal position, which were undoubtedly the remains of the first white man who died and was buried in the forest then covering the region where now is the beautiful village of Nichols' Farms.

The Indians have left but few remains of their life here save numerous arrow-heads which are upturned by the plow. Also other relics of the stone age of America have been found in the vicinity. There was found, however, about forty years ago, on the land of the Hon. F. P. Ambler, a never-failing spring

\* Contributed by R. C. Ambler, Esq.

† The meeting-house was erected at the lower end of the White Plains street, in front of where the barn of John Booth, Esq., now stands.



of most excellent water. The spring had evidently existed in the condition in which it was found for a great many years. It was, when uncovered, regularly stoned up like a well, having large flat stones laid below, forming a platform over the outlet of surplus water. The spring when found was artfully concealed beneath large stones having trees and deposits of ages thereupon. It was discovered by tracing back the stream of ice-cold water running from what seemed a passage under the rocks. It had evidently been hidden in this manner by Indians, who, having concealed it from other tribes or from the whites, never returned to it again. Its existence was not known to descendants of the Golden Hill Indians who still live in the vicinity. The pond lying northwest of the village, bearing the homely name of "Old Saw-Mill Pond," was originally a natural lake. It was near this lake that an old Indian named Mishea lived. Perchance it were—

"Mitche Manito the mighty,  
He the dreadful spirit of evil."

It was from Mishea originated "Mishea Hill," the name given to an extensive tract of land lying northwest of the village.

The ancestor of the Nichols family in this country was Francis Nichols. He came from England, and is first heard of in 1637. He was a soap-boiler by occupation and lived in Stratford, about half a mile below the Episcopal church. He died in the year 1650, at which time his estate inventoried at £29 6s. He had three sons,—Calib, Isaac, and John.

Calib married, in the year 1645, Annie, daughter of Andrew Ward, of Fairfield. At the settlement of Woodbury in 1672, Calib went with the colony. He had fifteen children, and died in the year 1690. His eighth child, Abraham, was born Jan. 19, 1662. The records do not show that he went to Woodbury to settle with his father, and it is not probable that he did.

He married Rachel, daughter of Daniel Kellogg, Dec. 3, 1684. He was the father of eight children, of whom Joseph was the oldest.

Joseph Nichols was born Sept. 21, 1665, and married Mary Curtis, Dec. 26, 1704. He was without doubt the first man of the name who lived in Unity. He was a large landowner. His territory lay on the east side of the highway, extending from the corner at Mr. George Peet's as far north as the territory owned by Jabez Curtis, and ran back to the Bear Swamp road.

He was a man of considerable prominence, was a member of the militia in the year 1720. In the year 1726 we find him as lieutenant, and later as captain. He built his house on the east side of the highway, only a few feet north of the residence of Alexander Cook, Esq.

He died in the year 1742, at the age of fifty-seven, and was buried in the cemetery back of the residence of John Booth, Esq.

He had ten children. Andrew, the fourth child, was born in the year 1724, and married Abiah, daughter of Noah Plumb, Dec. 23, 1748. He died in the year 1808, and was buried in the graveyard back of the residence of Samuel Edwards, Esq. He had nine children,—Isaac, Robert, Hezekiah, John, Silas, whose descendants live in "White Plain;" Martha married Lewis Fairchild; Mary married Nathan Nichols, of Booth's Hill; Abia married Philip Nichols, of Botsford Depot; and Sarah, who married Isaac Booth, of Stratford. The first four remained in the village, and from them have descended families who now reside here bearing the name.

Among the first ones to settle in the vicinity of Nichols' Farm were three men bearing the name of Curtis. As far as research is concerned, they have not been found to be related.

There was one, Hezekiah Curtis, whose family has become extinct. He was an extensive landowner; his territory extended from that taken up by Israel Beach, not only south for quite a distance, but north, including the whole of the De Forrest farm, now owned by Horace Lyon, Esq. He lived in a house which stood opposite that of Mr. Lyon. The old well is still there.

He had four children,—Hezekiah, Ezra, Abel, and a daughter, who was the mother of Deacon Ezra De Forrest. His son, Deacon Hezekiah, built a house a little south of where the barn of Mr. William Wakeley now stands, and here too the well alone marks the locality. His wife's name was Thompson. They left no descendants. Ezra and Abel were bachelors, and left their property to their nephew, Deacon Ezra De Forrest.

The Curtis family living at the lower end of the village descend from Mitchel Curtis. He was born in 1729, and died Aug. 16, 1808. He married Phoebe, daughter of Deacon Thomas Peet, Jan. 10, 1753, and built a house on the ground where now stands the residence of his great-grandson, Lewis Curtis, Esq. He had five children,—viz., Zachariah, Daniel Mitchel, Mary Anne, Phoebe, and Isaac.

His son Zachariah built a house which stood south of Trinity church, where the residence of George H. Houston now stands. He married Verona Edwards Dec. 28, 1775; had two children,—James and Elijah. James married Nancy Peet, and left a large family, who were zealous workers in the establishment and maintenance of Trinity parish.

Daniel Mitchel was born Jan. 4, 1755, married, and had ten children,—viz., Burr, Ira, David, Alvin, Eli, Daniel, Hepsie, Mary, Huldah, and Lucy.

The family living at the north end of the village bearing the same name descend from the widow Elizabeth Curtis, who is found in Stratford in the year —.

This family trace their ancestry through the line descending from her son William.

Jabez Curtis was the first one of this family to set-

tle in the Society of Unity. He, unlike nearly all others in the settlement, was a zealous member of the Church of England. He belonged to the loyal party and fought in the Revolution under the British flag, for which act he suffered the indignity of having his property confiscated. It was repurchased by his sons, however. His house stood a few rods north of the junction of the Mishea Hill road and the Huntington turnpike. A house which was torn down a few years ago, and which was at least calculation one hundred and twenty-five years old, was undoubtedly built by him. Andrew, his son, was born, lived, and died in this house. He had three children,—Thomas, who went to Woodbury, Andrew, and Evard. Andrew married Eunice, daughter of Joseph Lake, and had six children,—viz., Joseph, Hull, Elisha, Nathaniel, Moranda, and Sheldon. Evard lived across the street from Andrew, and had three children,—Cherry, Charles, and Anson.

The Fairchilds, who are one of our most prominent families of Trumbull, descend from Mr. Thomas Fairchild, who was one of the original proprietors in the settlement of Stratford. He was a man of considerable prominence, and was the first magistrate of the town.

Mr. Fairchild had two wives; the first was a daughter of Robert Seabrook, Esq., and died during the early days of the colony. She bore him several children.

In the year 1662, and about three years after the death of his wife, he returned to England and married Catharine Craige, of London.

It is through the descendants of this second marriage that we trace the Trumbull line of ancestry. Daniel Fairchild was the first one of the family who lived in the society of Unity. He was born in 1720, and married Hepsibah Lewis, of Old Mill, Dec. 6, 1743, by whom he had nine children. His second wife was of the Middlebrook family of Long Hill.

He built a house nearly on the site where now stands the house of Miss Mariah Nichols. It was here that his children were born, who were Timothy, Lewis, Daniel, Nehemiah, Sarah, Mehitable, Benjamin, Abel, and Sarah. He died in 1807, aged eighty-seven years. Of his nine children, three—viz., Timothy, Lewis, and Daniel—settled in the vicinity.

Timothy Fairchild was born July 30, 1744. He married Johannah, daughter of Samuel Ufford, June 26, 1766. He built on the site where now stands the house of John B. Nichols, Esq. He had six children,—viz., Nehemiah, David, Eli, Aaron, Johannah, and Hepsie. Hepsie married Eli, son of Daniel Mitchel Curtis.

Lewis Fairchild was born March 14, 1746, and married Mary, daughter of Samuel Ufford, Sept. 22, 1768. He built a house at Mishea Hill, a short distance below the saw-mill now owned by David Plumb. They had five children,—viz., Lewis, Polly, Reuben, Eben, and Isaac. His oldest son, Coll. Lewis, who married

Pattie, daughter of Andrew Nichols, July 10, 1774, was the father of Daniel and Plumb Fairchild, the proprietors of the extensive paper-mills at Lakeville, and Reuben was the father of Charles N. Fairchild, Esq., of the Farms.

The ancestor of the Plumb family was from England, and settled in Milford in 1639. His name was Robert. The records do not place him on the list of "free planters," not being in church fellowship, which was a requisite qualification in the view of the colonists before a person could be admitted a "free planter."

Noah Plumb came to Unity Society about 1700, and married, Oct. 2, 1714, Abigail Curtis. He built a house on the west side of the highway, below where the house of David Plumb stands. This house was without doubt the finest and most substantial built in the settlement. It had gable roofs. In the front of the house were antique window-frames. The sashes were of lead, which framed in diamond-shaped panes, and the whole was quite English in its appearance. The records do not show that he had more than one child. This one he named Noah, who, with his wife Abiah, lived in his father's house and had five children,—viz., Abiah, Phebe, Susannah, David, and Joseph. David married Mary Beach, Dec. 29, 1770, from whom descended the late Beach Plumb and the Hon. D. W. Plumb, of Shelton. He built a house which has long since been torn down. It stood a short distance below the house of Ezera W. Plumb. Joseph Plumb married Sibil Edwards, May 29, 1777. He lived below his father's residence. He had three children,—Elliott, who was father of Oliver E. Plumb, Eli, the father of Birsey B., and Almon Plumb, of Trumbull Centre. The third child was Pixley.

The Peets are one of the oldest families. They descend from Deacon Thomas Peet, who was admitted into the Society at Unity in 1731. Abijah Peet married Bethiah, daughter of Samuel Ufford, in June, 1771. His home stood at the foot of the garden of Mr. George Peet (grandson). The names of four of his children were, 1st, Hepsie, who married Sheldon Peirson (children were William and Sheldon); 2d, Nancy, married James Curtis (children Elbert, Ellen, Maria, Harriett); 3d, Johannah, married Robert Nichols; 4th, Isaiah (children George, Susan, and Charles).

Samuel Ufford lived in the village with his wife, Anne, in the year 1739, when their first child was born. He had seven children,—viz., 1st, Daniel, married Mary Berse; 2d, John, married Anon Nichols; 3d, Mary, married Lewis Fairchild; 4th, Bethiah, married Abijah Peet; 5th, Jane, married Richard Salmons; 6th, Ebenezer (Judge Eben), married Nancy Peet; 7th, Johannah, married Timothy Fairchild.

The Hawley family descend from the Joseph Hawley who was one of the original settlers in Stratford,



where we find them as early as 1649. The first one of the family which we find in Unity was Robert Hawley. His wife's name was Annie Beach, to whom he was married March 15, 1750. He built a house opposite the residence of Lewis Curtis, just below an old barn that is still standing. He had eight children, of whom Robert, Elikim, and Josiah settled in the village. Josiah lived in the old home. Elikim built the house now standing below the residence of Elliot Curtis, Esq. This house is without doubt the oldest house in the village. His descendants went to "White Plains." Robert Hawley built an old house which stood where the residence of Sheldon P. Peirson now stands. His children were Abijah, Beach, Anna, and Elam.

One of the first houses in Nichols' Farms was built by Ephraim Booth. It stood upon the site now occupied by the house of Samuel Edwards, Esq. He was a deacon in the Society of Unity. He had a son, also named Ephraim, who married Sarah Fairchild, Dec. 18, 1739. By this wife he had three children,—viz., Charity, Rachel, and Ann. His wife Sarah died, and he married again, Nov. 14, 1751, Phœbe Fairchild. He was admitted to the Society at Unity, Aug. 26, 1753. By his wife Phœbe he had three children. These were Sarah, Phœbe, and Hannah. Soon after the death of Mr. Ephraim Booth, Jr., the homestead was sold to Mr. Eli Edwards. Mr. Eli Edwards came from Chestnut Hill. He built the house owned by the late Charles Curtis, and was a man of considerable property and prominence. His son Samuel is still living, and is held very high in the respect of all who know him. His only child is the wife of Horace Fairchild, Esq.

John Beardsley lived in the settlement before the Revolution. He was a chairmaker, as well were his two sons, James and Andrew. He lived in a house which stood in the lot opposite the house of Mrs. Shelton Nichols. His son James built on the property known as the Peck place, since bought by the late James D. Alvord, Esq. The Rev. John L. Peck lived for several years in the house now standing on the old site. In the same house the late Dr. Starkweather, a learned and highly-respected physician, lived and practiced medicine for several years.

Andrew Beardsley married Mary, daughter of Daniel Mitchel Curtis, and had the following children: Nelson, Curtis, Amelia (who married Abija M. Nichols), and Mary. Curtis is still living in the village. He is a carpenter, and built most of the houses now standing in the village.

Previous to the war of the Revolution we find that Chauncy Beardsley, with his wife, Huldah Hawley, lived on the "cross-road" just above the "Red House" belonging to Charles Fairchild, Esq. The well which belonged to the house is there yet, and is over forty feet deep.

Chauncy Beardsley was a Tory, and engaged with the British in the Revolution. He left at home his

wife with eight young children, who led a struggling existence during the war.

Aunt Huldah, as every one called her, was a woman of wonderful nerve and constitution. She survived her husband for many years, as well did she all the acquaintances of her middle life, and died at the advanced age of one hundred and two years.

She took pleasure in talking of the exciting times of the Revolution, and related the event of two companies of French soldiers encamping a whole winter during the war on what is known as "Mountain Hill," a high rocky bluff in the central part of the village, which commands a view of about seventy miles of the Sound and island. She would relate with fire in her eye of how the "hired rebels" would compel her to cook and sometimes furnish provisions for them, through fear that they would kill her if she did not comply with their requests.

The mammoth oak which is still standing on the brow of the hill is said to have been cut off where it now branches out at that time. French coins have since been found near the site of their camp.

Their son Lewis married Laura Gillett. The widow and two daughters alone represent this family of Beardsley in the village.

Israel Beach when quite a young man came from Stratford, where his ancestors settled, and cleared up the Bear Swamp farm. He built a house in what is well known as the "old house-lot," about six rods from the present street fence, and near the southern fence of the lot. In the year 1731 he married Hannah Burritt, of Stratford, and had six children,—viz., Phebe, Nathaniel, Mary, Israel, Hannah, and Eben. He was a soldier in the French war in Canada. A powder-horn carried by him through the French war is still in the possession of his descendants. He died at the advanced age of eighty-six, and was buried in the old Congregational burying-ground in Stratford.

His three sons each built houses near by. Nathaniel built about quarter of a mile above. During the Revolution, when Stratford was threatened to be burned, quite a number of the Whig friends of Mr. Beach brought their household goods and valuables from Stratford in the night-time, and for safe keeping stored them in this house, which, by the way, is still standing.

One day, while the present subject of our writing was at work on his farm, his little dog found a bear, and by furious barking drew his attention to the fact. Mr. Beach went home, procured his gun, and returning to the spot shot him. He proved to be a fine specimen of black bear, and was the last killed in the vicinity. From the above-narrated occurrence the farm and locality has since been called "Bear Swamp." Mr. Nathaniel Beach was killed by a load of wood which was turned over upon him.

Israel, Jr., built a short distance south of the house of his brother Nathaniel, and Eben built in the

same, with and nearly in front of where his father's house stood. The family have become separated, and the descendants of Nathaniel alone remain, whose son and grandson, each bearing the same name, have since tilled part of the land cleared by their ancestor.

Some few years before the Revolution three brothers by the name of Blagg arrived in Stratford from England. They had quite a sum of money between them, which for safe keeping was intrusted to one of the three, who in turn absconded, leaving the others destitute. The town through pity gave them all the land lying on the east side of the Bear Swamp and Huntington road inclosed between the Beaver Dam Brook and the one now known as Hurd's Brook. For drawing the deed one of them, who was a shoemaker, made a pair of shoes as compensation to the magistrate. Samuel and Elisha were the names of the two brothers left. Samuel built a house where the house of William Wakeley now stands, and Elisha built just above and about opposite of the road to Isinglass. Only one of them had issue, and, they being daughters, the name became extinct.

The Hon. Franklin P. Ambler was a descendant of Richard Ambler, who was born in Somersetshire, England, in the year 1611. He came to this country in 1639, landing at Weymouth, Mass., and in 1666 he came to Stamford, Conn. Here, with his son Abraham and several others, he united in the purchase of the town of Bedford from the Indians. He died in the year 1699, aged eighty-eight years.

Franklin P. Ambler was born in Danbury, June 3, 1797, and was of good colonial blood on both sides of the house. His father, 'Squire Ambler, was the second child of John Ambler and Huldah Fairchild. His mother was Elizabeth, daughter of Ebenezer Pickett and Elizabeth Abbott. 'Squire Ambler was born and spent his early boyhood in those times during which the wrongs imposed by England grew more and more oppressive, and at the age of fourteen, instead of learning a trade of peace, he learned a trade of war. At that early age he enlisted in the Continental army at Danbury, under Capt. Osborn, as an artificer. During that terrible winter at Valley Forge his exceptional fortitude and unswerving fidelity did not escape the observing eye of Washington, who in the spring of 1778 promoted him to his special guard. Thus this hardy and patriotic man served not only through those dark days at Valley Forge, and at the stormy crossing of the Delaware, but until the end of the war, when he was still with his commander at Yorktown, at the surrender of Cornwallis. His sword, which he carried through the whole war, is a heavy blade encased in an iron sheath. It was forged by N. Starr, who was a country blacksmith in Danbury. It is still in the possession of his descendants.

The early life of Franklin P. Ambler was one of poverty and hardship, through which he struggled with undaunted courage. At the age of fourteen he

was bound out to a Mr. Hull, in Danbury, as an apprentice in the saddle-tree trade, where he remained until his time was out, when he went to New York as an employee in the tree-factory of Benjamin Stiles. Later, he came to Derby, Conn., where he was employed in the factory of Mr. Chatfield. Here he met Eliza, daughter of Jerrod Bartholem (now Bartholomew) and Mary Wooster, whom he married, March 15, 1819, and in Derby his oldest child, Charles, was born.

In the year 1822 he came to Trumbull, where he was employed as general superintendent in the factories of Messrs. Reuben and Eben Fairchild. He lived in a house owned by Eli Edwards, which is still standing back of the residence of Sheldon Curtis.

In the year 1825 he entered into the business with R. and E. Fairchild and Mr. Isaiah Peet, under the name of Fairchild, Peet & Co. In the year 1844 he bought out the concern and conducted business in partnership with his three sons, under the firm-name of F. P. Ambler & Sons. He bought land lying about and north of what is known as "Mountain Hill," and built the present factories, having since enlarged them as the business increased. He purchased of Philo Lord the house now owned and occupied by his grandson, Richard C. Ambler. This house he enlarged and remodeled, and here he made his home. To him home was a sacred spot. His wife, who was a person endowed with the very embodiment of nobleness of character, was fully capable of making it so. His children married and had houses of their own,—all within a stone's throw; but still home was yet at the father's, and his greatest joy was to gather them around his board. His faithful companion passed away March 20, 1853. He married again, Emily S. Ambler, widow of Joel Ambler, of Danbury, a woman of most excellent qualities and well suited to fill the vacant place. She still survives him.

Franklin P. Ambler had during his boyhood little opportunities for education, but was always an enthusiastic reader; remarkable for an exceedingly retentive memory, he soon acquired a knowledge difficult to be competed with. To this he constantly made additions until in middle and later life he was able to converse, with equal intelligence, with those of far greater opportunities.

I can no better describe the opinion in which he was held by the public than to quote, in part, an article that appeared in the columns of the *Bridgeport Farmer* at the time of his death, which occurred Aug. 1, 1873:

"... Mr. Ambler was everywhere known as a man of the strictest integrity, whose 'word was as good as his bond.' In many respects he was a remarkable man. Gifted with a powerful and retentive memory, he seldom forgot anything of importance that he read, and, always from his youth up an industrious reader, his mind was stored with a fund of facts, anecdotes,



and historical information from which he would at pleasure draw to enliven, strengthen, and adorn his naturally easy conversation. He had accumulated a solid and valuable library, and his peculiar qualities of mind made his books almost literally reproduced in him. In early life his attention was particularly called to the Bible and the consideration of religious subjects, and to the study of these he gave the closest attention until he arrived at a conclusion that satisfied his own mind and conscience, a result which led him to espouse the earnest and conscientious belief that the Bible is the inspired word of God, and that it teaches the doctrine of universal salvation. Conscientious and firm in his convictions, having thoroughly studied the subject, perfectly familiar with the Bible, he was, without exception, the ablest lay conversationalist we ever knew, and no one could meet him in an argument without discomfiture, unless they were thoroughly masters of their subject.

"Mr. Ambler was always a sound and consistent Democrat of the Jeffersonian school, and always took a deep and intelligent interest in public affairs. He had frequently to fill local offices in his town, had represented it in the Legislature, and about 1862 was elected to the State Senate, in all which positions he discharged his duties with unswerving fidelity, and with honor to himself. He was made a Mason more than fifty years ago, and was a consistent member of the order until his decease. A singular circumstance may be mentioned in this connection, the like of which has never occurred in the annals of the institution. Some ten years ago the writer of these lines, then a presiding officer of Jerusalem Chapter, No. 13, R. A. M., of this city (Bridgeport), officiated at the exaltation at one time of the deceased and two of his sons, George B. and Franklin P., Jr. All three, the father and sons, are now dead, and each one has been buried on Sunday by the Masonic fraternity." . . .

It may not be out of place to speak here of his family, which consisted of Charles, George B., Mary E., and Franklin P., Jr. They were all very dear to him, and he was justly proud of them for they held positions in public respect. They were notorious for their strong mind and firm belief in the democratic principles of government. All three of the sons represented their town in the Assembly, and also at different times filled offices of trust both in party and town.

In speaking of them one cannot but associate them together, for it was together, the father and the three sons, that every one meant when they spoke of the "Amblers."

But their characteristics were different. Charles, the only one living, alone displays the persistent application and thoroughness of the father. In Franklin P. Ambler, Jr., we found the hearty "free and easy" good will to all, but at the same time a fierce and decisive opinion. United with a wonderful eloquence was his inherited and equally wonderful mem-

ory. Imposing in figure and powerful in thought, he would hold an audience as if it were spell-bound for hours at a time. But his bright and promising career was cut short in the spring of life. He died May 25, 1865, aged forty years. In George B. Ambler there was the same persistency which is the characteristic of the father. He was a fine business man, and as an accountant could not be excelled. He was remarkable in ingenuity; the results of his skill and taste are still in the possession of his family and are exhibited with pride. He came to an untimely end by being thrown from his carriage while riding on State Street, Bridgeport. He died the same day, June 24, 1871.

The distance from England rendered the importation of household utensils, cloths, and other necessities of life very expensive; hence, necessity being the mother of invention, the colonists began to manufacture for themselves. The spinning-wheel and loom were articles of absolute necessity in every house, and one of the chief accomplishments of the farmer's wife and daughter was the manufacture of "homespun," it being the custom of the housewife to spin and weave all the cloth used in the family. But the busy wheel has long been laid away, as well as has been the faithful hands which plied it, and with the wheel the large, cheerful "fireplace," with its benches at each end and its "back-log," which was drawn into the house by oxen, have all passed away; they are all pushed into disuse by the rapid strides of invention. Then the shoemaker, like "Dick Whitting," carried his kit from house to house, making the family boots and shoes out of the leather furnished by the family. The village shoemaker and tanner, for several years succeeding the Revolution, was "Squire David Seeley." Seeley bought an old house standing on the present site of the home of David Plumb. He bought the property at auction, it being confiscated from David Peet, who was a Tory in the war. The vats where the "Squire" tanned the hides were by the roadside at Mishea Hill Brook. 'Squire Seeley was the first man in the village who took a newspaper, and at his house the neighbors were accustomed to assemble to hear the news.

The first saw-mill in the locality stood near the dam of what has since been known as Old Saw-Mill Pond. It was built and owned by Daniel Fairchild, who was an early settler in the village.

The village chairmaker was John Beardsley. His shop stood near his house, in the field opposite the house of Mrs. Shelton Nichols. His son James, in later years, for some time carried on quite an extensive business at the trade in his shop, which stood below his house, opposite the residence of David Nichols, Esq. Here he employed several workmen, besides apprentices; among the latter were Hull and Eliel, sons of Andrew Curtis. James Beardsley afterwards went to Newark, N. J., with Eli Edwards, and established the first saddle-tree factory in that city.

Sixty years ago the manufacturing of combs was quite an industry in the village.

The saddle-tree business, like the mammoth oak, had a small origin. Eben Fairchild, a son of Lewis, was born Nov. 10, 1784. He learned the cabinet-maker's trade, and was a very ingenious man. While living at Mishea Hill he took an old saddle to pieces and set himself at work making another like it; succeeding in this, he made a dozen and carried them "across lots on his back" to his brother Eli, who was a blacksmith living in Isinglass, and they together "ironed" them. Then, in spite of the jeers of his neighbors, who called them "devil-trees," he went with them by stage to New York, where he found a ready market. He returned home with his money, and, making more, disposed of them in the same manner.

Later, he took Isaiah Peet—Mr. Peet, as every one called him—into partnership with him. They built a shop opposite the house of Sidney Nichols, Esq. Still later they changed the firm-name to that of Fairchild, Peet & Co. F. P. Ambler, of Danbury, then a young man and a practical tree-maker, came into the firm at that time. In the year 1844, F. P. Ambler bought out the business, and with his three sons carried on the business under the name of F. P. Ambler & Sons. From this time until the end of the war the business constantly increased. The firm built the present extensive factories, introduced steam-power, and have sent their goods all over the world. During the Franco-Prussian war they filled large orders for the French government. Have made large orders for Peru and other South American states, including Brazil. In all its dealings the firm was known as one of the strictest in integrity, honor, and candor. Previous to the war the chief business of the firm was with parties in the Southern States, which trade was entirely destroyed by the war, during which, however, they took large government contracts, employing about six hundred men.

With the exception of Charles, the members of the firm have since died, but the business is still carried on by Charles Ambler, under the name of F. P. Ambler's Son. After leaving the firm of Fairchild, Peet & Co., Mr. Peet built a shop which stood opposite the residence of Mrs. Margaret M. Smith, and carried on the business of manufacturing "stub-joints," but soon discontinued it. The shop has since been removed to the corner below, and was converted into a store by Mr. Carlos Blackman.

Carriage-building has been another of the village manufacturing interests. The firm of Nichols, Peck & Co. for several years carried on a large business in their extensive factories, and at one time largely supplied the Australian market. The business is at present conducted by David and Carlos Nichols.

Andrew Clark for several years had quite an extensive carriage-manufactory. The buildings were situated on a small lot just north of the house of Wm.

Beers. Mr. Clark built the residence now owned by Mrs. G. B. Ambler, and lived there for several years.

The mercantile interests of the village have never advanced farther than the "country-store." The first one was kept by Robert Nichols, the father of the late Prosper Nichols, Esq., and grandfather of Lucius C. Nichols. The building stood near his house, on what is known as the cross-road, on the estate of Prosper Nichols.

For many years Ira Nichols, Esq., son of Robert, stood behind his counter and sold goods in a store which was attached to the east end of the brick carriage-factory of Nichols, Peck & Co.

A store has been kept for some forty years on the same stand by Oliver E. Plumb, Esq. This and the one kept by Henry B. Curtis, Esq., are the only ones in the village at the present time.

In the fall of 1865 the old shop which Mr. Peet erected for a stub-joint factory was purchased and moved to the corner above Trinity church by Carlos Blackman, Esq. In October of that year a store was opened in this building by Messrs. Samuel A. Patterson and Carlos Blackman, under the name of Blackman & Patterson. The firm did a large business for two years, when they sold out to Messrs. A. B. Fairchild and H. B. Curtis, who transacted business under the firm-name of Fairchild & Curtis. About a year after, Mr. Fairchild sold out to Mr. Curtis, who continued business at the old stand until the fall of 1870, at which time Mr. Blackman sold the premises to William H. Payne, who remodeled the building to its present condition and continued the business for about five years, when he moved to Bridgeport, having exchanged the property with the late Monson Evitts. At this time Mr. Henry B. Curtis returned from the store of Mrs. Shelton Nichols, whither he moved at the transfer to Mr. Payne, and has since continued to transact business at the old stand.

#### PARLOR ROCK.

Up the Housatonic Railroad about eight miles from Bridgeport, between the old towns of Long Hill and Stepney, this spot of beauty lies embowered between verdant woodland hills. Through it runs a lovely streamlet, winding, now falling over the steep stone walls of the dam, and soon after recovering from the foam and eddy and whirl spreading out into its former glossy smoothness, and then passing under a suspension-bridge and down a wild, rocky, precipitous gorge, rumbling and roaring and passing off out of sight, a foamy, heaving current, into a wild cove far below. Down at the foot of this second cataract rises the steep, bold, overhanging mass of solid rock at the base of which, close by the boiling, rocky-bedded current of the streamlet, lies a large, oblong, flat surface of rock, which is Parlor Rock, and a more romantic, picturesque, cool, and lovely sylvan retreat it would be difficult to name in Connecticut. This is but a fraction of the attractions. The grove flanks



the stream and its cascades, and is a shady bower thickly studded with tall hemlocks, shady and picturesque. In the grove are croquet-grounds, swings, etc. On the mossy brink of the stream lie fancy boats awaiting the pleasure of whoever would row about, a means of access to many a rural retreat and pretty bower.

Wander where you will, nature has many charming secrets and romantic situations to disclose. Huge boulders, venerable, lichen-covered, and gray, stand like aged guardians, grim and massive, at many a point along the paths. It was three years ago that the Housatonic Railroad Company purchased this pretty spot and converted it to its present use, since which time it has been constantly improved, and many thousands of people of Fairfield and Litchfield Counties have spent some day there fraught with pleasure and enjoyment. The Berkshire region in the old Bay State, which it penetrates, well deserves the name it has been given of "The Switzerland of America." The landscapes are exceedingly beautiful, and the eye is constantly surprised and delighted with ever-varying romantic and picturesque views, scenes which have enlisted the muse of a Bryant and inspired the pen of many a writer.

#### MILITARY RECORD, 1861-65.

##### THIRD REGIMENT.

###### *Company D.*

Downs, William, enl. May 11, 1861, disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

##### FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.

###### *Company D.*

Brinsmade, Frank D., musician; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 17, 1863; pro. to first lieutenant, Jan. 29, 1865; disch.  
Bigelow, Benjamin, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Oct. 16, 1862.  
Hawkins, Charles H., enl. Nov. 14, 1861; disch. Nov. 10, 1862.  
Tilford, Homer F., enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Nov. 7, 1862.  
Wheeler, James, enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 17, 1863; pro. to captain; must. out Aug. 2, 1863.  
Whittlesey, Horace T., enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Jan. 13, 1863.  
Tyrrell, Zarah J., enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out June 3, 1865.  
Whittlesey, James T., enl. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. Nov. 3, 1862.

###### *Company G.*

Raymond, Frank, enl. Aug. 11, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

###### *Unassigned.*

Bennett, James, enl. June 29, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Carrs, John, enl. Aug. 10, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Duffy, Pat., enl. Aug. 10, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Francis, James, enl. Aug. 10, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Henry, Patrick, enl. Aug. 10, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Lourmer, Samuel, enl. Jan. 1, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

##### SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

Terrill, George W., enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out Aug. 8, 1865.  
Walker, David S., enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out Aug. 8, 1865.  
Whittlesey, Charles E., enl. Dec. 11, 1863; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
Whittlesey, Horace T., enl. Dec. 11, 1863; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.

##### FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

###### *Company G.*

Neumann, Moritz, enl. Dec. 27, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

###### *Company H.*

Beach, David B., enl. Nov. 28, 1863; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Gerald, Edward, enl. Jan. 14, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

###### *Company M.*

Bevaux, John C. B., enl. Feb. 4, 1862; disch. for disability May 4, 1864.  
Peck, James L., enl. Feb. 25, 1862; disch. Feb. 25, 1865, at expiration of term.  
Peck, William W., enl. Feb. 4, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Tarney, James E., enl. March 4, 1862; died March 24, 1862.

###### *Unassigned.*

Lanegan, Thomas, enl. Aug. 12, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

##### SECOND REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

###### *Company A.*

Bennett, Horatio N., enl. Jan. 2, 1864; killed in action Sept. 19, 1864.  
Dayton, Edson S., enl. Jan. 2, 1864; disch. for disability Feb. 27, 1865.  
Eveatt, George, enl. Jan. 2, 1864; killed in action June 1, 1864.  
Meeker, Benjamin, enl. Jan. 2, 1864; killed in action June 1, 1864.  
Prindle, James M., enl. Jan. 2, 1864; wounded June 1, 1864; disch. Aug. 18, 1865.

###### *Company H.*

Tilford, Homer F., enl. Jan. 2, 1864; killed in action June 1, 1864.

###### *Company M.*

Flinn, James, enl. Feb. 9, 1864.  
Hyland, Patrick, enl. Feb. 9, 1864.  
Holland, George, enl. Feb. 12, 1864.  
Rouke, William, enl. Feb. 9, 1864.

##### FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

###### *Company A.*

Curtiss, Henry B., enl. July 22, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864, at expiration of term.  
Wells, George W., enl. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability Oct. 30, 1862.

##### SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

###### *Company D.*

Dies, George, enl. Nov. 15, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

###### *Company F.*

Maxey, Thomas, enl. Feb. 13, 1864; must. out June 26, 1865.

###### *Company G.*

Keenan, Daniel, enl. Dec. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

###### *Company I.*

Abbott, Alphonso, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864, at expiration of term.  
Abbott, Gustavus A., enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864, at expiration of term.  
Abbott, Woolsey, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; died Nov. 29, 1863.  
Downs, William H., enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
Hubbell, George M., enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
Hubbell, Thomas, enl. Sept. 5, 1861.  
Merritt, George L., enl. Sept. 5, 1862; disch. Sept. 11, 1864, at expiration of term.  
Peet, George B., enl. Sept. 5, 1861; died Aug. 16, 1863.  
Peet, Joseph A., enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 11, 1864, at expiration of term.  
Job, Luther, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. Sept. 6, 1864, at expiration of term.

##### SEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

###### *Company D.*

Graws, Edwin, enl. Nov. 10, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

##### EIGHTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company E.*

Carroll, John, enl. Aug. 19, 1864.

###### *Company G.*

Graham, Philip D., enl. Nov. 18, 1864.

###### *Company K.*

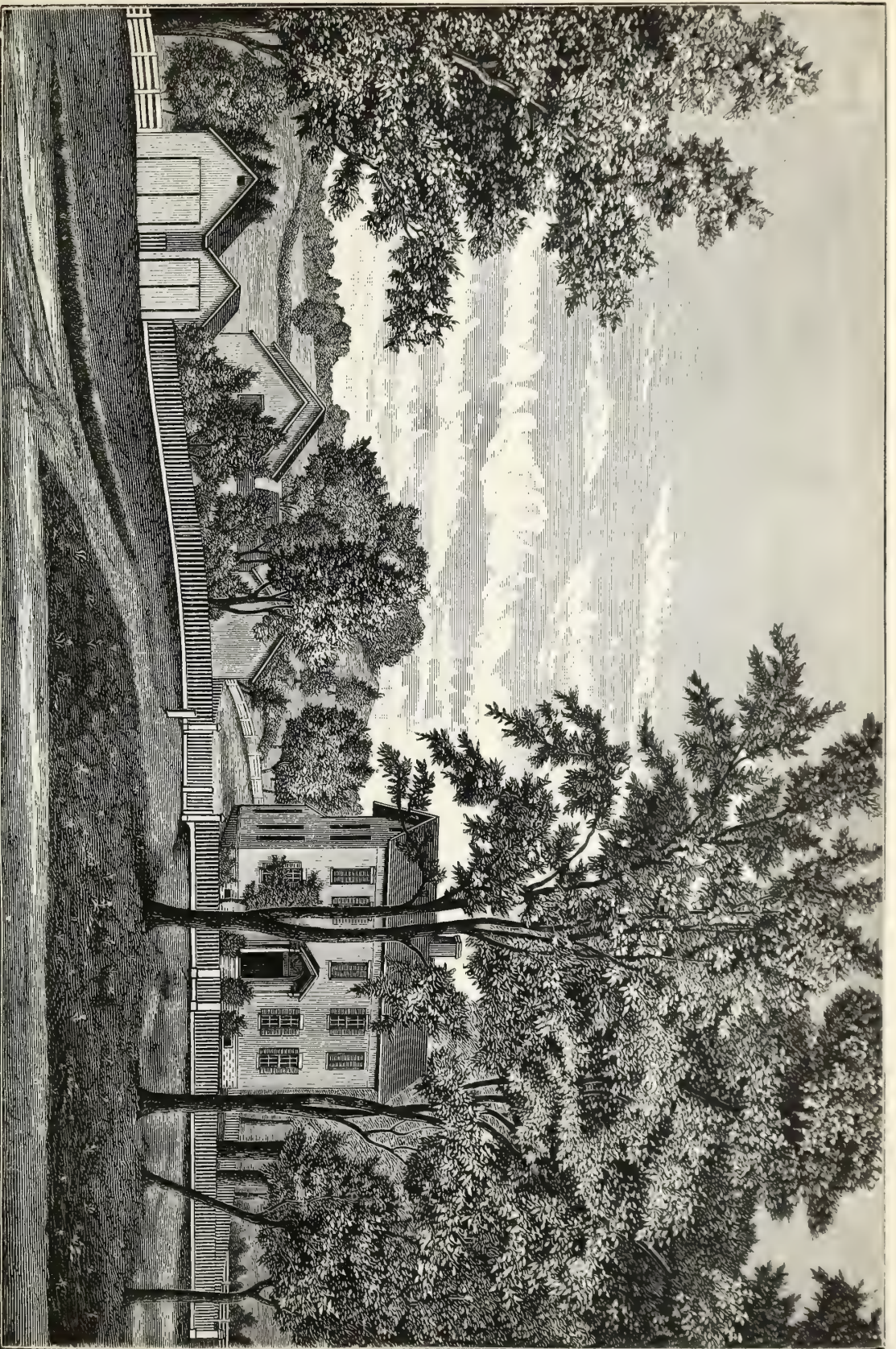
Doyle, John, enl. Nov. 18, 1864.

##### NINTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company F.*

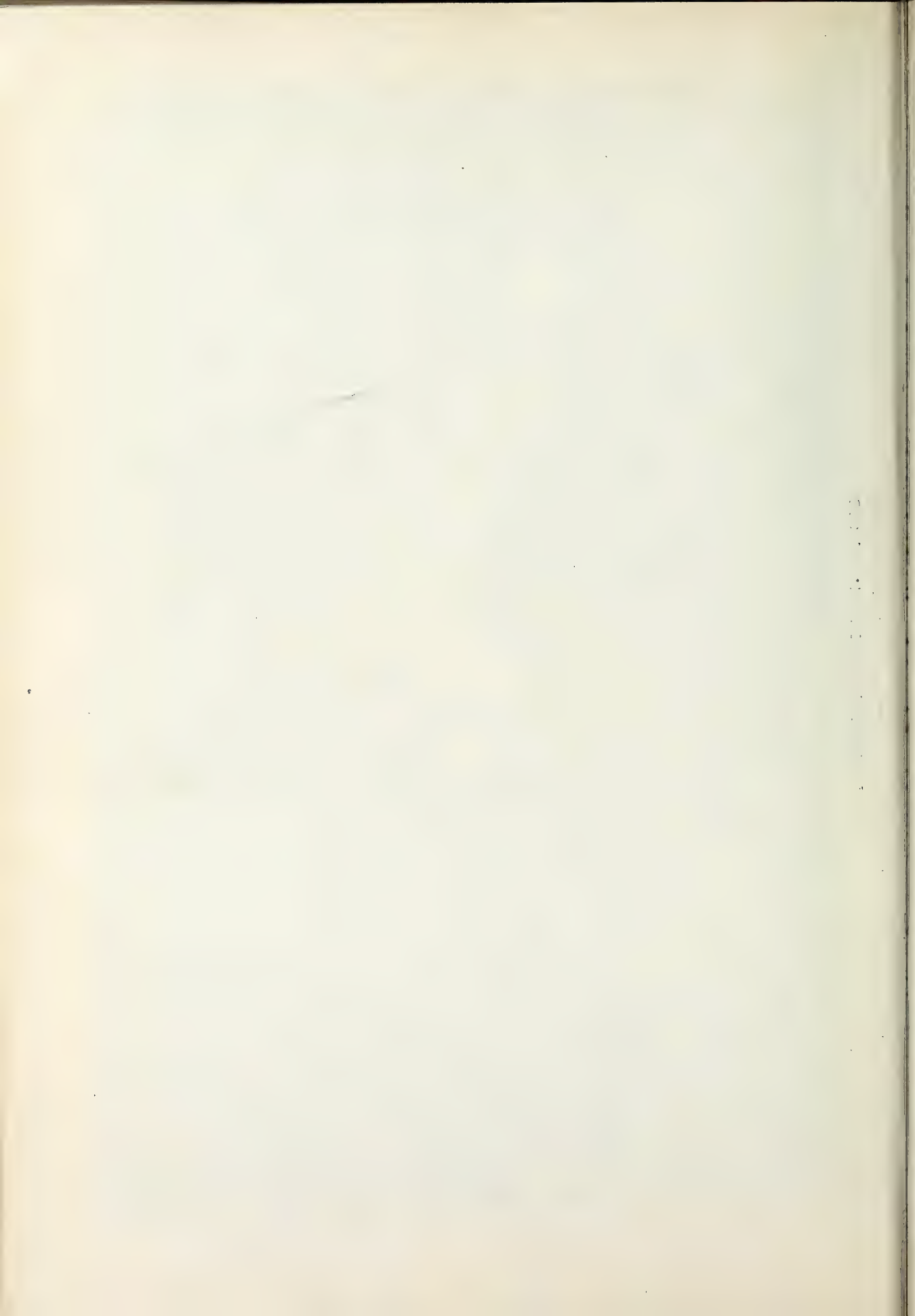
Burns, Thomas, enl. July 11, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.  
Carney, Thomas, enl. July 11, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.





OLD HOME OF LEWIS FAIRCHILD.  
PRESENT RESIDENCE OF MISSES SALLY A. AND CELINA A. FAIRCHILD, TRUMBULL, CONN.











*Edw. F. Johnson*





Davis, Thomas, enl. July 6, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.  
 Denney, John, enl. July 11, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.  
 Davis, Franklin T., enl. July 13, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.  
 Kane, Daniel, enl. July 11, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.  
 McGuire, Frank, enl. July 9, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.  
 Murray, James, enl. July 11, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.  
 McCauley, John, enl. July 11, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.  
 Merrit, James, enl. July 13, 1864; trans. to Company C; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.  
 Williams, George F., enl. July 13, 1864; not taken up on rolls after consolidation, Oct. 31, 1864.

## TENTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Brady, James, enl. Nov. 23, 1864.

*Company B.*

Jones, Samuel, enl. Dec. 13, 1864.

*Company F.*

Green, William, enl. Dec. 10, 1864.

Mitchell, John, enl. Dec. 9, 1864.

*Company G.*

Parker, John, enl. Nov. 14, 1864.

*Company I.*

Lewis, Frederick, enl. Nov. 18, 1864.

## ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company C.*

Bowman, Charles, enl. Nov. 26, 1864.

*Company D.*

Firny, John, enl. Dec. 9, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

*Company H.*

Burns, Patrick, enl. Dec. 24, 1864.

*Company K.*

Alaberto, Gaspero, enl. Nov. 15, 1864.

Puri, Antonio, enl. Nov. 15, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

Riley, Peter, enl. Dec. 19, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

Smith, Robert, enl. Nov. 21, 1864.

Sheham, James, enl. Nov. 23, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

## TWELFTH REGIMENT.

*Company I.*

Beech, David R., enl. Dec. 28, 1861; disch. for disability April 5, 1862.

Sackett, Ambros S., enl. Dec. 27, 1861; died June 20, 1862.

Sackett, Marvin H., enl. Jan. 15, 1862; re-enl. Jan. 22, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

## FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Burr, Henry B., enl. Aug. 16, 1863; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, May 2, 1864.

Norton, William H., enl. Aug. 4, 1862; killed Sept. 17, 1862.

Sherman, Silas G., enl. July 24, 1862; must. out May 31, 1865.

Walklee, Samuel B., enl. July 24, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, March 31, 1864; must. out July 24, 1865.

*Company D.*

Rector, Augustus, enl. Sept. 9, 1863; trans. to Second Heavy Artillery, May 31, 1865.

*Company E.*

Cooper, Thomas, enl. Sept. 11, 1863.

*Company G.*

Davis, William, enl. Sept. 10, 1863; died Nov. 11, 1863.

Lawrence, Charles, enl. Sept. 9, 1863; must. out May 29, 1865.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company D.*

Burton, Franklin P., enl. Aug. 5, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Marshall, Barney, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Whittlesey, Samuel F., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 10, 1865.

*Company E.*

Stratton, Charles S., musician; enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Turney, Charles R., musician; enl. Aug. 5, 1862; disch. for disability June 7, 1864.

Turney, Rice, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. Dec. 10, 1863.

*Company G.*

Fulford, John, enl. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. for disability Dec. 13, 1862.

## TWENTIETH REGIMENT.

*Unassigned.*

Murry, John, enl. Aug. 5, 1864.

## TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company D.*

Plumb, Charles E., second lieutenant; enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Tait, William, corporal; enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Booth, Samuel L., corporal; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Coan, Henry F., corporal; enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Porter, George B., musician; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; killed June 23, 1863.

Burr, Erastus, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Burton, Rollin S., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; died June 30, 1863.

Booth, William G., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Botsford, Henry H., enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Coan, Martin A., enl. Aug. 31, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Colwell, Warren, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Hall, George A., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Hall, Rufus W., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Hawley, George L., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Kennedy, Charles, enl. Aug. 23, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Nichols, Plumb B., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Nichols, Austin S., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Nichols, Daniel M., enl. Aug. 25, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Whittlesey, Charles B., enl. Sept. 3, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

## TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT (COLORED).

*Company I.*

Nichols, Aaron, enl. Jan. 4, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

Nichols, Michael, enl. Jan. 4, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

Parker, Henry, enl. Dec. 31, 1863; killed Sept. 1, 1864.

Stevenson, John, enl. Aug. 31, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Unassigned.*

Taylor, Andrew, enl. Jan. 1, 1864.

## THIRTIETH REGIMENT (COLORED).

*Company B.*

Bell, Edward, enl. Feb. 17, 1864.

*Company C.*

Thompson, James, enl. Feb. 11, 1864.

*Company F.*

Freelan, James, enl. Feb. 17, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1863.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## THE FAIRCHILD FAMILY.

In England the name of Fairchild is of ancient origin. On the family crest there are three crescents, which signify three prisoners taken in the Holy Land, and three birds, martlets, indicating three pilgrimages to the Holy Land by some one by the name of Fairchild, or Fairbairn, as it is in Scotland, whence the family is said originally to have passed into England. The pilgrimages and captives, of course, refer back to the Crusaders.

Thomas Fairchild, the first of the name in this

country, came from England and settled in Stratford, Fairfield Co., the year 1639. Was a representative man of his day; is said by Barber and by Hollister to have been the first magistrate in the town.

Joseph Fairchild, the eldest son of Thomas Fairchild by his second wife, was born 1664 and died 1713. He was a farmer, owned lands in Stratford and in the town of Durham; he married Johanna, daughter of Deacon Timothy Wilcoxson. His son, Timothy Fairchild, was born in Stratford, 1687. He married Sarah Humphrey, Nov. 15, 1715.

Daniel Fairchild was the son of Timothy Fairchild, born in Stratford, 1720. He married Hepzibah Lewis. They had a family of nine children. He was a man of more than ordinary education, being for many years a teacher. He was assistant commissary during the Revolutionary war, also held various other offices of trust and responsibility. Daniel Fairchild's second son was Lewis Fairchild, first, born March 14, 1746, in what was then called North Stratford, now Trumbull (Nichols' Farms); married Mary Ufford; was a farmer, and took an active part during the Revolutionary war. He died in 1817. Col. Lewis Fairchild, son of Lewis Fairchild, was the eldest of a family of six. He was born July, 1774; married Martha Nichols, daughter of Andrew Nichols. After this union were born the following: Bryant (deceased), Betsey (deceased), Daniel, Plumb N., Le Grand (deceased), Sarah A., Celina A., Julia A. (deceased). He was a farmer by occupation. During the year 1826 he entered into the business of manufacturing paper with his brothers, Reuben and Eben. They built the mill and were in partnership some ten years, when he retired from the business of paper-making, and was succeeded by his sons, Daniel and Plumb N. Mr. Fairchild died in 1850, aged seventy-six years.

Daniel Fairchild, son of Col. Lewis Fairchild, was born in Trumbull, Dec. 20, 1807. He remained on the farm until he was twenty, when he entered the paper-mill of his father, and in 1836 he entered the firm of Lewis Fairchild & Bros., which was changed to E. Fairchild & Co., and the firm continued under that title until 1847, when he and his brother Plumb N. bought out the remaining members of the firm, and it was then known as D. & P. N. Fairchild. Since 1861, Horace L., son of Daniel, has been identified with the firm, which is now known as D. & P. N. Fairchild & Co. This firm is one of the oldest in the county. It is extensively known for honorable dealings with all, and enterprise in carrying on business.

In politics Daniel Fairchild is a Republican. He has represented his town in the State Legislature, and has held the office of selectman and other town offices. He married Ann Eliza, daughter of Horace Hungerford, Sept. 11, 1833. They have had four children, three of whom are living.

Plumb Nichols Fairchild, son of Col. Lewis Fair-

child, was born in Trumbull, Nov. 12, 1809. He remained on the farm until he was eighteen, during which time he acquired a common-school education. At eighteen he became interested in the paper business, and in 1836 was admitted to the firm, who, together with his brother Daniel, succeeded their father in the business. Mr. Fairchild still retains an interest in the business, but has retired from the active duties of the manufacturing, and devotes his time in part to his farm. He also holds the position of director of the Bridgeport National Bank, where he has been identified for twelve years. In politics he is a Republican, has been a member of the State Legislature, magistrate of the town, etc. He married, May, 1856, Jennett H., daughter of Charles U. Lewis, of Bridgeport.

#### EBEN FAIRCHILD.

Eben Fairchild was the youngest son of Lewis Fairchild, of Trumbull, Conn., and was born November, 1784, and died Sept. 13, 1865, aged eighty years, nine months, and seven days. He only had the advantages of a common-school education, and was then apprenticed to a cabinet firm in Danbury, Conn., to learn that trade, but on account of ill health did not continue long, but returned to Trumbull and joined his brother Reuben in the manufacture of saddle-trees, at the village of Nichols' Farms. The business was very successful. The principal markets were New York, Philadelphia, Hartford, and Bridgeport. May 30, 1817, they purchased the store and dock property at or near the foot of Wall Street, in the then borough of Bridgeport, and opened a store and ran in connection therewith packets to New York, Boston, and other places, doing a coasting business. At the commencement of the store business Eben moved to Bridgeport and had charge of the store and business there. Reuben continued in charge of the business at Nichols' Farms.

About the year 1818 they commenced the manufacturing of saddles in Bridgeport, taking Hanford Lyon and Lemuel Coleman into the firm, under the firm-name of Fairchild, Lyon & Co., with a branch house at Charleston, S. C.

This firm continued the business about nine years, when the Fairchilds (on account of being extensively engaged in other manufacturing enterprises) withdrew from the firm.

About the year 1826 they turned their attention to the manufacture of paper at Trumbull, associating their brother Lewis with them, under the firm-name of L. Fairchild & Bros. Eben then returned to Trumbull and lived near the paper-mill, and continued in the business about twenty years, or until 1847, when he disposed of his interest to his nephews, D. and P. N. Fairchild, who are still connected with the business. Eben married Betsey A. Nichols; they had no children. He moved to Bridgeport in 1847, purchasing the property corner of Main and Franklin Streets, where he lived a retired life until his death.





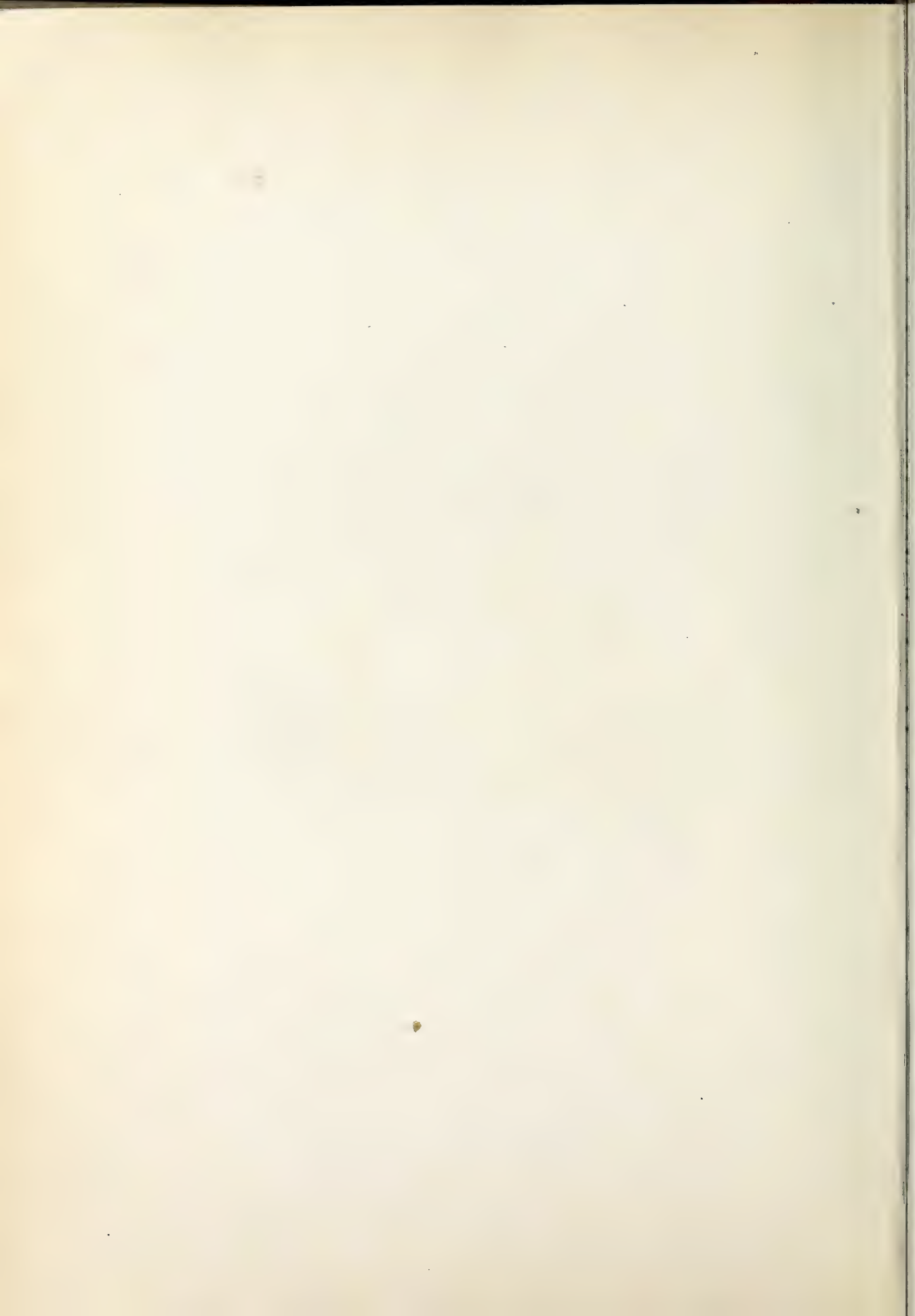


*Daniel Fairchild*

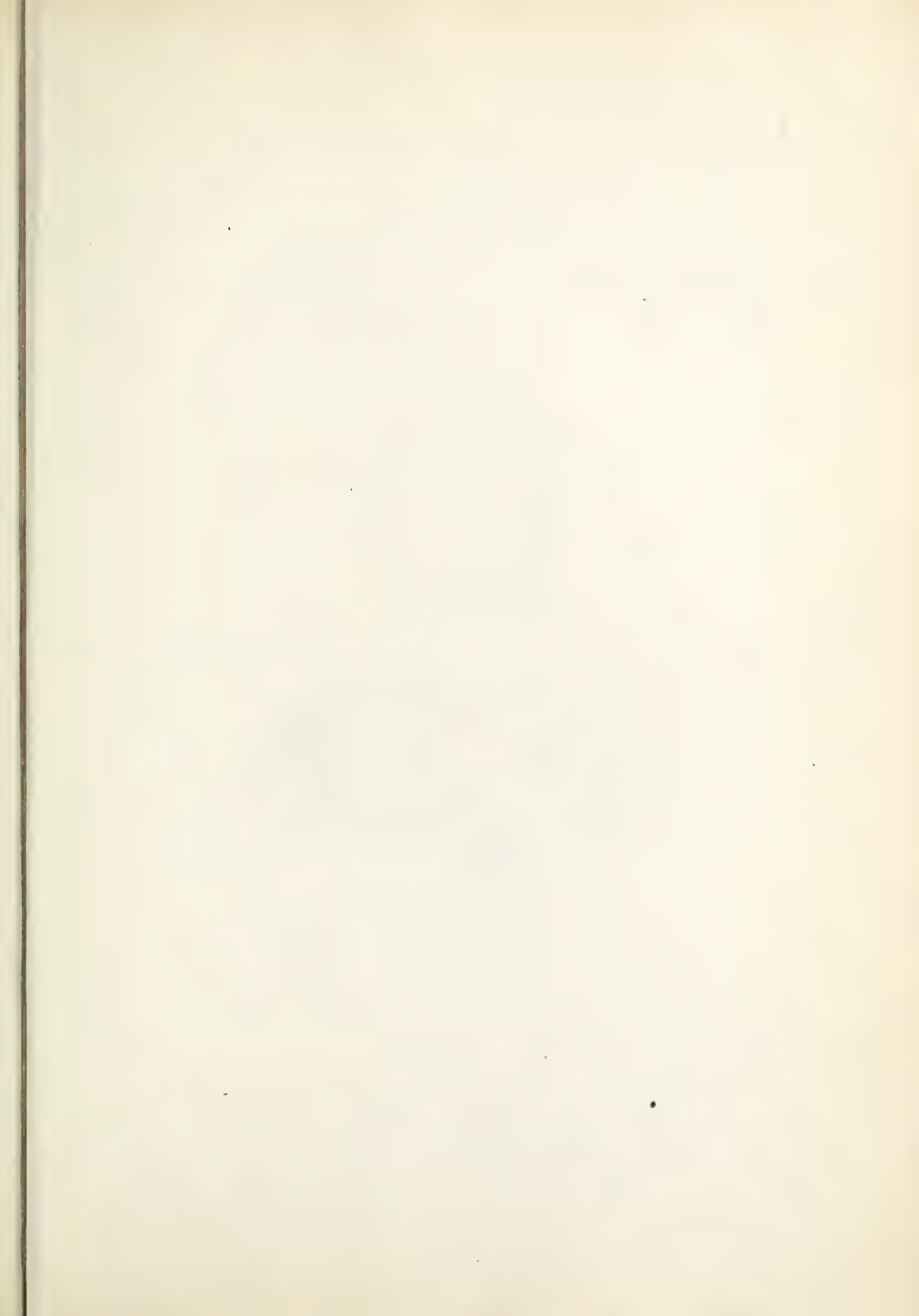




*P. N. Fairchild*









*LeGrand & Beers*



## REUBEN FAIRCHILD.

Reuben Fairchild was the second son of Lewis Fairchild, of Trumbull, and brother of Lewis and Eben. He was born in 1782 and died Oct. 4, 1855, aged seventy-three years. His education was limited to the advantages of a common school. When a young man he was apprenticed to a cabinet firm and learned that trade, and soon after commenced the manufacture of saddle-trees, at Nichols' Farms, Trumbull, Conn., where he resided during his life. The business was very prosperous, and, taking his brother Eben in company with him, under the firm-name of R. & E. Fairchild, they soon had a very large business, with a demand for all they could produce. They continued in the business together until 1817, when Eben moved to Bridgeport and took charge of the business there.

Reuben became interested in the paper-manufacturing with his brothers, Lewis and Eben, in 1826, and continued with them for several years.

About the year 1836, Reuben commenced the manufacture of carriages, at what was then known as the stone factory, in Bridgeport, Conn., associating with him Messrs. Haight, Hurd, and Keeler, under the firm-name of Haight, Fairchild & Co. They continued until 1840, when Reuben withdrew from the business. From that time until his death he made farming his chief occupation. He married Anna Hawley. Of this union were born the following children,—viz., Caroline, Elizabeth, Mary Ann, Starr (deceased), Lewis (deceased), and Charles N.

Charles Nichols Fairchild was born in Trumbull, Oct. 27, 1818. He was educated at the Nichols' Farms district school. He learned the trade of carriage-manufacturing in Bridgeport, and afterwards engaged in the manufacture at Nichols' Farms, but soon withdrew, and has since followed the occupation of a practical farmer. He has held many important town offices and represented the town in the State Legislature. In politics he is a Democrat. He married for his first wife Louisa Beach, daughter of Alfred Beach, of Trumbull Centre. Of this union they had two sons, Henry Charles and Alfred Beach, who are living and doing business in the city of Bridgeport, Conn. Aug. 13, 1845, Mrs. Charles Fairchild died, aged twenty-four years. He was then married to Mary B., daughter of S. O. Banks, of Easton, Conn. They have two children, Laura Frances and Erwin Starr, who are now living at Nichols' Farms.

## LE GRAND GREGORY BEERS.

Le Grand Gregory Beers was born in Long Hill, in the town of Trumbull, Dec. 12, 1819, and traces back his paternal ancestry nearly four hundred years. His lineal ancestor first in America was Anthony Beers, who came from England in 1635 and settled in Watertown, Mass., and subsequently removed to Roxbury, Mass., and later to Fairfield, Conn. Barnabas Beers, son

of Anthony, was born in Roxbury, Mass., in 1658, and while a boy removed with his father to Fairfield, Conn. Elnathan Beers, son of Barnabas, married Anna Beach, then living in the part of Stratford now included in Trumbull, and removed to that place early in the last century. Peter Beers, son of Elnathan, and great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Trumbull, as was also his grandfather James Beers, and his father Philo Beers. His mother, Charita Gregory, was daughter of Daniel Gregory, a substantial farmer formerly residing in Trumbull.

Mr. Beers was educated at the district school in Long Hill, the Easton Academy, and Beardsley's select school in Monroe, Conn. During his whole life, with the exception of one year, he has lived on his ancestral homestead in Trumbull. He was bred a farmer and has mostly followed that occupation, but was engaged in teaching a portion of the time for some fifteen years.

In 1845 he was married to Hepsa A. Edwards, daughter of Levi Edwards, for many years a merchant and prominent resident of Stepney, in the town of Monroe. He has three daughters and two sons,—Adaline Louisa, who is married to Theodore W. Beach, of Bridgeport, Frances Helena, Sarah Eliza, Rollin Edwards, and Fred. Louis.

Mr. Beers has during the greater part of his life been prominently identified with the public affairs of his town, and has taken an active part in local transactions and controversies and held many public offices. He was a member of the board of school visitors for thirty consecutive years, and several years acting visitor. He has been justice of the peace for twenty-two consecutive years, and during that time has tried most of the justice court cases brought in his town. He has at different times been constable, selectman, assessor of taxes, registrar of births, marriages, and deaths, registrar of voters, and auditor of town accounts. He represented his town in the State Legislature in 1861, and the Tenth Senatorial District in 1870. He was appointed county commissioner by the Legislature in the spring session of 1876, and held the office three years. He has been intrusted with the settlement of many estates in the capacity of administrator, executor, and assignee, and has frequently performed the duties of appraiser, distributor, arbitrator, and conservator.

Mr. Beers has for many years taken an active part in politics, and has often been delegate to the different political conventions of his party, and has several times presided over the congressional, senatorial, and Probate conventions. His time is now occupied with attention to his farm, and to such public business as is intrusted to him. During his memory Long Hill has grown from a few scattered unpainted houses to a pleasant country village, with some fifty neat residences, with handsome surroundings, two churches, stores, and several flourishing manufactories.

## MILES BEARDSLEY.

Miles Beardsley, son of Stephen and Catharine Beardsley, was born on the place where he now resides in the town of Trumbull, Fairfield Co., Conn., Jan. 18, 1810.

Stephen Beardsley, son of David Beardsley, was born in Trumbull, March 20, 1763; married, March 2, 1791, Catharine Beardsley, who was born March 2, 1770, in the town of Monroe.

They had five sons, four of whom lived to adult age,—namely, Samuel, Stephen M. Hall, who died at the age of fourteen years, Sheldon, and Miles, all of whom are deceased except Miles. He was a carpenter and joiner in early life; afterwards he became a farmer. In politics he was a Democrat, and as such was elected to the Legislature and served there a number of terms, was a magistrate for a number of years, and settled several estates.

Mr. and Mrs. Beardsley were members of the Congregational Church, and he was deacon of the same. He died Feb. 8, 1849, aged eighty-six years, and his wife died July 22, 1850, aged eighty years.

Miles Beardsley worked on his father's farm until he was seventeen years of age, when he commenced life as a merchant at the same place where he is still doing business.

At the age of twenty-one he opened a public-house, which he carried on in connection with the store until the completion of the Housatonic Railroad, which materially changed travel. He still owns the old homestead, with its one hundred acres.

He was postmaster for a long time, succeeding his father and brother Samuel. He has been a director of the City National Bank of Bridgeport since its organization, and was elected to the Legislature in 1848. In politics he is a Democrat.

He is a regular attendant and liberal supporter of the Congregational Church.

He married Eloisa, daughter of John Nichols, of Trumbull, Jan. 18, 1832. She was born Nov. 18, 1809, in Trumbull. They have three children,—viz., Marriette C., who married James C. Johnson, of Monroe; Elliot M.; and Susan E., who married Marcus O. Wheeler, of Trumbull. Mrs. Beardsley died Sept. 18, 1867.

The Beardsley family is probably one of the oldest in the county, some of the name being among the first colonists, and many of the family have held the highest positions of honor and trust in the county. Mr. Beardsley has been very successful in all his business relations, is a good neighbor, and a kind friend.

## ELLIOT MILES BEARDSLEY.

Elliot Miles Beardsley, son of Miles and Eloisa Beardsley, was born in Trumbull, Conn., Sept. 26, 1838. He attended the common school until he was twelve years of age, when he went to a select school, then to the State Normal school at New Britain, where

he acquired an academic education. Commenced teaching at seventeen years of age, which he followed until he was twenty-one, having taught in Savannah, Ga., one year, since which he has been engaged in farming, and in rendering assistance in his father's store.

He married, June 3, 1863, Mary S. Beardsley, daughter of Ezra Beardsley. She was born July 16, 1841.

In politics he is a Democrat. He represented his town in the State Legislature in 1879, and was on the Committee of Cities and Boroughs. He has been school inspector for four years of the town of Trumbull. He has often been a delegate to town and county conventions, chairman of the town committee of the Democratic party for several years past, and still holds the same position.

His wife is a member of the Episcopal Church, and he is a regular attendant of the same.

## DAVID SHELTON EDWARDS,

MEDICAL DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES NAVY.

The late Surgeon David Shelton Edwards, the subject of this sketch, sprung from a sturdy English-American stock which has given many notable men to this county, was the son of Hezekiah Edwards, of Trumbull, Conn., and was born at Chestnut Hill, Trumbull (near Bridgeport), June 22, 1794.

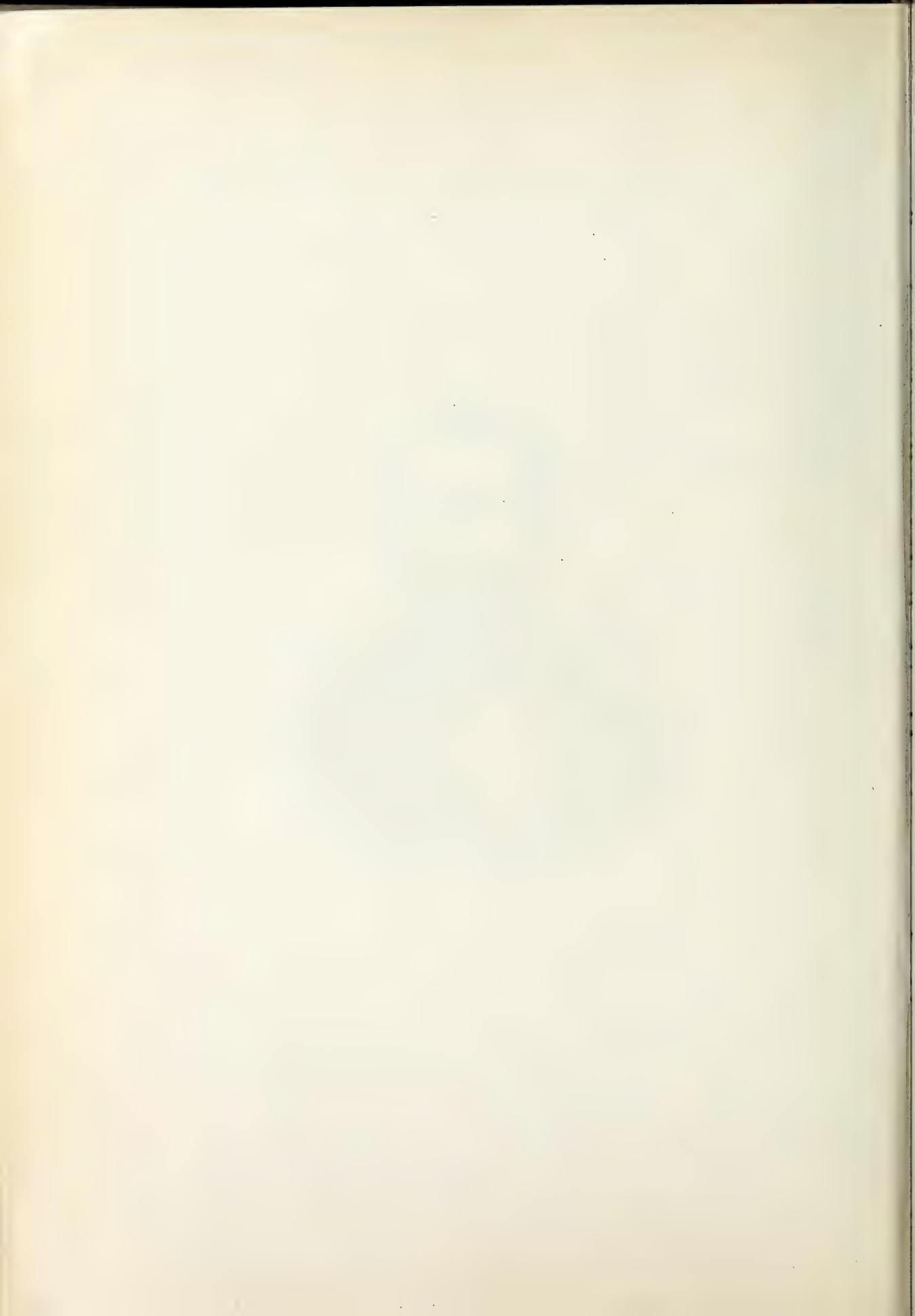
In early life he evinced a taste for the pursuit of knowledge. He graduated at Yale College in 1814 and entered upon the study of medicine, and after completing the required course and practicing for a short time in New Haven he solicited for and received an appointment in the United States navy as surgeon's mate (the title of this grade was afterwards changed to assistant-surgeon), July 30, 1818. His first service was in the "Alert" (18), but he was soon transferred to the frigate "Congress" (44), Capt. John D. Henley, and served in her during a cruise in the China seas. While the ship was at Manilla that port was visited by the Asiatic cholera, then to Europeans a new disease, and the young surgeon gained a vast amount of knowledge in its treatment, which enabled him to afterwards benefit his own countrymen when the dread scourge visited New York in 1832.

In 1822 he was attached to the schooner "Grampus" (12), this vessel being one of a squadron fitted out under the command of Com. David D. Porter for the suppression of piracy in the West Indies. In a fight with the pirates, which took place off the coast of Cuba, in which five piratical vessels were captured or destroyed, Dr. Edwards was severely wounded. He was temporarily attached to the steamer "Fulton" in 1823, and in September of the same year joined the "Erie" (18), and went to the Mediterranean. In 1824 he acted as surgeon of the schooner "Nonsach" (2), and in 1825 was granted a leave of absence,





Elmer M. Bransley







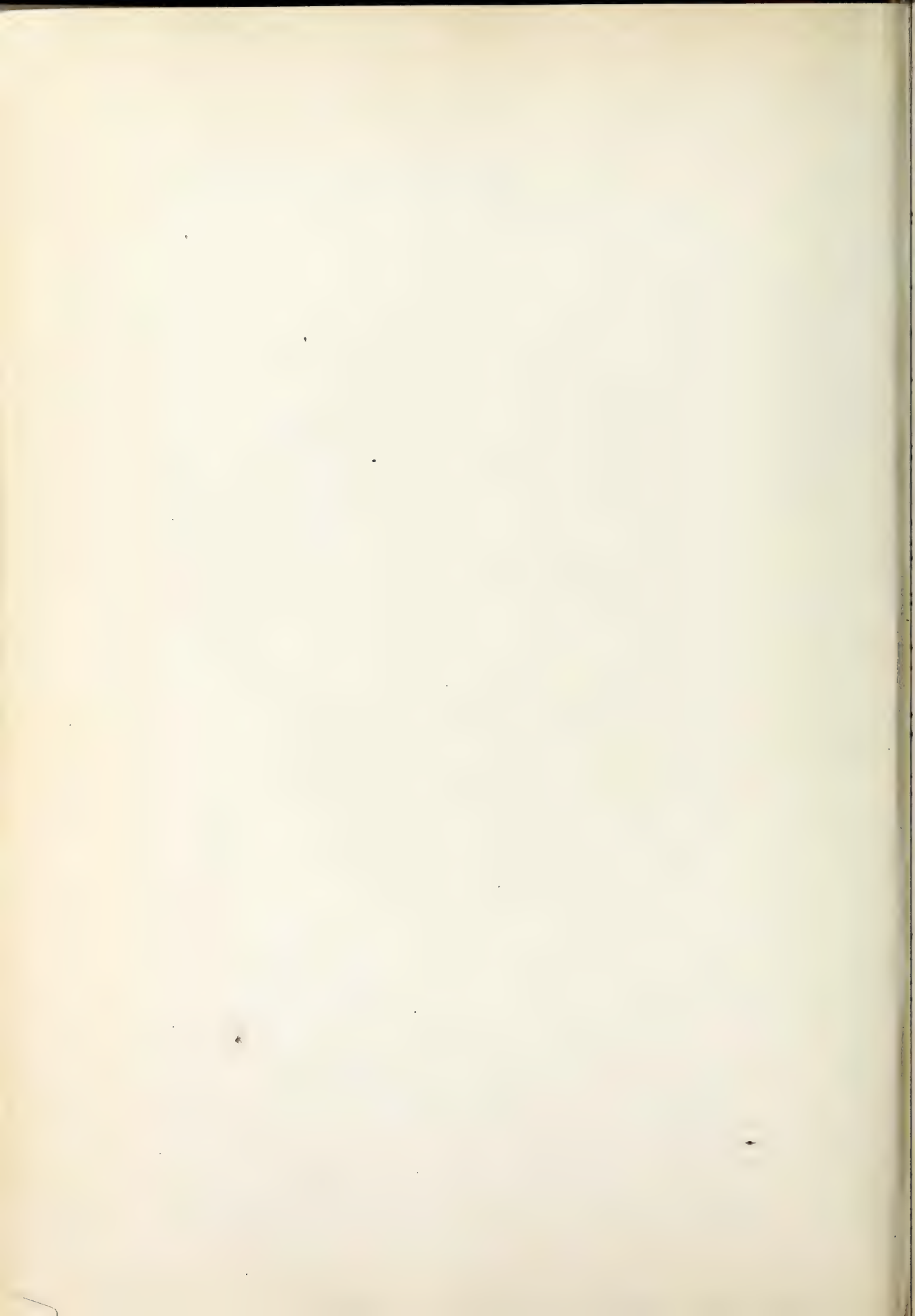


*Miles Beardsley*





*D. J. Edwards*









*JOHN E. SUMMERS.*



which was the first after seven years' continuous service.

May 5, 1825, he was appointed to the rank of surgeon, and in 1826 was ordered to the "Boston" (18), and in her made a cruise of nearly four years on the Brazilian and African stations.

In 1830 he was attached to the rendezvous at New York, and it was during this time that the Asiatic cholera made its appearance. In 1832, at the request of the leading citizens, he was appointed to take charge of the cholera hospital at that city, being absolutely the only physician in the country who had actual experience in the treatment of that disease. It is not too much to say that the services and skill of Dr. Edwards were a priceless boon to citizens of New York and adjoining cities.

In 1834 he was attached to the naval hospital at Pensacola, Fla., and in 1835 to the "Talmouth" (18), and afterwards, in 1836, to the "St. Louis" (20), when, in June, 1837, he became, through the death of Surgeon Leonard Osborne, fleet-surgeon of the West India squadron, and joined the flag-ship "Constellation" (36), Com. Alexander J. Dallas.

In 1839 he was attached to the navy-yard, Washington, and in 1841 to the steamer "Fulton" (4), employed at New York on experimental gun service.

In 1843 he was placed on waiting orders for a short time, and then ordered to the "North Carolina" (74); waiting orders in 1846, and in 1847 was ordered to duty with the marine battalion, then under orders to Mexico, and entered on the most important and brilliant service of his life, forming, as he did, a member of that glorious army which Gen. Scott led to the capture of the City of Mexico.

In 1847 he became the medical director of the brigade commanded by Gen. Franklin Pierce, and contracted a friendship with the future President of the United States which lasted through life.

He participated in the siege and capture of Vera Cruz, in the engagements of Santa Fé, National Bridge, Tres Rios, and in August, 1847, at Pueblo, he was appointed medical director of the division of Gen. Quitman, ten thousand strong, *en route* for the City of Mexico. He participated in the battles of Contreras, Chapultepec, and the City of Mexico. He was in charge of the general hospital of San Agostino, and acted as inspector of the sick and wounded previous to their return to the United States.

In 1848 he was stationed at the marine rendezvous, New York, and in 1849-50 served as fleet-surgeon of the West India squadron on board the "Raritan," Com. Foxhall A. Parker, Sr. From 1851 to 1854 he was employed on duty at the rendezvous, New York, and from 1854 to 1857 he was attached to the navy-yard, Washington.

In 1857 he joined the steam-frigate "Merrimac" (40), commanded by Com. Long, as fleet-surgeon of the Pacific squadron. While in Valparaiso he was taken ill with a disease which undoubtedly shortened his life.

During his illness he was several times at the point of death, and he was sent back to the United States as an invalid, and we find him in 1860 on leave of absence.

During the great Rebellion, Dr. Edwards, though sixty-seven years of age and technically retired in consequence of his age and long years of service for his country, yet served from 1861 to 1864 as surgeon of the naval rendezvous at New Bedford, Mass., from whence went hundreds of noble men to fight the battles of the country under Farragut, Porter, and others. In 1865 we find him on active duty on the "Rhode Island," at Mobile.

In 1869 he was president of the Board of Medical Examiners and member of the Naval Retiring Board, and continued on that board until the spring of 1873, when by law all retired officers were excluded from active duty except in time of war. On the 3d of March, 1871, he had attained the relative rank of commodore on the retired list, after a total service of fifty-four years and five months.

On March 18, 1874, he died at his residence, Chestnut Hill, town of Trumbull.

Dr. Edwards, to speak briefly, was one of the most distinguished medical officers the United States navy ever bore on its rolls, and his record was an unexceptionably noble one,—a long career of faithful service to his country and to humanity. Whether in the rush and din of battle or in the deadly quiet of the cholera hospital, he evinced at all times courage in action and skill and devotion to duty. In private life his career was no less honorable, pure, and blameless; in his daily walks charitable beyond measure, devoted to his friends and beloved by all; simple-hearted and devoted to his religious faith, a long career of usefulness was finally ended by a Christian man's death.

Dr. Edwards was descended from a race of extraordinary longevity. His father lived to the age of ninety-four, and his grandfather, David Edwards, to the age of ninety-six, while his mother was ninety-two when she died, and her father was ninety-six.

The Edwards family traces its descent from Rhoerick the Great, King of Wales, and the family arms are gules á chevron between three roses argent. Crest, lion's head raised ermines between two palm-branches proper, with this motto, in Welsh: "Hob. dduw. Heb. ddim. duw adign," or, in English, "Everything with God, nothing without God."

#### JOHN E. SUMMERS.

But very little is known of the early history of this family of Summers. They are undoubtedly of English origin, and settled somewhere in the New England States at a very early day.

John E. Summers is the son of Anson Summers and Abby G. Smith, and grandson of Capt. Elijah Summers, who was engaged for a number of years as captain of a vessel running between Black Rock and

Boston, and who died at the age of twenty-nine. He was born in Bridgeport, Conn., Sept. 4, 1827. His father was a small farmer, and often worked out by the day. His father died in 1836, at the early age of thirty-eight, leaving a wife, who still survives him, and three sons, Elijah F., John E., and George M.

John E. was early thrown on his own resources. He remained at home on the farm until he was seventeen years of age, when he began to learn the boot and shoe trade, which he followed till he was twenty-one. In March, 1849, he went to California by the way of Cape Horn, and remained some three years; while there he was successfully engaged in mining.

In 1853 he returned home, and was engaged for the following twelve years in the manufacture of paper with Messrs D. & P. N. Fairchild and D. B. Hinman. During this time he bought a farm, which he sold in due time, and purchased in 1866 his present beautiful farm-house, which he has greatly improved since he owned it. It contains some one hundred acres of choice land, which is in good state of cultivation. In politics he has been a life-long Democrat.

He married Henrietta, daughter of Elisha Neal, of Woodbridge, Conn., Feb. 12, 1857. They have two daughters,—viz., Ida G. and Bertha.

#### ANDREW TAIT.

##### THE GOLDEN WEDDING IN TRUMBULL.

The green fields, smiling meadows, waving woods, and good people of Old Trumbull have experienced a genuine sensation, and one the memory of which will linger long with those who immediately participated in its scenes. On Friday, the 14th of June, 1872, occurred the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Tait, at Tait's Mills, about three-quarters of a mile above Trumbull church. A full carload of friends and relatives left Bridgeport by the 10.15 A.M. train on the Housatonic road, and, by the kindness of the conductor, were put off at the mills instead of at Trumbull church, thereby saving a considerable distance. From the railroad to the family mansion was a romantic walk through a beautiful wood, over the picturesque rustic bridge which spans the Pequonnock River below the dam, past the mill, and up a gentle declivity. The Tait mansion, built on the good old plan of "more for comfort than for show," is a model of a commodious and pleasant Connecticut homestead, and stands on an elevated knoll surrounded by the broad acres of a fine farm, with an ample yard in front, shaded by beautiful and wide-spreading maples. Here the Bridgeport delegation found a large number of friends and relatives already arrived, and here they greeted Mr. Andrew Tait and his wife, who had on this day completed the full half-century of wedded happiness.

Mr. Tait was born in Scotland, six miles south of Edinburgh, Jan. 27, 1799, was a paper-maker by trade, and served his full time as an apprentice at that em-

ployment. Thinking to better himself in America, and having a liking for republican institutions, in August, 1820, he emigrated to America, going to Morris Co., N. J., where he worked a year at his trade, going thence to Hartford, New Haven, and other places, till finally, in 1827, he came to Trumbull, where he superintended the building of the well-known paper-mill of the Messrs. Fairchild, and where he remained in the employ of that firm a number of years. While in the vicinity of Hartford he found himself in a situation to send home to Scotland for his sweetheart, who was Miss Bella Ronaldson, and who crossed the ocean alone to marry him, making the difficult and tedious passage in *six weeks and four days*. Immediately after her arriving in this country the then young couple were married, June 14, 1822. After leaving the employ of the Messrs. Fairchild, Mr. Tait commenced business for himself in a small way, marbling paper for bookbinders' use, and finally, in 1835, came to his present location and commenced the building now known as Tait's Mills, where some of the best straw-board known to the trade is still manufactured under the supervision of Mr. Andrew Tait and his son Mr. William Tait. His business career has been marked by industry, frugality, and the integrity of an upright Christian man, and he has been prospered even as was Abdel Hassan:

"And his life of peaceful labor,  
In its pure and simple ways,  
For all loss fourfold returned him,  
And a mighty length of days.

"Seventy years of faith and patience  
Gave him Wisdom's mural crown;  
Sons and daughters brought him honor  
With his riches and renown."

Although Mr. Tait was seventy-three and his wife seventy-two, yet so hale and hearty did the old couple appear as they received the congratulations of their numerous descendants that it was no great stretch of the imagination to expect that they would yet keep their diamond wedding in the same family mansion where they were then receiving the congratulations of their children and their children's children, "even to the third and fourth generation."

The following is the record of Mr. and Mrs. Tait's immediate family: The oldest child was Nancy, now Mrs. Plumb Hoyt, of New York; the next was William Tait, now in the paper-board business with his father at "the mills;" next, Mary E. (M. s. J. M. Prindle, of Bridgeport); next, Dr. John Tait, of Meriden, Conn.; next, Bella (died in 1851); and last, Fannie, now at home.

In spite of the protestations of Mr. Tait that he did not want any presents, a large number of valuable and useful articles found their way into the house and were collected on a table in one of the parlors, making a very handsome display.

His wife died May 22, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Tait have been members of the Congregational Church for a great many years. Mr. Tait is a Republican in politics.



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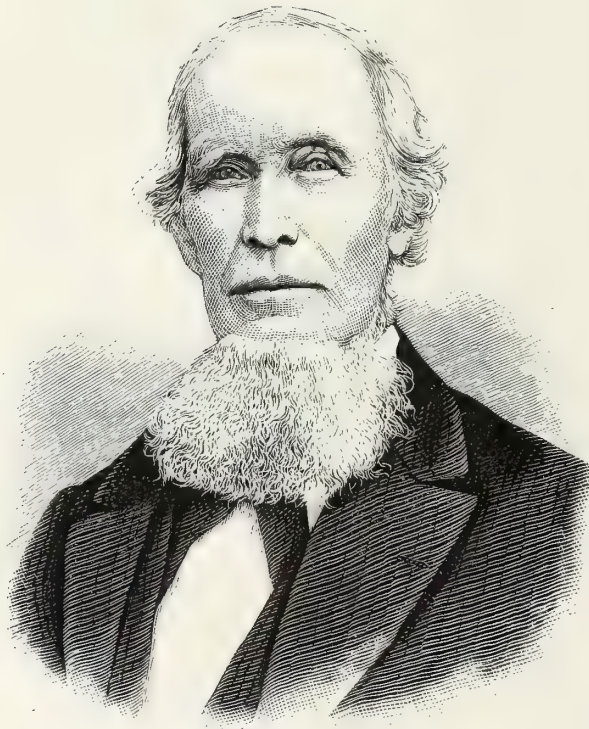


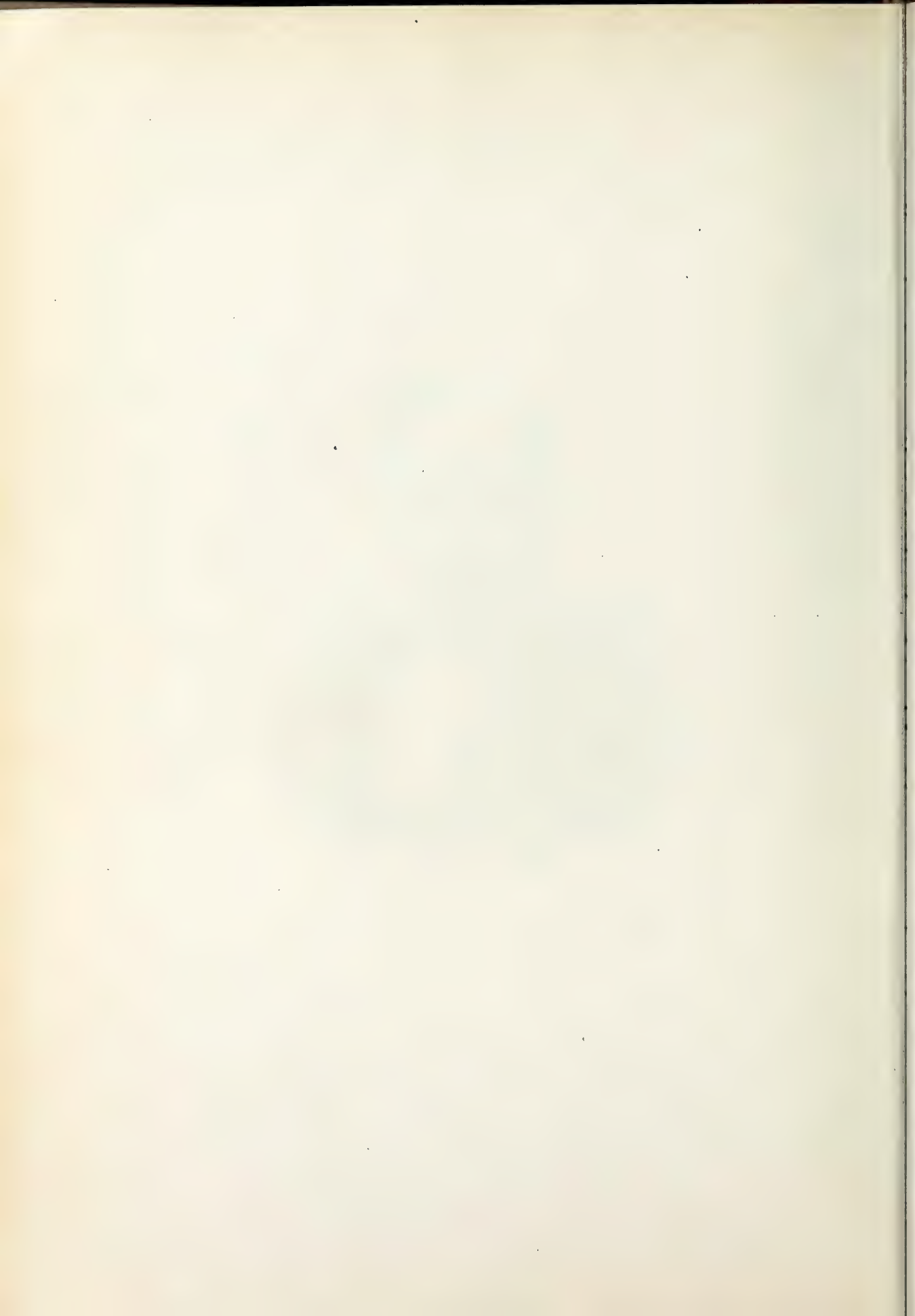
Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*Andrew Tait*





*William Fair*







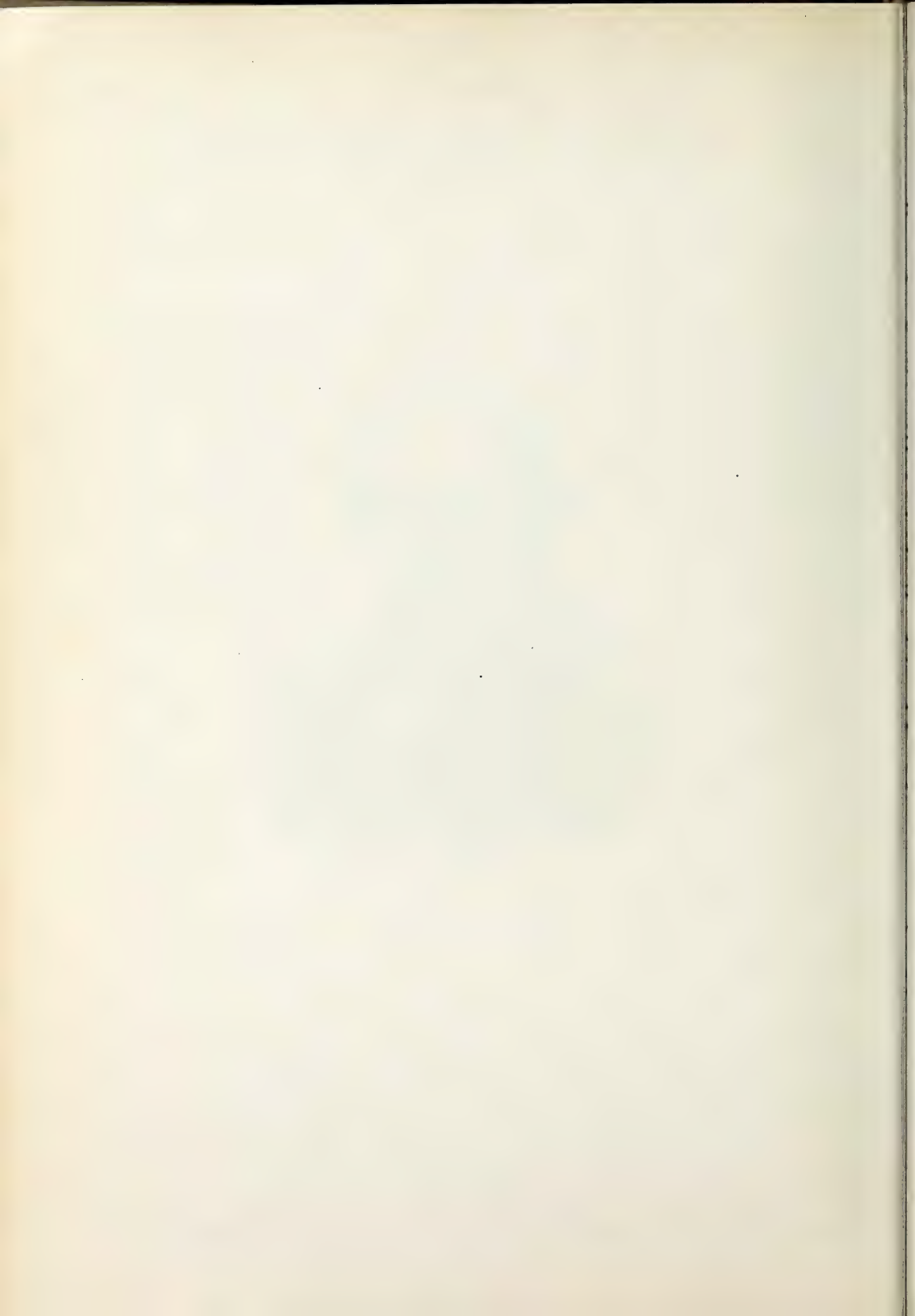


*Frederick S. Sterling*





*George Lyer*





He has been town clerk for several years, and could have held other important offices, but he would not, preferring the quiet of home to official honors.

#### WILLIAM TAIT.

William Tait, son of Andrew Tait, and grandson of Andrew Tait, was born in East Hartford, Conn., on the 29th of May, 1824. His advantages for an education were confined to the common school winters, and working with his father in the paper-mill during the summers at marbling paper. This continued until he was twenty-one years of age, when he worked one year for seventy-five dollars and board. The summer he was twenty-two he spent in Iowa, returning in the fall sick. After his return he began business with his father marbling paper, which he continued until 1849, when he went to California and there engaged in mining till 1851, when he returned and went into business marbling paper with his father, under the firm-name of A. Tait & Son. This they continued until 1856, when they commenced the manufacture of straw-board paper which is said to command the very highest price in the market.

He married Grace Camp, daughter of Isaac Camp and Elizabeth Clark, May 31, 1848. Their children are William F., Isabella R., Andrew (2), and Elizabeth C.

In politics he is a Republican. He was a soldier in Company D, Twenty-third Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, under Gen. Banks. He was mustered out of service Sept. 3, 1864.

Mr. and Mrs. Tait are members of the Congregational Church.

Their son, William F. Tait, was born Oct. 27, 1852, in Trumbull. He received an academic education. He married Mary E. Latten, daughter of Lyman and Lovisa Latten, June 3, 1875, by whom he has one daughter, Mary F.

Mr. Tait has been educated in the business followed by his father and grandfather, and in the year 1875, upon the retiring of his grandfather, Andrew Tait, from the business, he became a partner with his father, under the firm-name of Tait & Son. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Congregational Church.

#### GEORGE DYER, M.D.

The subject of this sketch was born in Windham, Conn., August, 1802. He was a son of Benjamin Dyer, a druggist in Windham, and grandson of Eliphalet Dyer (Y. C., 1740), a member of Congress from Connecticut, and afterwards chief justice of the State.

He began the study of medicine with Dr. Chester Hunt, of Windham, and after taking his degree established himself in practice in Greenfield Hill, Conn., but, not finding a good opening there, removed about 1832 to the town of Trumbull, Fairfield

Co., Conn, where he continued in active practice for forty years. As a physician he took a high rank among the leading physicians in the county, and is highly spoken of as a man by his neighbors. He was attacked about five years before his death with softening of the brain, and gradually failed in mental and physical strength. He was deeply interested in everything that had for its object the improvement of his community.

He took an interest in local politics, and once represented the town of Trumbull in the State Legislature. On the 12th of June, 1866, he married Lucinda L., daughter of Philo Booth and Anna Beach.

He died May 8, 1878, leaving his wife, who now, (1880) survives him. She was born on the farm where she now resides, Feb. 4, 1814.

#### FREDERICK S. STERLING.

Among the early pioneers of this county is to be found the Sterling family. Very little is known of their early history. The first of whom we have any knowledge was Sylvanus Sterling, who died Jan. 6, 1781, aged forty years. His wife Ester died July 16, 1811, aged seventy-four years. They had six children,—viz., Eunice, Elijah, Philip, Nathaniel, Gurdon, and Jesse, all of whom were born in the town of Trumbull.

Elijah Sterling was born in 1766, and died June 16, 1844. His wife Anna was born in 1767, and died Sept. 19, 1851. Their children were as follows,—viz., Nancy, Sylvanus, Elam, Starr, Lucetta, Sherwood, and Betsey Ann.

Elam Sterling was born in the town of Trumbull, Conn., in 1791, and died July 22, 1861. He married Susan, daughter of Frederick and Hannah (Edwards) Hurd, Sept. 6, 1829. They have had three children,—viz., Frederick S., Lucetta (deceased), and Washington I. (deceased). Capt. Elam Sterling was for many years engaged in the coasting business, which he carried on between Boston and New York and the intermediate points. Later in life he was a farmer. He was town clerk of Trumbull for several years and a member of the Congregational Church.

Mrs. Sterling was born Dec. 6, 1801, and still retains very much of the vigor of youth. She too is a member of the Congregational Church.

Frederick S., son of Elam Sterling, was born in Trumbull, Fairfield Co., Conn., Oct. 12, 1830. His advantages for an education were such as the common schools of his day afforded. He remained at home until he was seventeen years of age, when he began to learn the coach-making business, which he followed four years, when he commenced working on the Housatonic Railroad as fireman; and after nine months he ran an engine one year on the same road, then was engaged for a short time on the Naugatuck Railroad, and two years on the New York Central, running from Albany to Utica. In 1856 he returned

home, since which time he has been engaged in farming. On the 27th of March, 1855, he married Anna M. Duckels, by whom he has one daughter, Anna Lucetta. Mrs. Sterling was born in England, March 5, 1834, and came to America with her parents in 1836 and settled in New York City. Mr. Sterling is a Democrat in politics, and one of the representative men of his town. He has been assessor, magistrate, and selectman, besides holding other minor offices.

#### THE BRINSMADE FAMILY.

Persons of the Brinsmade name appeared early in the Massachusetts colony, one at Charlestown between 1630 and 1640.

John Brinsmade was one of the early settlers of Stratford, Conn., and was elected May 13, 1669, a representative to the General Court for that town. He was also elected to the same office October, 1671, was enrolled among the freemen of Stratford in 1669 as John Brinsmade, elder. Lieut. Daniel Brinsmade (probable son of John) died March 27, 1757, aged seventy. Mary, his wife, died 1731, at the age of thirty-five. They had two sons, Daniel and Abraham. Daniel was born in 1718, graduated at Yale College in 1745, settled as minister over the Congregational Church in Judea Society. He died April 23, 1793. Abraham lived in Stratford, Conn., now known as Trumbull, and died Nov. 27, 1801.

Daniel married Rhoda Sherman, of New Haven, and had two sons, Daniel Nathaniel and Daniel Sherman. Daniel N. graduated at Yale College in 1772; studied law, lived, and died in his native place, Oct. 29, 1826, aged seventy-five. He married Abigail Farrand, Nov. 23, 1779, and had one son, Daniel B., born Oct. 15, 1782. Daniel S. married Lydia Elliott, and died Jan. 31, 1813, aged fifty-eight; has one son, Daniel E., and two daughters. One married John Mosely, of Southbury, and the other married C. McMahon. Daniel B. married Irene Merwin for his first wife, and had one son. She died May 2, 1812, aged twenty-two; married for his second wife Mary W. Gold, of Cornwall, and had two sons and two daughters,—viz., Thomas F., William B., Abigail Irene, and Mary M.

Abraham Brinsmade, mentioned above, son of Lieut. Daniel Brinsmade and grandson of John Brinsmade, was born in 1726, and died Nov. 27, 1801, aged seventy-five; his wife, Mary —, died Jan. 13, 1811, aged eighty-seven. They had two children, Hannah and Daniel. Hannah married Daniel Fairchild. Daniel Brinsmade was born in Trumbull, was a farmer by occupation, married Mary Beebe, daughter of Rev. James Beebe, and had seven children,—viz., Abraham, James B., Daniel, Federal, Abigail, Mary, and Ali, all of whom are now (1880) dead except Ali.

Daniel Brinsmade was a magistrate for many years, and a member of the Congregational Church. He died at the age of fifty-two, and his wife was nearly ninety-two when she died.

Ali Brinsmade, son of Daniel and Mary (Beebe) Brinsmade, was born in the town of Trumbull, Conn., Oct. 8, 1793. He has always been a farmer. He married Miranda, daughter of Philo Nichols, Sept. 3, 1815. Of this union there have been born six children,—viz., James D., Catharine S., Cyrus N., Lewis, Cornelia N., and Eliza J. James D., Cyrus N., and Lewis reside in Trumbull and are farmers or mechanics.

Catharine S. married Samuel L. Booth and resides in Stratford, Conn. Mr. Booth is dead. Cornelia N. married Gould Judson and lives in Huntington, Conn., and Eliza J. married George N. Beach and resides in Trumbull.

Ali Brinsmade was a Whig in politics until the organization of the Republican party, since which time he has been a Republican. He was a magistrate of his town for many years, and in 1841 a member of the State Legislature. Mr. and Mrs. Brinsmade have been members of the Congregational Church for a great many years, and he has been deacon of the same. Mrs. Brinsmade died Oct. 9, 1871, having lived with her husband more than fifty-six years.

Deacon Brinsmade is a fine old gentleman, hale and hearty, and still retains in a wonderful degree all his faculties. He has living six children, seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

#### CHARLES BEACH.

The Beach family is among the oldest in the county, and is of English origin. Charles Beach is the son of Rice E. Beach, and grandson of Ephraim Beach, and was born in Trumbull, Fairfield Co., Conn., Jan. 7, 1805.

His grandfather, Ephraim Beach, was a native of Fairfield Co., Conn., married, and had a family of eight children,—viz., Elijah, Rice E., Abiah, Sybil, Anna, Ephraim W., Sherman, and Frances, all of whom settled in Trumbull except Abiah. He was a farmer, tanner, and currier, and during the struggle for independence took an active part. He died at the age of eighty years.

Rice E. Beach was born in 1779 and died in 1860. He married Betsey, daughter of Philo Booth, and had six children,—viz., Charles, Johanna, Adelia, Starr, Miles, and Edward, all of whom are now (1880) dead except Charles and Edward, who are living in Trumbull. He was a farmer and a man universally respected, a representative man in his town.

In politics he was a Jeffersonian Democrat, and was often elected as a selectman of the town, and was also a member of the State Legislature.

Charles Beach remained at home until he was twenty-four years of age, when he married Elizabeth E., daughter of Samuel Beardsley, of Monroe, Oct. 21, 1829, and located on his own farm.

Mrs. Charles Beach was born Nov. 30, 1810. Their children are Betsey A. (deceased), Prosper E., Charles





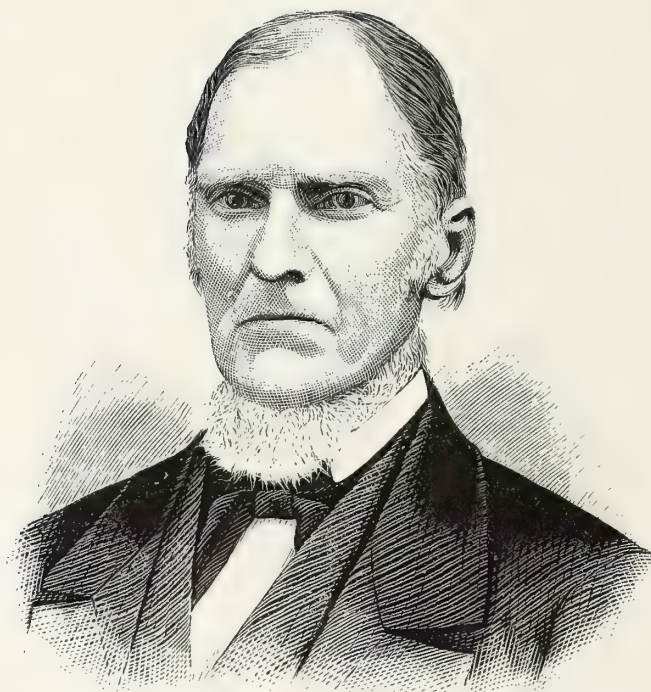
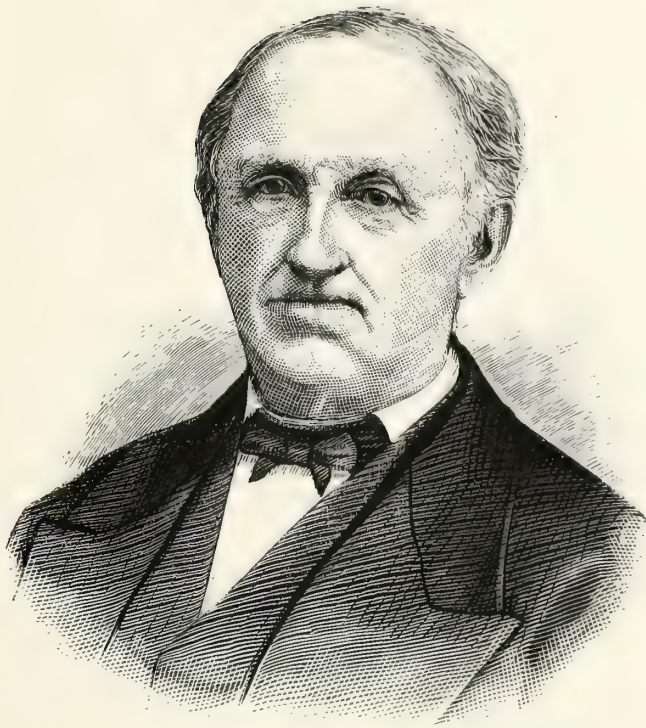


Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

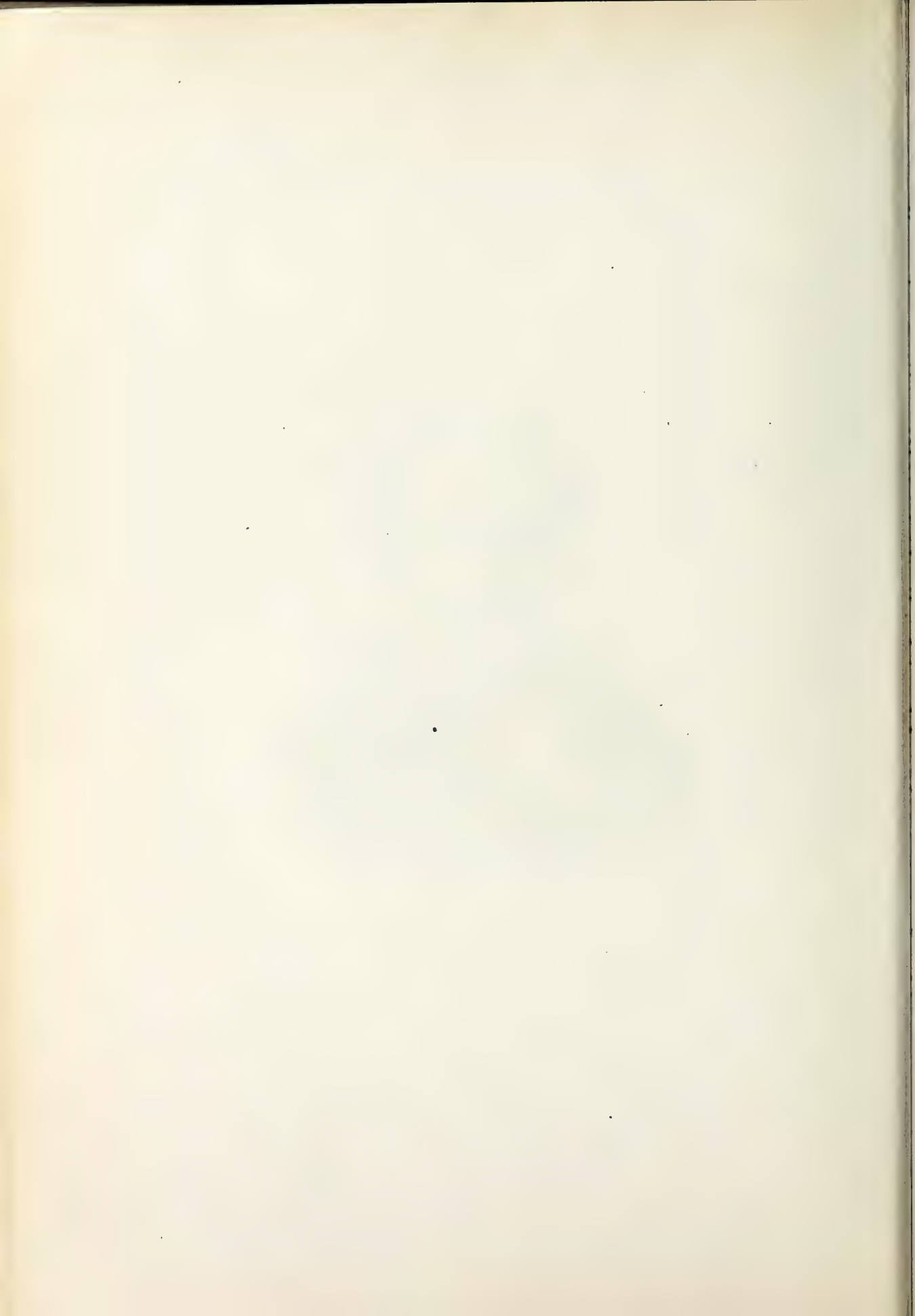
*Alfred Bronson de*





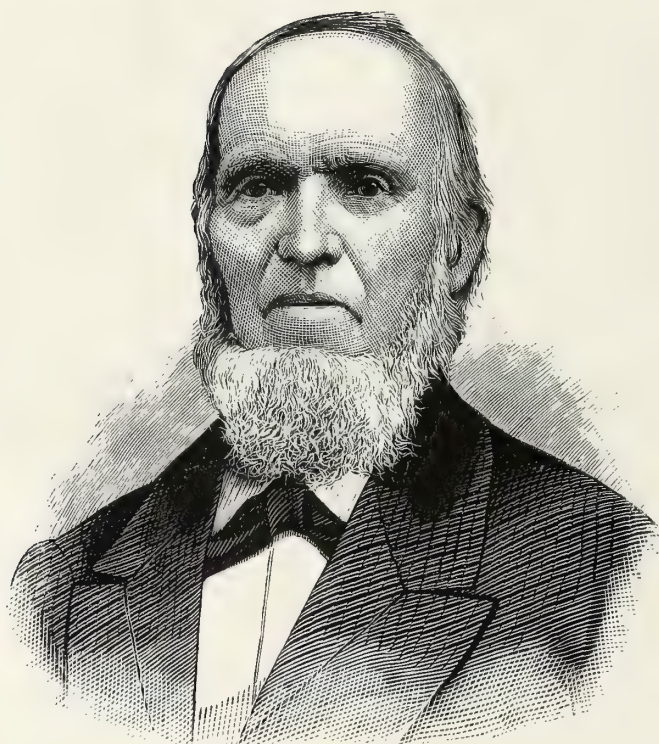
Photo, by Wilson, Bridgeport.

*Charles Beards*









*Plumb B Gregory*



L. (deceased), Ezra M., William F., Banford S. (deceased), John W., Stephen C., and Emma E., all of whom are industrious and good citizens. Their son, Charles L., was a prominent man in Stratford, where he held various town offices, was a member of the Legislature, and a lieutenant of a Bridgeport battery.

Mr. and Mrs. Beach are members of the Episcopal Church at Long Hill. They celebrated their golden wedding Oct. 21, 1879, and there were present among others their six children and seventeen grandchildren. Mr. Beach has only one living brother, Edward, who has no children.

#### PLUMB B. GREGORY.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Samuel Gregory and grandson of Samuel Gregory, and was born in Trumbull, Fairfield Co., Conn., Aug. 28, 1796. His father was a farmer and lived to be seventy-four years, one month, and eighteen days old, dying July 6, 1836. His grandfather, Samuel Gregory, died Nov. 9, 1808, aged eighty-two years, and his grandmother, Naomi Gregory, died April 10, 1810. Plumb B. remained at home on his father's farm until he was married, Nov. 23, 1820, to Mary Ann, daughter of Ezra Seeley. She was born in the town of Easton, June 2, 1800. He built the house on the old home-farm, where his son Samuel J. now resides, before he was married, and immediately after his marriage settled there and continued to live until about 1870, when he removed to his present place. He was a good and prudent farmer, always enjoying in a marked degree the love and confidence of his neighbors. He is one of the good substantial Republicans of his town, and as such has been selectman of the town.

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory are worthy members of the Baptist Church, and have been for a great many years. Their children are Mary E., who married a James Hurd (deceased), and has one son, Ezra W. Hurd, who resides near Frankfort, Ky.; Lorintha (married Lewis Edwards, a farmer in Easton), Glover P. (is a farmer in Iowa), Ermina (deceased), Virginia (married Bennett Seeley, a farmer in Easton), Charles (who resides in California), Samuel J. (who lives on the old home-farm in Trumbull), and Sylvester (who is in business in the city of Chicago).

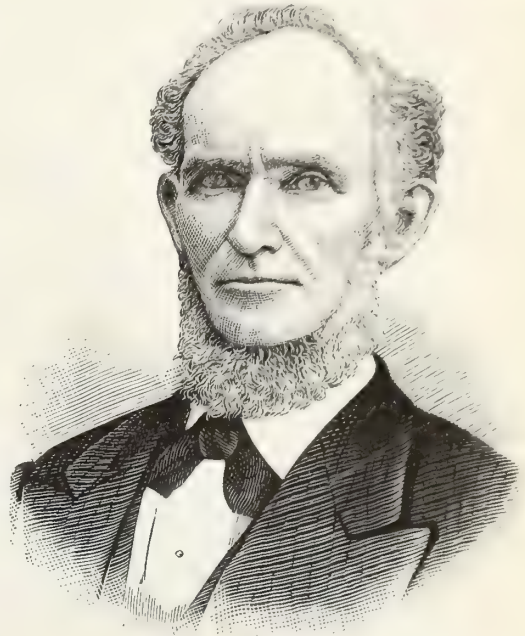
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory have been married nearly sixty-four years. Mrs. Gregory retains in a remarkable degree the vigor and elasticity of youth, but Mr. Gregory shows signs of old age and failing health.

#### JOSEPH H. WILLIAMS.

The great-grandfather of Joseph H. was named Elnathan, who was born in 1729 and died Oct. 23, 1815, aged eighty-six. He was a tanner and currier by

trade. He had a brother who was imprisoned by the British in New York City during the Revolutionary war of whom nothing was afterwards known.

Elnathan married Hannah —, who was born in 1738 and died June 28, 1818. They had a family of children, one of whom was named Elnathan, who was born in 1766 and died July 4, 1856. He was a hotel-keeper by occupation. He married Abigail Bradley,



*Joseph H. Williams*

daughter of Enos Bradley. His children were David, Enos B., Peter, and Hanford.

David Williams married Olive Treadwell, daughter of Joseph Treadwell, and had a family of children, —viz., Clara (deceased), Huldah Bradley, Abby, Nathan (deceased), and Joseph H. He was a farmer by occupation and a Democrat in politics. He died Dec. 10, 1856, aged seventy-three years, and his wife, Olive, died Oct. 28, 1854, aged seventy-two years.

Joseph H. was born in Easton, Conn., June 13, 1829. He remained at home on his father's farm until he married Electa A., daughter of Hezekiah Gould, of Weston, Conn., Oct. 20, 1852. They have two sons, Hezekiah G. and David H.

Mr. Williams owns a good farm of one hundred acres, which is in a fine state of cultivation. A view of his residence may be seen elsewhere in this work. He is a Democrat in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is a steward. Mrs. Williams is a member of the Baptist Church.

## ELBERT E. EDWARDS.

Elbert E. Edwards is a son of Ephraim T. Edwards and Lucretia Sterling, and grandson of Nehemiah R. and Abigail Edwards, and was born in the town of Trumbull, Fairfield Co., Conn., on the farm where he now resides, which has been in the family for four generations, Oct. 22, 1819.

His grandfather, Nehemiah R. Edwards, was a lineal descendant of John Edwards, who was a native of Scotland and came to America and settled, probably in Stratford, Conn., at a very early day. He was born in Trumbull, Conn., on the 24th of February, 1771, and died Sept. 27, 1851. He was a shoemaker by trade, and later in life became a farmer. He married Abigail Edwards, and to them was born one son, Ephraim T. Mrs. Abigail Edwards was born in Trumbull, July, 1774, and died March 13, 1821. Their son, Ephraim T., was born in Trumbull, on the old farm, April 1, 1797, and died March 19, 1859. He was a farmer by occupation, and a man who took a deep interest in the political and religious affairs of his town. He was a Whig in politics, and as such represented his town in the State Legislature in 1845. On the 26th of November, 1818, he was married to Lucretia, daughter of Nathaniel Sterling. She was born Feb. 10, 1797, and died May 6, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Edwards were members of the Congregational Church of Trumbull Centre. They had one son, Elbert, who now owns the old home of one hundred and fifty acres of good land. Elbert E. Edwards is one of the representative farmers of Trumbull. His farm contains good buildings, well watered, and the trees that shade the entire front of his farm are among the finest in the county. On the 26th of April, 1843, he married Anna A., daughter of Isaiah and Abiah Nichols. She was born in the town of Trumbull, Feb. 21, 1820. Their children were as follows: Wilbur S., born June 9, 1849, died May 19, 1868; Ermina N., born Sept. 8, 1851 (deceased); and Orville B., born June 3, 1855, died Sept. 10, 1868.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards are members of the Congregational Church of Trumbull Centre. He is one of the most liberal supporters of the same. In politics he is a staunch Republican. He has been selectman of his town three years, and often has been elected a delegate to town, county, and State conventions.

## JOHN C. MALLETT.

The subject of this sketch was of French descent. His ancestors, John Mallett and Johannah Lyon, came from Paris, France, and were married soon after their arrival in the city of Boston, in 1679, and immediately settled in the town of Stratfield, Fairfield Co., Conn., where he engaged in farming. He had the following children, who lived to be men and women grown, married, and had children, the descendants of whom are scattered throughout the

United States: David, John, Lewis, Johanna, and Peter.

He died Sept. 28, 1745, and his wife died September, 1762, aged one hundred and one years.

David Mallett, eldest child of John Mallett and Johannah Lyon, was born in Stratfield, Conn., in 1701. Married and had the following children,—viz., John, Hannah, David, Joseph, and Esther.

Joseph Mallett, son of David Mallett, was born March 25, 1740. His children were in part as follows: Robert, Elijah, Lizza, and several others whose names are not known.

Robert Mallett, eldest son of Joseph and Jerusha Mallett, was born June 15, 1778, married Sally Clark, Dec. 15, 1804, and had the following children,—viz., John C., Caroline, Emeline, Catharine, Sally A., and Cordelia. He was a man of more than ordinary ability. He died Dec. 18, 1852. His eldest son, John C. Mallett, was born in the town of Trumbull, Fairfield Co., Conn., Oct. 5, 1805. John C. received such an education as the common schools of his day afforded. He remained home, working on his father's farm, until he was married to Sally P., daughter of Philo Nichols, of Trumbull, June 7, 1832, when he settled on the farm now owned and occupied by his family, and continued to reside there until his death, Nov. 13, 1869.

He was one of the best farmers in Trumbull, and a man universally respected by all who knew him. In politics he was a life-long Democrat of the Jefferson school. He held various town offices to the satisfaction of his constituents. He represented his town in the State Legislature one term. He was a member of the Episcopal Church of Tashua, and at the time of his death was a warden of the same. His children are as follows,—viz., Caroline A., Theodore A., Lorenzo M., Sarah A. (who married Horace Wheeler, and now resides in the town of Huntington), and Emeline A. (who married Austin Hall, a merchant of Newtown).

His daughter Caroline A. lives at home with her mother and brother, Lorenzo M. Lorenzo M. was born Nov. 13, 1839, in Trumbull. He owns the old homestead, a view of which, together with the portrait of his honored father above, may be seen in another part of this work. In politics a Democrat, and as such has been selectman of Trumbull for the last three terms.

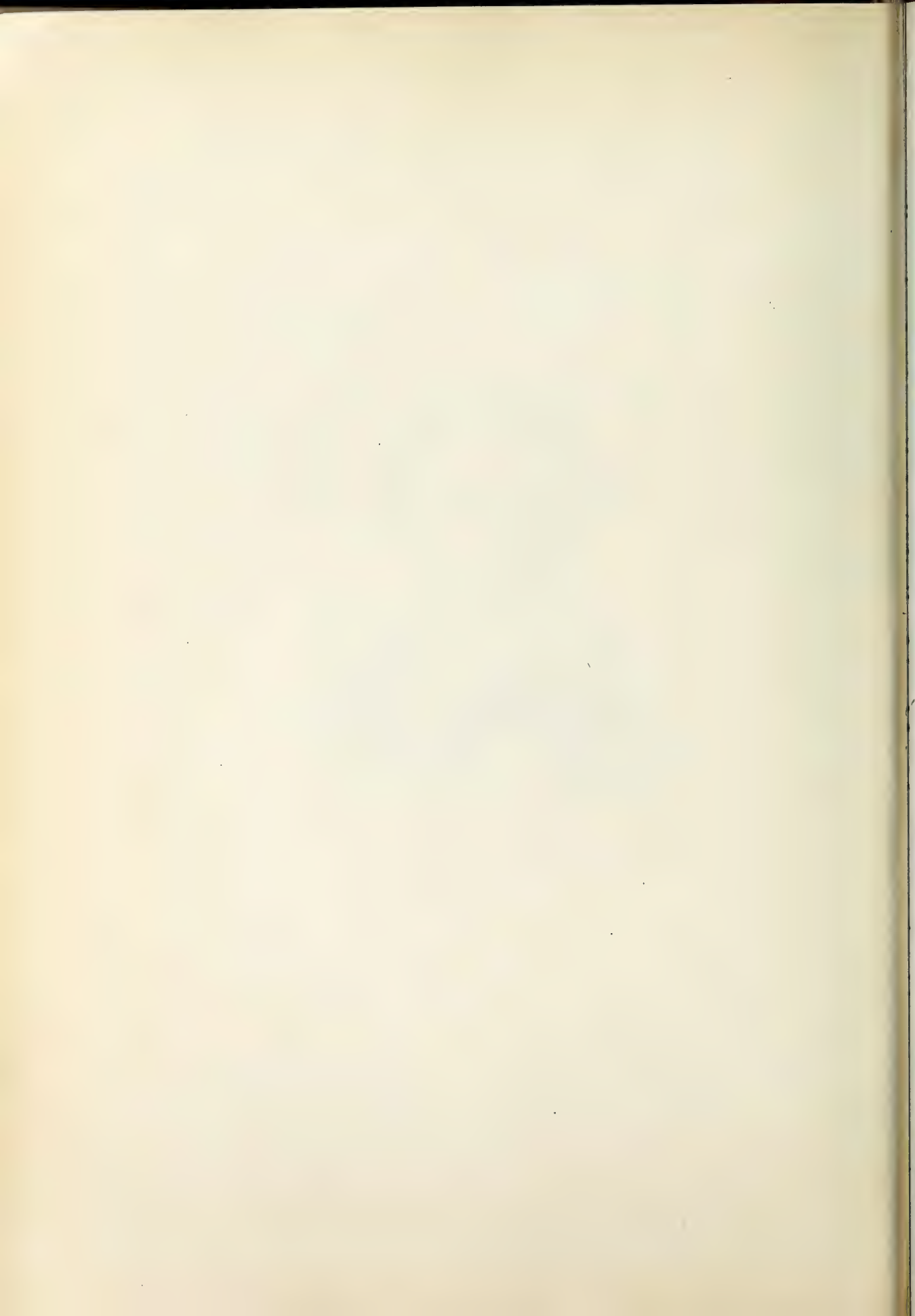
## THEODORE A. MALLETT.

Theodore A. Mallett, son of John C. and Sally P. Mallett, was born in Trumbull, May 13, 1835. His advantages for an education were limited to the common schools of his town, except two years which he spent in the seminary at Charlotteville. At the age of eighteen he returned home to help his father on the farm and in the manufacture of hubs; this he continued two years, when he began to butcher beef and sell the same in Bridgeport. In November, 1859, he purchased his present beautiful place, a view of which can be seen elsewhere in this work. He followed butchering





*Elbert E. Edwards.*







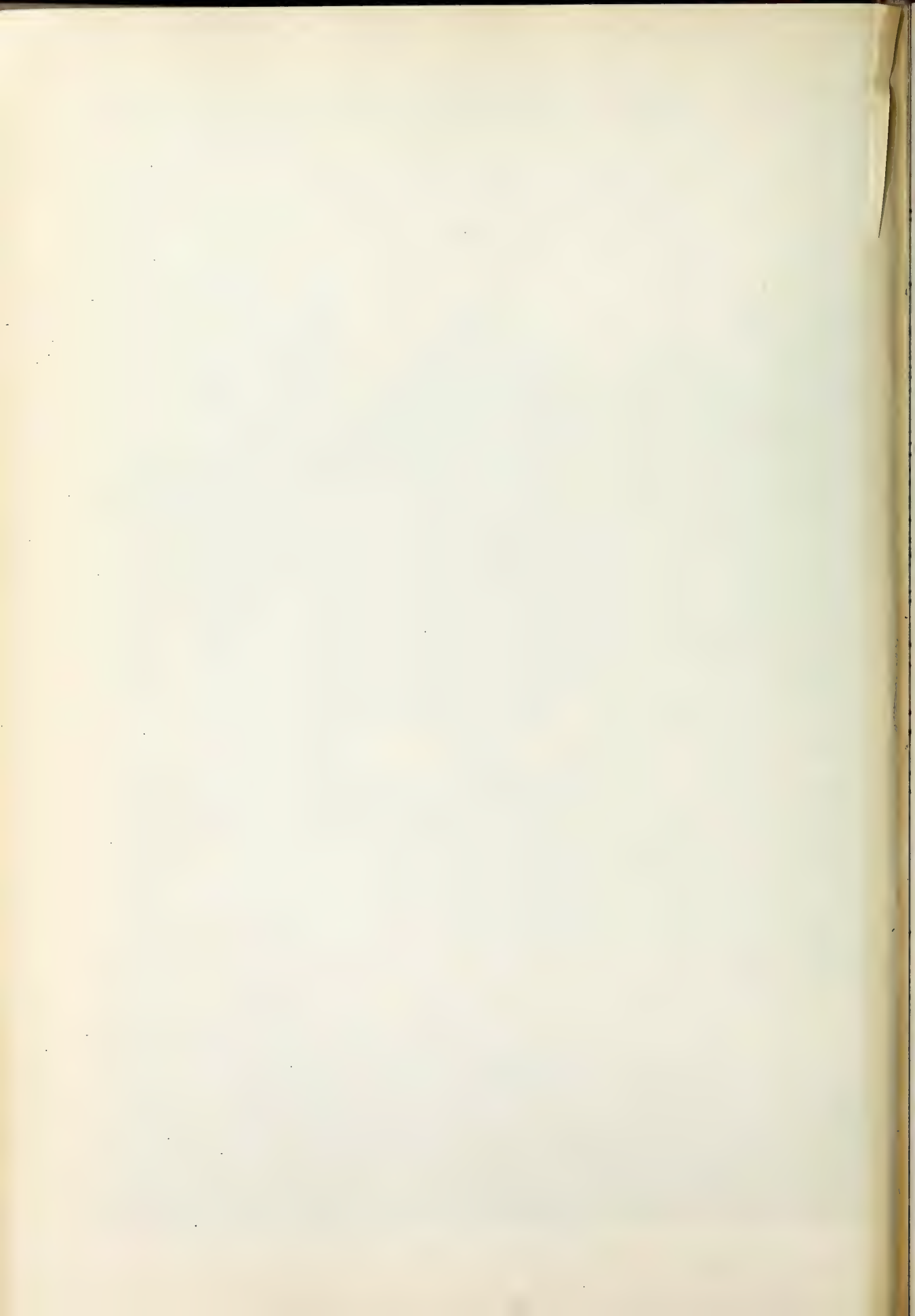


*RESIDENCE OF ELBERT E. EDWARDS*





W.A. TRUMBULL FAIRFIELD CO. CONN.

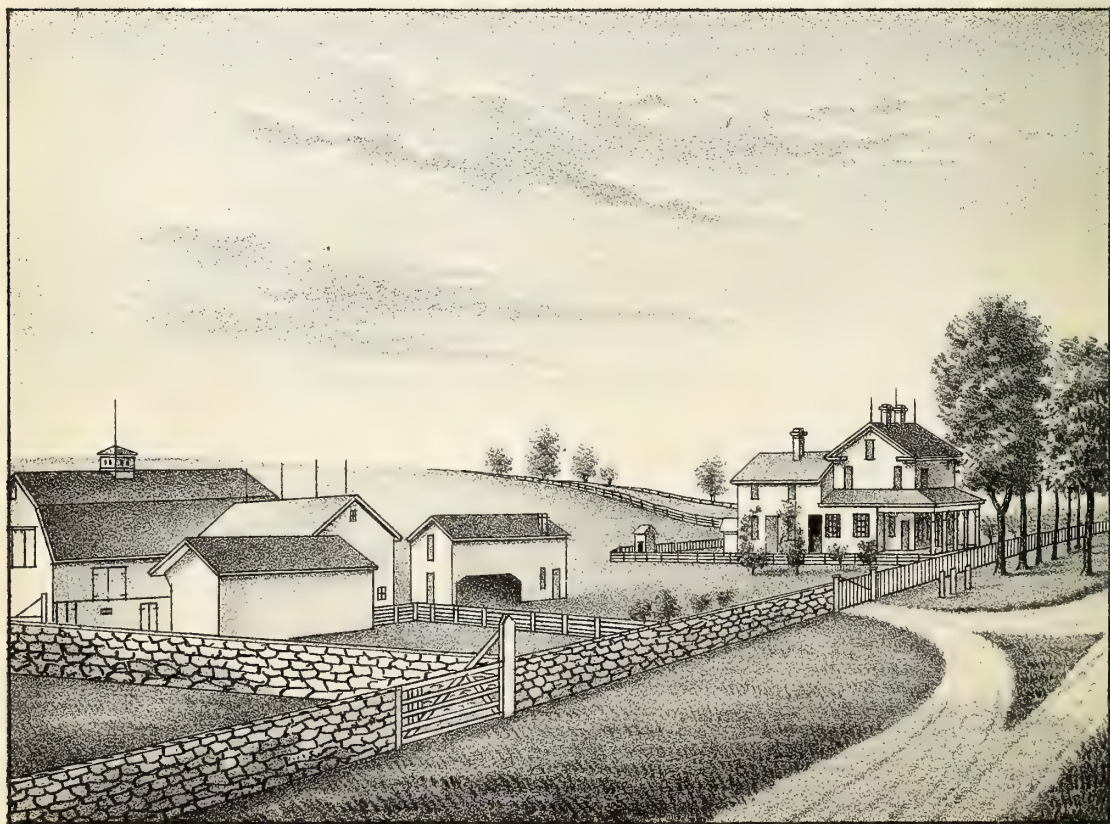








*John C. Mallett*



RES. OF THE LATE **JOHN C. MALLET**, TRUMBULL FAIRFIELD CO. CONN.

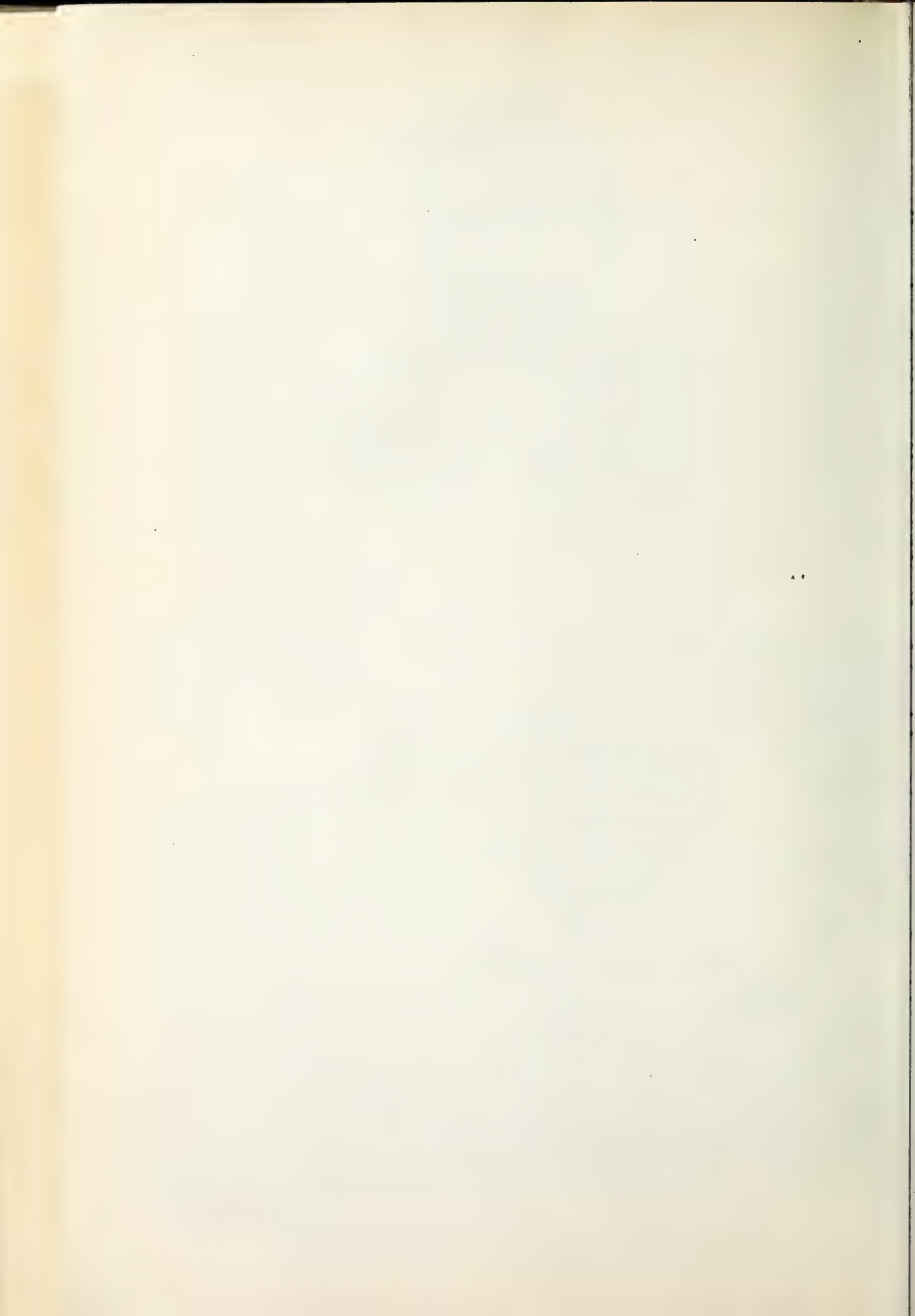




*T. A. Mallett*



RESIDENCE OF **T. A. MALLET**, TRUMBULL FAIRFIELD CO. CONN.





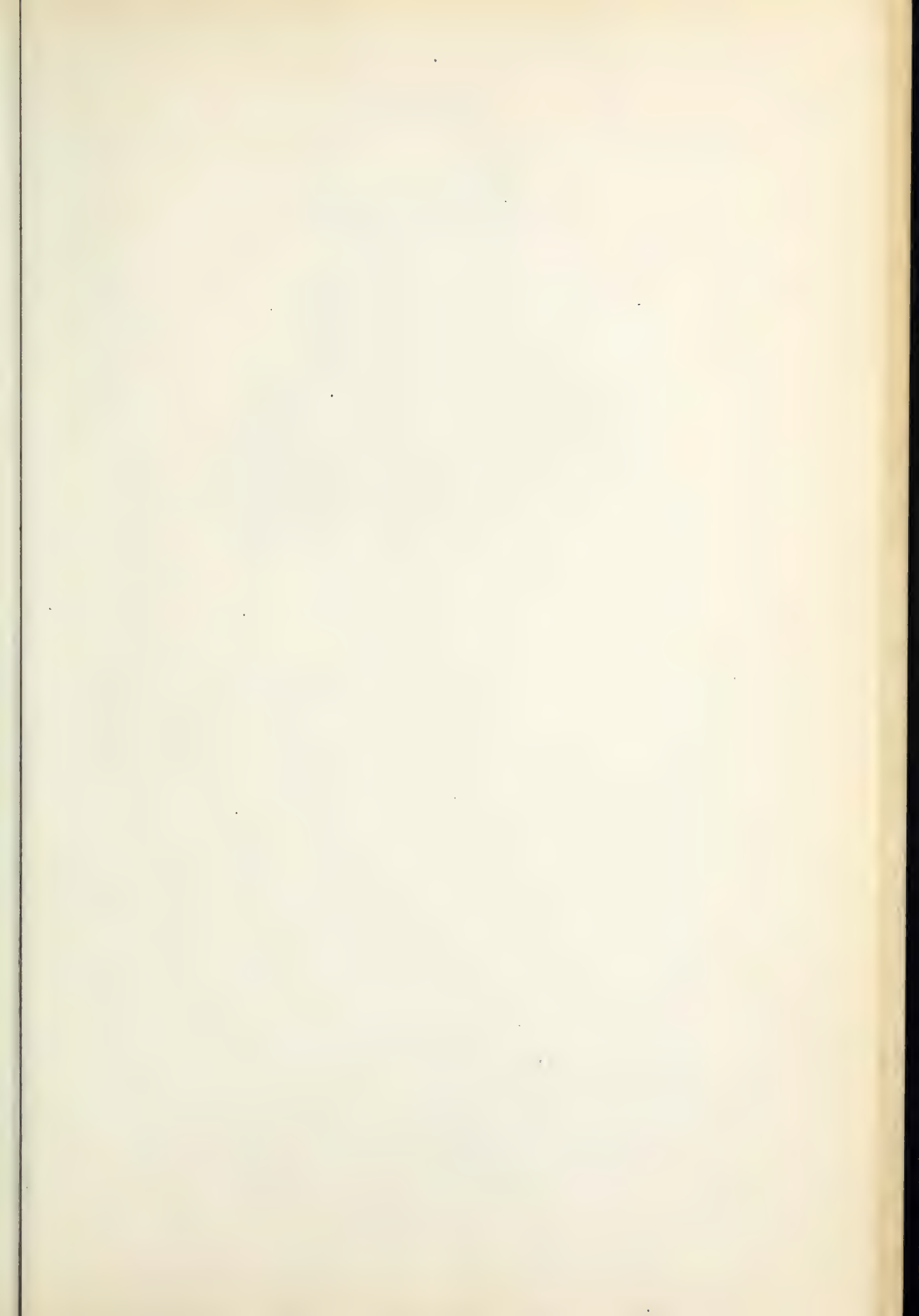




Photo. by Wilson, Bridgeport.

## Albert S Coan

THE subject of this notice is of German extraction, and was born in Bridgewater, Litchfield Co., Conn., Aug. 11, 1803. It is related that a great many years ago a wealthy German by the name of Coan left Germany in company with two of his sons, who were small boys. On their way to this country Mr. Coan was murdered, his body thrown overboard, and all his money stolen. One of the boys went South, and nothing has been heard of him or of any of his descendants; the other boy lived with a man on Long Island by the name of Mulford. In due time he married and had a family of children, one of whom he named Mulford Coan, which has since continued to be a family name. Albert S. Coan is a lineal descendant of the fifth or sixth generation from the above son named Mulford.

His father, Sylvanus Coan, youngest son of Mulford Coan, was born in Killingsworth, Conn. He was a cooper and farmer. He married for his second wife Lucy A. Munger. Of this union four children were born, two of whom are now (1880) living.

About 1813 he settled in Oswego Co., State of New York, where he continued to reside until his death. He was magistrate of his town for several years, and a prominent member of the Baptist Church. He died at the age of eighty years, May 27, 1859.

Mulford Coan was born in Killingsworth, Conn., in 1739. Settled in Woodbury when his son Sylvanus was eighteen years of age. He died April 28, 1821.

Albert S. Coan remained at home until he was ten years of age, when he was put out to a man by the name of Mathew Logan, where he continued to reside,

working on the farm, until he was eighteen years of age. His advantages for an education were very limited indeed, but by that indomitable energy that has always characterized him through life he has obtained a good practical education. He continued to work on the farm until he was twenty years of age, when he commenced to learn the boot and shoe trade, which he followed twelve years during the winters, and working on the farm summers. He then worked a farm on shares for some six years, after which he purchased one in Woodbury, Litchfield Co., Conn., and remained there until he came to Trumbull, Fairfield Co., in 1845, when he settled on the farm where he now resides. He married Sarah Ann Thomas, Dec. 6, 1824. She was born March 19, 1803, and died May 29, 1839.

Of this union there were the following children, —viz., William W. (deceased); Henry F.; Sarah A.; and Albert M. (deceased).

He married for his second wife Abby B. Burgess, Jan. 1, 1840. She was born May 10, 1809, in Morris, Litchfield Co., Conn. They have one son, Wesley B., born March 21, 1842, in Litchfield, Conn.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Coan are members of the Congregational Church of Trumbull Centre. Mr. Coan has always been a life-long Democrat of the Jeffersonian school. He has been assessor of his town, delegate to town and county conventions, and member of the State Legislature in 1868. His sons Henry F. and Albert M. were soldiers in Company D, Twenty-third Regiment Connecticut Volunteers, under Gen. Banks.





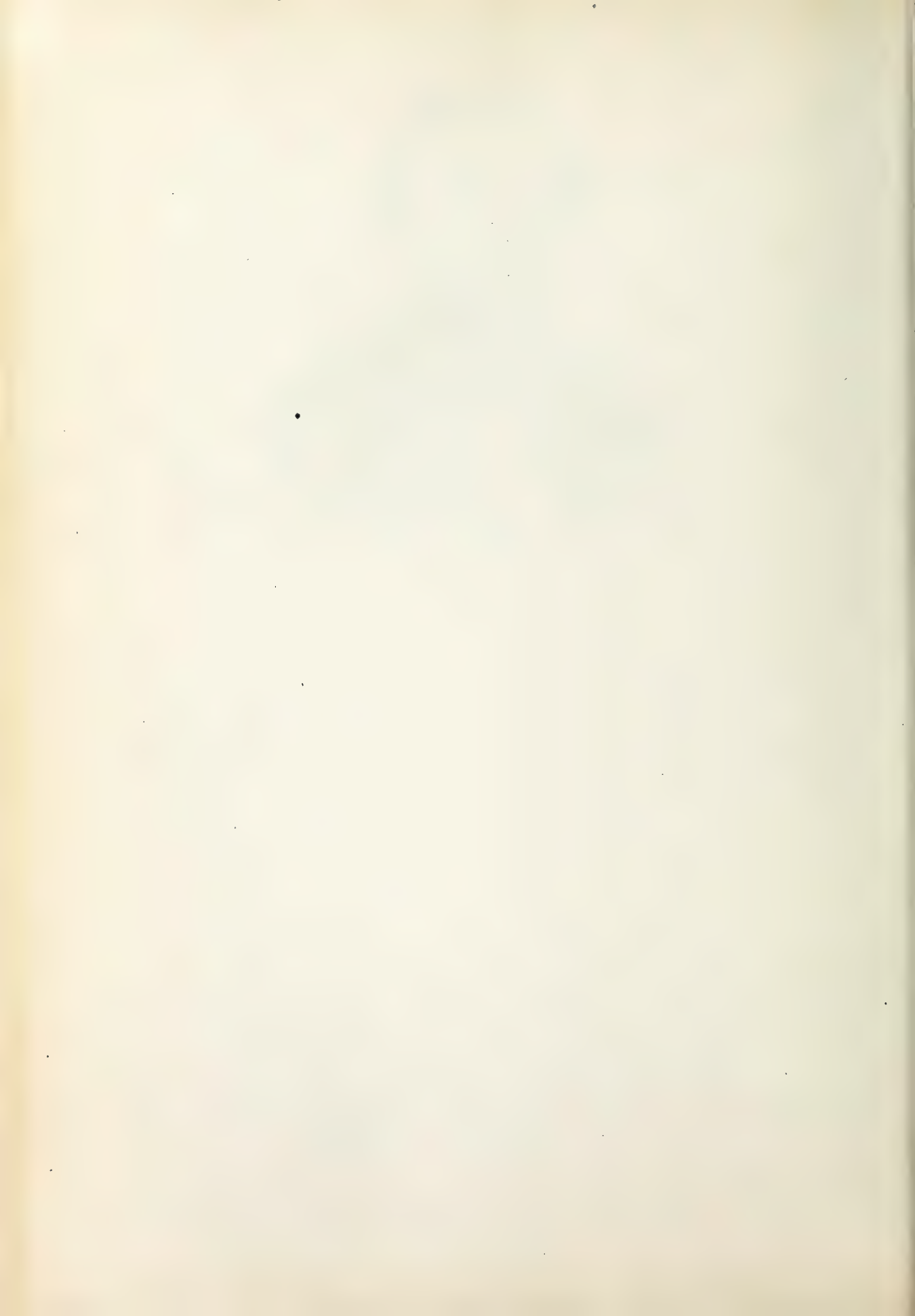
### SAMUEL SEELEY.

The first Samuel Seeley that we know of was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was killed at the battle of Ridgefield, Conn., during that memorable struggle. His wife was Sarah Silliman, and to them were born the following children,—viz., Jesse, Abijah, Jeremiah, Catherine, Daniel, and Samuel, all born in the town of Easton, Conn.

Daniel Seeley was born Oct. 14, 1773; married Ruth Silliman, of Easton, March 31, 1803. Their children were Julia, Eliza, Emily, Samuel, and Marietta. Daniel was a school-teacher when a young man, and later in life was a farmer. In politics a Whig. He was a magistrate for several years, and during that time settled several estates. He was a member

of the State Legislature one term. He died May 14, 1852, and his wife died Feb. 22, 1845. Eliza married Timothy W. Godfrey, of Wilton. Samuel was born Sept. 2, 1814; married Josephine, daughter of Timothy W. Godfrey, May 20, 1856. He was a teacher and farmer. In politics a Republican. He died Nov. 23, 1874. His children are as follows,—viz., Ida L., Effie M., Charles B., Mary S., Samuel G., and Dasie J.

Emily was born Oct. 22, 1807, in Trumbull, and has always resided on the home farm. To her is due the credit of inserting this brief sketch and the portrait of her honored brother Samuel. Marietta married Francis Austin, and resides in Suffield, Mass.





until 1874, when he turned his attention to the dairy business, selling his milk in the city of Bridgeport. In 1879 he erected on his farm a most excellent wind-mill, which not only pumps all the water needed for his stock, but also grinds all the feed he can use. He is a Democrat in politics. Mr. and Mrs. Mallett are members of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Mallett has been twice married, first to Lucy C., daughter of John Foster, Oct. 6, 1856. Of this union he has one daughter, Carrie C. His wife died April 13, 1861, and he married, for his second wife, Sarah E., daughter of Philo Wooster, March 16, 1864. They have one son, Robert C., who is at home with his parents.

#### AARON SHERWOOD.

Aaron Sherwood, son of Gershom Sherwood and grandson of Daniel Sherwood, was born in the town of Redding, Fairfield Co., Conn., on the 8th of March, 1817. His father was a native of Easton, Conn., where he engaged in farming. He married Laura Darling and had four children, of whom Aaron was the eldest. In politics he was a Whig and Republican. He held various offices of trust, among which we mention those of selectman, magistrate, and member of the Assembly. He settled in Yates Co., N. Y., a few years before his death, which occurred in his eighty-third year. His father, Daniel, lived and died in Easton, Fairfield Co., Conn. Aaron Sherwood remained at home until he was forty years of age, when he went to Chicago, Ill., and was there successfully engaged in the commission business three years; thence he went to Niles, Mich., and engaged in the distilling business four years, sold his interest, and returned to Fairfield County, and located in the town of Bridgeport, on the place now owned by G. F. Gilman. In the fall of 1877 he purchased his present beautiful home, situated in the town of Trumbull, on the Newtown turnpike, about five and a half miles from Bridgeport. It contains some twenty-six acres of good land, and the buildings with the surroundings are the most attractive of any in the town, a view of which may be seen elsewhere in this work. He is a Republican in politics. He married Jane A., daughter of Nash Couch, of Redding, Feb. 28, 1848. She was born in Redding, July 13, 1816. They have two children,—viz., Mary J. and William H.

### CHAPTER LXXXI.

#### WESTON.

Geographical—Topographical—Surface—Soil—The Pioneers—Congregational Church—Church Discipline—Military Academy—Civil History—First Town-Meeting—Representatives from 1788 to 1880—Military Record.

THE town of Weston lies south of the centre of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Redding; on the east by Easton and Fairfield; on

the south by Westport and Fairfield; and on the west by Wilton. It has an irregular surface, and is strictly an agricultural town. The soil is fertile.

The town was early settled by pioneers from Fairfield, of which town it formed a part. The following were here (including Easton) as early as 1787: Nathan Wheeler, Samuel Wakeman, Abel Hull, John Sherwood, David Coley, Jr., Nathan Wheeler, Benjamin Dean, William Prince, Josiah G. Leavitt, Benjamin Dean, Ephraim French, Albert Lockwood, Squire Adams, John S. Andrews, Joseph Banks, Nehemiah Cable, Zebulon Fanton, Christopher Godfrey, Seeley Squier, Daniel Adams, Jr., Jonathan Bradley, Seth Price, Abel Hull, Lloyd Wakeman, Robert Harris, Samuel Wakeman, Thomas S. Collyer, Thankfull Platt, Nath. Seeley, Benjamin Dean, Samuel Thorp, David Silliman, David Bradley, Thaddeus Gilbert, Hezekiah Banks, Ebenezer Bixby, Nathaniel Hubbell.

Among the old families of Weston are the Godfreys, Coleys, Andrews, Wakemans, Rowlands, Bulkleys, and Sturges. The first Godfrey immigrated to Fairfield between 1660 and 1670. Probably before 1700 Daniel Godfrey married a daughter of Robert Silliman and settled in the Fairfield Northwest parish. They had several children; one son bore the name of both families, Silliman Godfrey, who is the direct ancestor of all those of that name in that section. He married Mary Goodsell. They were the parents of several children, one of whom, Silliman, Jr., was a pillar and active support in the Norfield Church, in which he was deacon and chorister.

The Coleys are numerous. They also are in Westport, so that not far from the boundary-line between that town and Weston a part of the town is called Coleyville. Among the leading ones are David and Lewis Coley; they own large, commodious farm-houses built after the style of architecture of the period, and own good farms. On one of them is the field where Weston was accustomed to assemble its men to obey the laws regulating the militia, which met the first Monday in May to drill, from which the old couplet originated,

"First Monday in May,—  
Training-day."

The original towns had a parade-ground, denominated "the green," which has been reserved to the public ever since; but the town of Weston, contemporary with others of later organizations, had not that necessity, therefore they resorted to private grounds.

Weston was originally a large township. In another town was severed from it and called Easton, therefore there seems to be some confusion in tracing families and property. Many of the dead are recorded on that account in Weston, but on looking for them to-day, one must go in many cases to Easton; the same fact applies to property. The graveyard of Weston lies not far from this parade-ground, and contains the bodies of some of the staunchest of the

Puritan fathers, men of "cast-iron principles," who were fervent in piety and patriotism. Of the descendants of Job Perry, in Weston, are Miah Perry, who represented the town in the State Legislature of 1876, and Sally, wife of Joseph R. Andrews.

Weston being an inland town, with a very limited transient foreign population, it has not had occasion to notice the inroads of communism, socialism, party intrigues, illegal government appropriations, and the inroads of the Church inconsistent with the Constitution of the land, therefore it holds to the faith, integrity, and politics of its ancestors, and is, in consequence, Democratic.

As a natural curiosity, Weston has the Devil's Den, —a name given to a wooded valley in which is a stone with the imprint of a foot too large for modern men. Tradition says that when the devil was wont to walk about the earth in human form he stepped on this clay, then in a plastic state, so that the indentation was complete. In time this clay hardened into stone, which gave rise to various theories. This den is of much resort, especially in the huckleberry season, this being a ground prolific with that fruit. The scenery from here to the Sound is extremely romantic, especially over the old Forge road.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The first meeting of the society of Norfield was held June 23, 1757. This must have been soon after the parish was set off as an ecclesiastical society, for it is said that it was legally warned by a writ given out by Robert Walker, Esq., justice of the peace for the county of Fairfield.

A vote was passed May 10, 1758, to build a meeting-house thirty by forty feet. It appears that before the building was raised application was made to the County Court for a committee to fix the stakes, which was accordingly done. The house was raised and covered by Dec. 7, 1758. A pulpit and pews and body-seats were erected, but nothing was done to the galleries and the house was never plastered.

Dec. 6, 1784, it was voted to build a new meeting-house when a committee appointed by the County Court should make the location, and the materials of the old house, so far as might answer the purpose, were to be wrought into the new one. Accordingly, the old house was taken down and the frame set up in the centre of the society and newly covered. The old doors, pews, and seats were replaced, the galleries were then finished, and the house plastered and painted.

July 4, 1757, it was voted to give Mr. Samuel Sherwood, of Fairfield, a call to settle with them, which call he accepted, and was ordained Aug. 17, 1757.

The church was organized with twelve male members, and soon nineteen more males and females were added to the church from neighboring churches. "Lieut. David Andrews and Ensign David Coley were chosen to the office of deacon and accepted."

These two worthy men served as long as their age permitted. They served through the ministry of Mr. Sherwood and a great part of Rev. Mr. Noyes'. Mr. Sherwood died May 25, 1783, aged fifty-three. He was succeeded by Rev. John Noyes, who served until May, 1837.

The following is the list of pastors from their time to the present: 1837-40, Rev. George Hull; 1842-43, Rev. Mark Weed; 1844-48, Rev. Lewis Pennel; 1851-72, Rev. Zalmon B. Burr; 1873-74, Rev. Joseph Nelson; 1875-79, Rev. E. H. Lubkert.

The church has no pastor at present. The church edifice was erected in 1830, and dedicated April 13, 1831.

The deacons since those mentioned above have been J. Platt, John Crossman, Ward Nichols, David L. Coley, and Hiram Scofield.

The church has a fund of \$900. Donators: Daniel S. Godfrey, \$400; John S. Andrews, \$500. Present membership: Males, 27; females, 48.

#### CHURCH DISCIPLINE.

##### "COMPLAINT AGAINST DAVID B. GODFREY.

"To the moderator of the Church of Christ in Norfield, and to the said church, comes Jeremiah Rowland, a member of said church, and informs said moderator and church that David B. Godfrey, who is also a member of this church, has been guilty of the sin of intemperance, by which he has broken the laws of Christ and brought dishonor on the Christian profession, which has evidently been seen by several members of said church and others. Your complaint further says that private steps have been taken for convincing and reclaiming said David B. Godfrey, but he refuses to hearken; therefore, as in duty bound, he now tells it to the church, that his offending brother may be proceeded with according to the rules of the gospel. Dated in Norfield, this 5th day of August, 1823.

##### "JEREMIAH ROWLAND."

"The above was exhibited to the church on the Sabbath following, and a meeting of the church was appointed to be held on the 14th day of August instant to attend to the case. A copy of the complaint was sent to the delinquent and a citation to him to appear before the church to answer to it.

"The church met at the meeting-house, according to appointment, on the 14th day of August, 1823, for the purpose of attending to the above complaint. The meeting was opened with prayer by the moderator. The complaint was then read. After the reading of the complaint witnesses were called to prove the fact alleged in it. The accused did not appear. Hannah Lockwood, a member of the church, being called to testify in the case, declared that on Saturday, the 14th day of June last, she saw said Godfrey pass her house evidently in a state of intoxication, as appeared by his reeling on his horse. Sarah Bunnell was then called to testify in the case, and declared



## GERSHOM W. BRADLEY.

GERSHOM W. BRADLEY was born March 3, 1804, in Fairfield, Conn. His father was Wakeman Bradley; his mother was Catharine Andrews.

His father was a manufacturer of edge-tools. He gave his son the common-school advantages of a rural district. Being the oldest son of a large family of children, he had to contribute his help for the family's support, dividing his time between the farm and the shop.

In 1812, the year of the war, his father established his axe and edge-tool factory at Weston. It was during this war that this neighborhood was visited by the British troops, and much public and private property destroyed, among others that of Mr. Bradley's relatives.

Beginning in a moderate way in making tools by hand, Mr. Bradley at this early day, by producing goods of superior merit, established a prosperous industry. In 1834, Mr. Gershom Bradley started a factory in the same line his father had begun at his present location in Weston.

As Mr. Bradley advanced in years his sons have entered into active assistance, and Miles, his eldest son, when the factory was destroyed by freshet in 1854, rebuilt and remodeled the works and put fresh life into the business, his father gradually resigning the care of affairs to him.

His other two sons, De Witt C. and Gershom W., are both engaged in the Bradley shops learning the details of the manufacture, and fitting themselves to perpetuate the good reputation which has always characterized the tools of this establishment.

In 1827, Mr. Bradley married Lydia Merwin, of Weston, by whom he had three sons,—Miles, George, and De Witt. Mrs. Bradley died in 1851. In

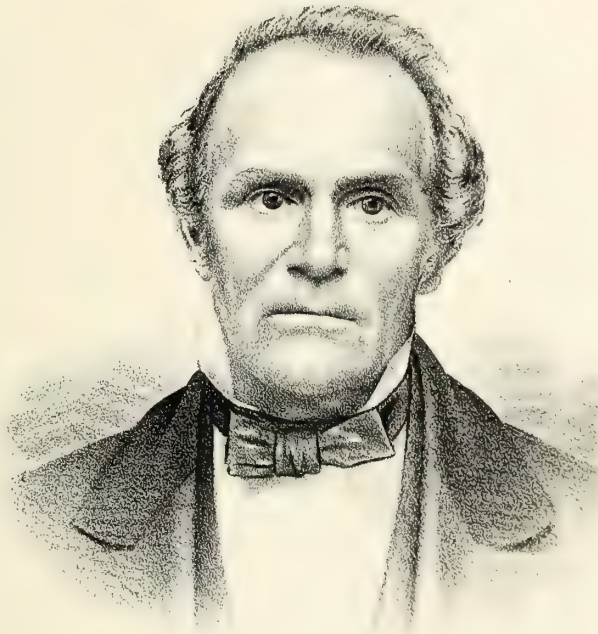
1853, Mr. Bradley married his second wife. Her maiden name was Mary J. Goodsell, of Westport, daughter of Silas B. Goodsell, of that town. She died in 1872. By this marriage five children were born, three of whom are now living,—viz., Gershom W., Eliza Jane, and Catharine A.

Mr. Bradley has been too modest a man to accept offices; he has had full occupation with his business.

He is an attendant of the Methodist

church at Westport. Brought up a Democrat, but, after voting for Jackson on the occasion of his first candidacy, he left the Democratic party, and has since been a Whig and Republican.

He is well known as a kind neighbor, an industrious, frugal, and honest man. The war interrupted his business and involved heavy loss, but by energy and good management, aided by the superior business abilities of his son Miles, he has won success.



*G. W. Bradley*





that some time since said Godfrey, in passing by her house, fell from his horse, and that she and her daughter helped him on his horse again, and that his fall was evidently the effect of intoxication, and that he intimated as much by saying, 'You know my failing. I am not fit to do any business to-night.' That this was on a Saturday evening. Mrs. Lockwood was again called, and testified that her son Samuel told her that he and others were passing by and saw Mrs. Bunnell and her daughter help said Godfrey on his horse, and that this was the same afternoon, towards evening, that she saw him pass her house in the situation before mentioned. On hearing the evidence the church voted that the charge was supported.

"*Voted*, that the following written admonition be sent to said Godfrey by Brother Silliman Godfrey, Jr.:

"To David B. Godfrey, a member of the Church of Christ in Norfield: This church has this day taken into serious consideration a complaint exhibited against you for the sin of intemperance. We have heard testimony in support of the charge which we consider as ample proof that you are verily guilty, as alleged in the complaint. It gives us pain that you have walked so disorderly, and that you have so wounded Christ and your own soul. Earnestly desiring that you may be recovered out of the snare of Satan, and that you may yet do honor to the Christian profession by newness of life, we affectionately exhort you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to consider how you have violated your covenant engagements, by which you are bound to live soberly and righteously and godly in this present world, how you have wounded your own precious soul, provoked God, and dishonored the Christian name. And we do now earnestly beseech you, and in the name of Christ exhort and charge you, as you will have to answer for yourself at the bar of God, that you delay not unfeignedly to repent of your sin, that you humble yourself before God and man, and that you henceforth walk in newness of life. This admonition is not given you out of any ill-will to your person (as the Lord knoweth), but in love to your soul and in obedience to Christ Jesus, who has made it our duty to watch over one another, and to maintain the discipline of the church according to the rules of the gospel. We do it that you may be recovered from the error of your way, and be reconciled to God and to His Church, that you may not be cut off from the communion of the Church here, nor be excluded from the Church triumphant above. Signed, in behalf of the church,

"JOHN NOYES, *Moderator*.

"NORFIELD, Aug. 14, 1823."

"*Voted*, That the church meet a fortnight from this day, at time and place as before, further to attend to the important subject under consideration. The church met according to adjournment. The delinquent not appearing, nor having made any communi-

cation to the church, the church, in the exercise of Christian forbearance and with the hope of still gaining their brother, adjourned further proceedings against him until Thursday of next week, when they voted to meet again at the meeting-house at three o'clock P.M., and expressed their desire that Mr. Noyes should have further conversation with the delinquent with a view to reclaim him. Met according to adjournment.

"The delinquent appeared and submitted a form of confession which he was willing to make the next Lord's Day before the church and congregation, and to which he had affixed his name; and the church voted to accept of it on condition of its being made and to restore him to their charity. Accordingly, on the next Lord's Day, the following confession was publicly read and assented to by the undersigned:

"I, David B. Godfrey, do humbly acknowledge, before God and this assembly, that I have been guilty of the sin of intemperance, whereby I have offended God and this church, dishonored the Christian name, and wounded my own soul; and I do now declare my hearty sorrow for this my sin and humbly ask the pardoning mercy of God and the forgiveness of my Christian friends, together with their prayers for me that I may be enabled to walk circumspectly and inoffensively for the future, which I will endeavor to do by Divine grace assisting me.

"Signed, DAVID B. GODFREY."

"The above and foregoing are a true record of the doings of the church in the case of David B. Godfrey.

"Test, JOHN NOYES, *Moderator*."

"Wherefore the moderator declared, in virtue of a foregoing vote relative to their acceptance of the above confession, in words following: 'This church then forgives you so far as your offense relates to them, and cheerfully restore you to their charity and fellowship in the gospel, and may you have forgiveness of God and be kept by His power through faith unto salvation.'"

#### EMANUEL CHURCH.

"At a meeting of the Episcopal Society of Weston, legally warned and held at the Episcopal church in said Weston on the 22d day of March, A.D. 1845, Wolsey Nichols, chairman, and Edmond O. Sturges, clerk, voted that Eli T. Winton and others be admitted members of this society,—viz., Walter S. Meeker, Levi O. Banks, Aaron D. Banks, Thomas B. Trowbridge, Edmond O. Sturges, Whitmore Nichols, Zalmon Sturges, Curtis Wood, William Wheeler, Alson Robertson, Samuel M. Banks, Sylvester Quintard, Henry Bulkley, Jesse Crossman, James Brown (2d), Henry Brown, Moses Banks, Thomas Banks, Porter Wheeler, Wm. P. Welch, Benjamin Banks, Wolsey Nichols, Jeremiah R. Nichols, Wm. H. Lyon, Ebenezer S. Cole, Alban Brown, Hezekiah F. Gould, and others by certificate (names not given)."

Walter Treadwell, Hanford Nichols, and Orlando

Perry were voted as vestrymen; Hanford Nichols and Walter Treadwell wardens.

Walter Treadwell and Orlando Perry were appointed a committee to take charge of all funds of the society. The first meetings of the parish were held at the house of Hanford Nichols.

The people of Lyon's Plains for some time worshipped at Easton, the academy being used for that purpose. When they at last decided to build a church edifice, disputes arose about its location. Mr. Hanford Nichols and Walter Treadwell gave the land, and Mr. Nichols and others commenced building the church. A dispute arose about subscriptions for building and locating the church, suits at law had been commenced, and the matter was finally settled amicably by being left to arbitration. Joshua B. Ferris, Cyrus H. Beardsley, and Henry Dutton were chosen arbitrators. The records further state:

"At a meeting of the Episcopal Society of Weston, legally warned and held at the dwelling-house of Hanford Nichols, in said Weston, on the 25th day of April, A.D. 1845, voted Wolsey Nichols moderator. Voted that we recognize and receive as the property of the Episcopal Society of Weston the subscriptions to build a new church edifice between the houses of Charles Scofield and Thomas Banks. Voted that we consider it expedient and proper to build a new church in this society. Voted that we recognize the land already subscribed and given by Hanford Nichols and Walter Treadwell, and fix the location of our said church thereon. Voted that we recognize and assume the building of the church edifice already begun by Hanford Nichols, Walter Treadwell, and others, together with all the debts and credits, liabilities and responsibilities pertaining thereto."

A committee of five were appointed to take charge of the money and building,—viz., Walter Treadwell, Edmond O. Sturges, Hanford Nichols, Charles Crofut, and Levi Banks.

"At a meeting of the Episcopal Society of Weston, held at the dwelling-house of Hanford Nichols, April 13, A.D. 1846, the following officers were chosen:

"Walter Treadwell, Moderator; Moses Treadwell, Clerk; Hanford Nichols and Walter Treadwell, Wardens; Charles Crofut, Whitmore Nichols, Jeremiah R. Nichols, Vestrymen; Wolsey Nichols, Treasurer. Moses Nichols was chosen a delegate to attend the general convention of the State. Voted that we instruct our wardens and vestrymen to give Rev. David G. Tomlinson a call to the ministerial charge of our parish. June 3, 1848, this society purchased a burying-ground. This burying-ground was afterwards donated to the society by Hanford Nichols. At this date (by meeting warned) the society voted that this parish having been without a proper church name, being called generally in parish notices the *Episcopal Society of Weston*, and in the journals of Convention 'Church Weston,' we therefore request of the Convention that this parish may be named and

known as Emanuel Church, Weston, and that our minister or delegate present this request to the Convention at its coming session in New Haven." In 1864, Rev. Mr. Tomlinson resigned on account of ill health. Mr. Ebenezer Lane had volunteered his services as "lay reader," assisting Mr. Tomlinson for some years. The society voted him *thanks* each year.

May, 1865, Rev. John Marvin was called to be rector of the parish. May 9, 1867, the parish received a donation or bequest from Hanford Nichols, Esq., of three thousand five hundred dollars.

"May 7, 1871, voted that we accept the resignation of Rev. Mr. Marvin as rector of this parish.

"J. R. NICHOLS, *Clerk*."

Jan. 1, 1872, Rev. J. N. Walton was called to be rector, and resigned in 1878.

Rev. A. N. Lewis, of Westport, has officiated for the parish during the past year.

The following are the present officers: J. R. Nichols, Clerk; Moses D. Treadwell, J. R. Nichols, Wardens; Alban B. Sherwood, H. A. Ogden, Charles Adams, W. Lobdell, L. M. Sherwood, Vestrymen; A. B. Sherwood, Treasurer; C. A. Adams, Delegate; M. D. Treadwell, Sexton.

#### THE MILITARY ACADEMY, WESTON.

This school has been conducted many years under various plans and persons. Mr. Matthew Bulkley had the management of it for a considerable period, when he resigned, and his son-in-law, A. A. Jarvis, assumed control, becoming principal and proprietor. He kept a corps of teachers, who under his management attained an enviable celebrity. Being a military school and not closing during the summer attracted the attention of numerous families from the large cities, especially New York and Brooklyn. Mr. Jarvis spared nothing to advance his students in knowledge or social qualities, often having receptions for their benefit, even inviting the Governor of the State (Connecticut) to witness the military parade of his cadets, and to add lustre to the occasion.

#### CIVIL HISTORY.

The town of Weston was incorporated in October, 1777. It was "*Resolved* by this assembly that all the inhabitants who live within the limits of the parish of North Fairfield, in the county of Fairfield, and all the inhabitants who live in that part of the parish of Norfield which lie in the township of Norfield, in said county, be and they hereby are incorporate into a distinct, separate town by the name of Weston."

#### THE FIRST TOWN-MEETING.

The first meeting of the inhabitants was held Nov. 14, 1787, with Samuel Wakeman moderator, and Nathan Wheeler town clerk. At this meeting the following officers were chosen: Moderator, Samuel Wakeman; Town Clerk, Nathan Wheeler; Selectmen, Abel Hull, John Sherwood, David Coley, Jr.,





*Henry A Ogden*

HENRY AUGUSTUS OGDEN was born in Westport, Conn., Sept. 28, 1831. His father, J. H. Ogden, an old citizen of Westport, is now living and engaged in farming. His mother was Abby G. Sherwood of the same town.

His early life was spent on the farm; he had the advantages of the district schools and the academy at Green's Farms. While quite young he taught in the district schools of the town, teaching in winter and farming in summer, with a year's experience in a country store. At the age of twenty-eight he took the position of book-keeper at G. W. Bradley's Edge-Tool Manufactory, situated in Weston, Conn. With the interests of this long-established manufactory he has been identified for over twenty years, sometimes representing it through Connecticut and Western Massachusetts, and at others in managing its finances; this is his present position, as he is its sole manager. These works have been established nearly fifty years. Their founder was the son of an axe-maker, and conducted the business four miles above. When the works were destroyed by an ice gorge some years ago they were reconstructed by Miles Bradley, and the business resumed under his oversight in association with Mr. Ogden.

Their business felt the depression of the war, and required most judicious and prudent management to avoid disaster. The situation of the Bradley Edge-Tool Manufactory is very picturesque, removed from the great routes of travel, in a rural district having excellent water-power.

Mr. M. Bradley died some three years since, when Mr. Ogden became manager. For the excellence of their wares they have obtained an enviable reputation. They have given employment to from eighty to one hundred men, though the present number is less, and these works are the most important manufacturing interest in the town.

Mr. Ogden was married in 1860 to Abigail J. Coley, daughter of Lonson Coley, of Westport. The Coley family, from which Mr. Ogden is descended on his mother's side, is one of the oldest families in Connecticut. He has no living children, his only son dying in infancy.

Mr. Ogden has been on the school committee of his town, and has always sympathized with the interests of educational and religious matters. He is a member of the Congregational Church at Green's Farms.

He affiliates with the Republican party, and is highly esteemed as a reliable business man and a good citizen.





Nathan Wheeler, Samuel Wakeman, Benjamin Dean, and William Prime; Treasurer, Samuel Wakeman; Constables, Josiah G. Leavitt and Benjamin Dean; Surveyors of Highways, Ephraim French, Alfred Lockwood, 'Squire Adams, John S. Andrews, Joseph Banks, Nehemiah Cable, Zebulon Fenton, Christopher Godfrey, Seely Squier, Daniel Andrews, Jr., Jonathan Bradley, Seth Price, Abel Hull, Lloyd Wakeman, Robert Harris, Samuel Wakeman, and T. L. Collyer; Keykeepers, Thankful Platt, Nathaniel Seely, Benjamin Dean, and John L. Andrews.

It was voted that the warnings for town-meetings shall be put up, one on a birch-tree near Henry Sumners', one on the post in the society of North Fairfield, and one on the post in the society of Norfield.

It is evident that the government of Weston was started on an economical basis, and that the good people of the town, way back in 1787, were not at all disposed to bestow upon their public servants any remuneration except the "sincere thanks of the town," as the following shows, which was voted at the first town-meeting: "WHEREAS, it often happens that large sums arise against towns for the services of the several town officers appointed by said towns, which to prevent we, the inhabitants of the town of Weston, in town-meeting assembled, do vote that we will for the year ensuing transact and perform all our town business, which by law or reason is or ought to be required of us, for which the town must pay, without any fee or reward, and whoever shall be chosen to any town office in this town (grand jury men and tithingmen excepted) are hereby notified that he is to expect or receive no other reward for his services only the sincere thanks of the town, and if any person so chosen is not willing to serve as above described, they must make their objections to this meeting, and shall thereupon be excused."

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1788 TO 1880.

1788, Capt. John Sherwood, Capt. David Coley; 1789, David Silliman, Samuel B. Sherwood; 1790, Nathan Wheeler, Samuel Wakeman; 1791, Samuel Sherwood, Nathaniel Seely; 1792, Samuel Wakeman; 1793, Samuel Wakeman, Samuel B. Sherwood; 1794, John Sherwood; 1795, John Sherwood, Samuel B. Sherwood; 1796, Nathan Wheeler; 1797, Samuel B. Sherwood, John Sherwood; 1798, Samuel B. Sherwood; 1799, Samuel Wakeman, Samuel B. Sherwood; 1800-1, Nathan Wheeler, Samuel B. Sherwood; 1802, David Silliman, David Coley, Jr., Stephen Sherwood; 1803, William Prince, David Silliman, Abel Fenton; 1804, David Silliman, Andrew Lyon, Eliphalet Coley, Jr.; 1805, Andrew Lyon, Cyrus Brinsmade, Joseph Bennet, Eliphalet Coley; 1806, Stephen Gregory, Joseph Bennett, Moses Godfrey; 1807, Stephen Wheeler, Jas. Gray; 1808, Jos. Bennett, And. Lyon, Nath. Wheeler, Stephen Wheeler; 1809, Simeon Fanton,\* S. Wheeler, Gershom Bradley; 1810, Stephen Wheeler, Joshua Adams, Stephen Gregory, Stephen Fanton; 1811, Stephen Wheeler, Joseph Bennett, Walker Sherwood, Gershom Bradley; 1812, Joseph Bennett, Stephen Jennings, Stephen Wheeler; 1813, Joseph Bennett, Jeremiah Osborn, Stephen Gregory; 1814, Jos. Bennett, Oliver C. Sanford, Peter Silliman; 1815, Jos. Bennett, David Silliman, Jere. Osborn, Ela. Cooley; 1816, Joseph Bennett, Eliphalet Coley, Andrew Lyon, Simeon Fanton; 1817, Oliver C. Sanford, Calvin Wheeler, Jr., Joseph Bennet, Eliphalet Coley; 1818, Stephen Wheeler, Oliver C. Sanford, Joseph

Bennett, Eliphalet Coley; 1819-20, Oliver C. Sanford, Stephen Wheeler; 1821, Oliver C. Sanford, Abel Gregory; 1822, David Sherwood, Eliphalet Coley; 1823, James Prince, Alva Gray; 1824, Joseph Bennett, Oliver C. Sanford; 1825-26, Oliver C. Sanford, Stephen Wheeler; 1827, Eli Adams, Levi Coley; 1828-29, Walker Sherwood, Edmund Fanton; 1830, Walker Sherwood, Oliver C. Sanford; 1831, Joseph Bennett, Edmund Fanton; 1832, Walker Sherwood, Woolsey Nichols; 1833-34, Jesse Wakeman, Oliver C. Sanford; 1835, Jesse Wakeman, David Patchen; 1836, James Baldwin, David Patchen; 1837, Sherwood Seely, David Patchen; 1838, Edward Hill, Joseph Rowland; 1839, Ely Adams, David Patchen; 1840, Edward Hill, Matthew Bulkley; 1841, Eli Adams, David Patchen; 1842, Sherwood Seely, Matthew Bulkley; 1843, Edward Hill, David Patchen; 1844, Samuel Jackson, Oliver C. Sanford; 1845, Aaron L. Sanford, David Patchen; 1846, David Patchen; 1847, Joseph Rowland; 1848, Samuel M. Banks; 1849, David Patchen; 1850, Moses B. Treadwell; 1851, John R. Sturges; 1852, Oliver C. Sanford; 1853-54, David Patchen; 1855, Moses D. Treadwell; 1856, Moses Bulkley; 1857, Edgar Scribner; 1858, David Patchen; 1859, Matthew Bulkley; 1860, Joseph S. Godfrey; 1861, Charles Rowland; 1862, M. V. B. Rowland; 1863, Wakeman Godfrey; 1864-65, David D. Coley; 1866, Charles Rowland; 1867, David D. Coley; 1868, Platt Keeler; 1869, Matthew Bulkley; 1870, Henry Robertson; 1871, David L. Coley; 1872-73, Osborn Taylor; 1874, John R. Sturges; 1875-76, Edgar Scribner; 1877, Miah Perry; 1878, Jeremiah B. Nichols; 1879, Alvan B. Sherwood; 1880, James Sturges.

#### MILITARY RECORD, 1861-65.

##### FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.

###### *Company F.*

De Carty, Michael, enl. July 7, 1863; pro. to captain May 18, 1864.

###### *Company H.*

Seelye, George, enl. Dec. 7, 1863; must. out Jan. 1, 1865.

###### *Unassigned.*

Baker, James, enl. Dec. 20, 1864; died Jan. 9, 1865.  
Clarke, James, enl. Sept. 10, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Doferty, Pat, enl. Dec. 20, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Hickey, Jacob E., enl. Dec. 20, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Rose, William, enl. March 20, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Route, Jno., enl. Dec. 30, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

##### SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

Trowbridge, Henry J., enl. Feb. 19, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.

##### FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

###### *Company B.*

Brown, Henry, enl. Jan. 22, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

###### *Company F.*

Monroe, Benjamin, enl. June 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

##### SECOND REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

###### *Company E.*

Barrett, Sylvester, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; died July 22, 1864.  
Perry, Nathan, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; wounded June 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

###### *Company I.*

Headdens, William, enl. Dec. 29, 1863.  
Knopf, Andrew, enl. Dec. 26, 1863; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
Lockwood, Theo., enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
Meeker, Hanford, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
Meeker, Charles S., enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
Olmsted, Stephen, enl. Dec. 26, 1863; must. out June 22, 1865.

###### *Company M.*

Morris, Samuel, enl. Dec. 21, 1864.  
Wilfong, James, enl. Dec. 21, 1864; must. out Aug. 8, 1865.

##### FIFTH REGIMENT.

###### *Company C.*

Hendrickson, Abraham, enl. Sept. 14, 1861; disch. Jan. 13, 1863.

\* Joseph Bennett was probably by mistake sent to the next town in the list (above) in Trumbull.

*Company E.*

Buckbee, George W., enl. July 22, 1861; disch. July 26, 1865.  
 Crofut, Jerome B., enl. July 22, 1861.  
 Gray, David D., enl. July 22, 1861; disch. Dec. 17, 1862.  
 McCann, George, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. Nov. 15, 1862.  
 Pilkey, Peter, enl. July 22, 1861.

*Company F.*

Rowe, Henry, enl. July 22, 1861; died Feb. 10, 1862.  
 Van Vorst, William H., enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out Aug. 11, 1865.

*Company K.*

Beers, Levi, enl. Feb. 17, 1862.

## EIGHTH REGIMENT.

*Company H.*

Lahey, Edward, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Dec. 2, 1865.

## NINTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Ryan, John, enl. Jan. 23, 1864; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

## ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Burns, Thomas, enl. Feb. 22, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

*Company D.*

Robinson, James, enl. March 15, 1864.

## TWELFTH REGIMENT.

*Company E.*

Brown, Charles H., enl. Nov. 22, 1861; died April 22, 1864.  
 Mills, Burr, enl. March 10, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Parketon, Eugene S., enl. March 10, 1864.

## THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Unassigned.*

Johnson, Edward, enl. March 11, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

## FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company I.*

Condon, Morris, enl. Aug. 29, 1864; trans. to 7th Conn. Vol.; must. out July 20, 1865.

*Unassigned.*

Paten, George, enl. Feb. 23, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
 Sands, Frederick, enl. Feb. 23, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company E.*

Carodus, Charles H., corporal; enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Crapo, Berth B., enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Clarkson, Charles H., enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Dixon, Samuel, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; disch. for disability April 1, 1863.  
 Haugh, James, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Sweeten, David, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability Aug. 21, 1863.  
 Williams, William, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. for disability Jan. 17, 1863.  
 Banks, Horace A., enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Banks, Wesley O., enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Oakley, William, enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company G.*

Morris, John, enl. Sept. 7, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company H.*

Strong, Francis M., enl. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. for disability April 30, 1863.

## TWENTIETH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Conmer, Jerry, enl. March 11, 1864.

*Company G.*

Gould, Joseph, enl. March 11, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

## TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company E.*

Northrop, Lewis, sergeant; enl. Aug. 28, 1862; pro. to captain; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Andrews, Elias S., enl. Aug. 25, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Beers, Frederick, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Beers, William P., enl. Aug. 26, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Beers, Rufus, enl. Aug. 23, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Beers, William, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Betts, Jonathan, enl. Aug. 28, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Chase, Isaac, enl. Aug. 25, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Cole, George H., enl. Aug. 25, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Donnell, James O., enl. Aug. 25, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Hamilton, Theodore, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Homan, Henry, enl. Aug. 28, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Lockwood, Albert, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Mead, John M., enl. Aug. 25, 1862.  
 Rowland, Rufus K., enl. Aug. 25, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Seeley, John N., enl. Sept. 4, 1862.  
 Smith, William B., enl. Aug. 29, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Thorp, Isaac N., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Whitlock, Albert M., enl. Sept. 4, 1862.

*Company F.*

Dowd, William L., enl. Aug. 27, 1862.  
 Horan, Patrick, enl. Nov. 5, 1862.

## TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT (COLORED).

*Company I.*

Pipers, Charles, enl. Dec. 23, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

## THIRTIETH REGIMENT (COLORED).

*Company C.*

Johnson, Philip, enl. Feb. 22, 1864; must. out Nov. 7, 1865.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

## DAVID D. COLEY.

David D. Coley was born Oct. 30, 1811, in Weston, Conn. His father was Eliphalet Coley, of the same town, and as far as is known was descended from the early settlers of this county. His mother was Priscilla Bradley, another old family name in Fairfield County.

His youth was sickly; he did not until near his eighteenth year have ordinary good health; he had, besides the advantages of the district school, the instructions of Hawley Olmstead, a noted teacher of Wilton. When young Coley's health became established he found employment on his father's farm, and chose farming as his pursuit.

He married, in 1824, Mary E. Andrews, daughter of John Andrews, of Weston. Her mother was Mary Andrews. Mr. Coley worked at the home-farm some three years after his marriage. In 1840 or 1841 he bought and removed to the farm on which he now resides, in the town of Weston; the place is situated on the high ground in the southerly part of the town, and commands an extensive view of the county south, including a view of Long Island Sound, and the island itself across the Sound. This farm of good natural soil has been well cultivated and industriously farmed, and yielded a competency to its owner.

Mr. Coley has been a selectman of the town for many years, and during the entire civil war discharged the duty of this onerous office; it became their duty to secure the soldiers to fill the quota of the town; this was successfully accomplished to the satisfaction of the townspeople.





*D. D. COLEY.*





Mr. Coley has for three years represented his town in the Legislature of the State; has sympathized with the Democratic party all his life; is a strong Union man, and was a supporter of the Union in the late war.

Mr. Coley has had three sons, John B., James L., and Alphonso B., the last named alone surviving. John B. died at the age of twenty-four years; James L. died at twenty-nine years. Alphonso recuperated his health by a trip to California, which entirely restored him.

Mrs. Coley died in 1872. For forty-eight years she was a faithful companion and an affectionate mother; she was a farmer's daughter, and became a help-meet to her industrious husband. Her monument is pointed out in the cemetery as one of its principal and most beautiful adornments. Mr. Coley for a man of his age is vigorous and strong. He is respected and trusted by his fellow-townsmen, and has before him the prospect of a comfortable old age, surrounded by all the comforts of life.

## CHAPTER LXXXII.

### WESTPORT.

Geographical—The First Settlements in 1645—The Pioneers and their Locations—The First Grist-Mill—The First School in 1740—The Revolutionary War—The Gallant Seventeen—Highways—Early Merchants—Taverns, Etc.—The Whipping-Post—Early Regulations—Slaves, Etc.—Early Customs—Physicians—Lawyers—Manufacturing—Commerce.

THE town of Westport lies in the southern part of the county, and is bounded on the north by Wilton and Weston; on the east by Fairfield; on the south by Long Island Sound; and on the west by Norwalk.

#### THE PIONEERS.

The first settlement was made by Thomas Newton, Daniel Frost, Henry Gray, John Green, and Francis Andrews, who erected their log huts in the neighborhood of the present Green's Farms railroad depot. The ability, character, and disposition of Thomas Newton and his four contemporaries can only be conjectured from some of their acts and doings, which frequently brought some of them before the General Court and became matters of record. From a perusal of these records it is seen that Thomas Newton was an enterprising, go-ahead man, with a strong propensity for traffic and trade in anything that promised gain. His settlement in Maximus was not to clear forest and raise wheat, but in some way to make a speculation. He was unfortunate in the many suits at law he had in the General Court for the time he was in this section of the country. At the October session, 1646, in a suit against him by Mr. Whitney, "the jury find for the plaintiff the Bill 5*£* 10*s.* 2*d.* damages and cost of court," and at the same court Edward Hopkins plaintiff and Thomas Newton defendant, "The jury find for the plaintiff; the defend-

ant is to pay 4*£* 13*s.* 4*d.*, according to the Bill and 10*s.* damages and costs." Again, in June, 1647, he was "Bound in a recognizance of 160*£* to the court to save the court and such debtors harmless from any damage that shall be recovered in the court, of Sepeseger his debts in reference to an action commenced against Samuel Smith." Again, in 1648, in a suit of Jonas Wood against Thomas Newton, "The jury find, for the plaintiff that the defendant shall discharge or cause to be discharged the bond that the plaintiff, and his friends lye under at the Monatoes, which was to answer the defendants engagement there; and to pay unto him 30*£* besides, and costs."

Again he was bound in a recognizance of *£*200, with John Green and Henry Gray as his security, to answer, truly perform, and discharge the verdict of the jury in the action between "Jonas Wood, plaintiff and himself defendant at or before the 1st day of February next." Various other suits appear to have been tried, some resulting in his favor, but generally against him, and among others a "fine of five pounds for selling one Philip White wine from his vessel when said White had enough already." He owned a vessel and probably traded with the Dutch at New Amsterdam (New York) and other places where profit could be made, and was independent of Custom House regulations.

The care of his vessel and his voyages very likely occupied most of his time until 1650, when, upon the information of one Goody Johnson, a woman in Fairfield, Newton was arrested and committed to jail, but, before trial, broke out and escaped with his vessel to New Amsterdam, and never returned to Maximus thereafter. The second in the list of first settlers was Daniel Frost, an altogether different character from Thomas Newton. He was a son of William Frost. From the will of William Frost, made in January, 1664, I infer that he, William, left England several years before the settlement of Fairfield, bringing with him his two sons, Daniel and Abraham, and daughters Elizabeth (wife of John Gray), Lydia (wife of Henry Gray), and Rebecca and Sarah Frost, unmarried, and from the bequest in his will was a man of considerable means for the time, as in addition to the disposal of his estate here to his children and grandchildren he bequeaths to a daughter named Mary Rylic and her children all his goods and land left in Old England, and "ten pounds in good money towards building a meeting-house in Uncowa, one-half when the house is half done and the other half when it is completed." No mention of his wife is made in the wills, from which it might be supposed he was a widower, but in Fairfield records is found a bond of two hundred pounds obligating the said Daniel to pay his mother ten pounds annually, and other provisions for her support during life. The land upon which Daniel settled was east of the residence of Mr. Phipps. The point of land known as Frost's Point was some of it. He was doubtless a quite

peaceable, respectable man. Of the forty-four freemen of Fairfield entitled to vote in town-meetings in October, 1669, Daniel Frost was one.

Henry Gray, the third on the list of first settlers, was between thirty and forty years of age at the commencement of the settlement. His wife was a daughter of William Frost, and had at least a family of three sons—Jacob, Henry and William—when they sat down at Bankside or Maximus. In early life he appears to have been an active, influential, and popular man, and represented the town of Uncowa in 1643 in the General Court, but two years after the General Court passed a judgment upon him in the words following, to wit: "Henry Gray, for his many misdemeanors, is adjudged to be imprisoned at the discretion of the court, and to be fined ten pounds." What the misdemeanors were, or how many, we are left to conjecture. The court record of the time, except in this case, uniformly gives the name and nature of the offense for which the punishment was inflicted. From this time forward, for near twenty years, he seems to have had a vexatious life, as in nearly every court his name appears as plaintiff or defendant, and at a session of the General Court, in May, 1850, he was "fined twenty shillings for abusing the court." His principal opponent in law was the Jonas Wood of Long Island with whom Thomas Newton had many conflicts. These continuous lawsuits, as might be supposed, wasted his estate, and at his death, in 1672, the General Court, upon the petition of Maj. Nathan Gold and Mr. William Hill, empowered the administrators "to sell the said Gray's farm at Maximus as the most prudent course to save any estate for the children of said Gray." The Maximus farm was in the neighborhood of the land now owned by Mr. Phipps, and he had other land in Compo. He and his brother John, who also married a daughter of William Frost, were the progenitors of all the Grays in this section, branches of whom may be found in most of the States.

The name of John Green, the fourth on the list, is occasionally met on the first volume of records of the town of Fairfield, but nowhere in the town or colony record is found anything to his disparagement. In 1672 he was appointed by the General Court one of a committee of three "to view the township of Rye (then under the jurisdiction of Connecticut), and consider what highways may be necessary and requisite for the use of the town and colony." He must have lived to an advanced age, for I find in 1699 an instrument recorded by which he manumits and grants freedom to his negro man Harry, upon condition that said Harry shall choose some good man to live with, and serve two years, and get twenty pounds to pay the board and education of a grandson. This instrument was signed with a cross. The old man had probably become too paralyzed to write his name. He had a son, John Green, Jr., who settled in Stamford,

and was one of the eight freemen, and was also constable of that town in 1669.

The parish of Green's Farms is supposed to have derived its name from John Green, who, in his day, was perhaps the largest and best farmer in the settlement.

The last of the list of first settlers was Francis Andrews. He was undoubtedly a quiet, peaceable man, as his name is not to be found in the court records. The land upon which he settled was for three or four generations in the Andrews family. The Andrews of Westport and Redding are his descendants. How long after the first settlement before additions were made cannot now be ascertained. It is supposed that Simon Couch, by purchase or otherwise, succeeded in the possession of the land of Thomas Newton. The dispute about the west line of the town of Fairfield, the uncertainty of the title to the lands improved, and the war with the Narragansett Indians, probably tended to caution new settlers against setting down and making improvements where the risk of disturbance was so great, and it is doubtful whether more than three or four families were added before 1665.

The territory of the Compo District was debatable ground between Fairfield and Norwalk until 1686, and no settlements upon it were made before 1790. Among the first settlers were Henry Gray, Jr.; John Shaw, Peter Disbrough, or Disbrow, as now spelt, and — Bennett. At the building of the new school-house, 1801, there was but one Gray living in the district. The Shaw family had all left, but there were many of the Bennetts, Disbrows, and Allens. In 1750 the traveled road from Norwalk was to a ferry crossing Saugatuck River a little below the present railroad bridge, called Disbrough's Ferry. The fare at this ferry was for man, horse, and load, *twopence halfpenny*; for led-horse, *one penny*; for footman, *penn. halfpenny*; for ox or other neat kine, *threepence halfpenny*; for sheep, hog, or goat, *halfpenny*.

The exact period of the first settlement at Green's Farms cannot be told, probably between 1680 and 1690, and among the first, if not the first, was John Hyde, the great-grandfather of the present John S. and Edward Hyde. In the division of the land above the Long Lots highway, Humphrey Hyde and his son John had set out to them a lot forty rods one foot and a half inch in width, and, as these lots ran back ten miles, it follows that the old man and his son had farm of eight hundred and two acres of land, in addition to outlays of land made before that time. Sixty years ago more than one-half of this lot was in the name of the original proprietors. Between the highway passing the dwelling-house of Burr Meeker and the highway east there was laid out, in the origin division, nine lots to nine men. The whole width was one hundred and ninety-two rods, and the whole area three thousand eight hundred and forty acres.

The following were also living in this district in



1800: John Hyde, Joseph Hyde, Aaron Sherwood, Esq., James Chapman, Daniel Bradley, Aaron Jennings, Lamon Burr, Jonathan Burr, Joseph Adams, Joseph Hyde, Jr.

Other early settlers were Nathan Adams, grandfather of the late Jabez Adams, Samuel Platt, Thos. Taylor, John Taylor, Seth Taylor, Gamaliel A. Taylor, Samuel Pearsall, and son John S.

Of the first settlers in Cross Highway District but little is known. Few of them had money; they had houses to build and farms to clear. Necessity drove them to hard labor, and they had little time and perhaps less inclination to make records of passing events. Among the most prominent were John Hyde, great-grandson of Humphrey Hyde, who was the largest landholder, and, at his death, the most wealthy man, of Green's Farms. He resided where the widow of the late Seth W. Meeker now lives, and he died without issue about 1798.

John Goodsell, great-grandfather of the present John Goodsell, grocer, was killed at the burning of Fairfield by the British, July 8, 1779. He was, with a few militia-men, on the high ground above the town, firing upon the enemy, when he received a ball in one of his legs, breaking the bone. A charge upon the militia put them to flight, but Goodsell could not flee, and when the Hessians came up to him, in answer to his plea for quarter one thrust his bayonet into his mouth, another into his bowels.

Ephraim Burr, father of Silas Burr, lived in a house where now resides the widow of the late Morris Ketchum. Nearly all of Ketchum's farm was Silas Burr's. Silas Burr died about 1814.

Phineas Chapman, father of Phineas, Jr., and grandfather of Charles, lived in the house where the family of the late Charles Chapman now reside.

Maj. Albert Chapman, a distinguished Revolutionary soldier, lived in the house now owned by the widow of David Bothwell. There were also two families of Meekers and one of Ogdens.

At what period the North District had its first settlers cannot now be certainly ascertained. No settlements were made above the Front of Lots highway before the Long Lots, as they are called, were laid out. There is no evidence of any settlement before 1700, about which time some three or four families settled in Cross highway, and, within three or four years after, five or six families in the North District. Of the first settlers were John Coley, the progenitor of all the Coleys of that district, who had a small house on the south of Adam's mill. Nathan Morehouse built a house a little west of John Gray's barn, succeeded by his son, Jabez Morehouse, who, in September, 1738, married Sarah, daughter of Joseph Ogden. Jabez was a blacksmith, and occupied the old place, working at his trade near fifty years. Joseph Ogden built a grain- and saw-mill on the bank of Aspetuck River, which came afterwards into the possession of his son Humphrey. This mill stood

until 1801, when it was demolished. It was the first grist-mill built within the limits of Westport. Joseph Gorham, about 1730, built the old house afterwards occupied by his son Shubad to the time of his death, about 1806. It stood until 1817. In 1778 the occupant of this house, Shubad Gorham, received two long, well-written letters, purporting to have been written from heaven by his deceased father, which produced much excitement in the vicinity, and was the subject of Consociation occasionally for fifty years afterwards. Copies may yet be found. Jeremiah Sturges built a house where now stands the house of H. M. Coley. There was also a large family by the name of Beers, and another of the name of Guyre.

#### THE PIONEER SCHOOLS.

In about 1740 the first school-house was built, which stood until 1790, when a new one was erected. The style or dimensions of the first are not known, but if it was not equal to the second, it was no great credit to the first settlers. The second stood upon the highway, about half-way between the present houses occupied by Mrs. Goodsell and her son, Heman B., and Eliphalet Gray. It was about twenty feet square, with eight-feet posts, a chimney built of stone and clay in the northeast corner, no ceiling or chamber-floor, a door in the southwest corner opening into the room, a fifteen-light window of seven-by-nine glass in each square, not plastered for more than twenty years after it was built. I think it was in 1818 when the old chimney was taken down, the house plastered, a box-stove procured, and other improvements made. As few boys were in school in the summer season over eight or nine years of age, it might well be said their education was obtained under difficulties. In 1841 a new and much better house was built and more centrally located. If we go back in the history of this district to 1800, there were within its limits twenty-three dwelling-houses, with an enumeration of over fifty children between the ages of four and sixteen years. Up to that time, and for some years after, spelling, reading, writing, and arithmetic only were taught in the district school, and it was not before 1812 that teachers were required to pass an examination in English grammar. The first teacher that introduced the study of grammar into the North District school was a young man from Simsbury, by the name of Oliver Cromwell Phelps. In the winter of 1802-3, after considerable talk with the parents, and much urging, he succeeded in obtaining two, and by sending to New Haven procured two copies of Noah Webster's grammar, and the strange study was commenced. Phelps taught the school two winters, but made no additions to his grammar class. For three years following the school was taught by one Joseph Lockwood, with no grammar class,—indeed, the teachers knew nothing about it. The winter terms of 1806 and 1807 were by Jeremiah Rowland, who had a class in grammar of four or five, and Lindley Murray's

grammar was introduced, and something in the way of geography and history was commenced. Noah Webster's "Elements of Universal Knowledge" served for reading and study. The two following winters Charles Lockwood was the teacher, with some further advancement in the exercises, but it was not before 1820 that an atlas with a geography was found in any common school. The wages of school-teachers were, for males, for the winter terms, from nine to twelve dollars per month, and board around with the proprietors according to the number of scholars attending, and for females, in the summer, four to six dollars per month, the month to be not less than four weeks, and five and a half days of not less than six hours to the week per day.

Among the early settlers of our town frequent controversies arose regarding the location of their school-houses and the character and qualifications of the teachers. As late as 1796, at a school-society meeting, it was voted that the society be divided into four districts. The divisions were made by a line from Greenfield west, passing the house of David Burr and the house of Benjamin Allen to Saugatuck River, and by a line from Weston boundary south, including the house of Silas Burr, east of the house of Gideon Couch, to the sea, to be designated as the northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest districts. This division, however, appears not to have been satisfactory, as, at an adjourned meeting of the school society, held the 17th of November, 1798, it was voted that Cross highway be set off as a new district, from Greenfield line west, to include Phineas Chapman, and south, to include Daniel Brotherton, David Beers, and David Sherwood, Jr., and appointed John Ogden school committee. The spring following, 1799, they built a school-house. It stood directly opposite the house where Henry Monroe now lives. It might be supposed that land at that period was not so valuable as to prevent the purchase of a few rods for the first school-house; yet the house was set upon the highway, and there stood thirty-six years. It was for the time a comfortable house, about the size of the North District house, mentioned above. Among the early school-teachers, although at a much later date than the above, are the names of Swords, Hanford, Bennett, Jennings, and, particularly in 1811 and 1812, Stephen Olmstead, a very good teacher.

#### REVOLUTIONARY INCIDENTS.

##### THE GALLANT SEVENTEEN.

Although Westport did not share the fate of Norwalk and Fairfield, still the town suffered severely, and here, in what is now Compo Street, was spilled the first British blood on the memorable march of the red-coats to Danbury, in April, 1777.

On the afternoon of the 25th of April, 1777, a fleet of vessels were seen coming up the Sound. It was supposed their destination was farther eastward until they were seen rounding the eastern end of the reef

off Caukeen Island just at night. Alarm-guns were fired, and early in the evening a few men of the militia company of Weston met at a tavern kept by Ebenezer Ogden, in Cross highway. When their services might be required they knew not. In the course of the night they learned that the regulars were coming up the street and would soon be in sight. The number of the militia at the time, about half-past twelve A.M., had increased to seventeen, but without an officer of any grade, and no one of their number had ever been in battle. In front of where is now the mansion of Mrs. H. A. Birdsall was a well-erected stone wall, and from behind this wall they agreed to make a stand and give the British at least one shot. Each man loaded his gun with ball, and those who had them buckshot in addition, and took their places, first selecting one of their number to give the word *fire*. They expected the fire would cause a momentary halt of the enemy and a return fire, protection from which was the fence, behind which they were to drop as soon as they had fired, and after receiving the return fire each man was to take care of himself. When the head of the army reached a little elevation in the highway, nearly in front of the house occupied by the late Capt. Elwood, and at not more than sixteen rods' distance, the word *fire* was given, and the seventeen discharged their well-aimed muskets. The effect was one killed and a major and two or three others wounded. The killed and wounded were put into an ox-cart, belonging to a Mr. Bennett, and sent down to the shipping. As expected, the army halted and returned the fire. To use the expression of the narrator, "The bullets rattled against the fence like hail against a glass window. As soon they had received the enemy's fire each man ran, taking his own way. I ran up north and crossed the highway where it branches, about forty rods above where we fired, into a field east of the road, and had gone some forty rods or so when, knowing nothing of flank guard to an army, as I had nearly reached the top of a hill I discovered a company of about sixty men within not more than twenty rods of me. I turned and ran down the hill. I heard the word *halt* behind me, which I disregarded, and the whole company fired at but overshot me. Fortunately, a little to my right was a thick alder-swamp, into which, without any fear of wet feet, I dove, until near the centre I crawled into a thick bush of alders and lay low. The red-coats came down to the swamp, turned to the left, and went along. I kept my place until I was sure the army had passed, then went home."

The following is taken from the *Westporter*, under date April 29, 1876:

"About four o'clock in the afternoon of the 25th of April, 1777, a fleet of twenty-six sail, containing from two thousand to two thousand five hundred British troops, commanded by Gen. Tryon, came to anchor at the mouth of the Saugatuck River, and the troops



were landed on Compo Beach, from whence they commenced their march on Danbury. The yeomanry of the neighborhood had assembled to resist them, but a few cannon-shot made them give way, and the troops marched up Compo Street, galled by a scattering fire from behind stone fences. At the head of Compo Street, where the Alden House now stands, there stood a barn, in front of which was a stone fence, behind which lay eighteen patriots, who, as the advance of the enemy were in the vicinity of where Mr. James Quigg's house now stands, discharged their eighteen pieces in the faces of the foe, and ran across the lots in different directions.

"But the foe were in a patriotic neighborhood. Gen. Silliman, of the Connecticut militia, who resided in Fairfield, sent out expresses, and the country was soon aroused. Gen. Arnold, who was at New Haven, hearing of the British inroad, mounted his horse, and, accompanied by Gen. Wooster and Lieut. Oswald, of the artillery, with three field-pieces, hastened to join Gen. Silliman. As they spurred forward, every farm-house sent out its warrior. In the mean while the enemy, marching all night, reached Danbury at two o'clock in the afternoon of the 26th, which place they pillaged and then burned. Meanwhile the patriots were gathering. Gen. Silliman had advanced at the head of five hundred. Gens. Wooster and Arnold joined him, making in all six hundred men. Retarded by a heavy rain, they reached Bethel near midnight, where they halted to take a little repose and put their arms in order, rendered almost unserviceable by the rain. Gen. Wooster took command, and at dawn detached Arnold, with four hundred men, to push across the country and take post at Ridgefield, by which the British must pass, while he, with the two hundred, remained to hang on and harass them in flank and rear. As soon as the British had passed his position, Wooster attacked the rear guard with great spirit and effect; sharp skirmishing continued until within two miles of Ridgefield, where, as the veteran was cheering on his men, a musket-ball brought him down from his horse and finished his gallant career. Upon this his men retreated in disorder. The delay his attack had occasioned the enemy had given Arnold time to throw up a kind of breastwork across the north end of Ridgefield Street, where he took his stand with his little force, now increased to about five hundred men. At about eleven o'clock the enemy advanced in column. They were kept at bay for a time, and received several volleys of shot from the barricades, until it was outflanked, when Arnold ordered a retreat. Tryon intrenched for the night in Ridgefield. The next morning, after having fired four houses, he continued his march for the ships.

"Arnold was again in the field, and posted himself on the enemy's route at Old Hill, near where Mrs. Brinkerhoff's house now stands. When the enemy came in sight of Arnold's position they changed their

route, and, guided by a Tory named John Bennett, made for a ford of the Saugatuck River, near where Kelly's mill now stands. Arnold hastened to cross the King Street bridge and take them in the flank, but they were too quick for him, as they had gained the rocks in front of where Lees' mattress-factory now stands, and placed their cannon so as to rake the bridge, which position they held until their main body were well on the way towards their ships. Finding themselves hard pressed, the enemy pushed for Compo Hill (where the residence of S. M. Burnham now stands), arriving in the evening without a round of ammunition in their cartridge-boxes, but, being within cannon-shot of the ships, the Americans ceased the pursuit. The enemy were then reinforced by marines from the ships, who attacked the fatigued patriots, killing a large number, and then effected their embarkation. The exact number of Americans killed is unknown, but *twenty-two* bodies are known to have been buried in one grave on the beach, and afterwards three more bodies were discovered in a house near the Furman place. During the engagement a young man was killed whose gravestone can still be seen in the old cemetery at Green's Farms, with the following inscription:

"Lieut. Samuel Elmer,  
son to Col. Samuel Elmer,  
of Sharon,  
was killed at Fairfield fighting for  
the Liberty of his Country,  
April 28 th. 1777.

in the 25th. year of his age.

"Our youthful Hero, bold in arms,  
His country's cause his bosom warms  
To save her rights, fond to engage,  
And guard her from a Tyrant's rage,  
Flies to ye field of Blood and Death,  
And gloriously resigns his Breath."

#### HIGHWAYS.

About the first move made by the business men of this town to open new highways was in 1809,—a direct highway opened from that part of Weston then usually called North Fairfield (now Easton). From Job Perry's mill, down the valley of Aspetuck River to Jonathan Coley's mill, and thence, in a straight line, to a point on the first cross-highway, near the present residence of James Smibert, would measure less than five miles, and would make a very level road, while the then traveled highway between the same points measured more than seven miles, and was very hilly. The proposed route was the present highway through Ketcham's Plains. As the town boundaries then were, one-fourth of a mile would be in Norwalk, about two and one-fourth miles in Weston, and the remainder in Fairfield. A highway so obviously necessary for public travel and convenience, we now think, should have met with no opposition. Yet a petition to the County Court in 1812 to lay it out met with the united opposition of the whole three towns and was defeated. The next move was to open the upper part of the proposed new highway, from the second cross-

highway, a little east of Jonathan Coley's mill, to intersect the highway from Redding Ridge to Fairfield, north of Perry's mill. This would be about one and five-eighths miles in Fairfield and one and three-eighths miles in Weston, and for this purpose a petition was brought to the County Court in 1815. This petition met with little opposition from Weston, but with the most determined opposition from Fairfield. Southport was alarmed at the idea of Saugatuck being brought, by this new highway, nearer to North Fairfield, Redding Ridge, and Newtown than to their place. The court, however, granted the prayer of the petitioners, and appointed a committee to lay out the highway and assess the damages to the land-owners. There was no assessment of benefits in those days, or the benefits would have been found to greatly exceed the damages. The committee laid out the highway and made their report in 1816. The report was met by remonstrances against its acceptance, and all other means which the ingenuity of lawyers could invent, but unsuccessfully. Weston made their part of the road, but Fairfield did nothing. The court finally appointed 'Squire Adams a suitable person to make said new highway. Adams made the road. Fairfield refused to pay the bill. Questions were raised about the legality of the proceedings. The matter went to the Superior Court, and from that to the Court of Errors, but in the end Fairfield was defeated. It was not till 1820, however, that Adams got his money. In obtaining this improvement in the means of communication with North Fairfield, the eastern part of Redding, and Newtown, much time and money were spent by its projectors, all of whom are now dead. The most prominent and active were Ebenezer Jesup, Samuel B. Sherwood, Eliphalet Swift, Stephen Morehouse, Thomas F. Rowland, Lewis Raymond, Dan Taylor, and Seymour Taylor. "For many years after," says the late 'Squire Gray, "the people of Fairfield seemed to owe this highway a special spite, and would make no repairs upon it except upon complaint from the State's attorney. Down to the time Westport was incorporated as a town, in 1835, I do not remember ever attending a town-meeting in Fairfield without hearing some hard things spoken of this 'infamous Saugatuck road,' as it was termed. It appeared to be a studied subject of one of the selectmen, Robert Wilson, to make a harangue on the iniquity of that infamous Saugatuck road."

#### EARLY MERCHANTS.

Tradition says that the first store in the village of Westport was near the west end of the old or upper bridge.

The first store on the west side of the river stood upon the dock, where the small house occupied for the last twenty years by John Allen stands. In 1798 it was occupied by Joel Scribner, and in 1801 sold by Scribner to James Hurlbutt. About 1804 it came into the hands of Henry Haydock, of New York, was

sold by Haydock to Daniel Nash, and by Nash to Lewis Raymond, who was its occupant until 1815, during a large part of which time a market-boat was run from it. It was then sold to Taylor Hurlbutt, used as a store down to 1830, and demolished about 1850.

An early merchant in Westport was Ebenezer Jesup, who kept in the old "red store," on premises now owned by a grandson. John S. Pearsall was a prominent merchant from 1785 to 1805. Gershom Bradley and Levi T. Downs were also early merchants.

#### INNS.

One of the early taverns was kept by the father of the late Esquire Disbrow during Revolutionary times in the old Hezekiah Wakeman place, recently torn down, and upon the site of which now stands the Memorial church. Gen. Washington and staff stopped here on their way to Boston. When here the general's supper consisted of a plain bowl of bread and milk. Often, when passing through this place, Gen. Washington stopped with Col. Marvin, an officer in the Continental army, who lived about a mile west of the village, on premises now owned by David M. Martin. The road leading by this house, over the old bridge above the village and by the Disbrow tavern, was the traveled route between New York and Boston, and was called the king's highway.

#### EARLY REGULATIONS.—THE WHIPPING-POST.—SLAVES, Etc.

In the early days the laws were very severe. For very small crimes or offenses people were fined or taken to the whipping-post. Many were fined for a breach of the Sabbath, such as riding out for pleasure, sporting, fishing, etc., while others were warned out of town for conduct unbecoming good citizens.

The old whipping-post stood on the green near Green's Farms church, and was used until within a few years for a sign-post. It has now rotted away.

Slaves were owned in town, but were seldom sold at auction made at these times, but repeated instances were known of their being sold at private sale or traded off, as cattle are in these days. The slaves, however, generally remained in families where they were born.

#### EARLY CUSTOMS.

The wardrobe of a lady in the early days, as now, was of considerable consequence, and if she had a good stock of linens, woollens, and home-made stockings she was almost an heiress. The ladies, therefore, were very anxious to display these powerful attractions to the greatest advantage, and the best rooms in the house were always hung round with abundance of homespun, the manufacture and the property of the females. Saturday night was religiously observed. Marriages were not solemnized on Friday or Saturday, as Friday was an unlucky and hangman's day, and Saturday evenings were devoted to religious preparation for the Sabbath.



Balls and parties were common, including spinning-, husking-, apple-paring-, and quilting-parties.

The men wore the powdered hair as queues, and the ladies decorated their heads with high horn or shell combs, wore short dresses of home-made woolen cloth and linsey-woolsey aprons, and no one bothered their heads with bustles, hoops, or waterfalls.

#### PHYSICIANS.

The first physician in this town was Joseph Chapman, who lived in the Poplar Plain District. A contemporary of Dr. Chapman was Ebenezer Jesup, of Green's Farms, father of the late Maj. Ebenezer Jesup and of Edward Jesup, who were many years ago successful merchants in Westport.

The first physician who located in Westport was a Dr. Porter, in 1799 or '80. He however remained but a short time.

The first permanent physician was David Richmond, of honored memory. He was born and educated in Vermont, and commenced practice in New Canaan in 1801, in the following year removed to this place, and soon acquired an extensive practice, principally in the towns of Norwalk, Fairfield, Wilton, and Weston.

Dr. Tolcott Banks was an early practitioner, and partner with Dr. Richmond. Dr. George Blackman married a daughter of Dr. Richmond, and was during a long period a successful practitioner. Drs. Burr and Jancy were also in practice here. The present physicians are Frederick Powers and George B. Bouton.

Among the lawyers who have practiced here are mentioned the names of Samuel B. Sherwood, Eliaphlet Swift, James C. Loomis, Samuel Chamberlain, Theodore Kellogg, M. L. Mason, M. W. Wilson, Wesley Lyon, William K. Seeley, James R. Jesup, E. M. Lees, Albert Relyea, Joseph G. Hyatt.

#### MANUFACTURING.

Sixty years ago nearly every house in village or country was a manufactory, and nearly every woman, old or young, an operative. He was a poor farmer who did not raise flax sufficient to make all the linen goods required for the use of his family, and a poor man, farmer, mechanic, or laborer, who was not the owner of sheep. In clear, dry weather in February or early March you would hardly pass a farmer's barn without seeing a man hard at work on a coarse-looking instrument, called a *crackle*, breaking flax, to separate the wood part from the fibre, and another man twirling a wheel with five arms to chaw the flax from what was called the shives. In the house you would see, in one corner of a wide, old-fashioned fireplace, a young lady sitting at what was called a double wheel spinning thread; in the other corner an elderly lady, with two cards in her hands, preparing the tow hatched from the flax for a different kind of wheel, called a *great* wheel, exercise upon which was not un-

frequently prescribed by old physicians as conducive to the health of young girls. By the 1st of June, the spinning of flax and tow being completed, came the spinning of wool, which was continued most of the balance of the year. In about every fourth or fifth house, in a small room or chamber, fitted up for the purpose, would be found a loom with a young lady weaving thread or woolen yarn. In this way, and from these domestic manufactories, nearly all the cloths for wearing apparel of both males and females, as well as bedclothing and many other purposes, were obtained. And so far from employments of this nature being thought mean or vulgar, a young woman could have no better recommendation for matrimony than the great number of pairs of sheets, pillow-cases, blankets, etc., she could show of her own spinning and weaving.

In 1805 the first carding-machine (probably in the country) was set up in a small building by one Josh Scribner, which caused quite an excitement for miles around. It was a great curiosity, and people came for many miles around to see it. It would do the work of twenty women and make better rolls, and was indeed considered wonderful. A few years after, another machine, for spinning wool, was introduced, called the spinning-jenny. Dr. Richmond, John Taylor, and some others patronized the invention, but it never paid.

Cotton-manufacturing in Westport was due to the war with Great Britain of 1812-15, and to Dr. David Richmond, who was a manufacturing enthusiast. By great exertion he succeeded in forming a company in 1814 which obtained from the Legislature an act of incorporation by the name of Saugatuck Manufacturing Company, the shares to be one hundred dollars each, and capital not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars. Under this charter about seventy-five thousand dollars were subscribed, and the stone mill erected, machinery procured, and business commenced under the supervision of Lewis Raymond, Esq., early in 1815,—a most unfortunate time, as the war terminated in February of that year. During the war every description of manufactured goods were enormously high; cotton goods that now sell at ten cents a yard were worth in September, 1814, more than one dollar. Had the war continued two or three years longer the enterprise would probably have been successful, but immediately on the proclamation of peace the large stock of goods in England, manufactured for the American market, which had greatly accumulated during the war, were rushed into our country to be sold at any price, with the two-fold object of getting rid of old stocks and breaking down American manufacturing. The Saugatuck Company attempted to stem the adverse current, but soon got in debt. The discouraged stockholders refused to pay installments, and in 1818, at the meeting of the stockholders, it was voted to sell the whole property of the company at auction, and it was knocked down at a

sum little exceeding four thousand dollars, about enough to pay its indebtedness, leaving nothing for the poor stockholders. The purchasers were a few of the stockholders, who had agreed to form a new company, of whom the largest in interest were Ebenezer Jesup, David Richmond, Moses Judah, and E. Cornell, who were with others, by act of the Legislature, incorporated under the name of the Richmondville Manufacturing Company in 1819. The manufactory was burned March 16, 1879.

A new company was formed in 1828, of which the prominent stockholders were Eben Jesup, William H. Jesup, Samuel Avery, Hezekiah Allen, Lewis Raymond, Edward M. Morgan, and others. They obtained an act of incorporation in 1829, under the name of The Branch Manufacturing Company, capital not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars. The capital subscribed and actually paid in was only forty thousand dollars. This company purchased the old mills and water-privilege of Samuel Coley, and erected the building now Kelley's mill, and put into it the requisite machinery for spinning and weaving cotton goods. An Englishman named Shawcross was some way concerned in the business. Work commenced in the mill, under the general superintendence of William H. Jesup, in the fall of 1829, and for two or three years was supposed to be doing moderately well, although few and small dividends were made. The Compromise Bill, as it was called, passed by Congress in 1833 to quiet Southern nullification, dampened the spirit of manufacturing, and told heavily upon small establishments like the Branch. The stock ran down. Instead of stopping and waiting for more favorable times, the mill was kept running, latterly under the management of Capt. H. Allen, but early in 1841 a crisis was reached. The property had been some time mortgaged for several thousand dollars to Jesup Wakeman, of Southport. The stockholders refused to pay the installment required to pay the debts, and Wakeman petitioned for foreclosure of his mortgage. In February, 1841, the whole property, mill, houses, water-privilege, machinery, and about twelve acres of land, was sold to Capt. Allen for the sum of five thousand dollars. Capt. Allen continued operations at the mill to near the time of his death, in 1850. The property was subsequently sold to William Wood for twenty-one hundred dollars, subject to a balance of Wakeman's mortgage. Wood sold the machinery out of the mill, and the mill for the purpose it is now used.

William and John Wood, about 1847, erected a mill for making cotton wadding, at a considerable cost, which would probably have paid well had not the fire-fiend claimed it.

Taking the business of cotton-manufacturing in Westport, from its commencement in 1815 to 1850, it is evident the losses will vastly exceed the gain. Whatever benefit the public derived from it, the stockholders suffered.

#### COMMERCIAL.

From the early settlement of Connecticut to a time not very remote Fairfield County was the largest grain-growing county in the State, and the towns of Fairfield, Norwalk, Wilton, Weston, and Redding the best in the county. Seventy-five or eighty years ago, of every one hundred of the male population not less than eighty-five were farmers. The principal, almost the entire, source from which money was obtained was the products of the soil. The men of that period were not eight-hour men, but sunrise-to-sunset men,—robust, hard-laboring, industrious fellows, obtaining from the earth annually large quantities of rye, corn, oats, flax-seed, etc., beyond what was required for home consumption, for which a market was sought, and wherever was a convenient place for lading and unlading vessels, a store or stores were erected. Saugatuck River being navigable farther up from the Sound than any other in Fairfield County, its head of navigable water (notwithstanding the unfavorable surface) was selected as a suitable place for commencing business; here, according to tradition, the first store was built near the upper bridge, and the second a little below where now stands Tom Miller's barber-shop. What the amount of exports were at the beginning of the present century can only be conjectured, but from my recollection of the numbers of vessels employed, and the show of loaded teams from the country, not less than one hundred thousand bushels of grain, corn, rye, and oats, and considerable quantities of flax-seed, dressed flax, butter, etc., were annually shipped from here, the rye mostly to Boston, Providence, and other Eastern ports. A great deal of the corn raised at that period was kiln-dried, ground, and put up in hogsheads of eight hundred pounds each for the West Indian market. Nearly every mill within five miles of the shore had a kiln for that purpose. Quite a business also was carried on with the West Indies. The brig "Atlantic" was built by E. & D. Coley, for Beattie & Raymond and some others, for this trade, and continued in it until lost coming from Turk's Island, laden with salt. A large sloop called the "Sally," built by Capt. Stephen Thorpe, was also in this trade, and occasionally some other vessels.

The market-boat business commenced in 1806. Rowland & Barlow and Capt. Samuel Pearsal built a vessel for that purpose called the "Pedler." She was to make weekly trips to and from New York, carrying any articles of produce or materials that might offer, and sell the same on a commission, usually of eight per cent., or a penny on a shilling, and for the accommodation of passengers had a better than usual fitted-up cabin: price of passage, fifty cents. The business was found to pay, and in 1814, L. T. & S. E. Downs bought a sloop called the "Diana" for the same business, and built a new vessel, the "Intrepid," in 1815, and in 1817, G. Bradley & Co. built the "Iris" for like trade. Before the



Housatonic Railroad was opened there was considerable freight from New Milford and Newtown, and—until the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad—much of the freight of Danbury and Bethel. If we could go back, say to 1825 or 1830, and step on board of one of those boats as it was about to leave, in the month of April or May, we should see in the hold one hundred to two hundred bushels of oats, ten to twenty bags of rye flour, one hundred to one hundred and fifty tubs of butter (averaging about twelve pounds each), five to ten barrels of eggs, fifty or more boxes of hats, boxes of combs, boxes of axes, and any quantity of bundles of unknown contents. On deck we should see five to ten calves, and in the cabin or on the quarter-deck ten to fifteen passengers. On her return we should find bales of mackerel, barrels of logwood and other articles for the hatters, two or three thousand Rio Grande (or perhaps city) green horns for the comb-makers, and not unfrequently several hogsheads of rum, pipes of brandy, and barrels of gin for the grocers, a few barrels of wheat flour, dry-goods boxes, molasses, sugar, etc.

## CHAPTER LXXXIII.

### WESTPORT (Continued).

#### ECCLESIASTICAL.

Congregational Church, Green's Farms—Congregational, Saugatuck—  
Methodist Episcopal—Church of the Holy Trinity—Christ Church—  
Universalist Church.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.\*

In the town of Westport, Green's Farms seems to be the oldest parish and settlement. The Indian name was Machamux, which in time was corrupted from the original and improved into Maximus. The people near the centre of Fairfield called this west settlement the Farms at Bankside. Afterwards a public-spirited man in this settlement, named John Green, was honored by its being called Green's Farms, which was recognized as such in 1832; it was generally spoken of as the Fairfield West parish till after the Revolution.

This settlement was begun in 1648, when "it was agreed that Thomas Newton, Henry Gray, and John Green shall have liberty to sit down and inhabit at Machamux." Daniel Frost and Francis Andrews were added to the three, which were the proprietors of the settlement for twenty years. Their lands and residences were near the shore, extending from the place of the late Mr. Phipps westward, and when they died were buried on Mosquito Hill. Daniel Frost lived east on a point of land which took its name from him, Frost Point. Of the settlers, Newton fled to the Dutch owing to some misdemeanor on his part. Gray has representatives to-day in Westport, as

is indicated by Miss Gray's popular school. Francis Andrews was represented by Daniel Andrews and the sons of Ebenezer Andrews, late of Chicago, who lie under massive monuments in the lower cemetery. John Green has not a representative, though he was mentioned last in 1728. John Green, Jr., lived in Stamford, which may account for it.

In 1711 there were eighty-eight persons in Compo, and in Maximus one hundred and eighty-two,—in all two hundred and seventy persons,—who had to travel from two and a half to eight miles to attend church, which must be done on foot, horseback, or in ox-carts.

Parish privileges were granted May, 1711; the records begin at this date. Rev. Daniel Chapman was the first pastor, with a salary of seventy pounds, although the church was not organized till four years later. In 1713 it was voted that a house should be built for the minister, forty-two feet long, twenty feet wide, two stories high, and a cellar under one end, two chamber chimneys; for covering, shingles four and a half feet, and to be set on six acres of land. This house stood on Mr. Bedford's land, near the old well.

The church was organized in 1714 with seven members: Thomas Nash, John Andrews, Samuel Couch, Henry Gray, Joshua Jennings, (said to be spelled on the church record "Goshshew Jinnins"), Jonathan Squire, and Joseph Lockwood. The way churches were then organized in Connecticut was to choose from their number seven prominent individuals, who were called the seven pillars. These seven entered into covenant and formed the church; then the rest united with them on profession of faith.

Rev. Daniel Chapman, the first pastor, was the son of Deacon Nathaniel Chapman, of Saybrook, and grandson of Robert Chapman, one of the first settlers of that town. He was born 1689; graduated from Yale College, 1707. He married Grissel Lovel, or Lovewell, of the island of Cape Breton. He inherited several tracts of land in Saybrook, and fifteen hundred acres in Hebron. Little is known of him as a preacher. He was pastor here twenty-six years. He was dismissed in 1741, having near that time been "overtaken with too much drink."

It was then a discourtesy to refuse to partake from the decanters which always stood on the sideboard, so his case is no wonderment. He died in Green's Farms soon after this. He had seven children, one of whom, Phineas, married Sarah Ketchum and settled in the parish. He was taken prisoner at his own house while loading his goods into an ox-cart to escape with his family from the British. His treatment while a prisoner resulted in his death. He was a captain in the Revolutionary war. He died at his home in 1782. He also had two sons, Maj. Albert and Lieut. James Chapman, who were officers in the same war. Their descendants are yet in this town, and are scattered through the country, and are spoken of as the "big guns" of the nation.

In 1736 the house (church) was too inadequate.

\* By Mrs. Kate E. Perry.

In 1738 a new one was raised, but was not finished till several years later. The members had pew spots assigned them according to their rank in society; each had to build his own pew.

Rev. Daniel Buckingham, born in Milford, 1713, graduated at Yale College, 1735, succeeded Mr. Chapman in 1742. His salary was five hundred pounds. At this time there was a great depreciation in money, but as that decreased they increased his salary. In 1756 the parish was divided by petition of the northern part, and was called the Fairfield Northwest parish,—now Norfield, in Weston. In 1756 five men of this parish died in the army in the French-and-Indian war. They were Abel Fountain, David Hendricks, Jethro Morehouse, Phineas Squire, and Thomas Sherwood.

The Sherwoods are numerous now in this section. An uncommon occurrence was noted among them this fall (1880), when *three triplet brothers*, Francis, Frederic, and Franklin Sherwood, gave a party to celebrate their seventieth birthday. Seventy-five people were present, and were arranged at three tables, one of each brothers doing the honors to the guests at his table.

Rev. Mr. Buckingham (a name cherished in the State, and to which Governor Buckingham added lustre) died in 1766. Rev. Hezekiah Ripley, the third minister, succeeded Mr. Buckingham in 1767, and occupied the pulpit here for more than fifty years. Mr. Ripley was born in Windham, Conn., in 1743. His grandfather was one of the early settlers of Massachusetts, and his grandmother was the daughter of the famous Governor Bradford, of Plymouth. He graduated at Yale College in 1763.

The most memorable period in the history of the parish during his ministry was the time of the Revolutionary war, as it was continually liable to destruction while the British had possession of Long Island. The parish was invaded by them twice, and probably would the third time, had not one of the farmers, who had a terrible voice, used it so effectually as to cause them to desist and return to their boats. It was towards night, when he was out for his cattle, and, seeing the move of the British, he began to give command, as if he had his forces near. The British, hearing him and fearing they might be overcome, yielded to the successful strategy, and Compo and the Farms were saved that time.

On July 8, 1779, after Tryon's forces left Fairfield ruined, they fired every dwelling in the lower part of the parish for more than a mile. One or two houses were saved, where the flames were extinguished. They burnt the church and the buildings, clothing, furniture, and provisions of the following persons: Rev. Hezekiah Ripley, Nathan Godfrey, Grummond Morehouse, Dr. Ebenezer Jessup, Simon Couch, Widow Eunice Morehouse, Ebenezer Morehouse, George Batterson, John Davis, Abraham Andrews, Widow Sarah Andrews, Jessup Wakeman, Gideon Morehouse, and

Moses Kent. The last named occupied the home of the late Francis L. Hedenberg, but his house must have been elsewhere in the parish. His wife was Mary Wakeman, who lived a little north of the house of the late Burr Jennings,—probably the Wakeman house, now standing, which has considerable local celebrity, and is without doubt the oldest house in Westport. A copy of one of the early issues of the *New York Herald* was recently found there, and forwarded to the *New York Herald* office. It was a happy circumstance at the office; they immediately reproduced it and scattered it over the world again. The house in Saugatuck of Moses Kent is in good repair; it was modernized several years ago, and here Mr. Hedenberg married Mary Burr Thorp, March, 1826, and in 1876 they held their golden wedding. Their son, Gould Burr Hedenberg, and his wife, Mary (Wood) Hedenberg, held their silver wedding simultaneously in the same house. F. L. Hedenberg was a native of Newark, N. J., and his mother\* was active against the Hessians.

The church being burnt, worship was held several years in private houses. The first year they agreed to meet in the house of Daniel Burr, the grandfather of Daniel Burr, who lived in the old house near Mr. William Burr. The third church of this parish was built between 1783 and 1789. Deacon Thomas Nash, who occupied the first house at the west, with its piazzas and banisters fronting the south, with its noble elms in front (later the home of Mr. Daniel Burr), gave the land, and seemed to be filled with the spirit of progress characteristic of his father and grandfather. He was a man of indomitable will, and, having some difficulty with the society, he left and joined the Episcopal Church.

For this third church application was made to the Legislature for assistance, which was only granted in giving them their proportion of the five hundred thousand acres of fir lands, lying in the wilderness of Ohio, granted by the State to compensate those who had suffered from the war. A tax of ninepence on the pound was levied, the fir lands sold, the parsonage and school funds borrowed, the society pledging to pay the interest annually; the principal has never been heard of since.

Rev. Mr. Ripley was chaplain in the Continental army, attending to his parish simultaneously. In the Revolution he lost his house, furniture, and a portion of his library. During public service alarming tidings were frequently received, therefore persons were stationed at such points to give warning of

\* Charles Hedenberg was a native of Sweden, who adopted the United Colonies for his home, as he married Jane Vanalst, of New York City. He followed the sea. By diligence and industry he became captain, and finally owner, of the ship. He died at sea, May 11, 1768, leaving a widow and two sons, from whom have descended all there are in the United States bearing that name. One of these, Charles, was honored with a document, presented in 1787, by James Duane, Esq., Mayor of New York City, called the "Freedom of the City." This paper fell to his son, F. L. Hedenberg, who preserved it with great care.



the approach of the enemy. In 1790 he was chosen a member of the corporation of Yale College, which he continued twenty-seven years, resigning it on account of the infirmities of old age. He and Dr. Timothy Dwight were warm friends. Their intercourse was frequent and most endearing. The degree of D.D. was conferred on Mr. Ripley by the College of New Jersey in 1802. During the years 1815 and 1816 thirty-eight persons united with the church. He married Dolly Brintnall, of New Haven, in 1765, and their union existed over sixty-six years. She died August, 1831; he died December the same year. They had four children, one of whom, William Brintnall, graduated from Yale in 1786, became minister in Lebanon, Conn., and died in 1822. He was chosen fellow of Yale, 1817.

Dr. Hezekiah Ripley was a man of commanding presence, and in his conference with Washington on his way to Boston, on public matters, it would be difficult for the painter to find a finer subject than these two patriots communing on the interests of the country. The doctor accompanied Washington to Stratford Ferry.

Dr. Ripley is the subject of a fine article in "Sprague's Annals of the American Pulpit," and was contributed by Rev. Thomas F. Davies, in 1849. Four of Dr. Ripley's great-grandsons bore arms in the late civil war, one of whom lost an arm in the second battle of Bull Run.

The fourth pastor of this church was Rev.—afterwards Dr.—Edward Hooker, a descendant of Rev. Thomas Hooker, first pastor in Hartford. His father was the Rev. Asahel Hooker, who was settled in Goshen, afterwards in Norwich, Conn. His mother was Phebe Edwards, of Stockbridge, Mass., descended from President Edwards, of Princeton College. He graduated at Middlebury College, Vt., 1814, completed his theological studies at Andover, Mass., in 1817, and was ordained in Green's Farms, August, 1821. He married Faith Trumbull Huntington, a descendant of Rev. John Robinson, the celebrated Puritan. His was an honored and successful ministry seven years, when he resigned, and was dismissed in 1829. He had charge for twelve years of a church in Bennington, Vt., from the years 1832 to 1844, when he accepted the professorship of Sacred Rhetoric and Ecclesiastical History in the Theological Seminary at East Windsor, Conn., which he filled until 1848, when he became pastor in South Windsor in 1849, and continued until 1856, when he accepted a call to Fairhaven, Vt., which he continued till 1862, when, in his declining years, a respected and honored father in the ministry, he went to reside with his son, a pastor in Nashua, N. H.

The fifth pastor was Rev. Thomas F. Davies, who was born in Redding, Conn., 1793. His father was Thomas Davies, a physician in that town. He was fitted by Rev. Dr. Ely, of Huntington (then Ripton), for Yale College, from which he graduated in 1813,

having entered in 1809. He taught school a year or two, pursuing his theological studies under Dr. Dwight. He settled in Huntington in 1817 to preach, but ill health compelled him to accept the invitation to remove to New Haven, in 1819, and become editor of the *Christian Spectator*, a prominent religious periodical. This he continued several years, but ill health here necessitated his removal to Redding. His health sufficiently restored, he accepted a call to Green's Farms, where he labored ten years, when he, from ill health, was forced to retire again, when he removed to New Haven to superintend the education of his sons. He afterwards resided in Redding, then with his son-in-law, Deacon E. B. Adams, in Green's Farms, where he died Feb. 16, 1865. He left three children, one of them a distinguished Episcopal clergyman. Mr. Davies was a man of superior ability and qualifications. He was genial, social, and polished.

The sixth pastor was Rev. Daniel C. Curtis, a native of Meriden, Conn. He graduated from Yale in 1836, and was ordained and installed in Green's Farms in 1840, and was installed pastor in Brookfield, where he labored fifteen years. In 1855 he was settled in Fort Atkinson, Wis., afterwards was pastor in Fort Howard, of the same State. After he left Green's Farms, Rev. Lewis Pennel was stated supply for a year. He is now (1880) at Green's Farms, superannuated, yet attends various meetings in the Councils, reviving histories of former days.

Rev. Giles M. Porter was the seventh pastor. His father was Rev. Dr. Porter, of Farmington, Conn. He graduated from Yale in 1836; he was licensed by the New London Association to preach in 1841, and was ordained and installed pastor in Green's Farms in 1844. His faithful discharge closed here by his dismissal in 1850. He was pastor in Unionville, Conn., from 1852 till 1856. After that he had a charge in Garnaville, Iowa, where he was laboring in 1865.

The eighth pastor was the Rev. Charles Bentley, a graduate of Amherst College in 1824; was ordained and installed pastor in Middle Haddam, 1826, and dismissed, 1833. He was settled in Granby till 1839; from there he went to Harwenton, where he was exceedingly successful. He left here in 1850, where he was a faithful pastor till 1850. He was laboring in the ministry in Wellington, Conn., in 1865.

Rev. R. S. Eggleston succeeded Mr. Bentley as stated supply for two years. He was an honored and successful pastor in Knowlsville, N. Y., in 1865.

The ninth pastor is the Rev. B. J. Relyea, who was installed pastor in Green's Farms, Dec. 4, 1861, and has been a beloved and efficient pastor there up to date (1880).

On Oct. 26, 1865, his parish held the celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the formation of the church in Green's Farms. He gave an elaborate history of Green's Farms, which was deservedly popular. The present structure is the fourth

church which has been used by this congregation, and this has been remodeled and rededicated in Mr. Relyea's day.

At the anniversary Edward J. Taylor called the meeting to order. The late Hon. James C. Loomis, of Bridgeport, was president of the day. Rev. Nathaniel Hewit, D.D., Maj.-Gen. Couch, the late Dr. William B. Nash, and Hezekiah W. Ripley, Esq., were vice-presidents. Daniel Burr was chief marshal. Among the speakers of the day were Hon. James C. Loomis, Rev. Mr. McLean, of Fairfield, David Ripley, grandson of the late Dr. Ripley, Dr. Noyes, of New Canaan, Rev. Dr. Hewit, of Bridgeport, Maj.-Gen. Couch, Prof. William B. Clark, of Yale, Rev. William J. Jennings, Rev. Mr. Elwood, and Rev. Enoch Burr.

The whole was a fine affair at the termination of so successful a parish for one hundred and fifty years.

Mr. Relyea has a son, Albert Relyea, a lawyer, who has represented Westport in the Legislature.

When Fairfield ceded the portion extending from Sasco to Saugatuck River to Westport she lost the parish of Green's Farms and three burial-grounds, besides a valuable tract of farms and an enviable, aristocratic, independent community. The burying-ground reputed to be the oldest is on Mosquito Hill, west of Phipp's Beach. It contains no stones with inscriptions, the ground being used at the period previous to the age of tombstones. The lower Green's Farms ground and the Pequonnock ground, now in Bridgeport, lately ceded to it by Fairfield, contains Fairfield's people for the next period. This old Green's Farms ground is a curiosity; most of the stones are low, of granite, and completely moss-covered. In 1701, Capt. Thomas Nash came here from New Haven. He, with others, had to go several miles to church, probably walking that distance, which was too much for the captain, so he, in common with six others, started the Green's Farms church about 1715, which was called Fairfield West parish, and he was made deacon in it. The tombstone over him in the lower ground mentions his being "deacon of the Fairfield West parish." He accumulated a large property. His son, Thomas Nash (2d), succeeded him as deacon in the same church. His son, Thomas Nash (3d), also succeeded him as deacon in the church, and was an efficient officer in the Revolution, capturing several prisoners, and saving portions of the town from devastation. He married Mary, daughter of William Burr, of Stratfield. She died about one hundred years ago, aged thirty-four. Some of her china is yet among her descendants in Westport and Fairfield, which proves china makes good heirlooms, being imperishable by time, moth, or rust. This Thomas Nash (3d) was at one time reputed to be the wealthiest man in Connecticut. He had one tract of land containing over one thousand acres. He and Capt. Simon Couch purchased a large tract in Redding.

He owned a hundred sheep, which were grazing near Compo when the British landed when they

crossed the country to burn Danbury. His wife sent one of the slaves, of whom they had several, down to bring a sheep for dinner. The British then had landed; they yelled at the slave, frightening him so that he dropped the sheep and ran. The British took the whole flock. When the new church was to be built, Thomas Nash (3d) gave the site to the society. A burial-ground is located near by, to the eastward.

Of the descendants of Thomas Nash and Mary Burr, they number about four hundred. Of the first Nash settler in this country, there were between three and four thousand up to 1851. The family were undispersed here for more than one hundred years. Thomas Nash (3d), the Revolutionary hero, was father to the late Dr. William B. Nash, who died in Bridgeport, 1872, almost a nonagenarian. Some of Capt. Nash's grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren—the seventh generation from the founder of this church—are regular worshippers there. One of the fifth generation, Mary Burr Hedenberg, is the owner of the home of the father of Chancellor Kent, in Compo. This Chancellor Kent was the Blackstone of America, and is responsible for the rule for computing partial payments in Connecticut. His home was purchased by Stephen Thorp, who was a sufferer from the Fairfield conflagration, in 1779. His son, Capt. Burr Thorp, married Rebecca Nash. They had several children; the eldest, Eleanor, married Stephen Bennett, of Greenfield. They both died, aged more than four-score, in Brooklyn, during the last decade; the next, Mary Burr, married Francis S. Hedenberg, of Swedish origin, the only family, except his brother's, of that name in the United States. At his death, in 1876, he was a stove-dealer and inventor. He put up the first base-burner (stove below, register above) in this country. About forty-four years ago he bought out the heirs to this Kent estate, and there he spent his later years; he formerly had an extensive business in New York City.

His widow, hale and hearty, born 1800, attends unassisted to the domestic duties of the family. Another sister, Sarah, married Capt. Charles Allen, of Westport. He is a descendant of another old Fairfield family. Some of their grandchildren are scattered in Bridgeport, Black Rock, and Westport. The youngest of the Thorp daughters married E. A. Williams, a shoe-dealer in Westport. He has now retired from business, and they reside with their daughter, Charlotte, wife of Wesley Lyon, Esq., a lawyer, brother of F. S. Lyon, editor of *Norwalk Connecticut Republican*, and descendants of the Lyon colonial house, in Fairfield.

To continue with the Nashes. They have scattered from the old plantation, owing to the reverse of fortune with Capt. Thomas (3d). He invested largely in Continental currency, which, when repudiated, impoverished many. He met with various other losses,



so that he was greatly reduced, and his children had to set out for themselves.

There are descendants of the name in the town, but they are more associated with the presses. One had a newspaper-press in Westport; another\* a cider-press, with other mills, on the stream west of Westport village. Thomas Nash (3d) had a daughter, Charity, who married, first, Samuel Cable, who died at sea while on a journey for his health. They had three children, one of whom, absenting himself from his family twenty years, was an American "Enoch Arden." His family reside in Mystic, Conn. Another son was drowned in Saugatuck River. The daughter was burned to death, her clothes taking fire in her mother's absence, and, the servant being so flustered, the child ran till she was fatally injured. Charity married, second, Capt. Thomas Saunders, of a Norwalk family. They are of long standing in this country. The house of this family was not burned by the British, in Norwalk, in the general conflagration, as the wife was sick in bed; so the building was not fired. One of this family, Stephen Saunders, preached several years, and died in his parish, at South Salem, N. Y., and is always spoken of very respectfully and tenderly. Thomas Saunders married, first, a Blatchley, from Long Island, and had four children. One, Capt. Thomas, owned quite a tract of land not far from the depot in Norwalk. He died in the present decade aged over eighty. A sister is the widow of David Fancher, deacon of the Congregational Church of Lansingburg. Capt. Thomas and his wife, Charity, occupied the place opposite the Kent grounds. They have been greatly improved by the various owners, of whom were Barretts and Cockrofts. Capt. Thomas Saunders, in his later years, started a business which now is a source of great revenue, but was not considered respectable in his day,—the placing of sea-food—oysters, clams, escallops, and crabs—in the market and finding sale for them. After he died the place was disposed of, but, owing to some illegal proceedings on the part of the agent, a good title has never been given.

Owing to the size of the Saugatuck River the lowest fordable place on the king's highway from New York to Boston was two and a half miles from its mouth, which made it trying to parties living on opposite banks, who had to go five miles to reach a point but a few rods away. If the railroad had not been built, a foot-bridge being on one side, the people might possibly have accomplished the building of a carriage-bridge in much less time than one hundred years, although the scenes were ludicrous that occurred for want of means of transit. The parties along the banks had boats, but often when needed they were on directly opposite shores. Strangers often were vexed to find some extra weary miles must be taken to accomplish a few rods, therefore amuse-

ment, adventure, and romance were the order of the day. Harriet Saunders, a brave maiden, rowed a boat across the waters when rough with a couple of boards, to accommodate a young man. He so admired her pluck he sought her acquaintance, and in time bore her away to his home in a neighboring State.

The Thorps have had a name known long in town in common with other towns.

William, the ancestor of the first Thorp, lived in New Haven in 1647. Of his children we record of Nathan, Eliphalet, John, Samuel, and Eleanor, whose baptisms were recorded between 1640 and 1648. Samuel Thorp appears to have been the ancestor of the line in the next generation, whose children, Abigail, Samuel, David, Gershom, Anna, Jeremiah were recorded from 1709 to 1721. David was the father of Stephen, who lost his house in the Fairfield conflagration. Eliphalet, whose family record is in Capt. John Gould's family from 1761 to 1776.

Stephen Thorp purchased the home belonging to Moss Kent (written sometimes Moses), the Chancellor James Kent's father. Stephen Thorp's son, Burr, tore down the old house, and built on the same site the present building about 1790. His seven children were born here between the years 1792 and 1809.

Capt. Burr Thorp brought here his bride, Rebecca Nash, Jan. 16, 1791. The same night word came to him that he must board his vessel immediately to save his property. He had a deck-load of horses to be taken to the West Indies. For some cause some of them jumped overboard. In a few hours the ship started for its destination, and he was absent many weeks from his bride. Such was the way the honeymoon was spent in those days,—“business first, pleasure afterwards.” Capt. Burr Thorp was a wide-awake maritime man, full of business and adventure, so much so that it was an accepted saying, “Capt. Thorp would go to sea in a tea-kettle.” On a trip South with his father he, with another young man, were washed overboard. After a long and unsuccessful search his father gave them up for lost, and proceeded up the James River. Having opportunity, he sent tidings home of the loss of his son, and had prayers offered in church for his safety. These young men, being good swimmers, had reached the shore, but the ship's officers received no intimation of their safety. They subsisted the best they could, but kept watch for the boat to return with its freight exchanged.

Capt. Thorp on his way back saw some men on shore waving to him to stop, and at last heard the voice which he would have thought was his son's had he not supposed he was drowned. He sent out a boat, and to his great joy found both men safe.

Capt. Burr Thorp followed the sea forty years. As he was once coming from England he perceived a large sea-monster near. With the spirit of adventure, after the custom of the time, he brought out his harpoon, which he threw with such force he fell overboard into the sea, but he held on to the rope. Boats

\* Letters were sent them asking for information, which never came.

were let down and search was made for him, but, being unsuccessful, all on board, both crew and passengers, lamented sorely the loss of the captain. One man on board persisted in walking the deck and watching for him. At last he was rewarded by seeing something shine on the water like a glass bottle. Soon it appeared like a man's head. The boat was lowered again and went to the rescue.

It proved to be the captain, who met with the loss of one boat. The animal was also captured. At the time of the accident the ship was going at eleven knots an hour.

Capt. Burr Thorp had a son Henry, who was also captain. He had a new sailing-vessel out on her first trip, on a Southern voyage. It was captured by the English in 1812. They boarded her, took off all the men and provisions, but left the captain on board and towed him off one night. He thought at one time he would cut loose from the moorings, but then, having no men nor provisions on board, such a course would be only death to him. A long night of anxiety followed. In the morning he made known to his captors, by the usual signs, that he was a Mason, so they spared his life, and set him on shore at Norfolk, Va., after having burnt his vessel to the water's edge. He walked from there to New York, begging his way along, but his exposure was such he contracted a malarial disease which ended his days, Aug. 13, 1818.

Green's Farms has contributed nobly to the world in furnishing it with representative men and women who are worthy of honor through the land. Between thirty and forty of her sons have been graduates of college, mostly of Yale. Several have occupied pulpits of no mean degree, and has furnished one theologian, through his maternal ancestry, of notoriety,—Moses Stuart, of Andover. Professors' chairs have been filled; the American bar has been enriched; Congress has been witness to the ability of her sons; Denmark knew of this country through a plenipotentiary from Green's Farms. The bench, the medical profession, the mercantile world, the high seas, and the civil service have been well represented here. Green's Farms' daughters have blessed mankind as being among the honorable and useful women of the land, adding their brilliancy and virtues to the lot of a Governor, missionary, ministers, and other professionals. A large history could be written of Green's Farms alone, but enough is given to show it is worthy of a separate chapter.

#### SAUGATUCK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

In 1831 measures were taken to organize and build a church in the village of Saugatuck (which was incorporated in May, 1835, into Westport). A meeting was held Dec. 24, 1832, in the academy, to perfect the organization of the church; and the following officers were chosen: Lewis Raymond, Moderator; Levi T. Downs, Secretary; Samuel Jackson, Treasurer; Eben-

ezer Jesup, Samuel B. Sherwood, Dan Taylor, Samuel Avery, Sullivan Moulton, Parish Committee.

June, 1832, the following persons, many of them members of the Green's Farms parish, having signified their desire to unite with the new church, received letters of dismission, and the following month organized the church. The names of the original members were Eliphalet Swift, Wm. Richards, Wm. Bradly and Sarah his wife, Benj. Bradly, Walter Thorp and Betsy his wife, Samuel Wood, Caroline Wood, Eleathea Wood, Jesse B. Scribner and Sally his wife, Stephen Morehouse and Esther his wife, George W. Comstock, Charles Jesup and Abby his wife, David Richmond and Lydia his wife, Eliza Richmond, Mary Riley, Eliza Winton, Frances Nash, Amelia Nash, Eleathea Andrews, Mary Andrews, Abby J. Swift, Charlotte Jesup, Deborah Sherwood, wife of Samuel Sherwood, Janette M. Brush, Maria, wife of John Q. Wilson, Elizabeth Buntle, Samuel Jackson and Esther his wife, Mollie Bennett, Sally Platt.

#### CHURCH ORGANIZED AND DEDICATED.

July 5, 1832, the following clergymen were invited to assist in organizing the church: Rev. Samuel Merwin, of Wilton, Rev. Joel Mann, of Greenwich, and Rev. Edwin Hall, of Norwalk. Rev. Mr. Mann was chairman and Rev. Mr. Hall scribe. William Richards and Nathaniel L. Hill were ordained deacons.

Rev. Charles A. Boardman was the first pastor, and in February, 1833, was installed at a salary of seven hundred dollars. He resigned his pastorate Dec. 19, 1836. During four years the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Mr. Weed (afterwards settled in Norwalk) and others.

In January, 1840, Rev. Henry Benedict was called to the pastorate, and supplied the pulpit until March, 1852, at a salary of seven hundred dollars. During his pastorate Eliphalet Swift and Edward Hyde were elected and ordained deacons.

March 10, 1853, Rev. Joseph D. Strong was called, at a salary of seven hundred dollars, and resigned Jan. 19, 1856. During his pastorate Edmund W. Taylor and Elnathan Wheeler were elected and ordained deacons.

Jan. 1, 1850, Rev. Timothy Atkinson was called, at a salary of nine hundred dollars, and resigned March 17, 1864.

July, 1865, Rev. Andrew J. Hetrich was called, at a salary of twelve hundred dollars. During his pastorate George Taylor and Charles S. Wakeman were ordained deacons. Resigned May 25, 1872.

Dec. 30, 1872, Rev. Joseph Sanderson, D.D., was called, at a salary of two thousand dollars, and was dismissed May 13, 1878.

Dec. 19, 1879, Rev. William Hart was called, at a salary of twelve hundred dollars.

Present number of male members, sixty-nine; female, one hundred and thirty-four. Clerk, Elnathan Wheeler; Treasurer, Charles S. Wakeman.







MEMORIAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,— WESTPORT CONN .  
BEGUN IN 1860 BY HON RICHARD HENRY WINSLOW, AND COMPLETED IN 1862 BY MARY FITCH WINSLOW.



## REMINISCENCES.

July 18, 1836, the first musical instrument—a bass-viol, costing twenty-five dollars—was purchased for use in the church by Levi T. Downs and Andrew Comstock, acting as agents for the society.

March 4, 1836, the society's committee were empowered to purchase a burying-ground of Stephen Morehouse, consisting of one acre, more or less, paying therefor three hundred dollars.

Nov. 1, 1836, it was voted to put blinds on the windows of the church.

March 15, 1847, a meeting was held to advise about the sum of five hundred dollars, a sum left in will to the society by Thomas F. Roland, Esq.

1850.—An organ was purchased for the church, the price of which was five hundred dollars.

April 7, 1857.—Voted to enlarge the church and modify the pews. Jonas H. Phelps, John N. Betts, Elnathan Wheeler, Gershom B. Bradley, Morris Ketchum, Committee.

Sept. 25, 1865.—A meeting of the society was called to consider the erecting of a new Sunday-school room. A building was erected connecting with the church, costing about three thousand dollars.

1878.—The old bell cracked and gave out, and a new one was purchased, costing two hundred and fifty dollars.

July 14, 1879.—The ladies laid out on improvements inside and outside the church about five hundred dollars. The pulpit platform was enlarged, and the organ moved from the gallery to the recess back of the pulpit.

May 3, 1880.—New hymn-books, "Songs of Sanctuary," were introduced.

Present officers of society: Thos. R. Lees, H. H. Belden, Wm. H. Burr, Society's Committee; B. L. Woodworth, Treasurer; Joseph T. Hull, Secretary; Theodore Taylor, Chas. S. Wakeman, Tithingmen; Joseph Wakeman, Frederick Bradley, Ushers.

The Sabbath-school numbers one hundred and fifty; teachers, twenty. Rufus Wakeman, Superintendent; Wm. H. Burr, Assistant Superintendent; Wm. H. Saxton, Secretary; Frederick Bradley, Treasurer; James E. Hubbell, Librarian; Harry Woodworth, Assistant Librarian. Number of volumes in library, six hundred and fifty.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The construction of the present church was commenced in the year 1851. Rev. Z. Davenport, now living at Saugatuck, Conn., was at that time the preacher in charge. Services were held in the old Universalist church for about two years, and until the Methodist Episcopal church was completed.

The first board of trustees were Edward Farrell, F. C. Foote, Allen Renoud, B. V. Russell, and S. W. Meeker. The first board of stewards were F. C. Foote, G. Lloyd, S. Geurnsey, Aaron Bennett. The first class-leaders were F. C. Foote, George Lloyd.

The record of membership was at this time kept mostly by class-leaders, whose books show a membership of forty, and the number has increased until in 1880 there are one hundred and fourteen.

The original members were mostly persons who had in former years belonged to the same denomination and had worshiped at a church about two miles north of Westport village, at Poplar Plains.

The first Methodist sermon preached within the limits of this town was at Poplar Plain, in 1790, by Jesse Lee, in a house standing a few rods west of the now old church. Some few years after this regular preaching services were held in a ball-room of a tavern near by, and until the meeting-house was built, about the year 1817, slabs upon legs being used for about forty years before the room was regularly seated. The old church is still standing, and is occasionally used upon some funeral occasion, the members having mostly died, the others having joined with some other Methodist society.

The trustees of the present Westport Methodist Episcopal Church are D. A. Salmon, J. Goodsell (3d), A. Bennett, J. B. Goodsell, J. Raymond, H. B. Coley, Isaac Allen, William H. Wells, Levi Coley. The stewards are William H. Allen, Sylv. Harris, W. M. Harris, William E. Nash, F. M. Raymond, J. B. Mills, J. Goodsell, H. Lyon, and A. W. Bradley. Ministers and date of apportionment: 1850-51, Z. Davenport; 1852-53, F. A. Craft; 1854-55, L. P. Perry; 1856-57, C. B. Ford; 1858-59, H. D. Latham; 1860-61, A. B. Pulling; 1862-63, D. Nash; 1864, George Hollis; 1865-67, Joseph Vinton; 1868-69, T. D. Littlewood; 1870-71, W. J. Robinson; 1872, J. S. Haugh; 1873-74, F. Brown; 1875, S. H. Smith; 1876, W. H. Stebbins; 1877-78, D. Nash; 1879-80, William Platts.

## SAUGATUCK METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This church was built in 1852 by Morris Ketchum, Sidney G. Miller, Horace Staples, Francis Burrett, and others. It was dedicated the same year, and presented to the society free of debt. Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Bond, of New York, then editor of the *Christian Advocate and Journal*, assisted by Dr. Asa Hill, of Norwalk, conducted the dedication service. Rev. Z. Davenport supplied the pulpit for a period of four years, after which it was placed under the pastoral charge of Westport Church. Several years ago it separated from Westport charge, and has been supplied from Conference by the following ministers: Revs. Miles N. Olmstead, D. L. Lounsbury, R. S. Eldredge, A. B. Sanford, W. Robertson, and David Osborn (present pastor). The trustees are William H. Allen, George B. Smith, George Hale, Frank Godfrey, Joseph Warnock, and C. O. Jelleff.

## CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

The following-named gentlemen—viz., R. H. Winslow, J. Morse, D. J. Townsend, N. Cleaveland, M. L. Mason, J. E. Perring, James Gardner, E. M.

Lees, J. R. Nichols, E. S. Downs, J. F. Bulkley, Samuel Gorham (2d), and J. C. Cotter—assembled, April 14, 1860, at the residence of John Cleaveland for the purpose of organizing a second Episcopal society in the town of Westport. Nehemiah Cleaveland was chosen moderator, and M. L. Mason clerk. It was voted to organize such society, and that the name of same be “The Church of the Holy Trinity.” The following officers were then chosen by ballot: Wardens, Nehemiah Cleaveland, Myron L. Mason; Vestrymen, R. H. Winslow, Francis Burritt, E. S. Downs, John Cleaveland, D. J. Townsend, William Wood; Treasurer, R. H. Winslow; Clerk, James R. Nichols.

At a special meeting held April 24, 1860, it was voted to extend a call to Rev. John Purves (who at that time was rector of Christ Church in this place) to become their rector, and on the 26th of the same month he accepted. The society then rented for present use the building on Main Street formerly occupied as a Universalist meeting-house. In May of that year the society purchased the property corner of East Church Street and Myrtle Avenue, known as the “Wakeman Lot,” for the sum of two thousand dollars. R. H. Winslow, Francis Burritt, and Daniel J. Townsend were appointed a committee, with power to build a stone church edifice and chapel upon the “Wakeman Lot,” and to complete and furnish the same upon such plan, and in such mode and manner in all respects, as they may deem proper or expedient. The committee were also instructed to make all contracts necessary in order to carry into effect and fully to exercise the power delegated to them. In February, 1861, the society met with a great loss in the decease of Mr. Richard H. Winslow, and in the following April the decease of Mr. Francis Burritt. The church edifice which had been commenced by Mr. Winslow was after his death finished by his widow, Mary Fitch Winslow, who tendered its use to the society of the “Holy Trinity.” In January, 1862, a deep-seated dissatisfaction existed between the rector and some of the members of the society, whereupon he was requested to resign, but declined to do so, and the society decided not to open the new church edifice until they should be relieved of the services of Rev. Mr. Purves, which did not occur until Feb. 18, 1862. About this time the name of the society was changed to “The Memorial Church of the Holy Trinity.”

In October, 1862, Rev. William H. Benjamin became rector of the parish, and filled that position until the spring of 1864, when he tendered his resignation, which was accepted. The society had no stated clergyman again until Jan. 1, 1865, when the Rev. John Eaton Smith became rector, and filled that position acceptably, until, owing to failing health, he was obliged to resign, which he did, June, 1870. His decease occurred in September of the same year. The Rev. Lawrence S. Stevens became rector in October, 1870, and continued as such until April, 1875,

and the Rev. A. N. Lewis accepted July 1, 1875, and is rector at the present time. The officers at present are as follows: Wardens, William L. Coley, George Jelliffe; Vestrymen, A. S. Hurlbutt, H. B. Gilbert, Lewis Bradley, A. T. Burr, E. S. Downes, W. S. Rogers, William E. Sturges; Treasurer, A. T. Burr; Clerk, John S. Jones; Organist, Frederick D. Marvin; Sexton, Joseph Spicer.

The site on which Memorial church is built was the “Wakeman Place,” formerly an old inn. Gen. Washington passed a night at this inn in September, 1780, while returning from Hartford, where he had been to meet Count Rochambeau. During the demolition of the ancient edifice there was found among the *débris* a French crown-piece of an early date in the eighteenth century, in excellent preservation.

#### CHRIST CHURCH.

A number of Episcopalians having met at the dwelling-house of William Nash, in Saugatuck, on the 11th day of March, 1833, to take into consideration the propriety of building an Episcopal house of public worship, to be located on the west side of the Saugatuck River, which being duly considered, it was deemed necessary that said house be built, and that a meeting be holden on the 18th inst. to draw up a subscription for building the church, which subscription to be binding provided the sum of two thousand dollars shall be subscribed.

At a meeting holden at the school-house, May 13, Taylor Hurlbutt was chosen chairman and Robert Raymond clerk.

Voted, That Taylor Hurlbutt be appointed treasurer to receive the amount subscribed for building the church.

Voted, That Taylor Hurlbutt, Daniel Nash, Jabez Adams, Isaac Adams, Dennis Nash, Edwin Wheeler, William Nash, Noah Nash, and Philo W. Jones be appointed a committee to contract for building the church, the plan and size of the building to be left to the committee, which, together with the proposals for building, be laid before this meeting for approval.

At a meeting held at the residence of Philo W. Jones, June 17, 1833, it was voted to accept the deed of land on which the church was built, from Taylor Hurlbutt, for the sum of four hundred dollars.

The corner-stone of the church was laid May 9, 1834, Bishop Brownell officiating, assisted by Rev. Jackson Kemper, of Norwalk. The names of the building committee, together with a Bible, prayer-book, and a copy of the *Churchman*, a paper printed in New York, were deposited in the stone.

The society was legally organized Oct. 28, 1835, at a meeting held in the room over the store of Jesse Bradley & Co., by the election of the following officers: Wardens, Daniel Nash and Taylor Hurlbutt; Vestrymen, Lewis Raymond, Dennis Nash, Keeler Nash, Gould Jelliff, Lewis Partrick, Edward H. Nash, and William Nash; Treasurer, Edward H. Nash;



Choristers, Uriah Taylor and Edward H. Nash; Sexton, Philo W. Jones. The edifice was consecrated on the 2d of November, 1835.

At the annual meeting, held April, 1850, in consequence of Lewis Raymond's health not being very good, and at his request, it was thought best to choose an assistant warden, and Philo W. Jones was elected as such officer, which position he held to the time of his death, in July, 1876. Mr. Nash died in 1865, when Mr. Jones was elected senior warden and Edward H. Nash junior warden.

The following clergymen have filled the position of rector of the parish: Revs. Jackson Kemper, Edward Ingersoll, Hilliard Bryant, Edward C. Bull, William H. Frisbie, John Purves, John R. Williams,—the latter of whom, elected July 8, 1860, is the present rector.

The present officers are as follows: Senior Warden, Edward H. Nash; Junior Warden, Andrew C. Nash; Vestrymen, Alfred Taylor, Oscar I. Jones, Charles L. Wilson, H. E. Sherwood, William H. Marvin, George S. Adams, Peter Bulkley, George B. Bouton, Edward A. Nash, Lewis B. Bradley; Clerk, Edward A. Nash; Organist, Edward A. Nash; Treasurer, George S. Adams; Sexton, John W. Gorham.

#### THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

This church, now obsolete, was organized in about 1834 or 1835, and among the first members were Alva Gray, Burr Keeler, Daniel Andrews, Platt Pensal, Wm. Burwell, Davis Taylor, John Baker, David Hubbard, Geo. L. Cable, S. H. Keeler. The first officers of the church were Alva Gray, Burr Keeler, and Daniel Andrews, Committee; Geo. L. Cable, Clerk; S. H. Keeler, Treasurer. Soon after the organization of the church a house of worship was erected. Among the ministers who served this church were Wm. A. Stickney, Fortree Hitchcock, D. H. Plumb, Chas. Bailey, and others. The society finally waned, and in 1870 the church building was sold to H. H. Belden, and converted into a dwelling.

## CHAPTER LXXXIV.

### WESTPORT (Continued).

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The Press—The Saugatuck Journal—The Fairfield County Republican—The Westport Advertiser—The Westporter—The Westport and Saugatuck Horse Railroad Company—Manufactures—Sloops—Temple Lodge, F. and A. M., No. 65—The T. A. B. Society—The First National Bank—The Westport Savings Bank—The Fire Department—Cemeteries—Civil History—Incorporation of Westport—First Town-Meeting—Selectmen from Organization to 1881—Representatives from 1836 to 1881—Probate Judges from 1835 to 1881—Postmasters—Historical Notes—Incident.

#### THE PRESS.

*The Saugatuck Journal* was the name of a paper printed in this village in 1828, which was then in the town of Fairfield. It was edited by S. W. Benedict,

and the first number was issued on Christmas-day. Mr. Benedict, who at the same time published the *Gazette* at Norwalk, ran the *Journal* for about three years, when he sold out to Albert Hanford, who changed the title to *The Fairfield County Republican*, which in a short time ran out.

In October, 1867, the Mercantile Association, consisting of Messrs. H. H. Belden and J. S. Jones, issued one number of a paper called the *Westport Advertiser*, after which it was run as a monthly paper by John S. Jones as editor and proprietor for three months, after which it became a semi-monthly, and was issued as such until February, 1872, when it became a weekly, which was run until March, 1874, when it was consolidated with the *Norwalk Hour*.

In March, 1876, Mr. Jones commenced the publication of *The Westporter*, which is the first paper ever printed in the town of Westport. Its motto is, "Independent in all things, neutral in nothing."

#### THE WESTPORT AND SAUGATUCK HORSE RAILROAD COMPANY

was organized March 7, 1876, with the following board of directors: Ambrose S. Hurlbutt, Horace Staples, Andrew C. Nash, E. H. Nash, J. E. Wheeler, C. H. Taylor, S. R. Sexton, James E. Lees, E. J. Taylor. Ambrose S. Hurlbutt, President; B. L. Woodworth, Secretary and Treasurer; Elijah S. Downes, Superintendent; Joseph Mills, Car-Driver. As its title indicates, the line extends from Westport to Saugatuck, and has proven itself a great convenience to the people.

#### JAMES SMIBERT'S TANNERY.

This business was commenced by Mr. Smibert in 1849, in a small shop employing two men. In three or four years the business increased, and in 1858-59 employed twenty-five men in making enameled leather.

#### KEMPER'S LEATHER-WORKS.

This business was established in 1835 by R. & H. Haight, dealers in hatters' supplies, New York, for the manufacture of leather for hatters' use. It was purchased by C. H. Kemper in 1842, and enlarged to its present size, for the manufacture of all kinds of leather except heavy. The business is now carried on by C. H. Kemper, Jr.

#### THE WHEELER BUTTON MANUFACTORY,

at Saugatuck, is a large and flourishing establishment. The salesroom is in New York. J. B. Wood manufactures satchels, belts, etc.

#### SLOOPS.

The following sloops are now (1880) plying between this port and New York: "C. H. Phillips," Capt. Isaac Sherwood; "James K. Polk," Capt. Peter Bulkley; "Lizzie Tolles," Capt. Sereno Allen. Runs from Saugatuck: Schooner "Sarah B. Bulkley," Capt. John F. Bulkley.

## TEMPLE LODGE, NO. 65, F. AND A. M., OF WESTPORT.\*

Charter granted at the session of the Grand Lodge in May, 1824, the three first officers then were Samuel Jackson, W. M.; Talcott Banks, S. W.; Henry Sherwood, J. W.

The following have served as Masters of Temple Lodge: Samuel Jackson, William Burwell, George L. Cable, William J. Finch, George B. Smith, F. W. Perry, Oscar Smith, R. D. Cable, Theodore Smith. The present officers are Oscar Smith, W. M.; George W. Bennett, S. W.; John S. Jones, J. W.; J. L. G. Cannon, Treasurer; L. B. Bradley, Secretary; Rev. A. N. Lewis, Chaplain.

## THE T. A. B. SOCIETY OF WESTPORT.

Organized, April, 1870, with the following officers: President, Jeremiah O'Connors; Vice-President, John Gorman; Recording Secretary, Martin Shaughnessy; Financial Secretary, John J. Quinlan; Treasurer, P. A. Smith; Chaplain, Rev. P. A. Smith.

The present officers are: President, Jeremiah O'Connors; Vice-President, Thomas Quinlan, Jr.; Recording Secretary, John McNally; Financial Secretary, Charles Williams; Treasurer, Thomas McNally; Chaplain, Rev. P. Keating.

## THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

The Saugatuck Bank of this place was organized October, 1852, by the election of the following directors: David M. Marvin, Horace Staples, William D. Bishop, Alva Gray, Matthew Bulkley, Gershom B. Bradley, J. B. Williamson; President, D. M. Marvin; Cashier, Charles Webb.

Horace Staples was elected president Jan. 4, 1854, and Benjamin L. Woodworth cashier Nov. 7, 1854.

On May 2, 1864, the name of the bank was changed to "The First National Bank of Westport." The present officers are: Directors, Horace Staples, Thomas R. Lees, Edward H. Nash, Stephen R. Saxton, B. L. Woodworth, Edmund W. Taylor, Francis Sherwood; President, H. Staples; Cashier, B. L. Woodworth.

Capital stock, \$300,000.

## THE WESTPORT SAVINGS BANK

was organized in 1860. The first officers were: President, Alva Gray; Vice-Presidents, Geo. Blackman, David M. Marvin, H. H. Belden; Secretary and Treasurer, B. L. Woodworth; Trustees, H. Staples, E. S. Downes, G. S. Adams, Wm. E. Dikeman, G. L. Cable, J. W. Taylor, E. A. Williams, R. H. Winslow, J. H. Phelps, Wm. Burwell, J. H. Gray, W. H. Marvin, E. W. Taylor, Sullivan Moulton. Present officers: President, Edmund W. Taylor; Vice-Presidents, G. S. Adams, E. S. Downes, and E. A. Williams; Secretary and Treasurer, B. L. Woodworth; Trustees, W. E. Dikeman, H. Staples, Wm. H. Marvin, H. A. Ogden, E. J. Taylor.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT.

During the year 1832 a small hand-engine was purchased by a number of citizens of the village of Saugatuck (now the town of Westport). The machine was probably at that time considered of great value at a fire, but at this late day would not attract much attention except for its oddity. In the month of May in that year the General Assembly of the State granted a charter to Robert Raymond, Geo. W. Comstock, Wm. S. Comstock, and Edwin Bennett, and such others as they may associate with them, to be known as the "Saugatuck Fire Company," and on the 9th of July, at a meeting held at the store of G. W. & W. S. Comstock, the following officers were elected: President, Robert Raymond, who was also chosen Secretary and Treasurer; First Foreman, Seth Sears; Second Foreman, Elnathan Wheeler; Third Foreman, Robert Raymond; Chief Engineer, W. S. Comstock.

Upon the roll of members we find the following names: Seth Sears, Elnathan Wheeler, Robt. Raymond, W. S. Comstock, Wm. Bennett, Edson Bradley, Fredk. Dannell, David S. Hubbell, Ezra Smith, James Douglass, Chas. Fox, Gould Gregory, Horace Staples, Ward Nichols, Wm. Platt, F. A. Wheeler, N. H. Price, S. Gray, Walter Nichols, John B. Adams, Hez. B. Lord, Harvey Sanderson, Henry Beers, John Baker, G. W. Comstock, Wm. Bradley, George Fairchild, E. W. Banks, Jas. Gilbert, J. O. Lurk, B. V. Russell, F. Akin, Barzilla Brown, Jesse Bradley, Henry Bulkley, Lewis Bradley, G. N. Banks, Thos. Riley, Ezra Brown, Edwin Tibills, Woolsey Bradley, Wm. L. Beers, Wm. Wells, A. S. Hurlbutt, D. W. Bradley, A. Houghtaling, E. S. Downes, George Platt.

The last record we find of this company is in 1844, at which time the members were assessed the sum of *six and a quarter cents!*

In 1858 the "Saugatuck Fire-Engine" was dug out of the filth and dirt from under the barn of B. V. Russell, cleaned and put in order, repainted, and named "The Union." A company was formed, with the following officers: Foreman, John S. Jones; Assistant Foreman, Edwin E. Warner; Treasurer, Elijah S. Downes; Secretary, Oscar I. Jones. The company never made but one appearance in public with "The Union," on account of its uselessness.

In June of the same year a subscription-paper with the following heading was circulated:

"We, the undersigned, do agree to pay to Myron L. Mason the sums annexed to our respective names, for the purpose of procuring a fire-engine and suitable apparatus for this village.

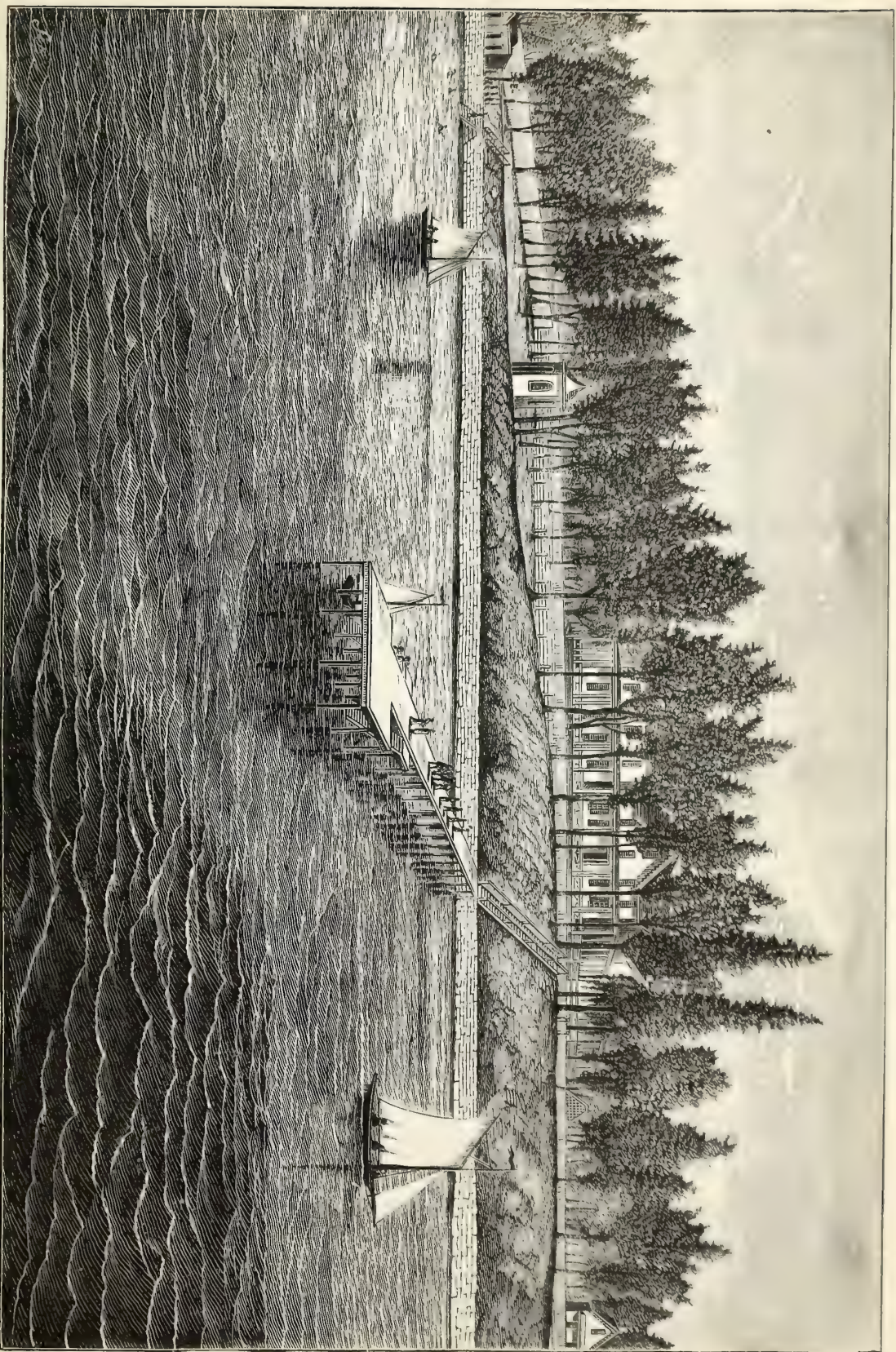
"Dated Westport, June 3, 1858."

To this paper was subscribed the sum of four hundred and twenty dollars and fifty cents.

Numerous committees were appointed from time to time to purchase an engine, but without success during that year. At one time Messrs. M. L. Mason and O. I. Jones visited Stamford and, as they supposed,

\* Contributed by John S. Jones.





RESIDENCE OF MRS. J. L. PHIPPS, GREEN'S FARMS, FAIRFIELD CO., CONN.  
VIEW FROM THE SOUND.





bought "Hunneman" engine, but before it could be put on board of the cars one of the owners decided that he would not sell, and the committee came home only to be laughed at.

On another occasion Sullivan Moulton and J. S. Jones were sent to Ansonia, where they made a bargain for an engine which was to be delivered in Westport in a week, but the following day a letter was received stating that one of the owners would not consent to the sale,—consequently that caused another laugh.

In January, 1859, a meeting was held (by the subscribers of the paper to purchase an engine) in Betts' Hall to consider the expediency of withdrawing their subscriptions.

E. M. Lees, Esq., was chosen chairman and H. H. Belden secretary. At which time it was voted,—

"That we, the subscribers, *do not* think it expedient to pay back the money collected, or any which may hereafter be collected, until we have found to a certainty that an engine cannot be purchased suitable for this place with the money subscribed, or until such time as we, the subscribers, think best.

"Voted, That a committee of five be appointed to purchase an engine, and that the following gentlemen be said committee: Jonas H. Phelps, William Wood, E. S. Downes, John S. Jones, Charles H. Taylor."

During the month of February the committee learned that the city of Waterbury had two hand-engines which they wished to dispose of. Messrs. Taylor and Phelps therefore visited Waterbury, examined the engines, and obtained the prices. About a week later the rest of the committee, viz., Wood, Jones, and Downes, went to Waterbury and purchased Phenix Engine, No. 1, for the sum of three hundred dollars, and they at the same time bought two hundred feet of hemp hose, for which they paid one hundred dollars.

The machine arrived in Westport on the 11th day of March, 1859, and was taken to Lee's factory, where it was overhauled and put in working order. The engine was of the piano style, manufactured by Van Ness & Co., of New York. At a meeting of "Union" Engine Company, held in Betts' Hall, April 11, 1859, it was voted to reorganize under the name of "Compo Engine Company, No. 2," and the following officers were elected: Foreman, John S. Jones; Assistant Foreman, Edwin E. Warner; Treasurer, Elijah S. Downes; Secretary, Oscar I. Jones.

At this time, the company having no house, the engine was stored in different barns about the village. The first service the company ever saw was at the burning of Wakeman's candle-factory, on West Avenue, on the night of May 28, 1859, at which time the machine was kept in constant operation for over four hours, thereby saving the entire lumber-yard of Staples & Adams and a number of adjoining buildings.

At the May session of the Assembly of the State a

charter was granted to John S. Jones, Edwin E. Warner, Elijah S. Downes, Oscar I. Jones, and Myron L. Mason, and such other persons as shall associate themselves with the above, not exceeding sixty in the whole, to be known as the "Compo Fire-Engine Company, No. 2." In January, 1860, a committee, consisting of E. E. Warner, J. S. Jones, and R. D. Cable, was appointed to build an engine-house, and that as soon as a suitable site could be obtained the foreman was to call the company together to put up the building. Accordingly, in the following month, the company were summoned by the foreman to appear on the following Monday morning, at two o'clock, with lighted lanterns. The frame of the building had already been got out and loaded on trucks and carts, which the company proceeded to drag to the place selected by the committee, which was near the shore, in front of the residence of Henry Jesup (now owned by James R. Jesup, his son), which ground the committee thought belonged to the town. As the sun rose in the eastern sky the frame was all up and the roof-boards were being rapidly put in position, when a messenger from Mr. Jesup (who was confined to his house) appeared on the ground and informed Foreman Jones that he must stop at once; but the company did not feel inclined to obey, but kept steadily at work.

At ten o'clock, M. L. Mason, Esq., who was an attorney-at-law, and counsel for Mr. Jesup, and also a member of the engine company, informed the foreman that he would have him arrested if he did not desist; was told to arrest if he thought proper. At this time nearly all the citizens of the village were centred around the disputed property, the majority of whom sided with the company, claiming that the property did not belong to Mr. Jesup. At about two P.M. Lawyer Mason arrived from Norwalk, armed with an injunction issued by Judge Butler of that place. After a long time an officer was found who served the paper on the company, who immediately adjourned to their hall, and decided to not leave the building on that ground if another site could be obtained. In about an hour Capt. John F. Bulkley informed the company that he would give them two years' rent of ground if they would move it to his property on Main Street, which offer they at once accepted, and immediately procured four pairs of wheels, placing a pair of each under each corner of the building, when they were informed by the officer of the law that the building must not be moved; but the company "could not see it in that light," and with four yoke of oxen and fifty-five laddies on the drag-rope, when the foreman gave the order "to set her ahead," the building began to move up Main Street amid the deafening cheers of the multitude, and at six o'clock the same evening the building stood where it has stood ever since. The company never heard any more of the injunction. The present officers of the company are: Foreman, John S. Jones;

Assistant Foreman, John W. Gault; Secretary, Lewis B. Bradley; Treasurer, Elijah S. Downes; Chairman, George F. Thorpe; Foreman of Hose, Joseph Mills; Librarian, John W. Perry; Assistant Librarian, Robert Gault.

In February, 1874, Vigilant Engine Company, No. 3, was organized with the following officers: Foreman, Frederick Sherwood; Assistant Foreman, Oscar I. Jones; Secretary, Charles Harris; Treasurer, F. Dwight Fanton; Chairman, George H. Taylor.

During the same month an engine (which was built in Baltimore, Md., in 1858, and afterwards sold to parties in New York City) was purchased by Messrs. H. Staples, E. H. Nash, A. C. Nash, A. Lockwood, T. R. Lees, Frederick Morehouse, E. W. Taylor, J. E. Lees, and others, of this place, and put in possession of Vigilant Engine Company, No. 3, the present officers of which are: Foreman, Edward Wheeler; Assistant Foreman, N. S. Kirk; Secretary, Joseph T. Hull; Treasurer, H. E. Sherwood; Chairman, O. I. Jones; Foreman of Hose, James Hart.

The engine-house is located on the opposite side of the river from Compo Engine.

In March, 1874, Ambrose S. Hurlbutt, Esq., purchased a hook-and-ladder truck from a company in Norwalk, which was received in Westport, March 19th, by "Compo" and "Vigilant" Engine Companies, who, after parading the various streets of the village, delivered the truck over to the "Pioneer" Hook-and-Ladder Company, No. 1, which had been organized with the following officers: President, C. B. Lyon; Foreman, Frederick Kemper; First Assistant, Elbert Wheeler; Second Assistant, Frank M. Bulkley; Secretary, Charles B. Guyer; Treasurer, C. H. Kemper, Jr.

The truck-house is located on Main Street, adjoining the house of Compo Engine.

The present officers of the company are: Foreman, Frank N. Taylor; Assistant, Charles La Croix; Secretary, William R. Palmer; Treasurer, F. E. Sturges.

#### CEMETERIES.

The oldest cemetery in the town is at Green's Farms. There is one also near the residence of G. S. Adams; one in connection with Christ Church; one called "Evergreen Cemetery," belonging to the Congregational Church.

The only incorporated cemetery is "Willow Brook," located a short distance north of the village.

#### CIVIL HISTORY.

Westport was incorporated in 1835 from portions of Norwalk, Fairfield, and Weston.

#### THE FIRST TOWN-MEETING.

The following is a record of the first town-meeting, and names of selectmen and representatives from organization of the town to the present time.

At a town-meeting legally warned and held at the meeting-house in Westport on the third Tuesday, the

16th day of June, 1835, at which time the first selectmen of the town were elected, as follows: Thomas F. Rowland, Taylor Hurlbutt, John Gray (2d). The following have been selectmen from 1836 to 1879:

1836, Thomas F. Rowland, Taylor Hurlbutt, John Gray (2d); 1837, Lewis Raymond, John Gray (2d); 1838, Jabez Adams, Thos. F. Rowland, John Gray (2d); 1839, John Gray (2d), Isaac Bennett, Alfred Taylor; 1840-41, Jabez Adams, T. F. Rowland, Hezekiah M. Coley; 1842, David Coley (2d), John Gray (2d), Street H. Keeler; 1843, H. M. Coley, Isaac Bennett, Street H. Keeler; 1844, H. M. Coley, Isaac Bennett, Burr Jennings, Jr.; 1845-48, Isaac Bennett, Gould Jelliffe, Daniel Burr; 1849, H. M. Coley, Alva Gray, Alfred Taylor; 1850, Alva Gray, H. M. Coley, David Coley (2d); 1851, H. M. Coley, Burr Keeler; 1852, Daniel Burr, Burr Meeker, Burr Keeler; 1853, Alva Gray; 1854, Wm. J. Finch, Aaron B. Adams, Lyman Banks; 1855, W. J. Finch, Lyman Banks, Wm. Burwell; 1856, Wm. J. Finch; John N. Betts, Bradley Goodsell; 1857, W. J. Finch, Bradley Goodsell, Alfred Taylor; 1858-61, W. J. Finch, Alfred Taylor, Talcott B. Wakeman; 1862, Wm. J. Finch, Edward J. Taylor, Lonson Coley; 1863, W. J. Finch, Lonson Coley, E. J. Taylor; 1864, W. J. Finch, Franklin Sherwood, Orrin W. Hotchkiss; 1865, Wm. J. Finch, Edward J. Taylor, Aaron B. Hull; 1866-68, Wm. J. Finch, E. J. Taylor, Wm. T. Wood; 1869-70, W. J. Finch, E. J. Taylor, Frederick Morehouse; 1871, W. J. Finch, E. J. Taylor, O. W. Hotchkiss; 1872, W. J. Finch, E. J. Taylor, James Smibert; 1873, W. J. Finch, E. J. Taylor, Burr Meeker; 1874, Silas B. Sherwood, James Smibert; 1875-76, Jas. Smibert, S. B. Sherwood, Gershom B. Bradley; 1877, Chas. H. Kemper, Silas B. Sherwood, Gershom B. Bradley; 1878, C. H. Kemper, S. B. Sherwood, Frederick Morehouse; 1879, G. B. Bradley, John H. Jennings, C. H. Kemper.

#### REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1836 TO 1873.

1836, Thomas F. Rowland; 1837, Lewis Raymond; 1838, Henry Sherwood; 1839-41, Eliphalet Swift; 1842, George L. Cable; 1843, David Coley (2d); 1844-45, Eliphalet Swift; 1846, William Platt; 1847, Hezekiah Allen; 1848, David Coley (2d); 1849, Wm. J. Jennings; 1850, A. A. Hutchinson; 1851-52, Street H. Keeler; 1853, Daniel Burr; 1854, Edmund W. Taylor; 1855, William Burwell; 1856-57, Wm. J. Finch; 1858, Richard H. Winslow; 1859, Moses W. Wilson; 1860, William Burwell; 1861, David S. Burr; 1862, Talcott B. Wakeman; 1863-64, Jonathan E. Wheeler; 1865, Myron L. Mason; 1866, Talcott B. Wakeman; 1867, Edward J. Taylor; 1868, Chas. H. Kemper; 1869, James Smibert; 1870, Thomas R. Lees; 1871, Jeremiah Brown; 1872, Silas B. Sherwood; 1873, Edward M. Lees; 1874, Thos. D. Elwood; 1875-76, Wm. Burr Wright; 1877-78, Albert Relyea; 1879, Henry P. Burr; 1880, John W. Hurlbutt.

#### PROBATE JUDGES.

1835-42, Thomas F. Rowland; 1842-44, Edwin Wheeler; 1844-49, Eliphalet Swift; 1849-50, Alva Gray; 1850-53, George L. Cable; 1853-54, Myron L. Mason; 1854-56, William H. Richards; 1856-68, Myron L. Mason; 1868-72, E. J. Taylor; 1872-73, Frank W. Perry; 1873 to present time, Edward J. Taylor.

#### POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of the postmasters of Westport since the incorporation of the town in 1835:

Ira Baldwin, Hezekiah Nichols, George L. Cable, John W. Taylor, Solomon G. Taylor, George L. Cable, Edward M. Lees, John S. Jones, Henry P. Burr, William E. Nash.

In 1827 the quarterly return of the Westport postmaster to the general post-office, of newspapers and pamphlets received, showed the receipt to be one daily, eight semi-weekly, and twenty-one weekly papers, three monthly publications, and one quarterly. The daily paper was the *New York Mercantile Advertiser*; the semi-weekly, three copies of the *National Intelligencer*, of Washington City, and five of the *New York Spectators*; the twenty-one weeklies were about



one-half of a religious character, and were published in different places; two of the three monthly pamphlets were the *African Repository*, published at Washington, in and of the Colonization Society, and one the *Ladies' Repository*; the quarterly was an English publication. A post-rider probably distributed some sixty to seventy weekly papers at the houses of the inhabitants. If the number be seventy, then the whole number of papers for the year, by mail and post, would be five thousand and eighty-four, and probably the pamphlets would make about twelve hundred pages, and we have the *whole* newspaper and pamphlet reading-matter of the town at that time.

#### HISTORICAL NOTES.

The following historical notes, covering a period from 1849 to 1879, were contributed by H. H. Belden, Esq.:

1849, April 1, H. H. Belden commenced the dry-goods business.

1854, April 1, Spong & Bardwell commenced the dry-goods business.

1857, Sept. 21, Eliphalet Swift died, aged seventy-eight years. Mr. Swift was a lawyer of some note, held many important offices of trust in town, and represented the town in Legislature two or three times.

1858, Feb. 28, Wm. Robert Taylor, son of Deacon E. W. Taylor, was buried in Evergreen Cemetery. His body was recovered from the ship "John Milton," wrecked off Montauk Point, east end of Long Island, on Friday night, in a violent snow-storm, February 19th; ten others perished; all the bodies recovered. March 22d Zalmon Sanford died. Mr. Sanford was in the lumber business with Horace Staples for many years, and afterwards by himself in the business; a prominent business man. April 7th, Dr. Joseph Jauncy died. Dr. Jauncy stood high as a medical practitioner. August 21st, Spong & Gray's store was robbed.

1859, Jan. 10, Sylvester Bouton, son of Richard Bouton, reported lost: hit by boom of vessel and knocked overboard, off coast of Florida; body not recovered. January 20th, Capt. Maltby Allen and crew, composed of Azon Allen and a hand by name of Hendrix, lost on board the schooner "Idora Emma Jane," loaded with coal, bound for New Haven. Hendrix drifted ashore on Long Island in a yawl-boat: froze to death. The jolly, with stone in it, also drifted on shore.

1859, March 1, Hezekiah Wakeman's barn and out-buildings at Coley Town burned at midnight; incendiary. April 2d, Sullivan Moulton, the oldest dry-goods merchant in Westport, died.

1861, Feb. 14, R. H. Winslow, of the firm of Winslow, Lancer & Co., died. Mr. Winslow was a public-spirited man, and his death was a great loss to the town.

1862, Feb. 10, John Spong died; buried in New

Haven. Mr. Spong was formerly in the dry-goods business with a Mr. Bardwell, and when he died the firm was Spong & Gray.

1863, Aug. 22, Staples & Adams' hardware-store was burned at two o'clock A.M.; incendiary. October 31st, Samuel Gorham's barn burned. December 12th, John Cleaveland, a lawyer, died.

1864, Feb. 4, the great Winslow will case settled by compromise. September 3d, Rogers & Goodsell's store and tin-shop robbed.

1865, Feb. 1, Dr. David S. Burr died. Dr. Burr was a young physician of much promise. His friends erected a handsome monument to his memory in the Episcopal burying-ground. March 4th, William H. Richards died. Mr. Richards was long a popular teacher of a select school in Westport. August 2d, Daniel Nash, a man of wealth, a member of one of the oldest families in this region, died, aged ninety-five years and two months. August 22d, Jonas H. Phelps, a machinist and man of much mechanical genius, died. Mr. Phelps built the draw over the river in the village. December 12th, Samuel Gorham, a well-to-do farmer, died. His family date back to the first settlement of the county.

1866, June 15, Burr Keeler died in a fit of apoplexy, aged eighty-two years. Mr. Keeler held many important offices in town.

1868, Nov. 16, Levi T. Downs died, aged seventy-nine. Mr. Downs was for many years in the grocery business in town, and was long identified with its interest.

1871, Nov. 14, James H. Utter was killed at the railroad crossing at Compo by the two o'clock express train from New York.

1872, May 9, Maj. William Burwell died. May 18th, John W. Taylor's drug-store and town clerk's office was broken into, the safe blown open and robbed. August 3d, Orin Taylor fell dead at New Rochelle, while coming from New York to Westport. September 1st, William S. Jones, harness-maker, died.

1873, Feb. 14, Patrick Cunningham's barn burnt; incendiary. March 13th, schooner "Jas. K. Polk," loaded with an assorted cargo, burned at her dock; loss about five thousand; no insurance; incendiary.

1874, Aug. 8, Dr. George Blackman died. Mr. Blackman was a physician for many years.

1875, Feb. 22, Stephen H. Alden's barn burnt; incendiary. May 19th, William C. Staples' barn burnt; incendiary.

1876, Jan. 3, Lanson Coley died, aged about eighty years. April 18th, John H. Gray,\* hardware merchant, died. July 3d, Alva Gray, hardware merchant, died. July 8th, David S. Gray, for many years hotel proprietor, died. Dec. 29th, John Warren Taylor died, aged sixty-seven; was town clerk forty-five years (I believe); kept drug- and book-store.

\* Mr. Gray wrote a series of interesting historical articles on Westport, which are used in this work.

1878, Jan. 10, David M. Marvin, first president of First National Bank, died. February 14th, Theodore Werner, member of United States Coast Survey, died. July 29th, O. M. Bennett died, aged ninety-two years.

1879, March 21, Capt. Daniel Burr died.

1880, Jan. 5, Capt. Charles Wakeman died, aged eighty. January 22d, William H. Burr died. February 11th, First National Bank safe blown open and robbed. February 28th, Elizabeth Taylor died, aged ninety-two; came to Westport from Sing Sing in 1816. March 6th, Charles Fairchild died, aged about seventy-five; Hezekiah Ogden died, aged about seventy-five.

"The abstract of the lists of taxable property in the town of Westport," says the late Alva Gray, "returned by the assessors for 1871, shows under the head of pleasure wagons and carriages the sum of twenty-five thousand seven hundred and forty-five dollars, which is probably not more than one-third of the actual value of this description of property. What the value of carriages and wagons might have been in 1809 I have no means of knowing, but believe it could not have exceeded three thousand dollars. Eight old-fashioned gigs, of the value of one hundred and fifty dollars each, comprised the sum total of taxable carriages. One-horse wagons were hardly known; a two-horse coach was a curiosity, only in the reach of some aristocrat of great wealth. I remember one only, that of old Isaac Bronson, of Greenfield, and when at a brigade training on Coley's Plains, I think in that year, Bronson's coach, driven by special permission within the lines, attracted as much attention as the soldiers. The first one-horse wagon I can recollect was owned by Capt. Ebenezer Coley about 1806 or 1807, made by Ephraim Sanford, of Reading, then the only wagon-maker in this section. Capt. Coley was a very large man, weighing probably two hundred and fifty pounds, and as he grew old, had his wagon made for his special use,—low and wide, the seat on rollers, so that he could with ease be rolled in and out by his negro men, of whom he had four or five. This description of vehicles did not get into general use before about 1830. There was little travel except on horseback before that time. A stage-coach, carrying the mail and a few passengers, passed daily through our village, and a passage to New York could be had for three dollars, leaving here about five o'clock P.M., and reaching the city about the same hour in the morning."

#### INCIDENT.

Westport has had many enterprising inhabitants, one of whom deserves special notice. About the year 1832, Mr. Daniel Platt, a very energetic man, carrying on the carriage business in this place at that time, determined on building a barn complete in one day. Mr. Stephen Nash, a man of like energy (who is now living, and over eighty years of age), was selected as the carpenter. Mr. Nash took the plan, and after surveying its dimensions promised to take the job in

hand and have it completed at the required time. He was told to select his men and be ready such a day. The barn was to be 26 by 36 feet. The timber, lumber, shingle, nails, and ten gallons "Old Jamaica" were on hand. Mr. Nash engaged the services of nine carpenters, and sixteen farmers, who knew what work was, and on the day appointed were all on hand, and the work commenced. The frame was hewed, mortised, and put up; sided, roof shingled, two pair large doors and five small ones made, hinges, hooks, and staples made, put on, and doors hung; gutters and leaders put up, and the barn painted throughout, the floors laid, six shocks of rye threshed out, the grain cleaned up and taken to mill, the flour returned, and Mrs. Platt had biscuit for tea made of the same, enough to accommodate all present. Time consumed, ten hours. The barn is in good condition and still standing on the premises of Mr. F. B. Morehouse, on West Avenue.

#### MILITARY RECORD, 1861-65.

##### THIRD REGIMENT.

###### *Company D.*

Barnes, James, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
King, Charles, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

##### FIRST SQUADRON CAVALRY.

###### *Company B.*

Douglass, James, enl. Aug. 21, 1861; disch. June 30, 1863.

##### FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.

###### *Company C.*

Smith, Charles, enl. Aug. 10, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

###### *Company G.*

Gonsalves, William B., enl. Aug. 2, 1864; must. out Aug. 1, 1866.  
Smith, John, enl. Aug. 13, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

###### *Company I.*

Passmore, Edward, enl. Dec. 23, 1863; captured June 29, 1864.

###### *Company K.*

Brown, James, enl. Dec. 29, 1863.  
Hurd, Henry E., enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

###### *Unassigned.*

Egan, John, enl. Aug. 30, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Woods, Joseph, enl. Aug. 12, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

##### SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.

Fowler, Thomas, enl. Feb. 16, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Hopper, William, enl. Feb. 16, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Printer, Edward, enl. Feb. 15, 1864.

##### FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

###### *Company A.*

Livins, John, enl. Dec. 3, 1864.

###### *Company F.*

Bauder, Gustavus, enl. Dec. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

###### *Company I.*

Bussing, Fred. H., enl. Feb. 10, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Hays, John, enl. Aug. 6, 1864.

###### *Company K.*

Fisk, Wilbur, corporal; enl. May 23, 1861; re-enl. Nov. 5, 1864; must. out Nov. 4, 1865.  
Jordan, John H., enl. May 23, 1861; disch. May 22, 1864, at expiration of term.

###### *Company M.*

Boughton, James, enl. Feb. 4, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Nov. 23, 1863.  
St. Clair, William, enl. Aug. 20, 1864; not taken up on rolls.



## SECOND REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

*Company D.*

Keith, Fred. R., enl. Dec. 26, 1863; wounded Sept. 19, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

Lyon, Edwin, enl. Dec. 17, 1863; trans. to U.S.N. April 14, 1865.

Lyon, George A., enl. Dec. 19, 1863; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

*Company I.*

Gregg, William, enl. Dec. 26, 1863; disch. for disability, Aug. 23, 1865.

*Company M.*

Donahue, Thomas, enl. Feb. 10, 1864.

Robert, James, enl. Feb. 10, 1864.

*Unassigned.*

Brady, Charles, enl. Aug. 12, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

Harvey, James, enl. Aug. 12, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

## FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

Jones, Philo W., Jr., enl. July 22, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, July 1, 1863.

Werner, R. R., enl. July 22, 1861; killed Aug. 19, 1862.

*Company D.*

Butterfield, James, enl. Aug. 16, 1862; pro. to captain; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company E.*

Johnson, William C., enl. July 22, 1861; must. out May 21, 1862.

Johnson, Charles W., enl. July 22, 1861; disch. July 21, 1864, at expiration of term.

Leggett, Elijah, enl. July 22, 1861; died Feb. 15, 1862.

Leggett, John, enl. July 22, 1861; died Aug. 22, 1863.

Olmsted, Charles, enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

Robinson, John, enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; disch. July 6, 1865.

Sherwood, Lorenzo, enl. July 22, 1861; trans. to Inv. Corps, Sept. 30, 1863.

Staples, Michael, enl. July 22, 1861.

Scofield, Sylvester, enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

Snagg, William, enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

## SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

Fuller, John H., enl. Sept. 3, 1861; disch. Sept. 2, 1864, at expiration of term.

*Company G.*

McCaffrey, James, enl. Dec. 3, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

Matthews, William, enl. Dec. 3, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

*Company I.*

Stahl, Henry, enl. Dec. 2, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

## SEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

Warrington, John, enl. Feb. 10, 1864; drowned June 16, 1865.

*Company D.*

Gennon, Patrick, enl. Feb. 18, 1864.

*Company G.*

Meyers, John, enl. Feb. 30, 1864.

*Company H.*

Root, Matthew, enl. Oct. 6, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.

## EIGHTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company D.*

Byard, Philip, enl. Feb. 15, 1864.

Fraser, John, enl. Feb. 15, 1864.

Hawkins, John, enl. Feb. 15, 1864; trans. to U.S.N. April 27, 1864.

White, James, enl. Feb. 16, 1864.

*Company F.*

Payne, Robert, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Nov. 15, 1865.

*Company G.*

Winter, Charles, enl. Aug. 9, 1864.

*Company H.*

Byron, Roger, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; disch. Oct. 1, 1864.

Dwire, Dennis, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. May 8, 1863.

Dwire, Michael, enl. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. for disability Feb. 16, 1863.

Glynn, James, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; killed July 8, 1864.

King, Charles, enl. Sept. 25, 1861.

Lannagan, Dennis, Sept. 25, 1861.

Waterbury, Francis, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

Hackett, John, enl. July 29, 1864.

## NINTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company F.*

Bone, Robert, enl. Jan. 9, 1864; disch. Oct. 26, 1864.

Peck, Edgar A., enl. Dec. 30, 1863; trans. to Co. C; must. out Aug. 3, 1865.

*Company I.*

Byron, Dennis, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; not taken upon rolls after consol., Oct. 31, 1864.

## TENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company H.*

Foster, Robert, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; killed Aug. 14, 1864.

## ELEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company E.*

Kelly, James, enl. Nov. 28, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

*Company I.*

McDonald, William, enl. March 29, 1864.

*Company K.*

Reed, John, enl. March 29, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

Townsend, George, enl. March 29, 1864; died July 27, 1864.

## TWELFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company C.*

Elwell, Philander, enl. Feb. 12, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 17, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

*Company E.*

Allen, Jeremiah, enl. Jan. 8, 1862; died Sept. 13, 1862.

Morehouse, Samuel E., enl. Jan. 15, 1862; killed April 13, 1863.

Norris, George E., enl. Nov. 12, 1861; disch. Feb. 14, 1863.

Roth, Jacob, enl. Dec. 3, 1861.

## THIRTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

Brannock, Kay, enl. Dec. 26, 1863.

Buckley, John, enl. Aug. 9, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

## FOURTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

Hagan, Thomas, enl. Aug. 3, 1864; trans. 2d Conn. Vol. Heavy Art. May 31, 1865.

Mott, William, enl. Aug. 28, 1863; died of wounds rec'd Oct. 14, 1863.

*Company E.*

Snyder, John, enl. Aug. 1, 1864.

*Company F.*

Dougherty, David, enl. Aug. 1, 1864.

*Company G.*

Wilson, George, enl. July 29, 1864.

*Company H.*

Smith, George, enl. Aug. 6, 1864; killed Aug. 25, 1864.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company E.*

Burr, Henry P., captain; com. July 23, 1862; resigned May 28, 1864.

Johnson, William C., first lieutenant; com. July 22, 1862; resigned Oct. 3, 1862.

Hubbell, James E., sergeant; enl. Aug. 7, 1862; pro. captain; must. out July 19, 1865.

Lees, George D., sergeant; enl. Aug. 7, 1862; pro. second lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.

McDonough, Henry, sergeant; enl. Aug. 14, 1862; pro. first lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.

Murry, Charles, sergeant; enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Hale, George, corporal; enl. Aug. 8, 1862; pro. second lieutenant; must. out July 19, 1865.

Perry, Aaron B., corporal; enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability Dec. 10, 1862.

Bennett, Aaron, corporal; enl. Aug. 7, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps July 1, 1863.

Lees, Edward M., corporal; enl. Aug. 18, 1862; pro. first lieutenant; wounded; resigned Oct. 10, 1863.

Perry, James A., corporal; enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Hadley, William, wagoner; enl. Aug. 20, 1862; disch. for disability April 1, 1865.

Allen, Elnathan, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Allen, Theodore, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Ahearn, Patrick, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. for disability April 15, 1863.

Burr, John T., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Brotherton, Benjamin, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Barnes, James H., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; trans. Inv. Corps; must. out June 26, 1865.

Bothwell, David, enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. for disability April 15, 1863.

Buckley, Thomas, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 10, 1865.

Baker, Joseph H., enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Bloomer, John H., enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Chase, Dennis O., enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Darron, Francis, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. Dec. 23, 1862.

Ellwood, Francis H., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 18, 1865.

Ellwell, Herman, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Foot, Francis C., enl. Aug. 7, 1862; missing July 2, 1863.

Flynn, James, enl. Aug. 19, 1862; died July 14, 1863.

Guernsey, George H., enl. Aug. 7, 1862; died Aug. 9, 1863.

Hoyt, Charles G., enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Hendricks, Lewis B., enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability June 23, 1865.

Keyser, William R., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. for disability Jan. 17, 1863.

Lockwood, Samuel, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 6, 1865.

Montieth, James, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Morehouse, Calvin, enl. Aug. 7, 1862.

Nash, Joseph B., enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Nash, Francis, enl. Aug. 18, 1862; missing July 2, 1863.

Olmsted, Charles, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps Jan. 1, 1865.

Perry, Roscoe, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Porter, Frederick M., enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Roach, James, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; died Jan. 6, 1865.

Seery, John, enl. Aug. 4, 1862; disch. for disability Dec. 5, 1862.

Schofield, Orlando F., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; died May 1, 1863.

Tibbe, Rufus, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps March 15, 1864.

Taylor, Orron, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Taylor, Augustus, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Wakeman, Rufus, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Wakeman, Frederick, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Worden, Amos, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; disch. for disability Jan. 21, 1863.

Wilbur, Henry U., enl. Aug. 11, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps July 1, 1863.

Warren, Eugene, enl. Aug. 14, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

Wolfe, John W., enl. Aug. 15, 1862.

*Company F.*

DeGroot, Benjamin, enl. Dec. 11, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

Mills, Aaron, enl. Dec. 9, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company G.*

Baker, Samuel B., enl. Aug. 18, 1864; must. out July 7, 1865.

*Company H.*

Young, George B., enl. July 24, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps Sept. 1, 1863.

*Company I.*

Dennis, John H., enl. Aug. 6, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps; must. out July 10, 1865.

Hull, Levi, enl. Aug. 7, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company C.*

Cavanaugh, Charles, enl. Aug. 25, 1864.

Howard, James, enl. Aug. 6, 1864.

Murray, George D., enl. Aug. 8, 1864.

Rogers, William, enl. Aug. 10, 1864.

## TWENTIETH REGIMENT.

*Unassigned.*

Ten Eyck, Charles, enl. Aug. 9, 1864.

Wilson, George, enl. Aug. 23, 1864.

## TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company I.*

Tonket, Benjamin H., enl. Sept. 8, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Nichols, Orville, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

## TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT.

*Company C.*

McDonough, Louis R., captain; com. Oct. 3, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Taylor, Jonathan C., second lieutenant; com. Sept. 8, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Mills, John P., sergeant; enl. Sept. 8, 1862.

Smith, Francis, sergeant; enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Crawford, Samuel B., corporal; enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Sherwood, Charles W., corporal; enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Sherwood, James S., corporal; enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Darrow, John H., corporal; enl. Sept. 10, 1862; died July 16, 1863.

Snagg, Robert R., musician; enl. Sept. 8, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Banks, Edward W., musician; enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Brower, William H., wagoner; enl. Sept. 9, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Allen, Charles W., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Allen, Edward, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Banks, Stephen, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; died May 25, 1863.

Brotherton, Edward, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Brotherton, George, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.

Brotherton, Arthur J., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Baker, George, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Batterson, Charles, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Baker, Bradley B., enl. Sept. 8, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Bentley, James, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Bones, Robert, enl. Nov. 5, 1862.

Burns, Jeremiah, enl. Nov. 5, 1862.

Blair, Francis, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.

Carroll, Terrence D., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Corbit, Matthew, enl. Oct. 21, 1862.

Crossman, Charles E., enl. Sept. 9, 1862.

Disbrow, Richmond, enl. Oct. 9, 1862; died Aug. 1, 1863.

Davis, George W., enl. Oct. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Delaney, John, enl. Nov. 4, 1862.

Fillow, Henry B., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; died July 25, 1863.

Foot, Peter R., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Furgurson, Ralph, enl. Oct. 21, 1862.

Gregory, John G., enl. Sept. 9, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Green, Byron, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Glinn, Thomas, Jr., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Hickey, John, enl. Sept. 9, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Howe, Stephen H., enl. Oct. 21, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Lockwood, William H., enl. Sept. 10, 1862.

Lockwood, George B., enl. Sept. 10, 1862.

Little, John, enl. Sept. 10, 1862.

Mills, William H. (1st), enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Mills, William H. (2d), enl. Sept. 8, 1862; died June 19, 1863.

McBride, Andrew J., enl. Sept. 9, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Meeker, Charles A., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Mahoney, Patrick, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

McNeal, George, enl. Nov. 4, 1862.

Nelson, George, enl. Nov. 4, 1862.

Richardson, George A., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. for re-enl. July 23, 1863.

Rouan, Garrett, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Smith, William H., enl. Sept. 8, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Smith, Charles F., enl. Sept. 10, 1862.

Sherwood, Edward F., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; disch. March 30, 1863.

Sherwood, Jesse, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

Williams, Oran, enl. Oct. 9, 1862.



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*Richard D. Richardson*



Warren, James, enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.  
 Youngs, William H., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; died Dec. 25, 1862.  
 Youngs, Charles J., enl. Sept. 10, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 28, 1863.

*Company H.*

Dickins, Frank H., enl. Nov. 10, 1862.

TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT (COLORED).

*Company B.*

Johnson, William H., enl. Dec. 28, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company E.*

Frye, John, enl. Dec. 23, 1863.

Jackson, Jos. H., enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company F.*

Benson, Samuel H., enl. Dec. 24, 1863; disch. for disability, March 1, 1865.

Gregory, Thomas, enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

Williams, Charles C., enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company G.*

Burns, James, enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

Jackson, William H., enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

Jackson, Frank, enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

Johnson, William H., enl. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

Benson, Thomas, enl. Dec. 24, 1863; died Jan. 7, 1864.

Jackson, Abram, enl. Dec. 29, 1863.

Limoson, Enos, enl. Dec. 29, 1863.

*Company H.*

Thompson, John, enl. Dec. 22, 1863; died Nov. 26, 1864.

Vantross, Charles, enl. Dec. 21, 1863; died Oct. 9, 1864.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### HON. RICHARD HENRY WINSLOW.

Hon. Richard Henry Winslow, son of Richard and Mary Corning Winslow, was born in Albany, N. Y., Sept. 16, 1806, and was a direct descendant of Kenelin Winslow, one of the "Mayflower" pilgrims in 1620.

His schoolboy days were spent in Albany; on leaving school, at the age of sixteen, he commenced his business career with R. J. Knowlson, who was at that time one of the leading business men of that city; from there he removed to Canandaigua, N. Y., and entered the service of Deacon Thomas Beals, who was then one of the prominent merchants of Central New York.

In 1825 he left Canandaigua, and went to join his uncle, Leonard Corning, in South America, who at that time and for many years afterwards was American consul at Maranham, Brazil. Here he was placed in charge of important interests in connection with the consulate and his uncle's affairs; among other duties made a voyage to France as supercargo, returning to Brazil within twelve months, after a successful accomplishment of the objects of the voyage.

In consequence of ill effects of the climate upon his health he returned to New York in 1828, and not long after entered into copartnership with Mr. M. C. Morgan, in the general produce commission business, under the firm of Morgan & Winslow; this connection continued until 1832, when a copartnership was formed with Mr. Tilley Allen, in the stock and money exchange business, in Wall Street. Mr. Allen re-

mained in the firm but a year or two, Mr. Winslow continuing the business on his own account for a year or more, when he associated himself with J. Newton Perkins, under the firm of Winslow & Perkins. From thenceforth the business was greatly extended, embracing banking, the negotiating of State stock, mortgage bonds for the construction of railroads, this house being the pioneer in introducing to the public in this country railway mortgages with bonds based thereon, the Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati Railway securities being the first of this class that were placed upon the American market. The remarkable success of that negotiation was soon followed by other like issues, and gave such position and prominence to the firm as made it the leading negotiator of many subsequent transactions of like character.

On Mr. Winslow's retirement from the stock exchange a pair of silver pitchers were presented to him on which was the following inscription: "Presented by the New York Stock and Exchange Board to their Vice-President, Richard Henry Winslow, Esq., Nov. 6, 1839." About the year 1848, Mr. Perkins retired from the firm, and was immediately succeeded by Mr. J. F. D. Lanier, of Indiana, where he had become prominent in the management of banking and State finances; the firm then became Winslow & Lanier. Shortly afterwards two younger brothers of Mr. Winslow were added to the firm, and the name changed to Winslow, Lanier & Co., and, while the membership of the house has in the mean time undergone several changes, the firm-name remains unaltered up to this day, and takes rank among the foremost banking-houses of the country.

In 1859, Mr. Winslow's health being seriously impaired by his intense devotion to the business that had become greatly extended, retired to his beautiful country home at Westport, Conn., to reap the fruits of no ordinary business career that had extended through a period of nearly forty years.

In 1858, Mr. Winslow was a member of the General Assembly, House of Representatives, and in the year 1859 he was a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor. In the year 1860 (April), Mr. Winslow was State Senator, Tenth Senatorial (Bridgeport) District; served his term with acceptance, securing the friendship of the late Governor Seymour and other leading citizens of the State, who remember him with feelings of singular attachment. In 1829 he married Miss Robertson, of New York, by whom he had three daughters who survive him, and two sons who died in infancy.

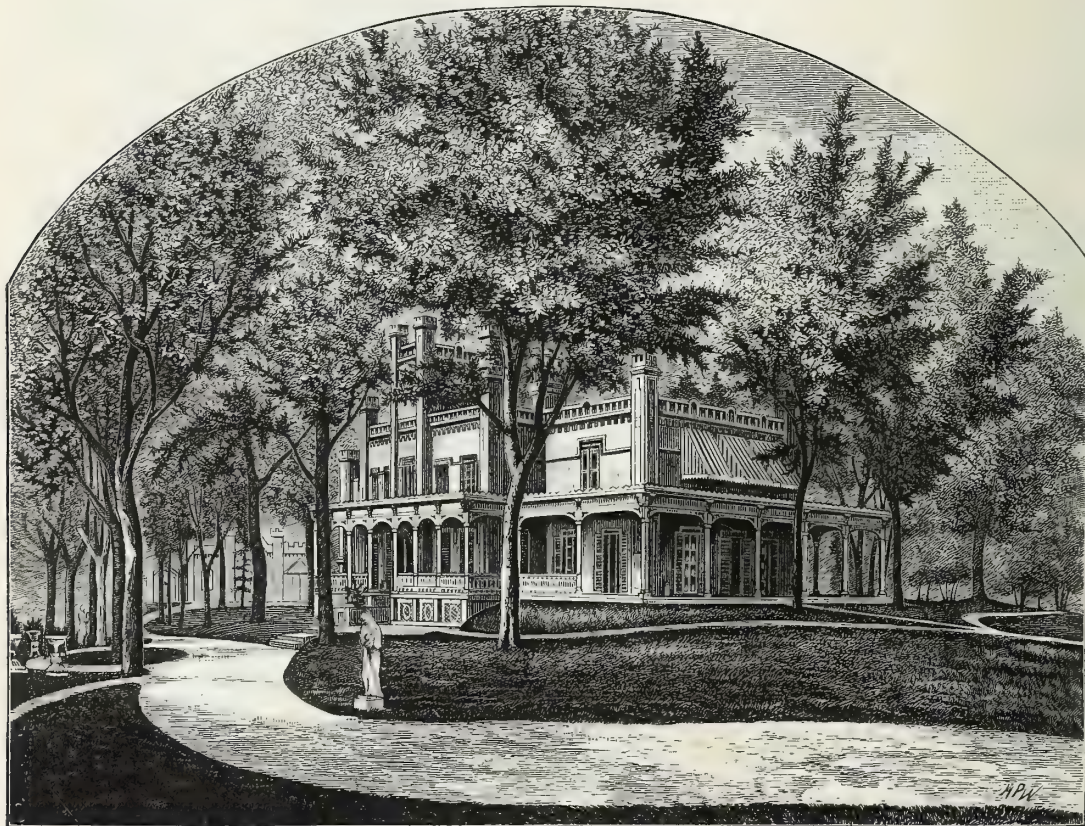
In 1854 he contracted a second marriage, with Miss Mary E. Fitch, of Norwich, Conn., who survives him in the enjoyment of an ample fortune bequeathed to her at his death. Mr. Winslow died at Westport, Fairfield Co., Conn., Feb. 14, 1861. Mr. Winslow in his intercourse with the men of his time, in the varied relations in active life, impressed himself with being a gentleman of marked characteristics, which made



him sought for by all who appreciate character and administrative ability.

In conversation illumined by extended reading and knowledge of the world he was singularly interesting, in sagacity clear, as well as positive in his views. In the conception of measures he was far-reaching, and bold in their execution; in the power of winning

others to aid in carrying out his plans he had few equals and no superiors. He was affectionate by nature, unshaken in his attachments and confidences, faithful in his friendships, and large in his benefactions; while those who knew him as brother, husband, and friend will never cease to love and cherish his memory.



"HOKANUM,"

RESIDENCE OF THE LATE MORRIS KETCHUM, WESTPORT, CONN.

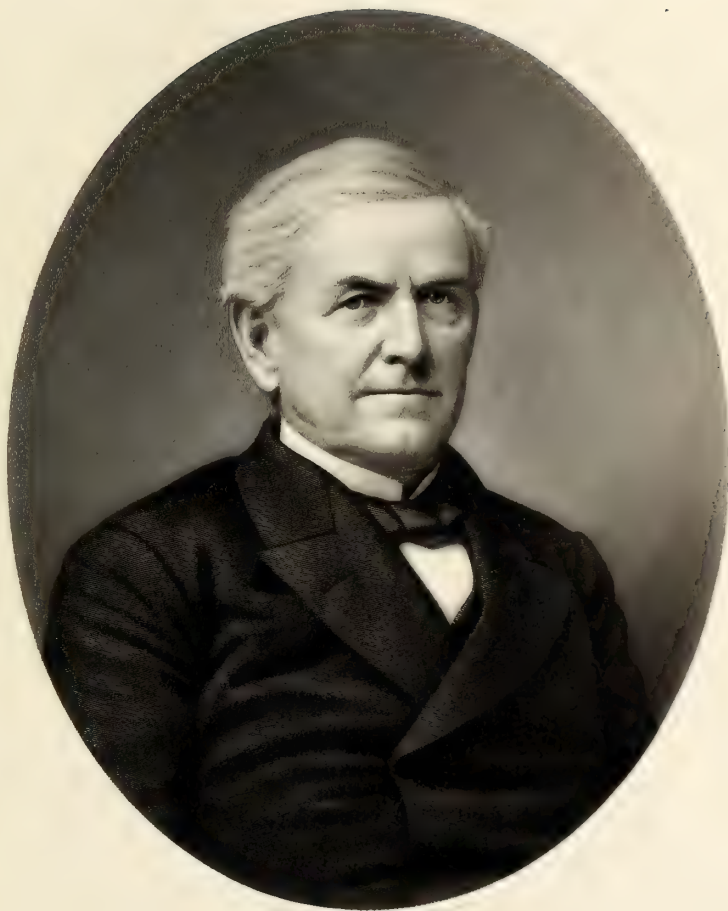
#### MORRIS KETCHUM.

Morris Ketchum, whose home at "Hokanum," in the town of Westport, Conn., has for many years been known as one of the most attractive and elegant country-seats, was born in Waterford, Saratoga Co., N. Y., in the year 1796. His father, Amos Ketchum, was descended from one of the earliest settlers of the county.

At an early age young Ketchum came to Westport to attend school; he here formed the acquaintance of the ladies who subsequently became his first and second wives; they were sisters, daughters of Mr. Silas Burr. At the age of sixteen he commenced his business studies in New York City; two years later he visited Savannah, Ga., where he established business as a cotton broker, making himself thoroughly acquainted with the grading of cotton, and the manner of handling it from the field to its delivery into the

manufacturer's hands. His success was immediate; he soon obtained the confidence and patronage which justified his opening a commission house in New York, in association with his father. The sagacity and business ability thus early exhibited naturally attracted attention. Mr. Ketchum was offered a partnership with Mr. Rogers, famous as the builder of locomotive-engines, at Paterson, N. J. The firm-style was Rogers, Ketchum & Grosvenor. In the distribution of duties and functions Mr. Ketchum became the financier of this prosperous firm, and in his transactions with the railroad magnates of the entire continent gave abundant evidence that in the world of finance he had found his legitimate sphere of action. The firm described above entered the banking business in addition to manufacturing. On Mr. Grosvenor retiring from it the style was changed to Ketchum, Rogers & Bement, later





*Morris Ketchum*







VIEWS AT "HOKANUM."

its style became Ketchum, Howe & Co., and finally Morris Ketchum, Son & Co. These partnerships covered nearly forty

years of Mr. Ketchum's eventful life, and many very important enterprises were undertaken and carried to successful completion under their auspices.

At a day when many deemed the scheme impractical Mr. Ketchum gave a hearty support to the building of the New York and New Haven Railroad, and it is safe to say no man contributed more than he to its successful establishment.

Of the Illinois Central Railroad he was one of the earliest projectors, aiding in securing its wonderful land grant and finding a market for its bonds. To rightly estimate the magnitude of this work it should be considered not in the light of to-day, but of that early time in the history of railroads in the West; but few men had the sagacity to anticipate the resources of the country now tributary to that important railway. Mr. Ketchum not only appreciated its prospective importance, but he inspired confidence in others in a remarkable manner.

Confidence is said to be a plant of slow growth. How had Mr. Ketchum acquired it? This legitimate inquiry regarding him may be answered in two ways: First, his judgment was sound; always based on thorough knowledge of all attainable facts in the case, a comprehensive mind qualified him to grasp a financial scheme with clearness. He was a courageous man, and a man of honor; he asked no one to follow where he would not lead. Again, he was one of the very few men who had foreseen the commercial panic of 1837; he not only predicted it, but, against entreaty and protestation, withdrew his capital from his then sanguine partners, and prepared himself to outlive the financial storm in safety. The period from 1837 to 1842 found him in a position to take advantage of this foresight, and gave him the unbounded confidence of business circles; these years of ruin to many were years of prosperity to him.

When Hon. S. P. Chase, then Secretary of the United States Treasury, found himself face to face with the gigantic financial

problems of our civil war, he found in Morris Ketchum a tower of strength, a man of undoubted patriotism, combined with financial experience, tact, and resource. He was the trusted adviser of the government during the darkest hours of its peril; when doubt and distrust prevailed he courageously met the exigency: took personally large amounts of the bonds first issued, inspiring confidence by his prompt action. He gave Mr. Chase such counsel in critical junctures as to have called from that official the heartiest acknowledgments.

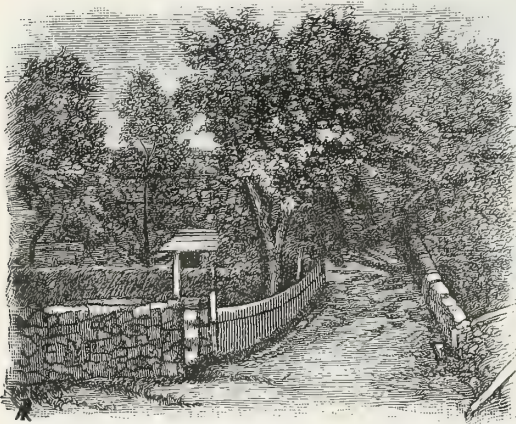
In 1864 a quarrel between the directors of the Fourth National Bank of New York threatened to ruin the institution and force it into liquidation. Mr. Ketchum was selected as a compromise president; by his shrewd and careful management the bank was brought safely through its troubles. He resigned the presidency of the bank in July, 1865, and in the summer of that year, owing to the failure of his old firm, he was obliged to retire from business. Great sympathy was felt for Mr. Ketchum in this misfortune, but he made an honorable settlement with his creditors, and by his indomitable pluck and energy again acquired a comfortable fortune.

Mr. Ketchum passed many years of his eventful life at his home in Westport. He had acquired by

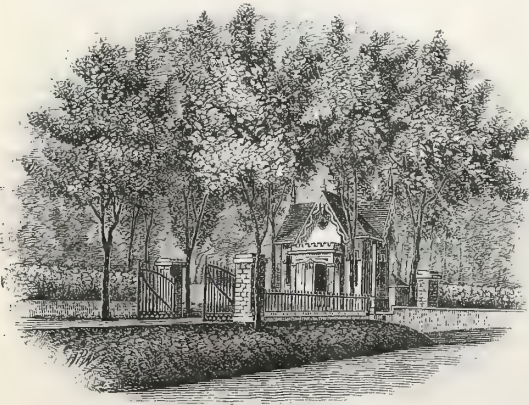




marriage an estate containing about one hundred acres of wild rolling land, situated about a mile north of the village, and forming a part of what was known as Burr's Plains; to this estate he had added by purchase from time to time, until at present it contains over five hundred acres. By large expenditure of



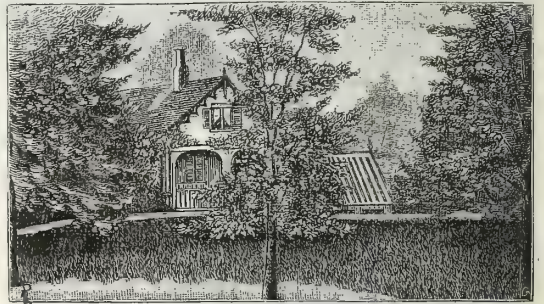
money, under skillful direction, this once uninviting property has been converted into a magnificent domain. By thorough drainage, improved methods of agriculture, and tasteful adornment, Mr. Ketchum has set an example that must ever have a beneficial influence. Thousands of trees were placed by the



PORTER'S LODGE.

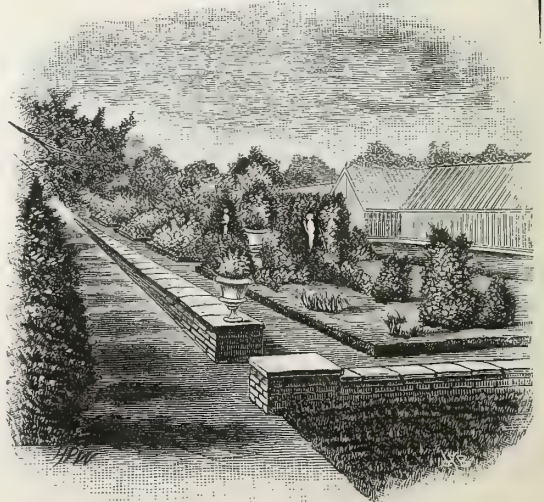


hand of the master: their groupings are after the most approved taste in landscape gardening; the drives through the estate (which are open to the public) are most delightful. As might be expected, the best breeds of cattle and domestic animals have been found at "Hokanum;" their breeding and raising have made them familiar to the farmers of the neighborhood, and secured one result of their introduction, —viz., the elevation of public taste in stock-breeding.



GARDENER'S COTTAGE.

To the outside world Mr. Ketchum has been known as the great private banker; to his family and asso-



GRAPERY.







DANIEL NASH.



ciates he is remembered as the true and generous friend, as the public-spirited supporter of all projects to elevate and strengthen the cause of religion, education, and civil order, as a devoted husband and father, a just administrator of affairs, a peace-maker, a friend of merit, a generous patron, a man of pure morals and great integrity. His manner was quiet and reticent; a close observer *always*, not only of men, but of nature, his love of children and animals was remarkable. He possessed a firmness that often assumed the aspect of sternness, and even coldness; this aspect might be seen when in the battle of the giants he marched with close-set lips and firm step direct to the object of his ambition, but in the walks of domestic life no one feared to approach him, for his gentleness won confidence and love.

Mr. Ketchum had profound reverence for the Christian religion; he was a constant attendant and



supporter of public divine worship. While residing at Westport, his family attended the Congregational church. In New York City their connection was with the Presbyterian Church of which the late Rev. Dr. W. Adams was pastor. Not only was he liberal to the denomination of his adoption, but when called on by the friends of other churches, both Protestant and Catholic, to aid in building houses of worship, he contributed generously.

Many of his tenants and domestic servants were of the Catholic faith; it gave Mr. Ketchum pleasure to secure for them the privileges of worship in the church of their choice; furthermore, he recognized the conservative influence of religious instruction upon the whole community, and as a friend of civil order he responded to these calls for aid.

In politics Mr. Ketchum was in early life a Whig, a personal friend and admirer of Daniel Webster; in later years he was in full sympathy with the cause of the Union and the Republican party.

Mr. Ketchum married for his third wife (who survives him) the daughter of Judge Silvanus Miller, of New York City, a man of ripe scholarship and eminent legal ability.

Of Mr. Ketchum's living children there are five sons and two daughters. Mr. Ketchum died Jan. 1, 1880, at his home in New York City. He had en-

joyed uninterrupted health for a long term of life,—at eighty was vigorous and active. His death was the result of paralysis. A list of the pall-bearers indicates the class of men who were proud to be named as his intimate friends. They were John J. Cisco, Junius S. Morgan, William E. Dodge, Dr. Willard Parker, P. C. Calhoun, B. B. Sherman, W. W. Phelps, Horace Staples, Theodore A. Neal, President Jenkins, of the Bank of America, Dr. J. H. Janeway, and Gouverneur Morris.

The accompanying views are of the residence and grounds at "Hokanum."

#### DANIEL NASH.

In the records of the early Connecticut colonies is often found the name of Nash. Micajah Nash, paternal grandfather of the second Daniel, married, in Norwalk, Mary Scribner, in 1744, and had three sons,—Jesse, Daniel, and Samuel. This Daniel, born Dec. 2, 1747, resided at Patchogue, L. I., at the time of the birth of his son Daniel, whose history we are writing. This occurred May 12, 1770, and when the lad had attained the age of fourteen his father, Daniel, Sr., moved to Westport. This was in 1784. The elder Daniel purchased some land and a mill, which latter he put in care of the young lad, and which he faithfully attended for fifty years. This mill is still standing, and is now one hundred and five years old. In 1809 the father and son unitedly built the house now owned and occupied by Edward H. Nash, and resided together all the lifetime of the father. He, Daniel, Sr., died Sept. 6, 1824. The education of the young Daniel was derived from the primitive schools of that day, where the young student graduated oftener with knowledge of the axe and scythe than with that of books. His was a life of toil, unwearying labor, and a continual battle with the forces of nature. It would be strange if the life thus developed would not early know the value of a dollar thus acquired, and cherish it as an article not lightly won. In early life he showed the true business man by putting his money, whenever any came into his possession, at interest, *and keeping it there*. With all his tact in acquiring and retaining money he was very liberal where his conscience approved, and was noted for the interest he took in church matters, and the great liberality with which he supported its institutions. When the Episcopal Church in Norwalk (to which his father at one time contributed two hundred dollars) was organizing a "church fund," Mr. Nash gave at one time five hundred dollars for that purpose, and without his hearty and exceedingly liberal financial support no song of praise would have cheered the place where now stands Christ church in Westport. He and his sons Edward and Andrew have, far beyond others, not only built, but sustained it. Mr. Nash was, as is shown above, an Episcopalian, and member of the building committee, and also warden of Christ Church.

This was built in 1835, and named by Bishop Kemper,—dear to all Episcopalians. Mr. Nash was first a Whig, afterwards a Republican. During the Rebellion a gentleman sent word to him not to invest in United States government bonds. As quick as a flash he turned and said, "What would you have,—*Confederate*?" Mr. Nash was noted for his skill and love of telling stories. He neither desired nor held political offices. He was quick, positive, and independent in his nature, and had a fine sense of right and wrong. Tenacious of his rights, he wanted all his own, but never an unjustly-acquired dollar. His word was as sacred as his bond, and neither were ever repudiated.

Mr. Nash married, Oct. 9, 1809, Rebecca, daughter of Jonathan Camp, of Norwalk. Their children were Edward H., Andrew C., Julia Ann (Mrs. J. W. Wood), Hannah (Mrs. Ezra Morgan).

Mr. Nash was over ninety years of age at the breaking out of the Southern Rebellion, and left the entire control of his money to his son Edward. By his judicious investment in United States bonds—gold-bearing—thousands of dollars were added to the estate.

Mr. Nash died Aug. 2, 1865, at the place so long his home, at the advanced age of ninety-five years.

Edward H., his son, married Abigail Gorham, Oct. 9, 1836. She died Jan. 16, 1861. For his second wife he married Margaret N. Williams, Sept. 16, 1861. She died Oct. 18, 1871. Their children are Adelaide, Lloyd, Louisa, and Fanny. For his third wife Edward married Mrs. Mary E. Tuttle, daughter of Lewis Partrick, April 17, 1872.

Andrew C. Nash married Eliza A. Adams, Jan. 18, 1835. Their children are Mary Frances (Mrs. Dr. Bouton), Daniel C., Edward A., Andrew S., Celestia A., Eliza A., and Amelia R. Mrs. Andrew Nash died Nov. 12, 1876.

#### DR. GEORGE B. BOUTON.

In the old town records of Norwalk is recorded, "John Bowten of Norwake, tooke to wiffe Abigall, dau. of Math. Marvin, sen'r. of the same, January the 1st, 1656." Thus among the earliest settlers of Fairfield County were the ancestors of Dr. Bouton.

John Bouton was a French Huguenot, but at what time his immigration occurred is unknown. From the marriage above given came five children, the eldest, John, born Sept. 30, 1659. This John had two sons, Jakin and Joseph. Jakin was twice married, and, by his second wife, had two sons, Esaias and Moses, and many daughters. Esaias Bouton was great-grandfather to Dr. Bouton, and married Phebe Byxbee, May 30, 1753. Stephen, their fourth child, born July 4, 1760, married Hannah, daughter of Jonathan Camp, May 26, 1792. Their children were Hannah, Stephen, and Josiah. Stephen was born March 18, 1797. He married, May 5, 1823, Harriette, daughter of Beriah Bradley, of New Haven, Conn. She was born Dec. 30, 1801. Mr. Bouton accompanied his father as a lad to Troy, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., and

after arriving at maturity became senior member of the grain-dealing and forwarding firm of S. & J. Bouton. He was an active member of the Episcopal Church, and, as the building of Christ church was then going on, he became largely interested—financially—in it, and, by indorsing for the rector, was rendered bankrupt. He then engaged in the grocery trade, and after conducting it a few years moved to New Haven, where he died, shortly after, on Feb. 10, 1855. His wife, surviving him, lived till October, 1870. Of their four children, only two—George B. and Grace Bradley (who married William C., son of ex-Mayor Peck, of New Haven)—survive.

George Beriah Bouton was born in Troy, N. Y., April 27, 1828. When about nine years old, he was placed at the boarding-school of the Episcopal Institute, in charge of the rector of Christ Church, previously alluded to, and through whose fraudulent actions his father was ruined. (It might be well for the moral to add, *en passant*, that, for these and subsequent actions the rector was deposed from the ministry.) Here George remained three or four years until his father's failure, when our young student went into the hardware store of an uncle, Edward Bradley, as clerk. Performing his duty well, he remained in that store three years, then accompanied Mr. Bradley to New York City, and took a position in the large establishment of Edward Corning & Co., which he occupied for four years. (A singular circumstance in the life of this uncle, Edward Bradley, is the fact, that after thirty years of mercantile life, he studied divinity, and was ordained a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, his ordination sermon being preached by his son.) When Stephen Bouton removed to New Haven, George accompanied him, and began to study medicine under Dr. Charles Hooker, professor of anatomy in Yale College. In January, 1856, he graduated at Yale, and in March of the same year at New York Medical College. Preferring a metropolitan life, Dr. Bouton located in New York City. He had, even before graduating, received the appointment of examining physician and deputy coroner, and at once entered upon the duties. He held that position for three successive terms of three years each, except an interval of nearly a year, which was spent as surgeon to Gen. Walker's troops in Nicaragua, where he was located at St. George's and Rivas.

In 1865, Dr. Bouton, tiring of the incessant labor of his city duties, removed to Westport, Conn., where he now resides. He did not cease his labors, having been in constant and very active practice since living at Westport. By his great vitality he has been enabled to perform double the work of one man, and yet keep his health. In his profession Dr. Bouton takes a high stand. As evidence of his skill, we will adduce the fact that, on one occasion, in New York City, he successfully invalidated a will, involving over two hundred thousand dollars, by his examination of a body, and introducing for the first time in legal





*Geo B. Boutwell & Co,*









John W. Taylor





BURR JENNINGS.





annals, portions of the body which had been buried nine months, to illustrate testimony in a civil suit. For this Dr. Bouton received a fee of three thousand dollars. He is now medical examiner of several life insurance companies, and is a member of Fairfield County Medical Society and Connecticut Medical Society.

In 1861, April 28, Dr. Bouton married Mary Frances, daughter of Andrew C. Nash, of Westport, of an old and prominent family. She was born Feb. 26, 1837.

Dr. Bouton is both a Freemason and Odd-Fellow. Is a member of Wooster Lodge, No. 79, F. and A. M., New Haven, Conn., also of Franklin Chapter, No. 2, Harmony Council, No. 8, and New Haven Commandery, No. 2. Has been Senior Deacon and secretary of lodge and secretary of chapter. He was delegate to the Grand Lodge of I. O. O. F. in 1853 from Harmony Lodge, No. 5, of New Haven, and was the youngest member of that body. He still belongs to Harmony Lodge, and is a member of Sassacus Encampment, No. 1, New Haven. Both Dr. Bouton and wife are Episcopalians, and the doctor has been vestryman in Christ Church, Westport, for fifteen years.

Personally, Dr. Bouton is social and pleasant, is a strong friend, and held in high esteem by a large circle of acquaintance. Politically, he is unswervingly a Democrat.

Industry, public spirit, truthfulness, and faithfulness to every duty mark the course of Dr. Bouton, and he is acknowledged to be to-day one of Westport's most valued citizens, always enlisted in everything tending to elevate, educate, or improve mankind.

#### JOHN WARREN TAYLOR.

John Warren Taylor was born in Norwalk, April 8, 1810. He was son of Seth and Abigail (Warren) Taylor. The old town records of Norwalk preserve the following concerning his ancestry: "March 1, 1713.—The Town by a major vote grants liberty to John Taylor to erect a small house for his family's convenience on y<sup>e</sup> Sabbath, on such part of y<sup>e</sup> town's land near y<sup>e</sup> meeting-house as y<sup>e</sup> selectmen shall allow or find convenient." "John Taylor, Junr., took to wife Sarah Lockwood, daughter of Mr. Daniel Lockwood, late of Norwalk, dec'd, and was married to her Nov. 6, 1723." She died Jan. 24, 1724-25. "The s'd John Taylor, Jun'r., took to wife Hannah, daughter of Lt. James Stewart, of Norwalk, and was married to her Jan. 19, 1726-27." To them were born John, James, Hannah, Eli, Seth, Bette, Asher. This Seth, the grandfather of John Warren, was born March 30, 1735, and married Martha Gaylord, daughter of Rev. William Gaylord, of Wilton, March 7, 1765. Seth, Jr., was their third child and oldest son. His birth occurred Feb. 4, 1771. His brothers and sisters were Rufus Gaylord, Wm. Roswell, Louisa,

Eliza M., Sylvester G. By a subsequent marriage were born Rufus G. and Mary M. Their mother's name was Rebecca Hurlburt. John Warren attended public schools until he was fifteen, and Norwalk Academy for three years subsequently. Then he commenced teaching district school in East Norwalk, and continued that profession in different places till 1832. He engaged at that time in the dry-goods trade in Saugatuck, now Westport, and this he carried on two years. Selling that interest, in 1834 he purchased a small stock of drugs of Dr. Nash, and, adding largely to the purchase, he also joined a department of books and one of very extensive variety goods. In this business he continued until his death.

Mr. Taylor married, March 20, 1832, Mary J., daughter of Uriah Hoyt, Esq., of Norwalk. She was born in Norwalk, Oct. 29, 1812. Their surviving children are Henry F. (who married Mary E. Clark, of Stamford, Conn., where he now resides, connected with *The Churchman* publishing office) and Hiram H., who married Lizzie J. Provost, of Stamford, and is now resident partner, at Baltimore, Md., of the New York house of Dudley & Co.

Mr. Taylor was brought up in the Congregational Church, and, although never a member, for more than half a century mingled with the people without a blemish on his moral character, and possessed of the respect, esteem, confidence of all. Quiet and undemonstrative, he filled well and fully every station in life, cherished as a friend, trusted as an official, beloved as a husband and father, and never could be found a tongue to breathe malice against him. For more than thirty-seven consecutive years he held the position of town clerk, a fact which shows his personal popularity and worth. During the administration of President Taylor, John Warren was appointed postmaster at Westport, which position he filled until a change of politics demanded his removal. He was an Old-Line Whig. After the formation of the Republican party he acted and voted with it. He died Dec. 29, 1876, regretted by all.

#### BURR JENNINGS.

Burr Jennings, son of Burr and Mercy (Morehouse) Jennings, was born Nov. 2, 1794, at Green's Farms, in the town of Fairfield, Conn., on the homestead in possession of his ancestors from the foundation of the Fairfield settlement. His great-grandfather was Joshua Jennings, and his grandfather's name was also Joshua. He married Hester, half-sister to the distinguished Aaron Burr. Both Joshua, Sr., and Joshua, Jr., were prominent citizens of Fairfield, large land-owners, and highly esteemed by their contemporaries.

Burr Jennings, Sr., was a quiet, undemonstrative person, saying but little, but that to the point. He never aspired to political office, was conservative in thought, but positive in his nature, rarely changing an opinion once formed. He was a member of the

Congregational Church, and died in June, 1844, aged seventy-seven. Of his family of six daughters and two sons, Burr, Jr., was second child and first son.

Burr Jennings, Jr., received such advantages of education as existed in the country schools of that early day, when no such royal road led to learning as does to-day, and a few winter months, interspersed with much labor, was all that could be given to education. Remaining with his parents until his majority, he continued residing with them, engaged in farming, until he was twenty-six years old, when, Nov. 19, 1820, he married his cousin, Caroline, daughter of Caroline and Joshua Jennings. She was born at Green's Farms, July 2, 1801. And now follows something which the youth of 1880 would do well to consider. For *two years* Mr. Jennings continued living with his parents, and Mrs. Jennings with hers, until Mr. Jennings had built a comfortable home on the lot of land received from his father, and in their own house, which was to be for so many years their home, and where Mrs. Jennings still resides in the fullness of years, they commenced their housekeeping.

For over fifty years Mr. and Mrs. Jennings enjoyed each other's society, wrought together in the varying labors of life, and endured the same sufferings, for all was not pleasure in their life. Their golden wedding was celebrated Nov. 19, 1870, when both were hale and hearty, the central figures of a happy gathering of kinsmen and friends. Mr. and Mrs. Jennings were attendants, and for years members, of the Congregational Church. Their children were Caroline Burr (deceased, who married Edmund A. Peffers), Mary Morehouse (deceased), Abby Taylor (deceased), Julia Maria (Mrs. Isaac T. Banks, of New Haven), Augusta (Mrs. Edward S. Spring, now residing with her mother), Albert Burr (deceased), and George Franklin (deceased).

Mr. Jennings died Sept. 24, 1872. By his economy, thrift, and industry he added much to his patrimony, and left to his descendants a fine inheritance and the better legacy of an unspotted name.

#### FRANCIS BULKLEY.

Francis Bulkley was born in Fairfield, Conn., Jan. 30, 1786. His ancestors were of the primitive settlers in this town, and of English origin, coming to this county from Hartford and Colchester. His parents were Abram and Jane (Burr) Bulkley. The father of Abram was Peter, a tanner and manufacturer of shoes. His father was Gershom.

Abram was a soldier in the Revolution, after that engaged in privateering, and, when the war ended, went to farming on the family homestead, building for himself, previous to or about 1800, the house now occupied by Joel B. Bulkley. He died in 1837, about eighty-seven years of age. He was an active person of much sociality, an ardent Episcopalian, and one of the founders of Trinity Church.

Francis had a common-school education, carried on farming until his majority, and married Sarah B., daughter of Samuel and Mary (Bradley) Morehouse, in 1814. He built the house so long his home in 1818, and resided there until his death, which occurred Sept. 17, 1868. Mrs. Bulkley died Dec. 22, 1833. Their children were John Francis, Esther, Peter, Maria (deceased), Gershom, Mary Jane, Sarah Burr (Mrs. John H. Wood), and Abram. Of these, Gershom, Esther, and Mary Jane live in the old home.

Mr. Bulkley was a member of the Society of Trinity Church (Episcopal), and at one time was vestryman. He was in politics a Democrat, was a quiet man, never seeking office or meddling with office-seekers, but preferred the society of the home circle to any other. The early death of Mrs. Bulkley left a more than usual responsibility upon him, and his tender care endeavored to supply to some extent a mother's place unto his children. He was a great reader, keeping himself well posted on all matters transpiring in the world. He was careful and conservative, not prone to wander into speculations in religion, politics, or business.

Mr. Bulkley was a contributor to all objects calculated to benefit mankind, filled well the station he occupied, enjoyed the confidence of his neighbors, and during his life none who knew him could say he was ever actuated by malice, but always desirous of doing good, and, as a result, had many strong and estimable friends. He was temperate, industrious, and economical, and left his children the inheritance of an unblemished reputation and a fair share of this world's goods.

#### ELI COUCH.

Eli Couch, son of Gideon and Eleanor (Wakeman) Couch, was born at Green's Farms, Fairfield Co., Conn., Sept. 21, 1797. He spent his early days with his parents on the farm, and receiving his education in the public and private schools of Westport. After his father's death he carried on farming on the quarter share of the old homestead which was his by inheritance. On this he built a house, and took to wife, Jan. 7, 1826, Matilda, daughter of Burr and Mercy (Morehouse) Jennings. He was a typical farmer, never seeking or holding political office, and voting the Democratic ticket with regularity as the best means of preserving the simplicity of the early days of our country. Both Mr. and Mrs. Couch were members of the Presbyterian Church, and for more than fifty years this worthy couple walked the Christian pathway, doing good quietly and without parade to all, and never could be found one who did not acknowledge that their Christian profession was supplemented by Christian practice, and both were honored and respected. Mr. Couch was honest, industrious, economical, and, in his family relations, a loving husband and tender parent. He left at his death a comfortable fortune in land and otherwise to his widow





FRANCIS BULKLEY.





and surviving children. They are Elizabeth (Mrs. Horace Smith), William Henry, and John W. His death occurred April 1, 1876. His widow survives him at the advanced age of eighty years.

Of such citizens as Mr. Couch is composed the element upon which depends the preservation of the American republic, and the plain, common-sense New England farmer, going forth in all things actuated by principle and duty, is the bearer of the highest good to his State and nation.

## CHAPTER LXXXV.

### WILTON.

The First Settlement—Organization of the Parish—List of Early Settlers—The Revolutionary War—The British March through the Town—Firing of a Building—Secreting Valuables—List of Soldiers—Slavery—The Lease of a Slave—Ear-Marks—Price of Produce in 1777—The Silver-Mine—Statue of George III.

WILTON lies on the west border of the county, and is bounded as follows: On the north by Ridgefield, Reading, and Weston; on the east by Reading and Weston; on the south by Westport and Norwalk; and on the west by New Canaan and Westchester County, in New York.

The exact date of the first settlement in this town cannot be definitely ascertained, but it was doubtless as early as 1701, as immigrations inland from the seaports were made at that time. Although there may have been an occasional rude hut within the bounds of the present town at this early date, the settlement was of but little consequence until about the time of the organization of the parish of Wilton, in 1725.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE PARISH.

The first reference to the organization of the parish of Wilton appears on the records of the town of Norwalk, under date Dec. 7, 1725.

It was voted that "The town, by a major vote, signifies their willingness that the inhabitants of Kent, Belden's Hill, and Chestnut Hill, and so upwards, become a parish by themselves, if the General Court shall see meet so to establish them."

A petition was presented to the General Court in May, 1726, for the organization of the parish, signed by the following persons: Joseph Elmer, Joseph Jump, Daniel Abbott, Joseph Carle, Nathan Olmsted, Stephen Buckingham, John Stuart, Benjamin Hickok, John Keeler, Mathew St. John, Daniel Keeler, John St. John, David Betts, Samuel Betts, Jr., Stephen Betts, Nathaniel Slawson, John Wood, Jr., Jonathan Wood, Jr., Nathan Betts, Daniel Trowbridge, Richard Bouton, Obadiah Wood, Thomas Bouton, James Trowbridge, Jonathan Sturdevant, Ralph Keeler, Jachin Gregory, John Dunning, Nathaniel Ketchum, John Taylor, and William Parker.

The above list of signers of the petition for the organization of the parish doubtless composed the whole, or at least a greater portion, of the adult male

inhabitants residing within the present boundaries of the town at that time.

#### LIST OF EARLY SETTLERS.

The following is a list of the early settlers who were here Feb. 14, 1732:

Benj. Hickok and wife Sarah, and children, Silas, Ezra, Bethel (Bethia?), Abigail, and Sarah. Joseph Burchard and wife Elizabeth, and children, Joseph, John, Jesse, James, Daniel, Uriah, Zebulon, Grace, Elizabeth, Abigail, Deborah. James Betts, Sr., and wife Hannah, and children, Elias, Abigail. David Lambert and wife Lurany, and children, Elizabeth, Rachel. John Marvin and wife Abigail, and children, Mary, Abigail, John, Stephen. John Taylor and wife, and children, John, Hannah, Appenten, Theophilus. Mathew and Ann St. John, and children, Mathew, Mark, Luke, John, Hannah, Anna. John Dunning and wife Sarah, and children, John, Richard, Samuel, Mathew, David, Michael, Sarah, and Hannah. Benj. and Rebecca Betts, and children, David, Benjamin. William Belden and wife Margaret, and children, Azor, Thankful, Sarah. Ralph and Margaret Keeler, and servant, Jared Crane. Capt. N. Ketchum and wife Sarah, and children, Nathaniel, Ephraim, Ebenezer, Joseph, Nathan, Hannah, Sarah. John St. John and wife Eunice, and children, Rachael, Eunice, Ruth, Mary. David and Mary Keeler, and children, David, John, Ezra, Mary, Phoebe. Jachin and Wait Gregory, and children, Jachin, Reuben, Isaac, Wait, Titus, Abigail, Timothy. John and Abigail Wood. — Cole and wife Mary, and children, Samuel, Ichabod, Timothy, Jonathan, John, Sarah, and Hannah, Jonathan, Elizabeth, David, John, Daniel, Solomon, Stephen, Martha, Elizabeth. — Westcoat and wife, and children, Samuel, Nathaniel, David, Abigail, Jeremiah, Hannah, Thaddeus. Stephen and Hannah Mead. James, Hannah, James, and Silas Olmstead. — Jackson and wife, and children, Ebenezer, Joshua, John, Ahahier, Stephen, and Mary. — Stuart and wife Abiah, and children, John, Silas, Reuben, Benjamin, Ezra, Abigail, Jemima, and Sarah. — Stuart and wife Elizabeth, and children, Thaddeus, Eunice, Daniel, Sarah. Daniel, Sarah, and Hannah Betts. James Betts, Jr., and wife Martha, and children, James, Hezekiah, Martha, Phoebe, Anne, William, Mary. William, John, and Mary Parker. Ebenezer Keeler and wife, and children, Ebenezer, Ralph, Nathan, Jonathan, Hannah, Abigail, and Rebecca. Jonathan, Mary, Eliakim, Martha, Samuel, Jonathan, David, Daniel, Mary, Elizabeth, and Abigail Elmer. Mathew Marvin and wife Elizabeth. Joseph Marvin, brother of Mathew. Joseph Peck and wife Mary. Nathan Green and wife Abigail.

#### THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

Aside from other afflictions of the war, Wilton suffered from actual invasion when the British passed through on the occasion of the burning of Danbury,

in April, 1777. On their return, hungry and weary with marching and fighting, they entered many houses for food. As they came down the Ridgefield road, they fired a ball into the house of Deacon Daniel Gregory, in which were his wife and children. The eldest, Abigail,—afterwards the wife of Moses Gregory,—when above eighty years of age, was accustomed to tell how an officer came in, with his sword drawn, attended by soldiers. He assured them of safety if they would furnish food. The British set fire to the house near the Episcopal church now occupied by Mr. Sherman Fitch; but, before they were out of sight, a woman went with a pail of water from the next house north (which has lately fallen down, but was for many years occupied by Maj. Samuel Belden) and extinguished the flames. As people heard of the approach of the British they hastily removed their silver spoons and such valuable property as they could. From houses on the Belden's Hill road furniture was carried to Huckleberry Hill, as it was supposed the British might take that street; but learning, as it would seem, that soldiers were gathering at Norwalk, the enemy took the Westport road, and finding Westport already occupied by several hundred Americans, they turned east, crossed the Saugatuck River about three miles above the bridge, marched to Compo, and got on shipboard that night. It was their last attempt to go far from the shore in Connecticut. But the Wilton people suffered afterwards in the burning of Norwalk, though their houses and their lives were spared.

The following persons were in the army a part or the whole of the period 1780–1783: Capt. Samuel Comstock (afterwards major), Lieut. Samuel Deforest, Ensign (in 1782 lieutenant), Matthew Gregory, Seth Hubbell, Samuel Nichols, Jesse Olmstead, Ambrose Barns, John Johnson, John Williams, Jonathan Jackson, Elijah Betts, and, in 1782, Lieut. Salmon Hubbell and Uriah Mead. Elijah Taylor is elsewhere mentioned as ensign. A warning is also found written and signed by Samuel Comstock, captain Ninth Regiment, calling his company together for inspection the 17th of October, 1776. Washington was at that time at White Plains, after the retreat from Long Island. He had called most of the Connecticut troops to his aid. As Lieut. Gregory was in the action at White Plains, the 28th of October, it is probable that Capt. Comstock marched thither with his company directly after the 17th. Maj. Comstock represented Norwalk in the Legislature, October, 1800, and Wilton in eight sessions, between October, 1803, and May, 1809. In his will he gave to the church, for its communion service, a silver tankard which had for generations been an heirloom in the family. He was born 1739, the son of Deacon Nathan Comstock, and, as is supposed, in the house so long occupied by Edward Comstock. He died Dec. 1, 1824, in his eighty-sixth year. He enlisted July 10, 1775, and was commissioned

captain, July 10, 1776. He and his company shared in the sufferings of Valley Forge, in the battle of Monmouth, and the capture of Cornwallis. His wife was Mercy Mead, daughter of Theophilus Mead. Lieut. Matthew Gregory, the son of Ezra and grandson of Deacon Matthew Gregory, was with Maj. Comstock in the places just mentioned, and was also in the fight at Ridgefield, April 27, 1777. His death occurred in his ninety-first year, June 4, 1848, at Albany, N. Y., where he had resided forty years or more. His first wife, Mary, daughter of Hezekiah Deforest, died in 1796.

Capt. Azar Belden, who was an early settler in this town, was also in the Revolution. He held a captain's commission in the train of artillery and served with distinction. He was at the battle of Bunker Hill, and with Gen. Washington when he evacuated New York, and with Gen. Wooster when he fell at Ridgefield, and continued in active service during the war.

#### SLAVERY.

Upon the old town-book, under date of Jan. 5, 1811, appears the following: "These may certify that, at the request of Samuel Middlebrook, the Civil Authority and Select Men hereunto subscribing have examined into the case of Phebe, a slave of said Middlebrook, and find that she is within the age limited by Law to be emancipated, and that she is of a sound Constitution and of good health, and that it is likely that she will be able to maintain herself, and also said Phebe, having manifested to us her desire to be made free, We do hereby witness that we see no cause why the said Samuel Middlebrook may not Lawfully emancipate and set free his said slave, Phebe, and Liberty is accordingly hereby granted to the said Samuel Middlebrook to emancipate and set free his slave, Phebe, according to a statute Law of this State in such case made and provided.

"Dated, Wilton, this 20th day of April, 1816.

"THADDEUS MEAD,

"Justice of the Peace.

"DAVID LAMBERT,

"JEHIEL KEELER,

"SAMUEL OLMSTEAD,

"Selectmen.

"Rec'd to record, January 5, 1811.

"Test, SAMUEL BELDEN, *Register*."

Under date Feb. 24, 1812, "Betty, a Black woman," was emancipated by Mathew Marvin.

#### THE LEASE OF A SLAVE.

Under date Jan. 24, 1824, appears the following record:

"Know all men by these presents, that I, William Belden, of Wilton, Fairfield County, for and in consideration of the sum of twenty-five dollars, to me in hand paid, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, have bargained, sold, and conveyed, and by these presents do bargain, sell, and convey, of my own free



will and consent, a certain Negro or Mulatto Girl, named Grace, born Sept. 20, 1806, now being 17 years and 4 months old, unto Hiram Betts, of Wilton, aforesaid, his heirs and assigns, for and during the term of three years and eight months, until she shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years, which will be on the 20th of Sept., 1827, and I, the said Belden, do warrant the said negro girl, Grace, to be a healthy and well girl, and sound limbs and not with child, and I, the said Belden, do bind myself and heirs and administrators to warrant unto the said Betts, his heirs and assigns, all demands whatsoever, by any person made towards the said Negro Girl, Grace, and I do hereby, and for the aforesaid term of 3 years and 8 months, defend him, the said Betts, against all claimants in any wise whatever. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 20th day of January, 1824. It is also agreed that the said Betts shall provide comfortable and decent wearing apparel, and take care of the said Grace in sickness and in health, and at the expiration of her servitude, said Betts shall clothe her well, one every-day suit and one for holidays.

"WM. BELDEN.

"Signed, Sealed, and delivered in presence of

"MATHEW MARVIN,

"CHAS. MARVIN.

"WILTON, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, ss.:

"On the date above personally appeared W. Belden, signer and sealer of the above instrument, and acknowledged the same to be his free act and deed before me.

"MATTHEW MARVIN,

"Justice of Peace.

"Received to record Jan. 24, 1824, and recorded per Samuel Belden."

In the records of births in the town-book appears the following of slaves belonging to William Belden: Catherine, born Feb. 4, 1802; Grace, March 6, 1807; Richard, Aug. 27, 1809; John, March 6, 1812.

#### EAR-MARKS.

The following are specimens of ear-marks used in the early days to distinguish cattle, etc.:

Silas St. John's mark was "halfpenny and nick under side the near ear."

Samuel Belden's mark was "nick under side each ear."

A. Gregory's mark was "slit under near ear."

Nathan Hanford's was "halfpenny under near ear, and nick under off ear."

Daniel Gregory's mark was "two halfpennies under side the off ear."

The early records show that the patent-right vender was abroad in the land, as under date of April 5, 1803, appears a sale of a patent right for churning to Daniel Betts, Sr., from Joel Johns. The inventor was Isaac Baker.

#### PRICE OF PRODUCE IN 1777.

At a meeting of the society of Wilton, held Nov. 26, 1777, it was "voted to give Rev. Isaac Lewis one hundred pounds lawful money for his services in the ministry for the year past, and one half to be paid in produce: wheat at four shillings and sixpence; rye at three shillings; corn at two sillings and sixpence; oats at one shilling and sixpence per bushel; pork at twenty-five shillings per hundred; beef at twenty shillings per hundred; sheep's wool at two shillings per pound; flax at nineteen shillings per pound; leather shoes at six shillings per pair; turnips at one shilling per bushel," and three shillings a load was allowed for good wood.

#### SILVER-MINE.

A silver-mine is located in the northern part of this town, near the residence of the late Charles Sturges, about an eighth of a mile east of the old Danbury turnpike. It appears that it was originally divided into shares and worked a short time before the Revolutionary war, and that the manager or overseer, after having sent away all the ore that had been dug, under pretense of having it examined, suddenly left "between two days," leaving the shareholders minus the amount of their subscriptions, and also their share of "the rocks." After it was known for a certainty that the superintendent did not intend to return and resume work, the stockholders began to look around to see if there was not some property left that could be made available towards paying them for money invested and labor rendered. Tradition says that all the property to be found consisted of an old negro slave and a pair of oxen, which were sold for the benefit of the creditors. It is also said that many persons in comfortable circumstances, who had subscribed liberally towards working the mine, were by this operation considerably reduced in circumstances.

The following "Indenture" is copied from the town records of Norwalk, and gives the contract for working the mine and the names of the parties engaged:

"This Indenture made this seventeenth day of May, 1785, between Alexander Ressique, of Norwalk, in the County of Fairfield and State of Connecticut of the one part, and Samuel Betts, Nathan Hubbell, Matthew Mead, Matthew Merwine, James Olmsted, Jr., Silas Olmsted, Joseph Rockwell, Jr., Jesse Ogden, all of Norwalk, and Matthew Fountain, of Bedford, in Westchester County and province of New York of the other part, Witnesseth that the said Alexander Ressique as well in Consideration of the Costs and Charges which the s'd Samuel Betts, Nathan Hubbell, Matthew Mead, Matthew Merwine, James Olmsted, Jr., Silas Olmsted, Joseph Rockwell, Jr., and Jesse Ogden, and Matthew Fountain, must necessarily Expend in and about the undertaking Adventure and works hereafter Mentioned, and in Consideration of Reservation & Covenants hereafter mentioned\* contained by and on the parts of the s'd Samuel Betts, Nathan Hubbell, Matthew Mead, Matthew Merwine, James Olmsted, Jr., Silas Olmsted, Joseph Rockwell, Jr., Jesse Ogden, and in Matthew Fountain, their heirs, Executors, Administrators, and assigns, free Liberty, Licence, and authority from time to time, and at all or any time or times During the Term hereafter mentioned to Dig, Search, work for, and raise all such Lead Oar or Copper Oar, Tin Oar, and all other Oars and Minerals whatsoever which can or shall, or may be found, Dugged, gotten up, or raised as well as from or out of said mine

\* Uncertain.

part or parts of the Lands or grounds of or belonging to the said Alexander Ressique, situated and lying in the Town of s'd Norwalk, near the dwelling-house of Azar Belden, in Quantity about forty acres bounded North, by John Belden; East, by Ezekiel Wood; South, by Ezekiel Wood and Solomon Wood's heirs; West, by highway, and for the purpose afores'd, to Dig and sink all such pits, Grooves, Levels, adds, Drains, Shafts, Trenches, and other works whatsoever in any part or parts of the said Lands or Grounds as the said Samuel Betts, Nathan Hubbell, Matthew Mead, Matthew Merwine, James Olmsted, Jr., Silas Olmsted, Joseph Rockwell, Jr., Jesse Ogden, and Matthew Fountain their heirs and Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, or any of them think fit and Convenient, and the said ores and minerals there found, and all the Earth and rubbish which shall from time to time be raised, Digged, and brought above ground Out of the s'd mines, pits, grooves, Levels, adds, Drains, Shafts, or Trenches, or any other work afores'd to lay upon the grounds nearest the mines and other place where the same shall be digged, or within the s'd Lands afores'd and the same to Spall and try, and wash, pick, stamp, and Dress to make Merchantable and fit for the Smelting and Refining the same shall be washed and the parts thereof hereafter mentioned to be Delivered Out to the s'd Ressique, his heirs and assigns as is hereafter Expressed to have take Convert to his Own use and to the s'd Ressique, for the Consideration afores'd for himself, his heirs and assigns, Doth hereby Lease, Let to form lett unto the s'd Samuel Betts, Nathan Hubbell, Matthew Mead, Matthew Merwine, James Olmsted, Jr., Silas Olmsted, Joseph Rockwell, Jr., Jesse Ogden, and Matthew Fountain, their heirs, Executors, Administrators, and assigns, free Liberty and Leave at all times During the Term hereafter Mentioned to set up, Erect, and build, in and upon the grounds afores'd Cupolus, Smelting-house, Store-Houses, and any Other buildings as the s'd Samuel Betts, Nathan Hubbell, Matthew Mead, Matthew Merwine, James Olmsted, Jr., Silas Olmsted, Joseph Rockwell, Jr., Jesse Ogden and Matthew Fountain, their heirs, Executors, administrators, or assigns, or any of them shall think fit for the purpose afores'd, and like Liberty and Authority to Dig, have, and take for their own use from and Out of the Land afores'd, Clay, Sand, Stones, and Timber, as Can be then gotten or found for the purpose afores'd, and Liberty of Ingress, Egress, & Progress to and for the s'd Samuel Betts, Nathan Hubbell, Matthew Mead, Matthew Merwine, James Olmsted, Jr., Silas Olmsted, Joseph Rockwell, Jr., Jesse Ogden, and Matthew Fountain, their heirs, Executors, administrators, and assigns, and their Servants and Workmen at all times During the Term hereafter mentioned, with and Carriages to and from the same Except and always Reserved Out of the s'd grant unto the s'd Alexander Ressique, his heirs and assigns one full Equal Eight part the whole into Eight Equal parts being Divided of and in the s'd Ores, Minerals, which shall onse be Digged & gotten in the Lands afores'd after the same is pounded and Washed and fitted for Refining, free of all Charges of the same for and in Lease of the Toll and farm to be had and Taken by the s'd Alexander Ressique, his heirs and assigns in such manner as is hereafter mentioned To have and to hold all and Singular s'd Libertys and privileges before Lease, Let, and to form letten as afores'd with the s'd Samuel Betts, Nathan Hubbell, Matthew Mead, Matthew Merwine, James Olmsted, Jr., Silas Olmsted, Joseph Rockwell, Jr., Jesse Ogden, and Matthew Fountain, their heirs, Executors, Administrators, and assigns from the day of the Date hereof for and During the Term of One hundred Years next Ensuing, fully to Compleat and Ended yielding and Delivering unto the s'd Ressique, his heirs and assigns, the s'd one-Eight part the whole into Eight Equal, being Divided herein before Excepted of all the ores and minerals which shall be so Digged, Raised, after the same is pounded and fitted for Refining out of the Lands afores'd or any part thereof as afores'd, and to have, hold, & Enjoy their Remaining Seven-Eighths thereof to them, their heirs, Executors, Administrators, & Assigns to their own proper use & uses as afores'd. As Witness whereof we have Set our hands and seals.

"The consideration of the above written Instrument is such, that if the above-mentioned persons shall Continue to Carry on and prosecute the above-mentioned Enterprise, then this Lease to stand in full force. Otherwise to be null and void.

"JAMES OLMSTED, JR. [SEAL]	ALEXANDER RESSIQUE. [SEAL]
"SILAS OLMSTED. [SEAL]	SAMUEL BETTS. [SEAL]
"JOSEPH ROCKWELL, JR. [SEAL]	NATHAN HUBBELL. [SEAL]
"JESSE OGDEN. [SEAL]	MATTHEW MEAD. [SEAL]
"MATTHEW FOUNTAIN. [SEAL]	MATTHEW MERWINE. [SEAL]

"Syned, Sealed, & Delivered In presents of Thaddeus Hubbell, Ephraim Kimterly, Peter Hubbell.

Kindly to Record May 24, 1765, and Recorded pr. Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Gruman, "Register."

It is at present owned by heirs of John Hurlbutt (deceased). This mine was formerly owned by Capt. Azar Belden, a large landowner, who first introduced merino sheep into this section of the State. He was a man also of some military renown. Soon after the Revolutionary war some Englishmen called on Mr. Belden with a view of working the mine. They introduced their business by asking him the state of his mine. The old gentleman, not understanding them fully, flew into a rage. "The state of my *mind*!" says he. "What impertinence!" Such a question, as he understood it, from such a source was more than he could brook. The scenes of the Revolution flashed across his mind. He had held a captain's commission in the train of artillery, and served with distinction during eight long years of bloody conflict; was at the battle of Bunker Hill, assisted in drawing the chain across the Hudson, was with Gen. Washington when he evacuated New York, and with Gen. Wooster when he fell mortally wounded on the plains of Ridgefield by a well-aimed ball from British musketry, and for them to inquire the state of his *mind* was to him a downright insult. The gentlemen, seeing the captain had wholly misunderstood them, and intending no harm, soon explained by stating they had called to see him relative to a *silver-mine* which they learned he had on his farm, and would like to arrange with him for working it.

The mistake was happily gotten over, and he went with them to the mine. Everything was soon arranged between the parties. They put up their machinery, which was a common windlass worked by hand, and soon commenced business in a small way, digging to a depth of about one hundred and fifty feet. They built a small shanty in the woods near by where they lived, and where, during the night-time, they coined a considerable amount of bullion. They kept their silver hid from the vigilance of officers and sightseers. After having worked the mine some time they suddenly absconded, taking their treasure and about five barrels of ore with them.

Nothing further was done in regard to this mine until a few years ago, when a party from New York came up and had it reopened, it having been filled up to near the surface. They carried off specimens of the ore, but have never returned to resume work.

#### STATUE OF KING GEORGE III.\*

Mr. Hollister, in his "History of Connecticut," has the following note in relation to this statue, purporting to be in the handwriting of the last Governor Wolcott:

"N. B.—An equestrian statue of George the Third of Great Britain was erected in the city of New York, on Bowling Green, at the lower end of Broadway; most of the materials were lead, but richly gilded to resemble gold. At the beginning of the Revolution

\* Contributed by A. B. Hull.



this statue was overthrown. Lead being then scarce and dear, the statue was broken in pieces and transported to Litchfield as a place of safety. The ladies of this village converted the lead into cartridges, of which the preceding is an account. O. W."

The account referred to is a list of the names of those who made the cartridges and the number made by each.

Mr. Hollister adds: "Forty-two thousand and eighty-eight bullets in times when lead was dear, and not easily to be had at any price, made no insignificant accession to the resources of the Continental army. They were carefully distributed and faithfully expended. Some of them were committed to the keeping of Col. Wigglesworth, others must have aided Putnam in defending the Highlands, a part of them may have gone with Maj. Seymour to Saratoga, and it is certain that fifty of them were used to welcome the king's provincial Governor when he paid his first and last visit to Danbury.

"On the 21st of August, 1770, this statue was erected, attended with much festivity, and destroyed on the night of the 11th of July by the 'Sons of Liberty.' The next morning nothing but the pedestal was left."

Tradition says that the lead of the statue was taken to Norwalk on a sloop and distributed from there about the country. It is certain that it did not all go to Litchfield. About fifty years ago several small pieces of it were found in the cellar of an old house in the town of Wilton, formerly occupied by "Aunt Nabby Sloan," by the workmen engaged in tearing it down. About the same time Mr. William Comstock, while digging a ditch near the Episcopal church in that town, dug up about one hundred and twenty-five pounds of it. This was a portion of the saddle. Mr. Peter S. Coley, who now resides in a house erected near the site formerly occupied by the old Sloan house, while plowing in the old door-yard, plowed up what he supposed to be the root of a tree, but, upon close examination, proved to be the tail of the horse, with the exception of a few inches. The work must have been elaborate, for upon cleaning this piece the marks representing the hair showed very plainly. Digging in this place deeper brought to light three other pieces of the statue, the whole weighing about three hundred pounds. Mr. Coley disposed of the lead to the New York Historical Society, who had previously obtained the pedestal of a gentleman in New Jersey who was utilizing it for a door-step.

## CHAPTER LXXXVI.

### WILTON (Continued).

#### ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

Congregational Church—St. Matthew's Church—Zion Hill Church—  
Other Churches.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

THE meeting which resulted in the organization of the Congregational Church of Wilton was held June 5, 1754, and was organized June 20th following. There were thirty-one petitioners to the General Assembly in Hartford that the parish might be constituted.

June 7th the society elected Richard Bouton clerk, and voted unanimously to call Rev. Robert Sturgeon to officiate in the work of the ministry among them, and fixed his salary at "ninety pounds, paramount or equivalent to good bills of credit of the Colony of Connecticut, or other good bills of credit passing current at the respective times of payment," and "a full supply of firewood for his family's use," . . . "to be brought to his habitation from time to time as is needed." Five acres of land were also granted for a "house-lot."

Mr. Sturgeon had not been long in this country, and probably reached Wilton in April, as his salary commenced the 14th of that month. He was of Scotch, or probably of Scotch-Irish, descent.

The site chosen for the first meeting-house was on the south side of the upper road leading from Kent to Belden's Hill, near the present railroad-track. This was then near the geographical centre of the population. The 30th of September the society voted "that they would have their meeting-house rectified by laying the floor, and by plastering the walls, and by making comfortable seats to set in." John Keeler and John St. John were appointed to get this work done. Deacon Hickok, Richard Bouton, John Dunning, John Stuart, and Matthew St. John were appointed "to search out and agree for a convenient piece of land for an house-lot" for the pastor. Matthew St. John was appointed a committee on meeting-house expenses.

The work of finishing the meeting-house made good progress. On the 30th of November, in accordance with the custom of those days, the society voted "to seat it," and appointed a committee of three to "seat it by list and age, according to the best of their judgment." But in some form the plan was continued more than half a century longer. The order of seating nearly one hundred years ago has been preserved. Seven years later, in 1733, it was voted that John St. John should sit with Deacon Elmer "so long as he sets ye tune."

On the 20th of December the society "voted that every man shall bring unto the Reverend Mr. Sturgeon a load of wood within fourteen days," and that any man who failed should forfeit three shillings.

After a time dissatisfaction with the "life and conversation" of Mr. Sturgeon so increased that the church consulted the Association, which met at Rip-ton (now Huntington), in November, 1731, and was advised to call a council. This was agreed to in December. By committee an understanding with Mr. Sturgeon was reached; but to complete the arrangement the society's meeting adjourned to the last day of December, "at ye sun one hour high at night."

There is no record of the dismissal of Mr. Sturgeon, but as the society held a meeting in April, 1732, to adopt measures to obtain a minister, we may infer that the pastorate of Mr. Sturgeon ended the first of that month.

The society, April 11, 1732, chose Deacons Trow-bridge and Hickok and Jonathan Elmer a committee "to adyise with ye Reverend ministers where to go for a minister, and empowered them to go or send for a minister at the cost of the Society."

They soon found Mr. William Gaylord, a graduate of Yale College in 1730, a licentiate of Hartford North Association, who was born Nov. 29, 1709. August 29th the society voted to call Mr. Gaylord to settle in the work of the gospel ministry. It was also agreed to buy the house and land of Mr. Sturgeon. Joseph Birchard, Capt. Ketchum, and Matthew St. John were appointed to carry out the vote. The church was unanimous in calling Mr. Gaylord, which he accepted.

Dec. 25, 1736, it was voted to build a new meeting-house, forty-six feet long, thirty-five feet wide, with twenty feet posts, to be placed on what in the record is called "Sharp Hill," but which for above half a century has now been known as "the old burying-ground." Nov. 18, 1737, it was voted to build a house forty-eight by thirty-five feet and twenty-two feet posts; and also to raise by taxes one hundred pounds for building-purposes. Of the land needed for the site, John Marvin, Sr., gave eight rods square; and seventeen years later (1755) Richard Dunning sold above half an acre for a burial-place for fifty pounds, old tenor. It was not till 1743 that the seats were in readiness to receive persons, in the order designated by the committee, and not till 1747 that the vote was passed by which the galleries should be finished and be made of good white wood and white-oak boards, with one seat round the front, and one tier of pews round the house.

Mr. Gaylord died Jan. 2, 1767, aged fifty-seven years, having been pastor of the church nearly thirty-four years.

After the death of Mr. Gaylord, the society called Mr. Samuel Mills, who declined.

In July the society called Mr. Isaac Lewis, who was ordained in the following October. He was dismissed June 1, 1786. In 1777 his salary was made one hundred pounds lawful money, one-half to be paid in provisions, the prices of which were fixed and low. For example: Wheat was to be seventy-five cents a

bushel; beef, two dollars and a half a hundred; leather shoes, one dollar a pair. But the next year, while the salary was the same, wheat was one dollar and sixty-seven cents per bushel; rye had increased twenty per cent.; pork, twenty per cent.; beef was to be two cents per pound in the autumn and three cents per pound in the winter. In 1782 it was voted that the salary be one hundred pounds lawful money, to be paid in silver or gold. During these later years the financial difficulties of the country were so great that it became necessary for the towns to assume the support, at least in part, of their own soldiers in the Continental army. Accounts kept by Abijah Betts are still in the possession of the Betts family.

A new church edifice was erected A. D. 1790. The pulpit and seats of the old house were transferred to the new, and were used thirteen years, when new ones were substituted, which remained till 1844. It was entered by two doors, between which, directly in front of the pulpit, was a shelf or narrow table that was transformed into the communion-table by raising a leaf attached by hinges to the inner edge. This, when in position, was supported by an iron rod. The table and leaf were stained to imitate mahogany. The slips in the body of the house had a door at each end, as there were three aisles. The ceiling was arched. The galleries on each side, supported by four large pillars, were high, as was also the pulpit, which had its lofty, conical, but well-proportioned and ornamented sounding-board firmly supported by two pillars that rose from the rear of the pulpit. The box of the pulpit was reached by a flight of stairs with balusters on either side, but when reached could with difficulty accommodate two persons. The pew of the pastor adjoined the great pew on the east side.

This building was formally dedicated to Almighty God in December, 1790. The sermon was preached by Rev. Timothy Dwight, D.D., forever illustrious as the president of Yale College for nearly twenty-two years, from 1795 to 1817.

Nov. 18, 1793, the society, by a unanimous vote, invited to the pastorate Mr. Aaron Woodward, at "a yearly salary of one hundred pounds lawful money, twenty cords of good wood, and the use of one hundred and fifty pounds until a parsonage shall be purchased." Mr. Woodward accepted the call, and was ordained pastor the 8th of January, 1794. The ordination sermon was preached by Rev. Benjamin Trumbull, D.D., pastor in North Haven sixty years, from 1760 to 1820, and distinguished as the author of a valuable history of Connecticut.

Rev. John J. Carle, a native of New Jersey, a graduate of Queen's, now Rutgers, College in 1789, who received the degree of A.M. from Princeton in 1792, was the next pastor.

Mr. Carle was installed June 3, 1801, and three years later he asked a dismissal.

During the pastorate of Mr. Carle the parish of Wilton was, A.D. 1802, incorporated by the Legisla-



ture into a town. On the 1st of July of that year members of St. Paul's parish in Norwalk, residing in Wilton, formed an ecclesiastical society for the Protestant Episcopal Church known as St. Matthew's.

It is worthy of note in this connection as illustrating the liberality of the Congregationalists towards other denominations that, in 1758, James Truesdale was, by vote, "excused from paying a rate to the minister in case he get a certificate from the Baptist Society." In January, 1764, it was voted to abate the minister's rate to Mr. Whelpley "so long as he attends the Baptist meeting and no longer." In 1772 this ecclesiastical society began yearly to appoint a special collector to take the minister's rate from those living in the bounds of this society who belonged to St. Paul's parish, and pay it to the rector thereof, in the same manner as the others collected and paid over to their own pastor the rates of other inhabitants. How rigidly the tax was collected may be inferred from one example. Dec. 1, 1780, Clapp Raymond, justice of the peace, notifies Abijah Betts that he is appointed collector of the society tax for the support of the ministry, or, in default of payment, to levy on the goods of the delinquents, or, in default of goods, *to take their bodies to the jail in New Haven.*

The next pastor was Samuel Fisher, who was installed Dec. 3, 1805, and was dismissed July, 5, 1809. Mr. Fisher was born in Sunderland, Mass., the 3d of June, 1777.

Oct. 17, 1810, Rev. Sylvanus Haight was installed. Mr. Haight was born at Fishkill, N. Y., July, 22, 1776.

When Mr. Haight was ordained there were few buildings of any kind near the meeting-house, except the one nearest to it on the east, recently occupied by Mr. Moses Betts. There was no house on the road towards Kent till one reached that now occupied by Mr. John Betts, near the river. The house of Deacon Daniel Gregory on the hill, west, now occupied by his grandson, William D. Gregory, Esq., was the only one near this house except the one across the bridge on the north, now the residence of Deacon Edward Olmstead. There was here no parsonage, no town-house, conference-room, or horse-sheds. If in remote parts of the town dwellings have decreased, there has been growth in this neighborhood.

In December, 1831, Rev. Samuel Merwin, a native of Milford, a graduate of Yale in 1802, took a dismission from the North Church in New Haven, of which he had been pastor nearly twenty-seven years, and to which, during his ministry, eight hundred and fifty persons were added. He accepted a call to this church, and on the 23d of February, 1832 (ninety-nine years after the ordination of Mr. Gaylord), was installed its pastor. He was dismissed Sept. 25, 1838.

On the 22d of February, 1839, Rev. John Smith was installed the ninth pastor of this church. Mr. Smith was a graduate of Yale College in 1821. He

was born in Wethersfield, Conn., Sept. 2, 1796, the son of James and Sarah (Hanmer) Smith.

In 1848, Mr. Smith asked a dismission. Action in calling Consociation was delayed several months. He was dismissed in June. On the 26th of July, 1848, he was installed pastor in Kingston, N. H., where he remained till early in the year 1855. Removing to Stamford, Conn., he preached about two years (1856-58) in Long Ridge and occasionally elsewhere. He continued to reside in Stamford with his sons, who were successful merchants in New York, till his death, from pneumonia, the 20th of February, 1874, in his seventy-eighth year.

Mr. Smith was succeeded by Rev. Gurdon Hall,\* D.D., who was ordained pastor Oct. 25, 1848.

The pastorate continued till the 4th of May, 1852, when he was dismissed that he might accept a call to the Edwards Church, Northampton, Mass., over which he was installed a month later, June 2, 1852.

July 6, 1853, the next pastor, Thomas Scott Bradley, was ordained. Mr. Bradley was born at Lee, Mass., the eldest son of Eli Bradley, April 15, 1825. He was a popular preacher, affable in conversation and fond of practical matters; but the condition of his health did not encourage protracted application in the study, and in 1857 he was dismissed at his own request.

The successor of Mr. Bradley was Charles Bassett Ball, who was ordained the 20th of January, 1858. Mr. Ball was a townsman of Mr. Bradley, having been born in Lee, Mass., the 9th of July, 1825. He was the son of Isaac and Lydia Ball, and graduated at Williams in the class of 1846.

The next pastor was Rev. Samuel R. Dimock, who was installed Dec. 7, 1859. Mr. Dimock was a native of Coventry, Tolland Co., Conn., born May 28, 1822, nurtured in Mansfield, a graduate with honor of Yale in the class of 1847.

The successor of Mr. Dimock in the pastoral office was the Rev. Wheelock Nye Harvey, of Massachusetts stock, a native of Jamestown, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., born April 15, 1825, the son of Charles R. and Olive (Willard) Harvey, a graduate of the New York University in 1844.

The fifteenth pastor of this church, Rev. Samuel J. M. Merwin, was a graduate of Yale in the class of 1839, ordained pastor of the church in Southport, Dec. 18, 1844, and was dismissed, at his own request, May 3, 1859. After a season of rest he was installed over the church at South Hadley Falls, Mass., Dec. 4, 1860. The call to this church, as successor to his father and brother, was accepted in 1868, and he was installed by the Consociation the 26th of October the same year, and is the present pastor.

#### LIST OF DEACONS.

The first three deacons were Benjamin Hickok, Jonathan Elmer, and James Trowbridge. These were

\* Deceased.

probably original members of the church, since they were a part of the committee appointed by the society to make arrangements for the settlement of Mr. Sturgeson.

Deacon Hickok is supposed to have left a son, Benjamin, who united with the church by the half-way covenant, with his wife, March 27, 1763, who was the father of Esther, the wife of Deacon Daniel Gregory, and lived to an advanced age.

The house of the son, perhaps of the father, stood near the spot occupied by the building now used for the academy, and was torn down early in this century. "Benjamin Hickok, Esq.," who died the 17th of November, 1745, aged fifty-nine years, was probably the deacon.

Deacon Jonathan Elmer was chosen, before the church had a pastor, to read the Psalms. As few had psalm-books, we may understand that he read only one or two lines at a time, so that all who could might sing the words. This was called "lining," and sometimes "deaconing," the hymn. There was an Eliakim Elmer who lived near the bridge on the Ridgefield road in 1738, but Deacon Elmer's name does not occur after 1746. Jonathan Elmer, probably a son of the deacon, united with the church in June, 1742.

Of Deacon James Trowbridge there is no information, and the name early disappears from the church records. In New Canaan the name remains.

Deacon Matthew Gregory was born in 1680. The place of his birth is not known. Some of his grandchildren believed that he came from England. He is supposed to have been in Wilton as early as 1718.\* He had two sons, Ezra and Matthew, the latter known also as Ensign Matthew, who was the father of Deacon Daniel Gregory. He died in 1777, at the age of ninety-seven years, the year following the death of his son Ezra. His wife Hannah had died ten years earlier. His son Matthew died Oct. 30, 1756, aged forty-five years. A well-worn path through the fields west of his house signified to his children his daily habit of secret communing with God.

Deacon James Keeler is not identified, except Feb. 18, 1759, James Keeler and wife were received to the church on the half-way covenant. When they became communicants is not stated.

Deacon James Olmstead is believed to have been the son of Samuel Olmstead. He had a son James, who had a son Aaron, who was the father of Hawley Olmstead, LL.D. His name, with that of Mary his wife, occurs on the church records as admitted by the half-way covenant, Feb. 22, 1756. In 1776 he is called Deacon Olmstead. On a stone of gray marble in the old burying-ground we read that he died March 17, 1777, aged sixty-eight years.

Deacon Nathan Comstock is first mentioned as

deacon Dec. 15, 1766. Among those married by Mr. Gaylord are (March 7, 1738-39) Nathan Comstock and Bethiah Strong. In 1740 he united with the church. Maj. Samuel Comstock and Strong Comstock, the father of Samuel, Edward, William, and Nathan, were his children. His residence was probably the house in which his grandchildren, Edward and Polly Comstock, lived, a little west of the road from Belden's Hill to Ridgefield, near its junction with the Ridgefield road.

Deacon Nathan Hubbell.—In May, 1747, there came by letter from Greenfield three men with their wives and the wife of a fourth who was a son of one of the three. One of these couples was Nathan Hubbell and Martha his wife. Eight years later, Dec. 2, 1755, Mrs. Hubbell, the wife of Nathan, died, aged fifty-three years; and Feb. 6, 1761, Nathan Hubbell died, aged sixty-one years. Three years later, June 17, 1764, Capt. Nathan Hubbell was received to the church. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, it is easy to believe that he was the son of the aforementioned Nathan Hubbell. He became Deacon Hubbell Aug. 23, 1786, and had a son who bore his name, who spent his life in Wilton, and died here Feb. 2, 1847, in his eighty-fourth year, leaving two sons, one of whom, Rev. Stephen Hubbell, was then nearly seventeen years in the ministry. The older son, Wakeman, was yet to be deacon. Deacon Hubbell was evidently an active, reliable, influential man. But tradition has preserved little of his services. The house in which he, his children, and theirs lived in Pimpewaug for above a hundred years has just been sold.

Some yet living remember Deacon Daniel Gregory, who was chosen deacon Oct. 7, 1794, and at once inducted into office. His relation to Deacon Matthew Gregory has already been mentioned. He was the grandfather of William D. Gregory. In the place of an older one, he built the house on the hill west of this house of worship, in which the latter lives.† He died April 18, 1821, at the age of seventy-eight. He united with the church Aug. 5, 1764, so that he was a member fifty-seven years and a deacon twenty-seven. His wife, Esther Hickok, supposed to be the granddaughter of Deacon Benjamin Hickok, was a fitting helper in every good work, and died May 13, 1822, at the age of seventy-seven years. Deacon Gregory believed in covenant mercies, and a granddaughter gratefully remembered, many years after, his frequent prayer for his "children and his children's children unto the third and fourth generation." He was a thrifty farmer, given to hospitality.

Deacon Jesse St. John was a soldier of the Revolution, and a member of one of the two "forlorn hopes" of twenty men each which volunteered to lead the attack in that desperate but brilliant surprise and capture of Stony Point, on the night of July 16, 1779, by Gen. Anthony Wayne. Deacon St.

\* His letter to the church was brought from Norwalk, 1740. His house was a few rods north of that built about 1740 for his son Ezra in which his grandson Moses lived, and his great-granddaughter, Miss Clara M. Gregory, now resides.

† His children were Abigail, Elijah, Giles, Clark, Daniel, and Sherman.



John was not tall, but strongly built, capable of enduring much fatigue,—a man of few words and resolute in purpose. As late as 1841 he would walk from his home, west of the lower part of Belden's Hill, two and a half miles, to attend a preparatory lecture in a hot day in summer. Soon after that time he removed to Brooklyn, E. D. (N. Y.), to spend the remainder of his life with his son, Thomas St. John. His death occurred about 1846. His wife was Anna Weed, to whom he was married Sept. 28, 1790. She died the 18th of March, 1829, aged seventy-three years.

Deacon John Chapman was born in that part of Fairfield which is now in Westport in March, 1759. He married Susannah Fitch, daughter of James Fitch, of Norwalk, and about 1790 removed to Chestnut Hill, where he lived in the house now occupied by his son-in-law, Mr. Asahel Dudley, till his death, April 13, 1816. Mrs. Chapman was born Dec. 24, 1756, and died March 14, 1833. They had four children,—Anna H. (Mrs. Dudley), James Fitch, John, and Clark M. One who knew him well says: "Deacon Chapman was erect, six feet two inches in height, muscular and broad shouldered, of commanding presence, even tempered but very resolute, energetic and industrious. Decided in his opinions, he was yet gentle in his family, who loved and venerated him. An excellent singer, he was regularly in his place in the choir on Sunday. After a hard day's work he would go to Norwalk on business, and on his way home, forgetful of time, spend several hours at the house of some friend in singing. Fond of home, of a retiring disposition, he seldom took the lead unless evidently called by duty. His Christian character was marked and consistent."

His son, John Chapman, inherited his father's love for music, and led the choir fifty years ago. Both he and James F. were much respected. They went into business in New York, and died there, the latter at the age of fifty-five years, Sept. 29, 1847. Tradition says the house in which Deacon Chapman lived was built about 1745. It was used early in the Revolution as a storehouse for some Norwalk goods. At the time of the burning of Danbury a scouting party entered it and destroyed many of the goods.

Deacon Matthew Marvin, the sixth in descent from that Matthew Marvin who, coming to this country in 1635,\* in the ship "Increase," Robert Lea, master, settled at Hartford; the fifth in descent from that Matthew Marvin who, at the age of eight years, came with his father from England, and at the age of twenty-four came, one of the first settlers, to Norwalk; was the son of that Matthew Marvin who, about 1760, came from Norwalk and built the house in Pimpewaug in which the son Matthew was born and died, and in which Deacon Charles Marvin now lives. He fitted for college with his pastor (Mr. Lewis), graduated at Yale in 1785, went into business at Hud-

son, N. Y., returned to Wilton at the death of his father (1791), and for twenty-five years engaged with remarkable success in mercantile affairs, and for the remainder of his life was active in public and especially in church and society matters; the honored citizen, the trusted counselor, the faithful deacon till his death, which occurred, in the eighty-second year of his age,† on the 5th of June, 1842, less than a month after the great ingathering following the revival of that year, into which he had entered with the activity of a younger man. Deacon Marvin, or "Esquire Marvin," as he was more frequently called, was tall, well-proportioned, dignified and courteous in manner, active, clear-headed, and resolute, by natural gifts, by education, and the possession of property well fitted to exercise an extraordinary and salutary influence in the parish and town.

Deacon Zadok Raymond, son of Clapp Raymond, born about 1764, united with the church in 1811, and lived in Kent, in the house now for many years occupied by Charles Comstock, but in his later life in the first house on the road leading to Hurlbutt Street, formerly occupied by his brother, Asahel Raymond, where he died April 12, 1841, at the age of seventy-seven. He was a man humble, devout, and beloved, much interested in benevolent work. The pastor of this church may remember when, on a bright summer's morning in 1832, two boys, who went on an errand to Deacon Raymond's, waited without until he had ended worship in the family and with the men who had come to work in the hayfield. He evidently believed that the hired laborer might enjoy and be benefited by such service. He loved good men, and his house was often open for Sunday five o'clock and other neighborhood prayer-meetings.

Deacon Jonathan Middlebrook was the son of Michael Middlebrook, who came to Wilton from Fairfield, and, by the half-way covenant, united with the church, June 1, 1766. Jonathan Middlebrook united with the church during the ministry of Mr. Woodward. The date of his election to the office of deacon is not found.

His liberal gift to the fund of the society has already been noticed. He gave also the land for the burying-yard on the hill. He was by occupation a farmer. He died (without children) Jan. 20, 1832, at the age of seventy-seven years. His residence was on the Ridgefield road, east side, next to the Davenport place.

Deacon Lewis H. St. John united with this church in 1816, was chosen deacon in 1841, and ordained the 17th of October of that year.

He was a quiet, earnest, spiritually-minded man, a little above the average height, with a soft, pleasant voice, and gained the respect and good will of the people. His residence was in Nod. He was by trade a cooper, and tilled the land.

\* Dr. N. Bouton's Hist. Disc. at Norwalk, 1851, p. 71.

† He was baptized Jan. 11, 1761.

Deacon St. John died Aug. 10, 1867, aged seventy-four years.

Deacon James Betts was born in Wilton. His father, David Betts, died while he was yet a boy. By great energy and self-denial he secured an education at the academy, attended lectures in New Haven, and early began to teach. Some time after Mr. Hawley Olmstead had removed to New Haven, Mr. Betts rented his former residence, and brought to it his family school for boys. In 1844 he built a commodious house in Stamford, where he yet remains. His school has been remarkably prosperous. One son, William J., graduated at Yale, 1870, and another, Alsop Lockwood, a member of the class of 1872, died in college. Deacon Betts was received to the church in 1825, was elected and ordained deacon in 1841. In Stamford, for thirty-two years, he has well represented this church and its influence upon its children.

Deacon Giles Gregory was born the 7th of October, 1806, and died Feb. 20, 1859. He was the youngest son of Moses and Abigail Gregory, the great-grandson, on his father's side, of Deacon Matthew Gregory; on his mother's side, the grandson of Deacon Daniel Gregory. He was thus descended by each parent from one of the elder deacons,—Deacon Matthew Gregory and Deacon Benjamin Hickok. He was educated at the academy, taught school many years, and after his father's death, in 1837, engaged actively as a farmer. He confessed Christ May, 1842, was ordained deacon the 2d of November, 1849, and was active in church, society, and town affairs. His readiness to render pecuniary or personal aid to the poor or those in distress was hearty and efficient. His prayers indicated unfeigned humility; his life testified to the genuineness of his faith. His early death, which occurred Feb. 19, 1859, from typhoid fever, was lamented by many. He resided with his sisters in the house built by or for his grandfather, Ezra Gregory, about 1740, but was never married.

Deacon Wakeman Hubbell, the son of Nathan and Sarah Hubbell, was born in Wilton. He was firm, conscientious, and earnest to a high degree. He was elected to the office of deacon on the 8th of February, 1860, and ordained the 19th of March following by his old pastor, Rev. Sylvanus Haight. Of his character and work I will speak in another connection.

The present deacons are Charles Marvin, who was ordained Oct. 17, 1841; Benajah Gilbert, ordained March 19, 1860; Edward Olmstead, ordained May 1, 1870; and Robert T. B. Easton, ordained May 1, 1870.

#### ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH.\*

St. Matthew's parish was organized in the year 1802. Previous to that time members of the Episcopal Church residing in Wilton seem to have belonged

to the parish of St. Paul's Church, Norwalk. It appears that in the year 1802 application was made to the justice of the peace to warn a meeting of the members of the church in Wilton, for the purpose of choosing officers and transacting other business. The meeting was held on July 1, 1802, at a school-house in the district called Pimpewaug, in the northern part of the town. At this meeting David Lambert was made clerk, Daniel Church and Samuel Belden were chosen wardens, and David Belden, Stephen Keeler, J. James, and William Starling were chosen vestrymen. From that time Wilton became an independent parish. At a meeting held in December following a vote was taken to build a church. In the year 1804 we find a committee existing to superintend the building of the church, but it does not appear from the records of the parish that the building was entirely completed till the year 1818. It was consecrated by Bishop Hobart on Aug. 11, 1819. This continued to be a place of public worship for forty-five years, until in 1863 it was sold and removed, to be supplanted by the present church, now standing just north of the site of the old edifice. It is on record that, in the year 1810, David Belden was appointed agent for the society to prefer a petition to the General Assembly for the grant of a lottery to raise one thousand dollars to be applied to the finishing of the church, and he was to "use his prudence therein."

Between the years 1802 and 1816 the Rev. Henry Whitlock and the Rev. Dr. Bethel Judd, who were rectors of St. Paul's Church, Norwalk, officiated about one-fourth of their time in Wilton. The first settled minister was the Rev. Reuben Sherwood, who assumed the charge in January, 1816, at which time there were about forty families in the parish. The following is the oldest list on record of members of the Episcopal Church in Wilton: James Arnold, Samuel Belden, David Belden, Daniel Betts, Jr., Stephen Britts, Isaac Britts, Samuel Belden, Jr., William Belden, Sherman Betts, John Cannon, Daniel Church, Daniel Church, Jr., Fitch Church, James W. Church, James Davis, Leman Edwards, George Elwood, Samuel Fitch, Samuel Fitch, Jr., Zach. Whittman Fitch, John Gilbert, Theoph. B. Handford, Nathan Handford, Nathaniel Hendrick, Abraham Hurlburt, Job Hodges, Jabez Handford, Molly Handford, Peter James, Jemmy James, William James, Seth Keeler, Stephen Keeler, John Keeler, Elijah Keeler, David Lambert, William Long, John Morgan, James Morgan, Zalmon Morgan, Ezekiel Morgan, Jeremiah Morgan, Samuel Marvin, Nathan Marvin, Sarah Marvin, Joel Morgan, Joseph Morgan, Sarah Marvin, Lucy Marvin, Stephen Morgan, Asa Olmstead, Jared Patchin, Clapp Rockwell, Edward Rockwell, William Starling, Daniel Sturges, Ezekiel Sturges, Elias Sturges, David Sloan, Nathaniel Starling, Peter Smith, William St. John, Edmund Tuttle.

\* Contributed by Sherman P. Fitch.



The Rev. Reuben Sherwood was succeeded by the Rev. Charles Smith, who was rector of the parish from 1816 to 1823. He also officiated a part of the time in Ridgefield. He was succeeded by Rev. Origin P. Holcomb, who took charge of the parish on Whit-Sunday, 1823, and continued until Easter, 1831. Until this time it appears that the church was without a bell, as we find that at the Easter meeting in 1828 a committee was appointed to procure one. Rev. Mr. Holcomb was followed by the Rev. Charles J. Todd, who remained in charge from 1831 to 1833. After him was Rev. William Barlow, from 1834 to 1836; Rev. Dr. Bethel Judd, 1836-37; Rev. R. C. Shimsal, 1837; Rev. Abel Nichols, 1838-39; Rev. G. U. Nichols and Rev. William G. Hyer, 1840. In July, 1840, the Rev. John Purves became rector, and continued till the year 1844. During this period the society was in a prosperous condition, but that happy state was suddenly disturbed by difficulties in relation to the funds of the society. These had been invested in a loan with securities. The principal failing to pay the interest, the society was obliged to call upon the indorser of the note for payment. This involved the parish in two long lawsuits. From 1844 to 1849 services were irregular, there being no settled clergyman. Within this period the Rev. David H. Short resided in the town, and officiated for a portion of the time for two years. From March till June, 1849, the Rev. Timothy Wilcoxson was a resident minister, and during this short time did much towards helping the parish to revive and resume its former efficiency. In June, 1849, the Rev. Abel Ogden was invited to the rectorship, and continued in charge until Easter, 1851. Under Mr. Ogden's ministry the church edifice was thoroughly repaired and painted within and without. He was followed in 1851 by the Rev. Levi G. Stimson, who continued until October, 1860. Under Mr. Stimson's rectorship the church was in a very prosperous condition. The present rectory belonging to the parish was built at that time. Mr. Stimson was followed by the Rev. Simon G. Fuller, who was rector from 1861 till November, 1863. The present church edifice was begun and completed under the charge of Rev. Mr. Fuller. It is built of stone and brick, in Gothic style, with nave and transepts, and seats about three hundred persons. The corner-stone was laid on June 17, 1862, by the Right Rev. John Williams, and the building consecrated by him May 21, 1864. The building committee were Rev. S. G. Fuller, James W. Pinkney, Theodore L. Sturges, Sherman P. Fitch, Charles Cannon, and Nathan M. Belden.

Rev. Mr. Fuller was succeeded by Rev. Albert U. Stanley, who was rector from 1864 to 1867; Rev. William L. Bostwick, from 1867 to 1870; Rev. J. E. Walton, from 1870 to November, 1878. Rev. Mr. Walton had also the charge of Emanuel Church, Weston. The present rector, Rev. Francis W. Barnett, took charge of the parish on Whit-Sunday, June 1, 1879.

The present officers of the parish are Nathan M.

Belden and Eli S. Betts, Wardens; Stephen James, Henry A. Barrett, Sherman P. Fitch, Henry G. Thomson, Sereno E. Ogden, Vestrymen; Nathan M. Belden, Clerk and Treasurer; David S. R. Lambert and Nathan M. Belden, Delegates to the Diocesan Convention. The parish now comprises fifty-four families and ninety communicants.

#### ZION HILL CHURCH.

Jan. 29, 1844, the first meeting was held to consider the practicability of building a church. Rev. Zachariah Davenport chairman, Wm. H. Taylor secretary.

At a meeting held Feb. 5, 1844, the first trustees were chosen, viz.: Daniel Allee, Joseph Scribner, Joshua Smith, Odle Bouton, Aaron Bennett, Sherman Cole, Sherman Morehouse, Albert Lockwood, Noah Patrick. At this meeting the building committee was chosen, viz.: William Nichols, Odle Bouton, Charles Scribner. The church was completed and dedicated Nov. 26, 1844; Rev. Francis Hodgson and J. L. Gilder performed the dedication service. Present trustees, viz.: A. B. Lockwood, John Olmsted, William Nichols, Wilbur Sturges, William B. Hurlbutt, Charles Scribner, Brewer Gilbert, Andrew Jackson, and Harman Gilbert.

The edifice was erected at a cost of about three thousand dollars, and is located near Cannon's Station.

There is a small class of Episcopal Methodists at Bull's Bridge, in this town, but they hold their connection with Gaylordsville Church, in the town of New Milford.

Rev. William H. Kirk is pastor of a small congregation connected with a small branch of Methodists called Reformed Methodists. They worship in a school-house in Macedonia School District, two miles west of the village of Kent Plains; number of members, fifteen. They also have an old church in the east part of this town on the mountain, organized fifty years ago. The society there is small and poor, but keeps up regular services. The present pastor is Rev. Elijah Fry; number of members, about twenty.

## CHAPTER LXXXVII.

### WILTON (Continued).

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Prominent Men—List of College Graduates\*—Postmasters—Burying-Grounds—The Ladies' Home Missionary Association—Educational—The Wilton Academy—Wilton Division, S. of T.—Civil History—Selectmen from Organization to 1880—Representatives—Military Record—List of Soldiers.

JONATHAN STURGES and Thaddeus Burr were delegates to the convention which ratified the Constitution of the United States, held at Hartford on the first Thursday of January, 1788.

\* This list appeared in a pamphlet called the Anniversary of the Congregational Church, published several years ago. Since then some changes may have occurred which have not been noted.

The delegates to the convention which formed the State Constitution, held in Hartford in August in 1818, were David Hill and Gideon Tomlinson.

Aaron Burr was born in this town in 1714. He graduated at Yale in 1735, and in 1742 was settled as pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Newark, N. J. In 1748 he became president of Princeton College, which position he occupied until his death, which occurred Sept. 24, 1757. He was an accomplished scholar and able divine. He married a daughter of Jonathan Edwards, and had two children,—a daughter, who married Chief Justice Reeve, of Litchfield, and Aaron Burr, who became Vice-President of the United States.

Nathan Gold was a member of the Council for the first time in 1657, and held the office for forty-eight years. He was also chief justice of the Superior Court for ten years, and Deputy-Governor of Connecticut from 1708 to 1724. Unless there were two persons bearing the same name and residing in the same place, holding office continuously, the period of his official life extended over a period of sixty-seven years.

Ebenezer Silliman was born 1708, and graduated at Yale in 1727. He studied law, and soon after his admission to the bar was elected a representative from Fairfield, and at the October session, 1736, he was chosen Speaker of the House, and held the same position at the three succeeding sessions.

In 1739 he was chosen a member of the Council, or upper House of the Legislature, and was annually re-elected for twenty-seven years. At the end of that period he was again chosen a representative, and at the sessions in May and October, 1773, and in May, 1774, he was elevated to the Speaker's chair. Mr. Silliman was also annually elected a judge of the Superior Court for twenty-three years, besides being a judge of the Probate Court, judge of the County Court, colonial auditor, and a member of various important committees. For a period of over forty-five years he was almost constantly in public life.

#### LIST OF COLLEGE GRADUATES, Etc.

The following is a list of natives, and those who have resided in Wilton, who were college graduates, or entered one of the learned professions, or were authors, editors, or teachers.

A list is also appended of ladies who themselves or whose husbands belonged to one of these classes. The list may not be complete, but still is of great value:

David Lambert (Y. C., 1761).

Deacon Matthew Marvin (Y. C., 1785), died 1842. He was the son of Matthew Marvin, and the sixth in descent from Matthew Marvin, one of the first settlers of Norwalk.

Rev. David Belden (Y. C., 1785), died 1832. Took orders in the Episcopal Church. Afterwards engaged in farming, and resided in the upper part of Pimpevaug.

Rev. Zachariah Lewis and Rev. Isaac Lewis, D.D. (twin sons of Rev. Isaac Lewis, D.D.), born Jan. 1, 1773, graduated at Yale, 1794; useful and honored in many ways. (See Sprague's "Annals," vol. i. p. 666.) Zachariah died in Brooklyn, N. Y., Nov. 14, 1840; Isaac died in New York, Sept. 23, 1854.

Prof. Moses Stuart (Y. C., 1799), died 1852. He was born in 1780, in the house now owned and occupied by Abijah M. Jones, the son of Isaac and Olive Stuart. He read books with eagerness when four years old, but remained a farmer's boy with no thought of college till, at fourteen, a thirst for knowledge was manifest which neither toil nor years could quench. He went to Norwalk, made rapid progress in the rudiments of Latin and French, and was fitted for the Sophomore class by Roger Minot Sherman, who had the preceding year been a tutor at Yale. He graduated with the highest honor in the class of 1799; afterwards he taught in what was North Fairfield, and in Danbury; studied law, was admitted to the bar at Danbury in 1802; became tutor at Yale from 1802 to 1804. There and afterwards he showed almost unsurpassed skill in awakening the enthusiasm of young men in their studies. But here the Spirit of the Lord met him and he heard the call which Paul heard,—to preach the gospel. He united with the College Church and studied theology with Dr. Dwight. His first and only settlement was as pastor of the First Church in New Haven. It was an era (those almost four years of his pastorate are yet remembered there) during which above one hundred and seventy (170) were added to the church by profession. His successor, Rev. Dr. N. W. Taylor, forty years later, spoke in the highest terms of his power as a preacher, reckoning him second to none in this country. In 1810 he was wanted, as professor of Hebrew and Greek, in the new Theological Seminary at Andover, Mass. "We cannot spare him," said one of the Yale faculty to the Rev. Dr. Samuel Spring, of Newburyport, who had come to New Haven to get Mr. Stuart's assent to the plan. "We want no man who can be spared," was Dr. Spring's reply.

He went to Andover, as he himself said, with small knowledge of Hebrew, and of Greek grammar less than many a student who this year enters college. In two years he had prepared a Hebrew grammar, and, as there was no printer who understood the business, he was obliged to set a part of the types with his own hands.

Rev. William Belden (Y. C., 1803), died 1861; born July 16, 1781; son of Azor Belden. From 1812 to 1821 he was pastor at Greenfield, and teacher there and afterwards at Fairfield; also, in 1824 to 1843, in New York City. Resided in Brooklyn, 1858 to 1861.

Benjamin Belden, M.D., son of Azor Belden; physician, New York City.

Lewis Belden, M.D. (Princeton, 1811); physician, New York City; died 1831; son of Azor Belden.

Charles Belden, M.D. (Princeton, 1812); son of



Azor Belden; teacher; died in New York about fifty years ago.

Ebenezer Seeley, son of Ebenezer (Y. C., 1814); born April 6, 1793; lawyer, many years in New Haven; afterwards in New York, where he died, Jan. 23, 1866.

Hawley Olmstead, LL.D. (Y. C., 1816), died 1868.

Isaac M. Sturges (Union, 1817), died 1850; son of Ezekiel Sturges; lived a farmer at Wilton, and died July 15, 1850, aged sixty-two years.

David Hull Belden, son of Rev. David Belden; lawyer at Newtown; State's attorney; died a few years since.

Deacon Charles Marvin (Y. C., 1823), son of Deacon Matthew Marvin; farmer, banker, several times member of the Legislature, and bank commissioner.

Rev. Stephen Hubbell (Y. C., 1826), son of Nathan and Sarah Hubbell; ordained at Mount Carmel, May 18, 1830; dismissed 1836; installed at Wolcottville, Feb. 29, 1837; dismissed Sept. 29, 1839; pastor at East Avon, Dec. 31, 1849, to July 1, 1853; pastor at North Stonington, Aug. 17, 1853, to April 6, 1869; pastor at Long Ridge, 1869 to Oct. 28, 1873; resides at Mount Carmel, Conn.

Deacon Ira Gregory, M.D. (Yale Medical School, 1829), son of Moses and Abigail Gregory; born Jan. 31, 1804; practiced medicine at Moriches, Long Island, 1829-40, and at Norwalk, 1840-72; deacon in the First Church at Norwalk for many years; died Sept. 2, 1872.

Deacon James Betts.

David Lambert (Trinity, 1836); lawyer, editor; died 1849.

Isaac M. Sturges, son of Erastus Sturges; was a lawyer; deceased.

Rev. Samuel J. M. Merwin (Y. C., 1839).

William C. Betts, M.D. (Yale Med. School, 1843), son of David Betts; physician in Brooklyn, N. Y.; died 1871.

Rev. Levi Wakeman, son of William; not a native, but from early life a resident of Wilton; learned a trade with Alfred Mallory, at Norwalk; studied in New Haven; entered the ministry (Baptist) about thirty years ago; preached in Stepney, West Woodstock, and New Hartford; is a resident of Stamford, Conn.

Lewis R. Hurlbutt, M.D. (Y. C., 1843), son of John and Elizabeth (Ogden) Hurlbutt; principal of Bacon Academy, Colchester, 1843-45; grammar-school, Hartford, 1845-47; tutor in Yale College, 1847-50; physician and surgeon.

Charles Jones (Y. C., 1843), son of Capt. John Jones; teacher in Wilton Academy, 1843-44; member of Legislature of Connecticut, 1844; lawyer, New York City; residence, Brooklyn.

Rev. John H. Betts (Trinity, 1844), son of Capt. Ira Betts; rector in the Episcopal Church in New Hartford and elsewhere.

Deacon Edward Olmstead (Y. C., 1845).

Rev. Samuel G. Willard (Y. C., 1846), son of Dr. David and Abby (Gregory) Willard; ordained pastor at Willimantic, Nov. 8, 1849; dismissed Sept. 8, 1868; installed pastor at Colchester, Sept. 23, 1868; member of Y. C. corporation, 1867.

Sylvester D. Willard, M.D. (Albany Med. College, 1847), son of Dr. David and Abby (Gregory) Willard; born June 19, 1825, secretary of the New York State Medical Society, 1857-65; practicing physician at Albany, N. Y.; surgeon-general, 1865; died April 2, 1865; aided to found the Willard Asylum for the Insane at Ovid, N. Y., which was named from him.

Theodore Benjamin, son of George, grandson of Dr. Abram Chichester; born about 1825; removed to Rochester, N. Y., about 1832; reported to have entered the ministry.

John A. Betts, M.D. (Yale Med. School, 1848), son of David Betts; brother of Deacon James Betts; practicing physician at Brooklyn, N. Y., where he now resides.

Roger S. Olmstead, M.D. (Yale Med. School, 1849), son of Hon. Hawley Olmstead; entered Yale; studied medicine; practiced in Brooklyn, N. Y.; resides now in Omaha, Neb.

N. Marvin Belden (Trinity, 1849), son of John A. Belden, grandson of Rev. David Belden and of Nathan Marvin; tutor in Trinity.

Rev. Henry L. Hubbell (Y. C., 1854), eldest son of Deacon Wakeman and Julia Lynes Hubbell; ordained at Amherst, Mass., April 24, 1861; dismissed April 5, 1865.

Rev. James W. Hubbell (Y. C., 1857), son of Deacon W. and Julia L. Hubbell; ordained at Milford, Sept. 21, 1864; dismissed June 1, 1868; installed June 10, 1868, College Street Church, New Haven.

Eugene Smith (Y. C., 1859), son of Matthew and Mary A. (Davenport) Smith; born in New York City; resided in Wilton most of the time until after graduation; lawyer; resides in New York City.

Coley James entered Trinity, 1857; did not graduate; received A.M. from Trinity, 1869.

John Henry Hurlbutt entered Trinity in 1858, class of 1862, and left June, 1860.

Bela St. John, M.D., son of Bela St. John, practiced dentistry several years in Danbury.

George Fillow, son of Seth Fillow, graduate of State Normal School; teacher in Hartford several years.

Samuel T. Jones, son of John and Mary (Thorp) Jones, born Dec. 20, 1834; lawyer in New York, 1855-1873; clerk of United States District Court; United States commissioner; died Dec. 24, 1873.

Samuel H. Olmstead, M.D. (Yale Medical School, 1861), son of Hawley Olmstead; in practice of medicine and surgery at Brooklyn, N. Y.

J. B. Hurlbutt, son of John Hurlbutt, Jr.; lawyer; office in Norwalk; acting school visitor in Wilton.

Rev. John Gaylord Davenport (Williams, 1863), son of Charles A. and Sarah (Gaylord) Davenport; pastor.

Rev. Lewis Gregory (Y. C., 1864), son of Charles and Harriet (Clark) Gregory, grandson of Moses; ordained Oct. 15, 1868; pastor, West Amesbury, Mass.; dismissed 1875, to go to Lincoln, Neb.

Clarence L. Westcott (Y. C., 1864), son of George B. and Arethusa (Lincoln) Westcott; lawyer, New York City.

Charles F. Morgan, M.D. (Y. C. Medical School, 1866), son of Charles A. and Electa B. Morgan.

Samuel Keeler (Y. C., 1867), son of Legrand W. and Catharine (Lockwood) Keeler; lawyer, New York City.

Strong Comstock (Y. C., 1867), son of Capt. James and Harriet (Betts) Comstock; teacher Walton, N. Y.

Gordon Hall, A.B. (Amherst, about 1869), son of Rev. Gordon Hall, D.D.; banker, Northampton, Mass.

Daniel Davenport (Y. C., 1873), son of Judge George A. and Mary (Sturgess) Davenport; lawyer, Bridgeport.

Timothy Davenport (Y. C., 1875), brother of Daniel.

Benjamin Davenport, brother of preceding, and a member for a time of class of 1875, Y. C.; lawyer, Washington, D. C.

David R. Lambert, son of Samuel Lambert, and member for a time of class of 1875, Y. C.

Samuel E. Morgan, M.D. (Yale College Medical School, 1875), son of Charles A. and Electa B. Morgan.

Charles Gilbert (W. C., 1876), son of Deacon Benajah and Fanny (Keeler) Gilbert.

I. Chauncey Sturges (graduated at Berkley Divinity School, Middletown, 1876), son of J. Randall Sturges.

Frederic D. Benedict (two years at Y. C., in class of 1867; Danville Theological Seminary, Kentucky), son of I. Newton and Emily (Keeler) Benedict.

Susan Comstock (Mrs. Requa), daughter of Strong; missionary of American Board in 1822 to Osage Indians; married Rev. William C. Requa.

Ann Hubbell (Mrs. Dr. Nash), daughter of Nathan Hubbell, married Mr. Burr, of Fairfield, who died early. One son, George William Burr, member for a time of the class of 1846, Y. C.; afterwards a lawyer in New York, who died about 1860; married Dr. William B. Nash, Bridgeport, who died in 1873.

Jane Belden (Mrs. Booth), daughter of Rev. David Belden, married Reuben Booth (Y. C., 1816), lawyer; Lieutenant-Governor of Connecticut; resided in Danbury; died 1844.

Abby Gregory (Mrs. Dr. Willard), daughter of Moses; born April 20, 1797; married Dr. David Willard, Dec. 22, 1818; died Jan. 3, 1857.

Henrietta Belden (Mrs. Dr. Stone), daughter of Col. William and Mrs. Becca Belden; married Dr. Stone and went South; both died early.

Maria Hubbell (Mrs. Dr. Lewis), daughter of Nathan Hubbell; married Dr. Lewis, of Brockport, N. Y.

Harriet Cannon (Mrs. Todd), daughter of George

Cannon; married, about 1834, Rev. Charles Todd, rector of the Episcopal Church in Wilton; she died in Huntington, Conn., 1849.

Esther M. Taylor, daughter of Levi Taylor; about 1838 married Dr. Ambrose L. White, surgeon U. S. A.; died 1876.

Louisa Jessup (Mrs. Gunning), daughter of William and Nancy (Odell) Jessup; graduate of Rutgers Institute; teacher in New York; married, about 1844, Dr. Thomas B. Gunning, dental surgeon, New York.

Elizabeth Jessup (Mrs. Reed), daughter of William; married James Reed, editor of the *Norwalk Gazette*, and now, for many years, editor of the *Ash-tabula Telegraph*, Ohio.

Emily Jessup, daughter of William, graduate of Mount Holyoke; was several years assistant teacher there, and now occupies the position of first assistant in the Western Female Seminary, Oxford, Ohio.

Charlotte Betts (Mrs. Barnum), sister Deacon James Betts; teacher; married Rev. Samuel W. Barnum (Y. C., 1841), who was ordained Jan. 25, 1853; pastor, Massachusetts, to 1862; editor "Abridgment Smith's Bible Dictionary," and other works.

Mary Randle (Mrs. Willard), daughter of Samuel P. and Sally (Hyatt) Randle; born June 8, 1821; studied at Wilton Academy and Utica (N. Y.) Female Seminary; married Rev. S. G. Willard, Nov. 14, 1849; died at Willimantic, May 15, 1853.

Clara A. Willard, daughter of Dr. David W.; born Feb. 4, 1823; studied in Wilton and Bridgeport; teacher of private and family school twenty years or more in Wilton; author of "Nellie Greyson," "Fifty Years Ago," and other works; died at Norwalk, Feb. 15, 1876.

Elizabeth Willard (Mrs. L. J. Curtis), daughter of Dr. David W.; married, April 2, 1850, James G. Rowland (Y. C., 1846), who opened a family school for boys in Kent, and died Aug. 20, 1853. Mrs. Rowland continued the school, and taught till 1864. Oct. 20, 1864, she married Lewis J. Curtis, of Norwalk.

Mary Willard (Mrs. Salmon C. Gillett), daughter of Dr. David W.; studied in New Haven; teacher for years.

Susan Willard (Mrs. Mix), daughter of David W.; taught for a time; May 1, 1860, married Rev. Elbridge Mix (Williams College, 1854); he was assistant to the Rev. Dr. Hastings (New York), 1860-61; pastor in Burlington, Vt., 1862 to Aug. 20, 1867; pastor First Church in Orange, N. J., 1867.

Elizabeth Middlebrook (Mrs. Hill), daughter of Col. George M.; married, 1856, John Hill, M.D., for some years physician and surgeon in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Lucretia Middlebrook (Mrs. Brown), daughter of Col. George M.; married Augustus Brown, lawyer, Ballston, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Brown died early.

Gertrude Middlebrook (Mrs. Turner), daughter of Col. George M., married J. Edward Turner, M.D., the founder and first superintendent of the Bing-hampton Asylum for Inebriates.



Harriet Fitch (Mrs. Gregory), daughter of J. Platt Fitch; married Rev. Abel Ogden (Trinity, 1842), some time rector of St. Matthew's Church, Wilton, who died 1854; married, second time, to Rev. Luther Gregory, rector of St. Paul's Church, Huntington, who died about 1863.

Mary W. Gregory (Mrs. Hubbell), daughter of Charles; married Rev. James W. Hubbell, A.D. 1861.

Alice Westcott (Mrs. J. G. Davenport), daughter of George B., married Rev. John G. Davenport, Bridgeport.

Louisa Randle, daughter of George H. and Caroline (Lounsbury) Randle; lady principal seminary, Penn Yan, New York.

Helen Randle (Mrs. Barnum), daughter of George H., graduate of State Normal School; married Rev. Henry S. Barnum (Yale College, 1862), March 10, 1869. Mr. Barnum is in the service of the American Board; they are stationed at Van, Eastern Turkey.

Sarah Randle (Mrs. Steele), daughter of George H.; married, Aug. 2, 1865, to Rev. John B. Steele, who was ordained Aug. 16, 1865, preached several years in Western New York, and died Nov. 29, 1873, aged thirty-eight years, at Middlebury, Vt.

Janet Holmes (Mrs. Paine), daughter of George Holmes; married Levi L. Paine, D.D. (Y. C., 1856), Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Theological Seminary, Bangor, Me.

Mary A. Davenport (Mrs. White), daughter of George A.; married Dr. Charles B. White, surgeon U.S.A., son of Dr. Ambrose L. White, and grandson of Levi Taylor.

Martha Belden (Mrs. Warren), daughter of John A.; married, A.D. 1869, Dr. Warren, of Norwich, Conn., who died some years ago.

Clarina Sturges, daughter of Charles; graduate of Mount Holyoke; married.

Josephine Sturges, daughter of Charles; graduate of Mount Holyoke; married O. A. G. Todd, lawyer, Danbury.

Artemesia Sturges, daughter of Charles; student for a while at Mount Holyoke; teacher of music.

Jane D. Middlebrook (Mrs. Foote), daughter of George B.; married Joseph F. Foote, lawyer, Norwalk.

Elizabeth Middlebrook (Mrs. Barber), daughter of George B.; A.D. 1870, married James W. Barber, M.D., Norwalk.

Francesca Betts (Mrs. Nesbit), daughter of John C.; married Rev. Alexander Nesbit (graduate of N. Y. College), pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Tremont, N. Y., who died in 1875.

#### POSTMASTERS.

The postmasters of Wilton have been as follows: Origin P. Holcomb, Samuel F. Lambert, Joseph P. Fitch, Charles M. Jones, John R. Comstock, William A. Sturges, Henry Walton, Edward L. Keeler, George K. Gilbert, Albert Seymour, Charles H. Betts.

#### BURYING-GROUNDS.

The oldest burying-ground is located near the residence of Sherman Morehouse, in Kent.

The next oldest is what is known as Hillside Cemetery. It was dedicated to the Congregational Church in 1816, and still belongs to that society.

There is also a cemetery near St. Matthew's Church belonging to that parish. There is also one at Zion's Hill and at Bald Hill.

#### THE LADIES' HOME MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.

This useful association was organized in 1836, and September 14th of that year held its first meeting at the house of Wakeman Hubbell, the following ladies being present: Mrs. William Belden, Mrs. Harriet (Charles) Gregory, Miss Susan Merwin (Mrs. George I. Wood), Miss Maria Randle (Mrs. William Ogden), Miss Mary Cole, Miss Jane Munroe, Miss Jane E. St. John (Mrs. Cyrus Raymond), Miss Susan Hoyt, Miss Susan Comstock, Miss Mary E. Comstock (Mrs. Lewis Keeler), Miss Mary Middlebrook (Mrs. Harris), Miss Louise Jessup (Mrs. Thomas B. Gunning).

The presidents of the association have been as follows: Mrs. Mathew Marvin, Mrs. S. G. Willard, Mrs. Wakeman Hubbell, and Mrs. Merwin, the present president.

The first secretary and treasurer was Miss Clara M. Gregory, the present incumbent. Mrs. Helen Comstock was secretary and treasurer many years.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The first reference in the old records to schools appears under date of December, 1728, as follows: "A meeting of the society of Wilton parish, Dec. 9, 1728, the said society did agree, by a major vote, to get up a school in said parish.

"At the same meeting the society, by a major vote, made choice of Lieut. Ketchum, Joseph Birchard, and Samuel Betts a committee for to look after and set up a school or schools in said parish."

"At a meeting of the said society of Wilton, on the 10th day of March, Anna Domini 1729, the said society did agree, by a major vote, that they hire the Rev. Mr. Sturgeon for to keep school in said parish for some time."

"March 2, 1730, the society of Wilton did agree, by a major vote, that Kent and Chestnut Hill should have one-third part of the colony money, they keeping a school so long as their part will come to."

There were frequent votes concerning the schools. In January, 1792, the parish was divided into nine school districts, as follows: No. 1, Nod; No. 2, Bald Hill; No. 3, Middlebrook District; No. 4, Drum Hill (Centre District); No. 6, Kent; No. 7, Pimpewaug; No. 8, Chestnut Hill; No. 9, Harry's Ridge. The Kent school-house stood in the triangle east of the Danbury road and south of the old burying-ground (as was customary), near the meeting-house.

## THE WILTON ACADEMY.

The educational interests of Wilton from the beginning kept abreast with the rapid strides of progress, and the year 1816 witnessed an important era in the history of the town,—the founding of the Wilton Academy.

Hawley Olmstead, a man worthy to be held in lasting remembrance, graduated from Yale College the foremost scholar of the class of 1816.\* He designed to study law, but a failure of his eyes in college induced him to open a school as an experiment. Dartmouth College had its origin in a small school-building yet standing in Columbia, Conn. The Wilton Academy was opened in 1816 in a small building, afterwards for many years used by the late Nathan Comstock as a store. It was soon seen that the young teacher had rare gifts for his office. Before entering college he had taught a district school, and, as assistant pupil, had aided Rev. William Belden,—himself a Wilton man,—at that time pastor in Greenfield and principal of its academy. An academy building was erected in 1820. The land upon which the academy was built was given "for the advancement of literature and science, and especially for the good will I have and bear to the Presbyterian Society of Wilton," by Nathan Comstock, to "David Willard, Samuel Comstock (2d), and Lewis Gregory, committee of the Presbyterian Society of Wilton, for the time being, and to their successors in office forever." The land given was sixty-five feet front and seventy deep. The land was to be used only for the erection of a building or buildings for "a school of higher order, and for religious and singing meetings," "which school, kept in said house, is to be under the direction of the clergyman of the Presbyterian Society, for the time being, and his successors in office, and the preceptor of the school; and in case of the society's being vacant or destitute of a clergyman, to be under the direction of the committee of said society." The date of the deed is March 25, 1820. Mention is made that the school at that time was in Mr. Comstock's store. The witnesses are Sylvanus Haight and Matthew Marvin. The deed is acknowledged before Matthew Marvin, justice of the peace, and is evidently in his handwriting.

The academy building stood south of the road, between the present site of the town-house and the parsonage. About the year 1832 it was removed to a spot a little northeast of the present chapel. The old building was sold, about 1870, to William A. Sturges,

\* Hawley Olmstead, son of Aaron and Sarah Esther (Hawley) Olmstead, born Dec. 17, 1793, was descended, on his father's side, from Richard Olmstead, one of the first settlers of Norwalk, and its first representative in the Colonial Legislature. His mother was a "great-granddaughter" of Rev. Thomas Hawley, of Northampton, Mass., who was a graduate of Harvard College in 1709, and the first minister of Ridgefield, Conn. Mr. Olmstead married Miss Harriet Smith, of New Canaan, a niece of Rev. Daniel Smith, who was fifty-three years (1793-1846) pastor of the First Church, Stamford. Mrs. Olmstead still resides in New Haven.

and stands near the post-office. Mr. Haight, with his usual enthusiasm, aided to publish the excellencies of the teacher and to procure pupils from abroad. The two first pupils fitted here for college—Nathaniel Bouton and Jared B. Waterbury—have long been among the most honored and useful ministers of their generation. Each received the degree of D.D. many years since. Dr. Bouton, for forty years pastor of the church in Concord, N. H., is recognized as the historian of that State. The school so prospered that after four and a half years Mr. Olmstead was persuaded to remove to Norwalk. His health became impaired, and three years later he returned to Wilton to rest and engage in agriculture. He also heard private pupils. At the end of two and a half years, in 1826, he again opened his school, at first in the academy, and when the town-hall was built, a few years after, in the upper room of that building. There he continued thirteen years, with no public examination, no private circulars, no advertisement, and yet uniformly a full attendance of pupils. When he left Wilton, in 1839, to become rector of the Hopkins Grammar-School in New Haven,—an institution forty years older than the college,—he had had pupils from nearly, or quite, every State in the Union, and from several foreign countries. Some of the Christian young men, whose names are yet held in loving remembrance here, had made themselves very useful in the Sabbath-school and in social religious meetings.†

After ten years of extraordinary success in the grammar-school, Mr. Olmstead's health failed and he relinquished the rectorship to his son, who had for two years been his assistant. For ten years longer he taught private pupils in his own house. In 1862 he received from Yale the degree of LL.D. His death occurred the 3d of December, 1868, while he was addressing, in his own parlor, a club of ministers and laymen, with whom for more than twenty years he had met weekly to discuss some great moral and religious question. Said an eye-witness, "He had just completed a most thorough, logical, and, as his companions felt, richly beautiful argument. It was indeed the beautiful death of the Christian soldier with his armor on,—the disciple going out of the earthly service to the 'well done' of his Lord."

In one of the later years of his life, anticipating some such day as this for Wilton, and thinking he might not be present, Mr. Olmstead charged me to give a sentiment, which will be recognized as characteristic of the man, and is fit to be engraven as his epitaph. It was this: "*Unswerving, supreme fidelity to Truth and Right.*"‡

† Among these, Lockwood, David P. Judson, Stiles Hawley, James Smith, Nathaniel Wade, Willis Lord, E. B. Clark, Benjamin Smith, Ira Lawton, Edward Strong, Amos Cook, and Myron N. Morris.

‡ Mr. Olmstead was of medium height, stoutly built, very erect and dignified in his carriage, but courteous and affable in his address. He governed his school and won the lasting respect of his pupils in a remarkable degree with little apparent effort. His interest in Wilton was deep and constant to the day of his death. He was a member of the



Happily for Wilton, the health of Mr. Edward Olmstead, who was for two years the assistant and then the successor of his father in the Hopkins Grammar-school, became impaired after a few years, which eventually occasioned his return to Wilton, in 1855, to resume the work of the academy,—at first in the room vacated by Mr. Hawley Olmstead in 1839, and afterwards in a building of his own, where he continues to this day doing for the children what his honored father had done for their parents.\*

#### TEMPERANCE.

Wilton Division,† No. 11, Sons of Temperance, was organized March 24, 1876, with the following members: Mary C. Clark, Clarence Moëller, Frank Comstock, Carrie A. Comstock, Lillie T. Olmstead, Helen E. Comstock, William H. Cook, Carrie A. Seymour, Kate De Forest, Mrs. Richard Dunning, Richard O. Dunning, Mrs. Mary Foote, Willie Foote, Josiah Gilbert, Annie M. Gregory, Emma S. Gregory, Edwin H. Gregory, Martha Hickok, Hiram C. Jelliffe, Mrs. W. T. Jelliffe, James T. Hubbell, Amanda Jordan, Kate Keeler, Robert W. Keeler, John F. Knapp, Mrs. John F. Knapp, Rev. S. J. M. Merwin, Miranda B. Merwin.

The W. P.'s, R. S.'s, and Chaplains have been as follows:

1876.—W. P., John F. Knapp, Alfred E. Emery, Josiah Gilbert, William H. Cook; R. S., Hiram C. Jelliffe, Edward L. Keeler, Horace S. Reynolds; Chaplain, Rev. S. J. M. Merwin.

1877.—W. P., Edward L. Keeler, Daniel G. Betts, Robert W. Keeler, S. J. M. Merwin; R. S., Hiram C. Jelliffe, Robert W. Keeler, James T. Hubbell, Alfred E. Emery; Chaplain, Rev. S. J. M. Merwin, George K. Gilbert.

1878.—W. P., Hiram C. Jelliffe, Horace S. Reynolds, George K. Gilbert, John R. Sturges; R. S., John F. Knapp, Josiah Gilbert, Edward L. Keeler, Charles M. Betts; Chaplain, Helen E. Comstock, Edward T. Whitney, Rev. S. J. M. Merwin.

1879.—W. P., Chauncey Foote, James T. Hubbell, Helen E. Comstock, Dr. S. H. Huntington; R. S., Alice B. Olmstead, Anna M. Gregory, George Ogden, Walter E. Fitch; Chaplain, Rev. S. J. M. Merwin.

1880.—W. P., Edward T. Whitney; R. S., Fred. D. Benedict; Chaplain, Rev. S. J. M. Merwin.

Legislature in 1825–26 and 1828–29, and a senator from New Haven in 1853. As chairman of the committee on education in 1826, and again in 1828, he presented reports on common school education that attracted much attention and exercised a lasting influence.

\* The following persons were teachers of the academy for brief periods. Some of the dates are approximate only:

Xenophon Betts.....	1823
Storrs Hall.....	1840–41
Charles Jones.....	1843–44
George William Burr.....	1844–45
William E. Watrous.....	1842–43
Odle Close.....	1843–44
James G. Rowland.....	1846–49
N. Marvin Belden.....	—

† Contributed by Miss Gregory.

Number of membership, April 1, 1880, seventy-three.

During the four years of the Division it has lost but one member by death.

Officers at present time, April, 1880, are as follows: W. P., Dr. S. H. Huntington; W. A., Alida Coulter; R. S., Walter E. Fitch; A. R. S., Anna M. Gregory; F. S., John Fields; Treas., James T. Hubbell; Chap., Rev. S. J. M. Mervine; Con., Alice B. Olmstead; A. Con., George Ogden; I. S., Josiah Gilbert; O. S., Hiram C. Jelliffe; P. W. P., Helen E. Comstock.

#### LOCKWOOD BROS.' WIRE-FACORY.

This establishment is located near Cannon's Station, and manufactures fine wire-cloth, copper and brass. The establishment was founded about four years ago by David and John Lockwood.

#### CIVIL HISTORY.

The first public movement to form a separate parish was made Dec. 7, 1725, when the town of Norwalk, which was then co-terminous with the ecclesiastical society, "by a major vote, signified their willingness that the inhabitants of Kent, Belden's Hill, and Chestnut Hill, and so upwards, become a parish or village by themselves." At the same meeting a committee was appointed "to joine with a committee from ye said inhabitants in viewing where ye bounds may be best fixt for ye said upper village, and make a report to ye town of their opinion." The little brook at the lower end of Kent formed a convenient starting-point, from which the committees proceeded east and west and fixed the bounds substantially where the present bounds of the town are, the eastern boundary excepted.

A petition was sent to the General Assembly for the incorporation of the town, signed by the following persons: Joseph Elmer, Joseph Jump, Daniel Abbott, Joseph Carle, John Keeler, Matthew St. John, David Keeler, John St. John, David Betts, Samuel Betts, Jr., Stephen Betts, Nathaniel Slauson, John Wood, Jr., Jonathan Wood, Jr., Nathan Betts, Daniel Trowbridge, Nathan Olmstead, Stephen Buckingham, John Stuart, Benjamin Hickok, Richard Bouton, Obadiah Wood, Thomas Bouton, James Trowbridge, Jonathan Sturdevant, Ralph Keeler, Jachin Gregory, John Dunning, Nathaniel Ketchum, John Taylor, William Parker. The act was passed May 12, 1726. The town was organized in 1802.

The Prime Ancient Society of Norwalk was disposed to deal generously with the new parish. Feb. 28, 1726, it voted "to the inhabitants of ye upper Society the old pulpit upon free gift;" and the next February it voted that the proprietors in Norwalk grant them ten acres of land, for "the use of ye Presbyterian or Congregational Ministry among them forever." Two years later five acres more were given. The harmony thus early existing between the two parishes has happily continued to this day.

## THE FIRST TOWN-MEETING.

The town was organized in 1802, and the first town-meeting in Wilton was held on the third Monday of June, 1802, when the following officers were chosen: Town Clerk and Treasurer, Samuel Belden, Sr.; Selectmen, Samuel Comstock, Daniel Gregory, and Mathew Marvin; Constables, Azariah Betts and Levi Taylor; Listers, David Lambert, Samuel Marvin, Zenophon Mead; Fence-Viewers, Samuel Sturges and Abram Hurlburt; Sealer of Leather, Elijah Wescot; Sealer of Measures, Job Lockwood; Sealer of Weights, Thaddeus Starling; Grand Jurors, Samuel Olmstead (3d) and Jonathan Middlebrook; Tithingmen, William Morgan and Zadok Hubble; Haywards, James Nichols and David Tuttle.

## SELECTMEN FROM 1802 TO 1880.

The following is a complete list of selectmen of the town from 1802 to 1880:

Samuel Comstock, 1802-3; Daniel Gregory, 1802-3; Mathew Marvin, 1802-3; Samuel Olmstead, 1805-6, 1810, 1816; Joseph Sturges, 1804-5; Jesse St. John, 1805; Abijah Betts, 1804; Stephen Keeler, 1806-7; Alvin Hyatt, 1806; David Lambert, 1807-8, 1811-12; Levi Taylor, 1807; David Belden, 1808-10; Jehial Keeler, 1809; John Chapman, 1810-12; Bela St. John, 1811-13, Asahel Raymond, 1813; Moses Gregory, 1813; Samuel Sturges, 1814-16, 1828; David Church, 1814; Nathan Davenport, 1814; Thaddeus Mead, 1815; Daniel Church, Jr., 1815-19; Daniel Church, Sr., 1816-18, 1821-22; Jemmy James, 1816-18, 1823, 1825-27; William Selleck, 1816-17, 1820; Jonathan Middlebrook, 1816-18; Eliphalet Taylor, 1816-18; Erastus Sturges, 1817-27, 1830-31, 1833-35, 1837-40; Thaddeus Gilbert, 1817; Wm. Belden, 1818; Jesse Smith, 1818; Wm. Dudley, 1819; Belden Scott, 1820-30; Isaiah Keeler (2d), 1824-26, 1828-31; 1840-41; James F. Chapman, 1829; Thaddeus Hoyt, 1830-31; Andrew Betts, 1831-32; Geo. Mead, 1832-33; Samuel P. Randall, 1832-34, 1837-38, 1843-54; Chas. Marvin, 1835; Samuel Davenport, 1834, 1837-38; Noah Olmstead, 1835; Lewis St. John, 1836; Isaac M. Sturges, 1836; Platt Raymond, 1836; Geo. Middlebrook, 1839; Jehial Grummon, 1840-41, 1849; Chas. Marvin, 1841-44; William Scott, 1842; Mathew Whitlock, 1842; Silas Gregory, 1847-54, 1856-58; Aaron B. Sturges, 1843; Maltby Jelliff, 1843-45; Sherman Cole, 1844-46, 1849; Wm. H. Hickok, 1846-48; Wm. N. Hanford, 1851; Aaron B. Sturges, 1853; James Sturges, 1854-58; L. C. Seymour, 1855-57; L. S. Keeler, 1855-62, 1865; Hiram Grummon, 1855; William Nichols, 1861-63, 1866-68, 1871; Lockwood K. Ferris, 1860-62, 1864; Samuel B. Middlebrook, 1863-69; Nathan M. Belden, 1864-65, 1867-78; Wm. Knapp, 1866; Benj. F. Brown, 1868; Isaac N. Benedict, 1869; John Jackson, 1869; Sherman Morehouse, 1870, 1872-74, 1878-79; Egbert Smith, 1870-73; David M. Van Hoosar, 1872-73; Legrand W. Keeler, 1871; John Jackson, 1871; Chas. Cannon, 1874; Gould D. Jelliff, 1874; Joseph O. Dikerman, 1875-76; Henry E. Chichester, 1875-77; James M. Haines, 1875-76; Nathan M. Belden, 1877-78; Samuel G. Lockwood, 1877; John B. Sturges, 1878-79; Frederick D. Benedict, 1879.

The present town officers (1880) are as follows: Selectmen, Sherman Morehouse, John B. Sturges, Frederick B. Benedict; Town Clerk, Wm. D. Gregory; Register of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, James H. Taylor; Treasurer, Elbert Olmstead; Registers of Voters, Samuel B. Fancher, Daniel G. Betts; Assessors, Wm. D. Gregory, Eliphalet Morehouse, Legrand W. Keeler, Mervin D. Keeler, Lewis H. Randall; Board of Relief, David M. Van Hoosar, Gould D. Jelliff, Lockwood K. Ferris; Constables and Collectors, Hezekiah B. Osvorn; Constables, Daniel G. Betts, Wm. Olmstead, Geo. B. Morehouse; Grand Jurors, Rufus

Adams, Chas. Olmstead, Chas. E. Morris, Gould D. Jelliff; School Visitors, Harvey Bedient, J. Belden Hurlbutt, Daniel G. Betts, James T. Hubbell, Wm. Sturges, Sereno E. Ogden; Sealer of Weights and Measures, Hawley H. Starling; Keykeepers, John R. Comstock, Wm. M. Hoyt, Samuel Ruscoe, Samuel Marvin.

## REPRESENTATIVES FROM 1802 TO 1880.

1802-3, Matthew Marvin, Samuel Comstock; 1804, Samuel Olmstead; 1805-6, Samuel Comstock, Samuel Olmstead; 1807-8, Samuel Comstock, David Belden; 1809, Samuel Comstock, David Belding; 1810, David Belden, David Beecher; 1811, Matthew Marvin; 1812, Samuel Olmstead, David Belden; 1813, Matthew Marvin, David Belden; 1814, Matthew Marvin, David Belden; 1815, Ezekiel Sturges, Matthew Marvin; 1816, Daniel Church, Jr., Matthew Marvin; 1817, Daniel Church, Jr.; 1818, Erastus Sturges, Eliphalet Taylor; 1819, Erastus Sturges; 1820-21, Bela St. John; 1822-24, Erastus Sturges; 1825-26, Hawley Olmstead; 1827, Erastus Sturges; 1828-29, Hawley Olmstead; 1830-32, Erastus Sturges; 1833, George Mead; 1834, Erastus Sturges; 1835, James F. Chapman; 1836, Charles Marvin; 1837, Isaac M. Sturges (2d); 1838, Charles Marvin; 1839, Abijah Betts; 1840-42, James F. Chapman; 1843, Giles Gregory; 1844, Charles Jones; 1845, Samuel Scott; 1846, William Dudley; 1847, Samuel P. Randle; 1848, Charles Marvin; 1849, Joseph B. Scribner; 1850, Sherman Cole; 1851, Giles Gregory; 1852-53, Abijah Betts; 1854, William H. Taylor; 1855, Theodore L. Sturges; 1856, Abijah Betts; 1857, William D. Gregory; 1858, Ebenezer G. Betts; 1859, Albert Seymour; 1860, Abijah Betts; 1861, Hiram St. John; 1862, George S. Nichols; 1863, Samuel B. Belden; 1864-65, William D. Gregory; 1866, William Nichols; 1867-68, William D. Gregory; 1869, Hiram St. John; 1870-71, Sherman Morehouse; 1872, Samuel M. Comstock; 1873-74, Sherman Morehouse; 1875, Daniel Davenport; 1876, Elbert Olmstead; 1877, Isaac M. Sturges; 1878-80, Nathan M. Belden.

## MILITARY RECORD.

## FIRST REGIMENT.

*Company E.*

Nichols, Andrew B., enl. April 19, 1861; disch. July 31, 1861.

## THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company D.*

Abbott, Sturgess, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Bedient, Lewis, musician; enl. May 14, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
Finch, Samuel, enl. May 11, 1861; disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

## FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.

*Company B.*

Taylor, David B., enl. July 30, 1862; captured Oct. 17, 1864.

*Company D.*

Coley, James, sergeant; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; pro. to first lieutenant; disch. May 27, 1864.  
Long, Francis C., corporal; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; disch. Nov. 28, 1862.  
Durant, Thomas J., corporal; enl. Nov. 2, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 17, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
Knapp, John F., enl. Nov. 14, 1861; disch. Nov. 16, 1864.

*Company F.*

Morrel, Victor, enl. Jan. 23, 1864.  
Mulber, Louis, enl. Jan. 23, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

*Company G.*

Griswold, Arthur W., enl. Aug. 15, 1864; disch. May 27, 1865.

*Company H.*

Brown, Charles H., enl. Nov. 20, 1863; died Aug. 16, 1864.  
Gray, Samuel N., enl. Nov. 30, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
Hodges, George, enl. Dec. 9, 1863; died Aug. 24, 1864.  
Long, James B., enl. Dec. 9, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

*Company K.*

Morlock, Frederick, enl. Dec. 26, 1863; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.  
Seeger, Dwight B., enl. Feb. 22, 1865; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.



*Unassigned.*

Grier, Henry, enl. Dec. 26, 1863; not taken up on rolls.  
 Kelley, John, enl. Dec. 29, 1862; not taken up on rolls.  
 O'Neil, James W., enl. Jan. 5, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

**SECOND LIGHT BATTERY.**

James, Thomas, enl. Feb. 20, 1864; must. out Aug. 9, 1865.  
 Monroe, Charles, enl. Feb. 23, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

**FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY.***Company F.*

Hoyt, Wilson L., enl. June 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

*Company G.*

Benedict, Daniel, enl. Dec. 7, 1863; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
 Davis, Albert, enl. Dec. 7, 1863; died Nov. 30, 1864.

*Company H.*

Bedient, Thomas, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

*Company I.*

Gray, Charles, enl. Dec. 22, 1864.

**SECOND REGIMENT ARTILLERY.***Company D.*

Hunford, Morris B., enl. March 31, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

*Company H.*

Jones, Ira, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

*Company K.*

Knapp, George K., enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
 Russell, Charles H., enl. Jan. 5, 1864; missing June 1, 1864.  
 Smith, John, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out July 3, 1865.

*Company L.*

Barnes, John, enl. Dec. 31, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
 Howard, John, enl. Dec. 29, 1864.  
 Rice, Thomas, enl. Dec. 29, 1864.

**FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.***Company E.*

Jones, Elijah B., enl. July 22, 1861; killed Aug. 9, 1862.

*Company G.*

Partritt, Sylvester, enl. Feb. 26, 1864; killed July 20, 1864.  
 Supple, Henry, enl. Feb. 20, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company K.*

Mills, Seth F., enl. Feb. 17, 1862; killed Aug. 9, 1862.

**SIXTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.***Company A.*

Avery, Hanford, enl. Feb. 25, 1864; disch. for disability, March 21, 1865.

*Company E.*

Parker, Charles, enl. Aug. 21, 1863.

**SEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.***Company A.*

Megann, John, enl. Oct. 29, 1863; missing in action May 16, 1864.

*Company D.*

Chase, Edward V., enl. Feb. 22, 1864; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Kowan, Robert, enl. Nov. 13, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Matteucci, Dominico, enl. Oct. 26, 1863; captured May 16, 1864.  
 Murphy, Henry, enl. Oct. 30, 1863; captured Feb. 20, 1864.  
 Perra, Antonio, enl. Oct. 28, 1863; died Oct. 28, 1864.  
 Riley, John, enl. Nov. 28, 1863.

*Company F.*

Claolet, Francois, enl. Nov. 5, 1863.  
 Vanne, Albert, enl. Oct. 29, 1863.

*Company G.*

Wilson, Charles, enl. Oct. 30, 1863; trans. to U.S.N. April 27, 1864.

*Company H.*

Kercrossick, Anthony, enl. Oct. 30, 1863; must. out July 20, 1864.  
 Schlageter, Cornelius, enl. Nov. 4, 1863; wounded and captured Feb. 20, 1864.  
 Watermire, Frederick, enl. Nov. 3, 1863; died June 9, 1864.

*Company I.*

Williams, Alfred, enl. Oct. 29, 1863.

*Company K.*

Koeppenhofer, George, enl. Oct. 29, 1863; must. out July 20, 1865.

**EIGHTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.***Company A.*

Gorman, Henry, enl. Aug. 15, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

*Company D.*

Martin, John, enl. Feb. 23, 1864; died Sept. 8, 1864.  
 Wright, George, enl. Feb. 23, 1864; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

*Company H.*

Hodges, Stephen, corporal; enl. Sept. 23, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 24, 1861; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Bishop, Jacob, corporal; enl. Sept. 23, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 5, 1864; disch. for promotion, Nov. 4, 1864.  
 Frederickicks, Jacob, corporal; enl. Sept. 23, 1861; disch. for disability, March 12, 1863.  
 Bennett, George H., enl. Sept. 30, 1861; killed May 7, 1864.  
 Dudley, William G., enl. Sept. 23, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.  
 Hanford, John M., enl. Sept. 23, 1861; died May 1, 1862.  
 Seymour, Francis, enl. Oct. 7, 1861; disch. May 5, 1865.  
 Sherman, Reuben A., enl. Sept. 23, 1861.  
 Smith, Henry, enl. Sept. 25, 1861; killed July 10, 1864.  
 Smith, John, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; died Dec. 2, 1864.

**NINTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.**

Higgins, George, enl. Feb. 17, 1864; forwarded with 9th Conn. Vol., Feb. 26, 1864; unassigned.  
 Nelson, George, enl. Feb. 17, 1864; forwarded with 9th Conn. Vol., Feb. 26, 1864; unassigned.

**TENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.***Company G.*

Hanford, Edmond, enl. Oct. 2, 1861; re-enl. Feb. 6, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

*Company I.*

Pugsley, Floyd T., enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

**TWELFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.***Company B.*

Britton, Thomas, enl. March 26, 1864.  
 Davis, Madison, enl. April 7, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.

*Company E.*

Dikeman, Walter, enl. Nov. 19, 1861; disch. for disability Nov. 6, 1863.  
 Giddis, Jno. A., enl. Jan. 8, 1862; died March 22, 1865.  
 Slauson, George, enl. Jan. 15, 1862; disch. for disability March 29, 1862.

*Company I.*

Turner, William, enl. March 26, 1864.

**THIRTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.***Company B.*

Roscoe, Hiram, musician; enl. Feb. 18, 1862; died June 26, 1863.  
 Gardner, James, enl. Jan. 7, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 8, 1864; must. out April 26, 1866.  
 Hanford, William H., enl. Dec. 22, 1861; trans. to 2d La. Vols., Aug. 28, 1862.  
 Sherman, Reuben A., enl. Dec. 30, 1861; disch. for disability, Aug. 26, 1862.

*Company H.*

Scribner, William F., enl. Feb. 1, 1862; died Feb. 23, 1862.

**FOURTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.***Company A.*

Campbell, Leverett, enl. July 16, 1862.  
 Hanford, Morris B., enl. March 31, 1864; trans. to 2d Conn. Vol. II. Art. May 31, 1865.

**FIFTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.***Company A.*

Brelsford, John, enl. Sept. 1, 1864; trans. to 7th Conn. Vol.; must. out July 20, 1865.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company A.*

Gray, William H., corporal; enl. July 28, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Allen, Albert N., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; died July 25, 1864.  
 Buttery, George N., enl. Aug. 4, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Davis, Jno. L., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; disch. for disability, March 9, 1863.  
 De Forrest, Samuel C., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 14, 1865.  
 Gray, George B., enl. July 28, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Hyatt, Gregory, enl. July 30, 1862; disch. for disability, July 18, 1863.  
 Hagar, Abijah, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Hoyt, Warren, enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Lockwood, John S., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Paynton, William W., enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Pelham, Augustus, enl. July 28, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 8, 1862.  
 Seymour, Richard G., enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Whitney, David B., enl. Aug. 9, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company A.*

Britts, Lafayette F., enl. Dec. 28, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Buttery, Edgar, enl. Jan. 20, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company B.*

Lobdell, Eli, corporal; enl. Aug. 2, 1862; died.  
 Mills, Orrin E., enl. Aug. 31, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company F.*

Britts, Sylvester, enl. Aug. 11, 1862; died July 4, 1864.  
 Brown, John R., enl. Aug. 18, 1862; disch. for disability, Nov. 25, 1862.  
 Bishop, John W., enl. April 13, 1862; never must. in U. S. service.  
 Brown, James, enl. Aug. 15, 1862.  
 Bates, Bradley, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; died Oct. 5, 1864.  
 Hoyt, James E., enl. Aug. 26, 1862; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps, May 8, 1864.  
 Knapp, Charles H., enl. Aug. 13, 1862.  
 Morgan, Charles F., enl. Aug. 9, 1862; disch. for disability, Oct. 5, 1863.  
 Morgan, Wilber B., enl. Aug. 12, 1862; died July 9, 1863.  
 Peck, Charles, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Riggs, Charles M., enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Rockwell, Darius B., enl. Aug. 11, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Whitney, Charles, enl. Aug. 12, 1862; disch. for disability, Jan. 15, 1863.  
 Walton, George, enl. Aug. 15, 1862; must. out June 20, 1865.  
 Whitney, Noble L., enl. Aug. 12, 1862; must. out June 19, 1865.  
 Keyser, Milton S., enl. Jan. 19, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company H.*

Albin, Henry, enl. Aug. 13, 1862; must. out June 8, 1865.  
 Byington, Aaron, enl. July 23, 1862; disch. for disability, Oct. 12, 1863.  
 Barr, Ira T., enl. Aug. 13, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 16, 1862.  
 Bouton, Alonzo G., enl. Aug. 20, 1862; rejected, under age.  
 Roscoe, George, enl. July 23, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Jones, David R., enl. Sept. 20, 1864; must. out June 10, 1865.

*Company I.*

Herkentine, John, enl. Jan. 5, 1865; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Johnson, George, enl. Jan. 5, 1865; must. out July 19, 1865.

## TWENTIETH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company D.*

O'Brien, Wm., enl. Aug. 25, 1864.

## TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company E.*

Godfrey, George M., captain; com. Aug. 28, 1862; died April 3, 1863.  
 St. John, Hiram, first lieutenant; com. Aug. 28, 1862; res. March 26, 1863.  
 Main, John N., second lieutenant; com. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Scribner, Aaron, sergeant; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; died June 12, 1863.  
 Gilbert, William D., sergeant; enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Davis, Aaron H., sergeant; enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Muller, Jeremiah R., corporal; enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Sturges, Albert D., corporal; enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Lockwood, Joseph R., corporal; enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Osborn, Hezekiah B., corporal; enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Betts, Elijah, corporal; enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Main, Samuel A., musician; enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Allington, Wm., enl. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Brothwell, William E., enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Brown, Daniel C. H., enl. Sept. 8, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Cobleigh, Hiram, enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Comstock, Moses, enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Dann, George L., enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Gilbert, Enoch H., enl. Aug. 26, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Godfrey, John L., enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Jennings, George, enl. Sept. 15, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Jones, Lorenzo, enl. Aug. 29, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Lobdell, James, enl. Aug. 28, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Olmstead, Charles, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Raymond, Henry A., enl. Aug. 30, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Winkler, Augustus, enl. Sept. 15, 1862; disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company I.*

Hanford, Morris B., enl. Sept. 2, 1862; disch. Aug. 9, 1863.

## TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

*Company I.*

Abbott, Daniel S., enl. Oct. 29, 1862; disch. April 25, 1863.

## TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT INFANTRY (COLORED).

*Company D.*

Robinson, George W., enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Oct. 24, 1865.

*Company G.*

Dullivan, Henry, enl. Dec. 28, 1863; died May 25, 1864.  
 Dullivan, Samuel, enl. Dec. 28, 1863; died July 14, 1864.

## THIRTIETH REGIMENT INFANTRY (COLORED).

*Company A.*

Roberts, Sherman, enl. Nov. 14, 1864; died.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

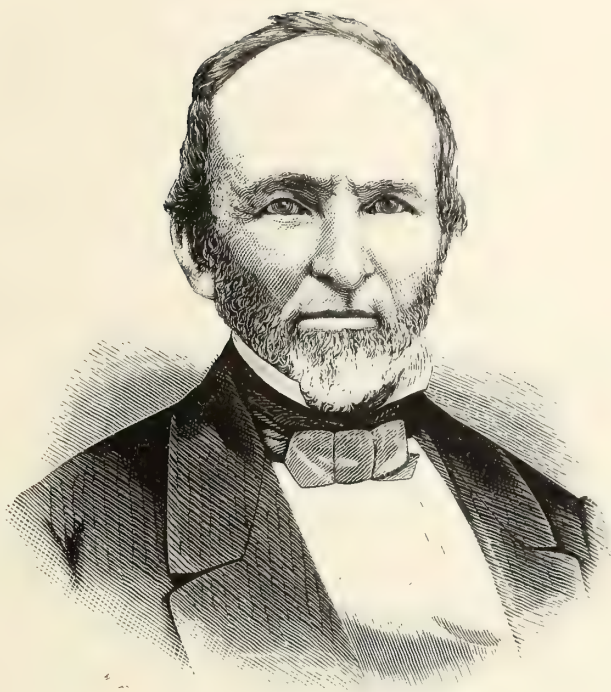
## STURGES BENNETT.

Sturges Bennett, son of Elias Bennett, Jr., descended from an old pioneer family of New England. He was born in 1805 and died May 30, 1880, at the ripe age of seventy-five. His grandfather was a soldier in the Revolution and took part in the battle at Ridgefield, in which Gen. Wooster was killed. He died at the age of ninety-six. His father, Elias Bennett, Jr., is remembered by the oldest inhabitants, as in the capacity of post-rider he for many years delivered the Bridgeport *Standard* and *Farmer* and the Norwalk *Gazette* through various towns.

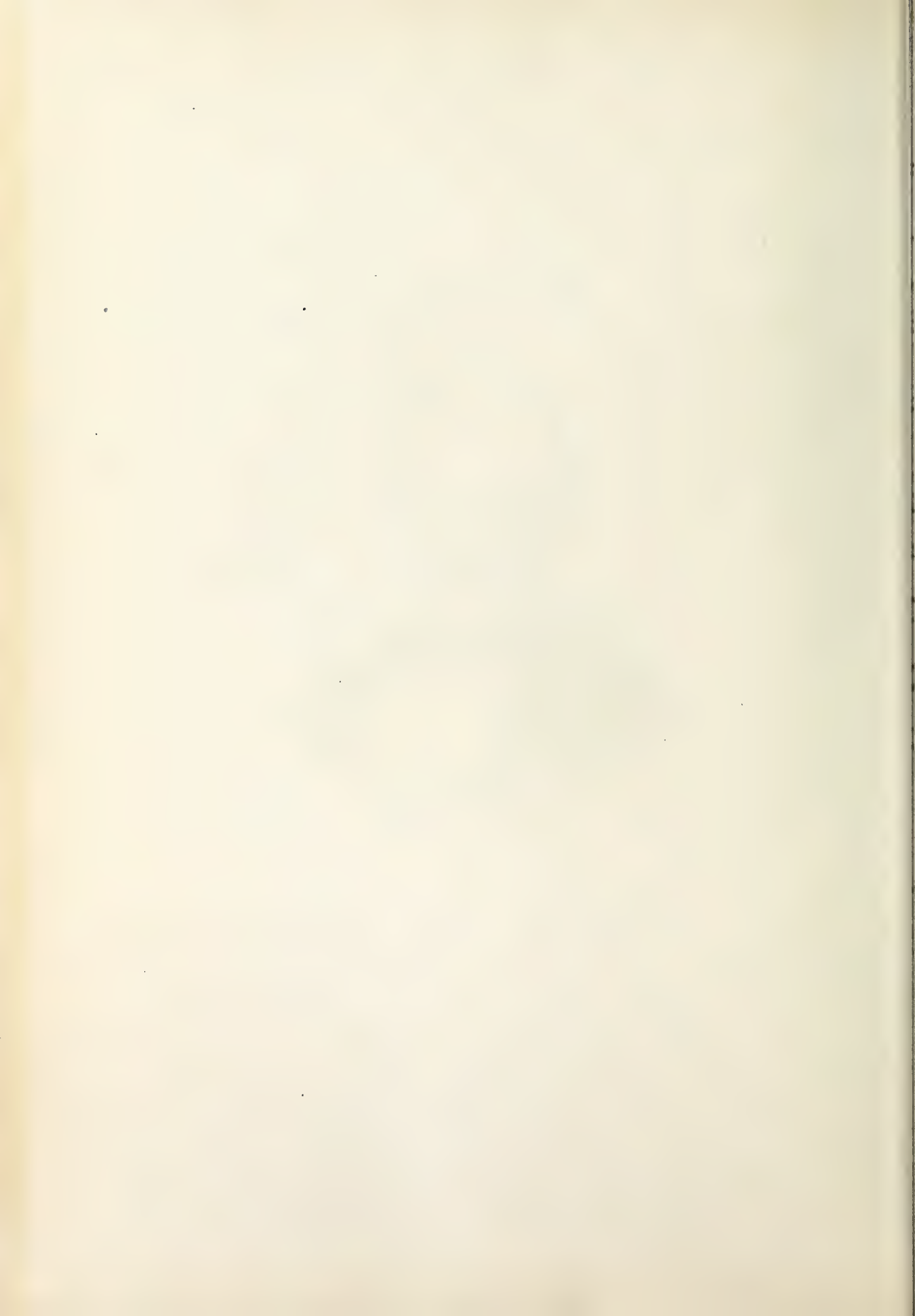
In the spring of 1830, Sturges Bennett married for his first wife Charlotte, daughter of Benjamin Gilbert, by whom he had four children, three of whom preceded their mother to another world. Soon after this marriage he became associated with his father in business, and they built the red shop which stood on the site now occupied by the fine buildings now used as a store by his son Eli. From this small beginning sprang the extensive manufacturing business which has since been conducted with such success.

In 1848, Mr. Bennett was united in marriage to his second wife, who through all the succeeding years of his life was a cheerful, faithful, and affectionate companion, always making his pleasure and comfort her first consideration.





*Sturges Bennett*









LEWIS OLMSTEAD.





ELBERT OLMSTEAD.



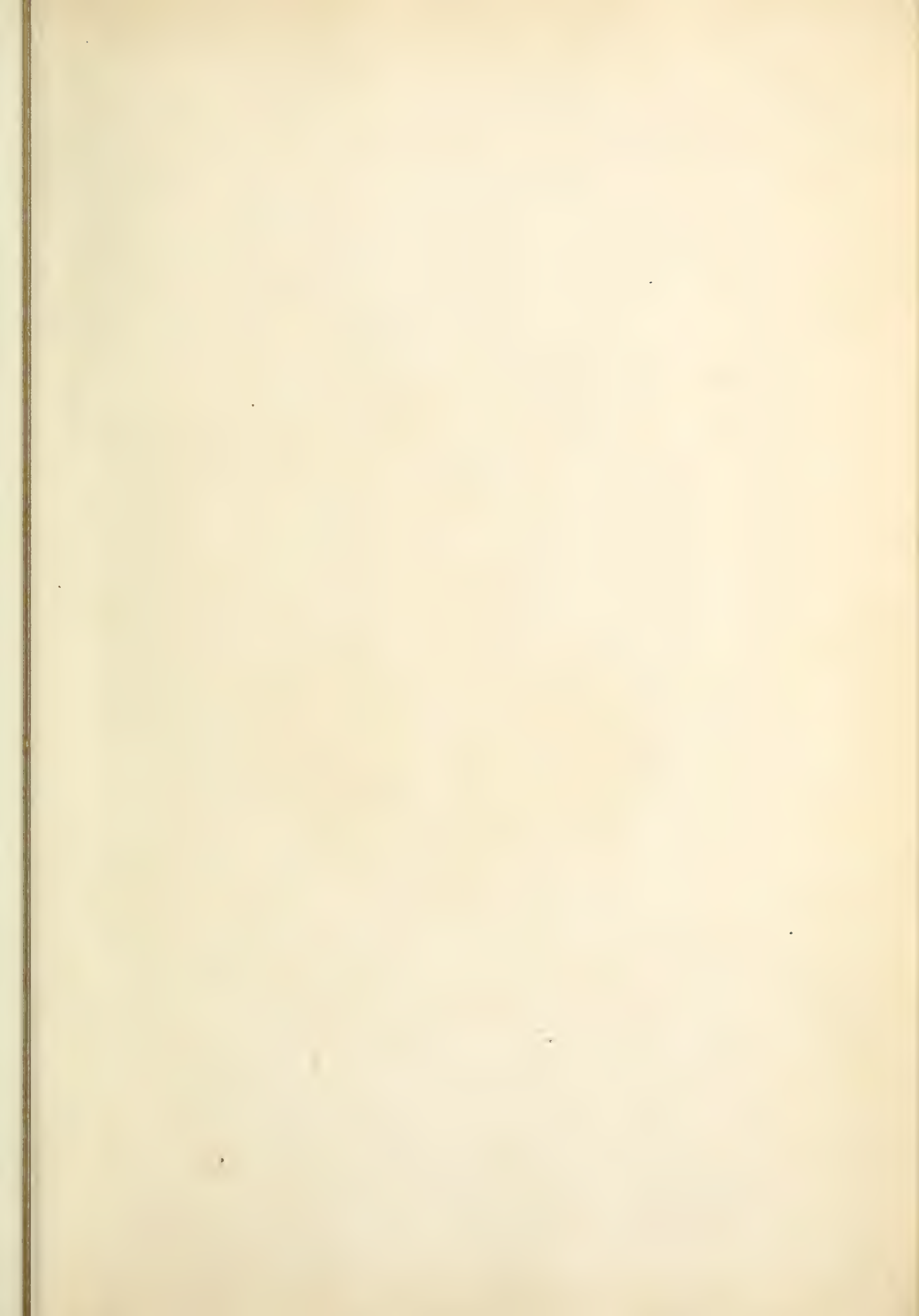


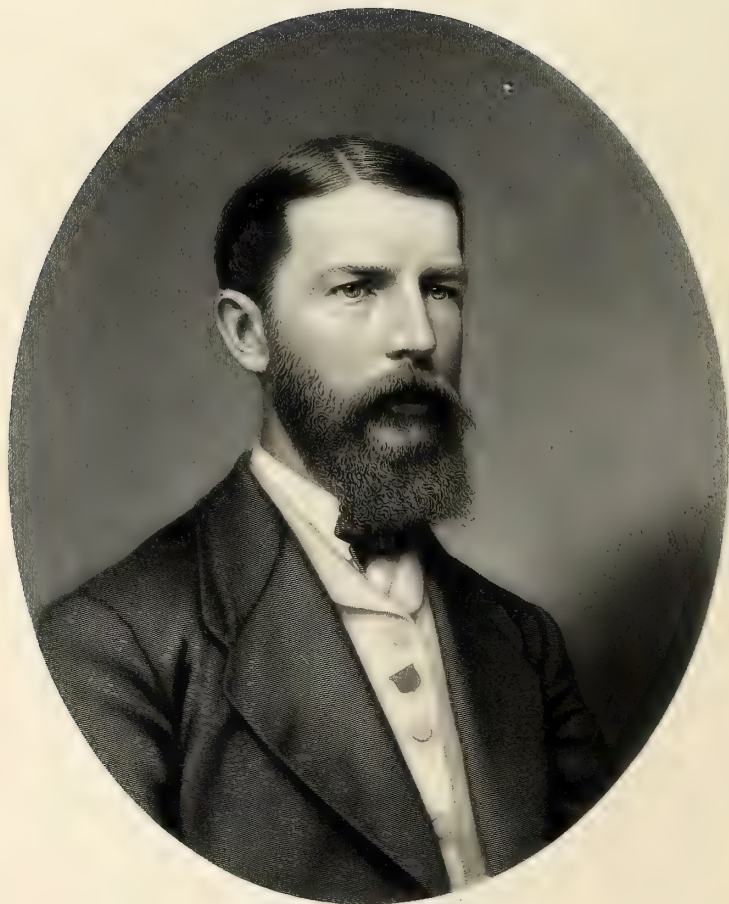


SAMUEL KEELER.









*John B. Sturges.*



## LEWIS AND ELBERT OLMSTEAD.

LEWIS OLMSTEAD is of English-Scotch descent, of early settlers of New England, and was born Feb. 25, 1795. His grandfather Samuel Olmstead lies buried near Comstock's store, in North Wilton. His father, also named Samuel, is buried in Hillside Cemetery. Lewis was the eldest son of Samuel and Mercy Olmstead. He learned the trade of shoemaking in all its branches, but the loss of his hand, by an accident, compelled him to give up this business, and to support a large and growing family he was obliged to resort to other work. He began storekeeping in his native village; at the same time he commenced in a small way the manufacture of shirts. This was in 1834. He began making them for Mr. McGrath, a New York firm. His first invoice from him was two dozen shirts. These, owing to Mr. Olmstead's inexperience, were not made to the satisfaction of that gentleman, and he hesitated about giving him more; but the earnestness of Mr. Olmstead's manner gave assurance that the work would be done as well as he could do, which, with a little more experience, would be well enough. Mr. Olmstead received more work, which on its return was pronounced well done, and from that time forth no difficulty was experienced in getting all the work desired. The business had not been reduced to the system by which it is now conducted, neither was the work prepared as it is now. The kind manufactured were principally of common calico, with puff bosoms, and were difficult to make, the seamstresses throughout the country working by hand (this was before the sewing-machine came into general use, —indeed, we believe, before its invention). This difficulty Mr. Olmstead overcame, and from a small beginning his business assumed almost colossal proportions, and for many years he enjoyed the reputation of being the largest manufacturer of shirts in his section.

Lewis Olmstead was married, Feb. 24, 1818, to Miss Sally, second daughter of Elie and Isabel De Forest, of New Canaan, Conn. Seven children were born to them,—Melissa, Maria, Hiram, Samuel L., William De F., Mary, and William H. Melissa was married, Oct. 15, 1845, to Elbert Olmstead. Their children have been Frank L., Herman (deceased), and William E.

ELBERT OLMSTEAD had been in the business in the employ of his father-in-law, and on the death of the latter bought into the concern in connection with his brother-in-law, William H. Olmstead. After a partnership of a few years, Elbert bought the entire business, which he has since successfully conducted.

## JOHN BURR STURGES.

John Burr Sturges, son of Samuel Burr and Elizabeth Marvin Sturges, was born in the city of New York, July 5, 1838. His grandfather, Samuel Sturges, was a native of Fairfield Co., Conn.

His father, Samuel Burr Sturges, was born in Wilton, Feb. 21, 1807, and died there Nov. 11, 1872. He followed the business of merchant and farmer combined; he was a prominent man in the Episcopal Church in that place, and one of its wardens for many years. Early in life he was married to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Samuel and Lucretia Marvin, of Westport. Their children were Frederick Dennis, and John Burr. The former, a graduate of New York Medical College, is at this writing (1880) surgeon in the Pacific Mail Steamship service.

John B. Sturges was educated in New York City, and at Trinity College, Hartford. He follows from choice the vocation of farming. He has often been called to official position by the citizens of his town, and at present is one of its selectmen. He lives on what has been the Sturges homestead for nearly a century.

At the age of thirty-two he was married to Helen Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Sherman P. and Sarah M. (Jones) Fitch, of Wilton. At this writing their children are Florence M., Samuel B., Mabel F., and Frederick S.

## SAMUEL KEELER.

Samuel Keeler bears the patronymic of his ancestors through many generations. His grandfather, Samuel Keeler, was one of the original settlers of Norwalk. His great-great-grandfather, Samuel Keeler, settled in what is now Wilton among the first settlers, and built the house the frame of which is still standing and is occupied by Mr. I. N. Benedict. The property on which Legrand W. Keeler, father of the subject of this sketch lives, has been owned by the family since its settlement.

The great-grandfather of Samuel, also named Samuel, was an active patriot during the Revolution, and was despoiled by the British under Tryon. His brother, Isaiah Keeler, was a soldier in the American army.

His grandfather, Isaiah Wheeler, was an extensive farmer and prominent in his town, often holding positions of public trust. He was married early in life to Lucy, daughter of Capt. John Watrous, of Ridgefield. Their children were Fannie M., Legrand W., Emily A. (deceased), and Martha (deceased).

Legrand W. Keeler was born Oct. 19, 1815. He married, Sept. 17, 1844, Catharine, youngest daughter of Horatio and Bethia Lockwood. Of this union there have been born Samuel, Edward L., Wellington R., Catharine L., and William L.

Samuel Keeler, subject of this memoir is (1880) in his thirty-fifth year, and was born in Wilton, Fairfield Co., Conn. He early evinced a disposition to acquire knowledge, for the attainment of which his father gave him every opportunity. He was fitted for college at the preparatory school of Professor Olmstead, of Wilton, and entered Yale College in the class of '67. After his graduation he studied

law with Hon. Levi Warner, of Norwalk, and was admitted to the bar of Fairfield County, afterwards to the New York bar. He is now practicing his profession in New York City.

#### WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR.

William Henry Taylor, the youngest son of Levi and Esther (Belden) Taylor, was born at Wilton, Conn., Jan. 5, 1810. His education was commenced in the district schools, and his studies were completed at the academy of Mr. Olmstead, in Wilton.

While but a youth he became a member of the Coast-Guard, organized in the latter part of the Revolutionary struggle to defend the shores of Long Island Sound against the attacks of ex-Governor Tryon and Benedict Arnold, for which service, in the later years of his life (after sustaining heavy losses of property), he drew a pension from the United States government.

When quite a young man he was appointed to the office of county surveyor, succeeding his father in that position. He afterwards established and maintained for several years a boarding- and day-school in the town of Wilton; his health failing by reason of close confinement and application to his duties, he was compelled to give up this enterprise and retire to his farm residence, where he spent most of his time. He at different times taught the district schools in or near his native town, and was always highly esteemed as an instructor by those with whom he was associated.

In February, 1842, Mr. Taylor experienced religion during services then being held at the Protestant Methodist church at Georgetown, Fairfield Co., Conn., and shortly afterwards united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he remained a consistent and useful member until the time of his death. He was one of the founders of the Zion's Hill Methodist Episcopal Church, at Wilton, Conn., which was dedicated in November, 1844. For many years he occupied an official relation in this church, being trustee, steward, and superintendent to the Sabbath-school. The latter office he was, however, compelled to resign on account of failing health a few years before his death.

During a portion of his lifetime he filled the office of justice of the peace, and was at different times selectman of his town. In the year 1854 he represented the town of Wilton in the Connecticut Legislature, but declined to serve a second term on account of his business interests, which required his entire attention.

In 1861, feeling a deep interest in the war of the Rebellion and the emancipation of the slaves, he was not satisfied until he had taken a trip to Washington and Virginia and visited the camps of our soldiers.

Mr. Taylor never married, but leaves one brother,

one sister, and a number of nephews and nieces to honor his memory. He died at Wilton, Conn., May 13, 1863.

### CHAPTER LXXXVIII.

#### BETHEL.\*

Descriptive—Early Days—"Milking-Yard"—Manufactures—Miscellaneous.

THE first settlers of our village must have had, at the best, only a faint idea of a future town of several hundred residences, a score and more of stores and markets, and nearly or quite as many manufacturing establishments.

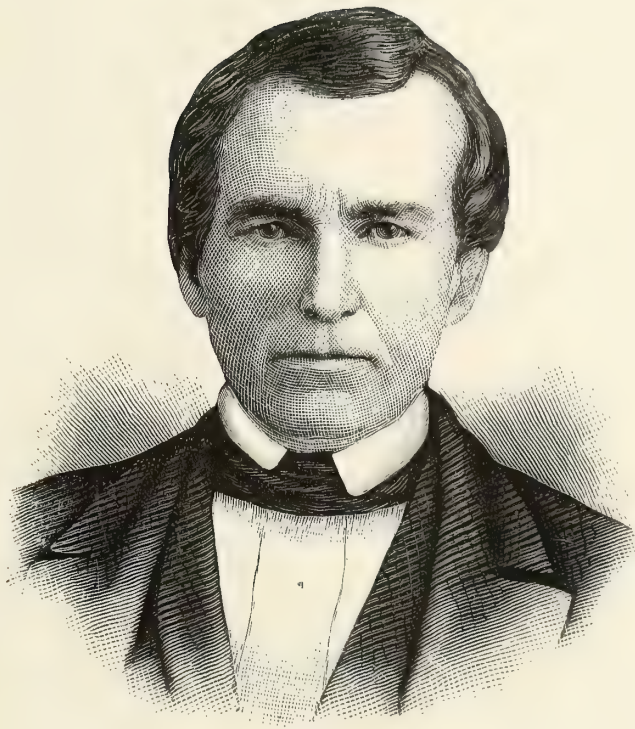
The assemblage of dwellings, stores, factories, and shops constituting the village of Bethel is neither upon a hill nor in a valley, nor yet is it on a plain. Still there are hills and valleys, and upon the sides and summits of the hills, and in the lower grounds, the dwellings, the stores, and the factories are located. The grassy plain upon our western border, and now included in the borough of Bethel, is the only level ground of any considerable extent within the limits of the town. It certainly appears to be the only feasible situation in or upon which to locate a town site, and even this is of comparatively moderate extent. It is only a few years—certainly within the memory of many citizens now living—that this district seemed of small account, but within the last thirty-five years it has made wonderful strides towards metropolitan dignity. It has a number of fine residences, as good as the best in town. In Grassy Plain, also, you may find the best constructed, if not the largest, hat-factory in Bethel. It is a large structure, built of brick, and its business is conducted by the well-known firm of O. Benedict & Co. In good times, when hats are in lively demand and all hands—numbering one hundred or more—are at work, it can turn out from one hundred and twenty-five dozen to one hundred and fifty dozen hats per day.

This particular portion of the town will demand further notice as we progress in our observations about Bethel, ancient and modern.

As Bethel was a portion of Danbury at the date of the settlement of this part of the country, it follows naturally that a great deal of the early history of the younger place will be found in the records of the older one. Our town records were kept in Danbury, we voted at Danbury at Presidential elections, at State elections, and at town-meetings for many, many years. But as the first settlers came from Norwalk, they were obliged to pass through the territory now belonging to Bethel in order to reach their new homes, on streets now called South and Main Streets in the borough of Danbury. And these first settlers—the pioneers—had no smooth highway through Redding. Their

\* Contributed by George Benedict, M.D.





*Wm. A. Taylor*





first path was through the woods on the west side of the pond, and between that and the mountain. The pond now called "Sympang" (a good old Indian name it is) was, until the last quarter of a century, or perchance thirty-five years at most, known as "Milking-Yard Pond." The high hill on the west was always in the past called "Milking-Yard Mountain," and the broken, hillocky land (perhaps one hundred acres) lying between pond and mountain was and still is known by the name of "Milking-Yard Farm." The name came naturally enough. More than fifty years ago, in the tender years of infancy and childhood, did the writer hear from the old Revolutionary grand-sire about the trouble the early settlers had with their cattle, particularly the cows, for before these pioneers had time to fence their grants, purchases, or farms, said cows would leave their "pastures fresh" in the up-country and return to the familiar scenes where now stands Norwalk. To prevent the exodus of the beasts a fence was built across the milking-yard farm, so-called, from the south end of the pond to the mountain on the west, the distance not being more than thirty rods. Here the progress of the cows towards their old home by the shore was stayed; and from homes on what is now Danbury's Main Street lads and lasses, grave fathers and sedate mothers rode on horseback a distance of three miles to milk the cows, for there were no wagons hereabout in those early days. We can hardly imagine the fun there must have been. Each horse, furnished with saddle and pillion for the occasion, would carry from two to four gay passengers. The cows having been milked, were left to their own "sweet will," while man and maiden returned with brimming pails of the healthful fluid. And thus it continued until the settlers could complete their houses and fence their fields.

Why should not this territory be known as "Milking-Yard" for all generations to come? In passing, it may be remarked that the country on the east side of the pond has been known as Sympang from time immemorial,—the genuine Indian name.

The "Milking-Yard Farm" has been in possession of one branch of the Benedict family for three generations most surely, perhaps for as many more. The writer should know something of it, having paid taxes on the land to the treasurers of both Danbury and Bethel.

After the lapse of years a more feasible route was found and opened between the new colony and the old home of its founders. The present highway, so far as can be learned at this date, corresponds very nearly with the one surveyed and laid out more than one hundred years ago. The present road is through the "Turkey Plain" neighborhood,—a suggestive name indeed, for in the early history of the neighborhood there was an abundance of wild turkeys, and the name was given to this locality from this circumstance. "Turkey Plain" lies on the east side of "Milking-Yard Pond."

There were panthers also in the early years of this country. There is a rock on the mountain still known to some of us as "Painter Rock" (being an abbreviation for Panther Rock), where one of the ancestors of the writer, after a desperate fight, killed the furious animal. It is possible that from this same rock on the mountain the only view of the salt water of Long Island Sound can be obtained within the limits of this town; but on a clear day in fall or winter, when the trees are bereft of foliage, one can with naked eye look upon the glancing waters of that portion of the mighty ocean.

"Silver Spring" lies a little north and west from the pond. The water is very clear. Its form is nearly circular, with a diameter of fifty feet or more, and was in days long gone by famous for the large speckled trout taken from its limpid waters. It gives rise to a considerable stream which, uniting with the one from "Milking-Yard Pond," flows through Grassy Plain, and the two contribute to the volume of the Still River. With the exception of the extreme southern portion of the territory of the town, the water-shed inclines to the north, and the streams are thus discharged into the Housatonic River near New Milford, in Litchfield County, and thence into the salt water between the villages of Stratford and Milford.

As with nearly all colonists, the first care of our ancestors was to gain a livelihood, and as that must under the circumstances come from the soil, it follows that farming was the employment of the newcomers. And yet every house was a factory on a small scale. Wool was carded by hand, and matron and maiden made music with a spinning-wheel instead of a piano or organ. The cloth was woven at home and manufactured into garments in the house, and worn by father and mother and the children. The farmers raised and dressed their own flax also, and this continued to be the custom in some families until within about fifty years. We could find linen sheets and pillow-cases of home manufacture even now without leaving the house where we write. Many of the living remember the broad old fireplace, with its cheerful blaze, before the advent of stoves. For a number of years after stoves came into use the old grandfathers would have nothing to do with them. Fortunately wood was much more abundant then than at the present time.

Through the war of the Revolution, Bethel was loyal to the American cause. There were but few loyalists in the society, and five of its citizens joined the American army. On Saturday, April 26, 1777, the British army under Gen. Tryon marched through the place on its way to burn the military stores in Danbury. One of the few Tories who lived here secreted a deserter from the American army, Thompson by name. Thompson was hung soon after in Newtown.

In the summer and fall of 1775 a malignant form

of dysentery prevailed in this place. It was known as the "camp distemper," from a supposition that it might have originated in and spread from the quarters of the Revolutionary army. Within three months there were about fifty deaths in the society, the greater portion of the suffering being among children.

Fifty years and more ago the most prominent manufacturing interests in Bethel were comb-making and hatting, and perhaps the former was even more prominent than the latter. But the comb-makers are among the things that were. There is nothing done at the business in the town now. Yet within the writer's recollection there were a number of firms and individuals who carried on an extensive business. In Elmwood District, Mr. Azrael Smith had a large factory which was surmounted by a cupola containing a bell. It depended upon a small stream for its power, but for its time was a large concern. It stood near the house of James P. Ridge. Mr. Charles Smith also had a shop in the same district a little east of the one just mentioned, nearly opposite the house formerly belonging to the late Joseph Taylor, Esq. The factory of Mr. A. Smith was destroyed by fire between forty and fifty years ago.

In Plumtrees the firm of Charles and Horace Couch did for many years a large business. The building now known as Bartow's saw- and cider-mills was built by the brothers Couch for comb-making purposes.

Charles Barnum also built a shop near the old factory, and for a number of years carried on the business. This was afterwards owned by Deacon Asahel Dunning and used as a hat-shop.

There were others, belonging to different members of the Williams family, in the near vicinity, and others in the village. Of all kinds of factories and shops for the manufacture of combs, in 1840, there were not less than twenty.

The manufacture of hats has not only held its old footing, but has absorbed almost everything else in the way of goods to be sent out of town for sale. The facilities for getting grain from the fertile Western States has made farming in these sterile New England towns a secondary consideration, and young men who are raised on the farm, as a rule, quit the old homestead, and either learn a trade or emigrate to the large cities or to the West. Of course many of these have helped to swell the company of hatters, so that now more than a thousand of our population depend upon employment in this trade for a support. There are at least fourteen establishments in town devoted to this work. A few of them are small shops, but seven or eight of them do a large business. In a good trade the semi-monthly payments for labor amount to three thousand dollars, or even four thousand dollars, in each of several of the larger factories.

The earliest reliable account of this business in Bethel dates back to 1793, when there were four small

shops, in which boys, as apprentices, did most of the work. Of these, Zar Dibble's shop stood on the ground now occupied by Ferry's Block, corner of Centre and Chestnut Streets. Capt. Eli Taylor's was a little west of his house, the place now occupied by Eli T. Andrews. Thomas Taylor's shop stood just west of his house, in Grassy Plain. This house, apparently as old as the oldest in town, is the first dwelling near the highway, east of "The Willows" shop, and near the entrance to W. Kyle's Oakland farm.

The shop of Eli Hickok, the fourth in this enumeration, stood where Mr. E. T. Farnam now lives. In those days hats were made mostly of lamb's wool, napped with "back muskrat." Belly muskrat was considered too fine and short for use in those days. The hats were heavy, unwieldy head-gear compared with the specimens of the present time, but they had the virtue of durability, and one style of those days would outlast a half-score of such as we are now in the habit of using.

In the course of years business increased, and shops were built in the outside districts. There were a number in Wilcat (now Elmwood) District, and in Plumtrees and Wolfpits Districts, until they amounted at one time to more than twenty different places of manufacture. Some of these were small concerns in small buildings, just sufficient to contain one sizing-kettle and room for the men to work around it. But of late years they have become centralized, and, with two exceptions, the hatting business of the town is carried on in the Centre and Grassy Plain Districts.

The following is a list of the firms and individuals now engaged at hat-making: Messrs. Cole & Ambler, George G. Durant, Judd & Co., Judd & Dunning, George A. Hickok & Son, H. Hickok & Co., F. McKenzie, Judd & Judson, Charles W. Smith,—the above are in Centre District; O. Benedict & Co., E. T. Farnam, Short Brothers, Grassy Plain; Reuben Taylor, Elmwood; Nelson Taylor, Plumtrees.

Connected with the hat-making interest, Mr. Hugh Reid, of Grassy Plain, has a large factory for making paper-boxes, and in Centre District Theodore Clarke, Esq., has another for the same kind of work. There are also two factories for the manufacture of cases or large wooden boxes, in which the hats are shipped to market. New York is the immediate destination for the products of the factories here, although before the late war many firms sent their goods to Southern and Western cities, where some of them had partners and stores. At one time the work was almost exclusively upon silk hats, but of late, for twenty years perhaps, the soft and stiff hats only have been made.

Of stores, there are eleven in the grocery business, although two of them, E. S. Barnum & Co. and J. J. Meyer, keep dry goods also. Mr. C. H. Hoyt, in Ferry's Block, keeps a large stock of dry goods. There are three markets for the sale of meat and vegetables, and two that supply fresh fish and vegetables. There is one military company of about sixty



members, Frederick Cole, of Redding, captain. The company have a fine armory over town-hall.

We have a Masonic lodge, established in 1857, and numbering about one hundred and sixty members. There is a lodge of Knights of Pythias, Sons of Temperance, and a Band of Hope for the young.

The Danbury and Norwalk Railroad runs frequent trains through the place, and the Shepaug Branch Railroad gives us a connection with the Housatonic Railroad, and is a continuation from Hawleyville of the Shepaug Road between that place and Litchfield.

Of physicians, we find the name simply of Dr. Peter Hayes, as far back as 1785, as a member of the Ecclesiastical Society, but learn nothing more of his history. During the present century there have been Drs. Orvis Taylor, Samuel Banks, Ransom Lyon, H. N. Bennett, and Joseph Clarke, deceased. Dr. E. P. Bennett, the celebrated surgeon and physician of Danbury, commenced the practice of his profession in Bethel, and removed from this place to Danbury forty-two years ago, in 1838. There have been several other medical men engaged in practice here for longer or shorter periods, some of whom are living in other places. Dr. R. Lyon, whose name has been mentioned among the deceased, was at the time of his death, August, 1863, surgeon of the Twenty-eighth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers. He died and was buried at Port Hudson, La. Of the present physicians, Drs. C. R. Hart and A. E. Barber are in active practice, and Dr. George Benedict, on account of ill health, attends but little to his profession. Drs. Hart and Benedict served as surgeons in Connecticut regiments during a part of the war of the Rebellion. The three are graduates of medical colleges of the regular practice.

One of the great institutions of Bethel is its water supply. It is conducted through iron mains from the reservoir near Mountain Pond, more than a mile distant, and is of excellent quality and abundant in quantity. It is in general or universal use in the hat-factories, and in more than one hundred and twenty dwellings.

It is not right to neglect mention of our boot- and shoe-stores. Messrs. A. B. Lockwood and W. Ferry keep supplies for the multitude on hand, and manufacture to order as required. There are also two news- and stationery-stores, two barber-shops, and two hotels conducted on temperance principles. Indeed, the town has always voted "no license," and if any liquors are sold in the town, it is done on the sly and in violation of the law.

At time of its being chartered, or made a separate town, Bethel contained a population of seventeen hundred and eleven. At the census taken in June of this year (1880), it was found to be two thousand seven hundred and twenty-six.

We have too well-organized fire and hose-companies, and two excellent well-drilled bands of music.

During the war of the Revolution Bethel furnished

five soldiers. During the war of 1812 there were nine went forth, and during the late war of the Rebellion there were one hundred and thirty-three furnished by this town.

The Hatters' Bank of Bethel was chartered in 1852, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. Capt. Isaac H. Seeley was its first president, and Mr. Starr Ferry was the first cashier. It met with several losses in the early years, and in August, 1858, of all the contents of its vault. It was finally closed in 1867. H. H. Baird, Esq., was its last president, and William A. Judd the cashier.

#### ECCLIASTICAL HISTORY.

In the month of October, 1759, the first steps were taken to form an ecclesiastical society in the southern part of Danbury. A petition was sent to the Governor and company in Assembly at New Haven, and the report of a committee that had been appointed by the Assembly in the previous May was favorably received. Certain bounds and limits were set forth in a memorial of Ebenezer Hickok, Lemuel Beebe, and others, and it was *Resolved*, "That they shall be and hereby are made into a distinct ecclesiastical society, to be known and called by the name of *Bethel*, with the same powers and privileges as other ecclesiastical societies do enjoy."

This, then, is the starting-point of the Congregational Church in Bethel, dating nearly seventy-five years after the first settlement of Danbury. The first meeting subsequent to the above order, and in accordance with it, was held at the house of Isaac Hoyt, Esq., Nov. 12, 1859, before Thomas Benedict, justice of the peace. The territory was thinly settled, and there were but few houses where the lively village is now located. Yet even at this first meeting it was voted to call a candidate to preach in said society, and also "to build a house of worship which should be forty-eight by thirty-six feet, and twenty-one feet between joints." The sides of the house were to be covered with oak shingles riven three feet long. Capt. Ebenezer Hickok presented to the society land for a burying-ground and the site for a meeting-house.

On the 20th of August, 1760, it was voted "to call the worthy Mr. Noah Wetmore to the work of the gospel ministry in and for this society." On the 15th of October following, Mr. Wetmore accepted the call and was ordained Nov. 25, 1860.

The Council convened for the ordination of the first minister, one hundred and twenty years ago, consisted of the following members: Elisha Kent, Ebenezer White, David Judson, James Beebe, Ezraiah Wetmore, Elijah Sill, Nathaniel Bartlett, Robert Ross, James Taylor, Thomas Brooks, Elnathan Gregory, Mr. John Ryder, Mr. Richard Fairman, Deacons Elnathan Wheeler, Samuel Trowbridge, Joseph Smith, Elizur Hamlin.

Rev. Mr. White preached the sermon, Mr. Kent

made the prayer of ordination, Rev. Mr. Judson gave the pastoral charge, and Mr. Sill presented the right hand of fellowship.

A form of confession of faith and covenant was adopted, and, by recommendation of the Rev. Mr. White, the following persons from the First Church in Danbury "were embodied into a distinct Church of Christ in full communion:"

John Benedict and his wife, Rachel Benedict; Ebenezer Hickok and his wife, Esther Hickok; Philip Judd and his wife, Lydia Judd; Nathan Taylor; Solomon Ferry and his wife, Mrs. Ferry; Theophilus Taylor and his wife, Sarah Taylor; Benjamin Judd and his wife, Sarah Judd; Nathaniel Benedict and his wife, Hannah Benedict; Abraham Benedict and his wife, Anah Benedict; James Crofut and his wife, Lydia Crofut; Ephraim Barnum and his wife, Ruth Barnum; Lemuel Beebe; John Dibble and his wife, Sarah Dibble; Ebenezer Platt and his wife, Marah Platt; Benjamin Benedict and his wife, Abigail Benedict; Benjamin Judd, Jr.; Simeon Rockwell and his wife, Mrs. Rockwell; Nathan Taylor and his wife, Mary Taylor; Jabez Taylor and his wife, Hannah Taylor; Samuel Judd and his wife, Hannah Judd; Samuel Hoyt and his wife, Jerusha Hoyt; Matthew Taylor; Ebenezer Munson and his wife, Mrs. Munson; John Benedict and his wife, Lydia Benedict; Noah Rockwell and his wife, Mary Rockwell; Stephen Trowbridge and his wife, Lydia Trowbridge; Isaac Hoyt and his wife, Sarah Hoyt; Benjamin Taylor; Phineas Judd and his wife, Deborah Judd; Joseph Ferry and his wife, Rachel Ferry; Nathaniel Hoyt and his wife, Ruth Hoyt; Jonathan Beebe; Samuel Benedict and his wife, Mrs. Benedict; Eliphalet Peck and his wife, Rebecca Peck; Jesse Peck; Joseph Beebe and his wife, Mrs. Beebe; Widow Sarah Benedict, Sarah Judd, Mrs. Hannah Seeley, Sarah Bush, Mrs. Lydia Bailey. Total, seventy-one members.

During Mr. Wetmore's ministry in Bethel there was difficulty in the parent church in Danbury, which caused some disaffection in the new society. It was caused by the introduction of the Sandemanian doctrines, so called from Rev. Robert Sandeman, from Scotland, who died and was buried in Danbury. Mr. Wetmore was very earnest in his preaching against the new doctrines. There were other causes of disturbance during this pastorate. Mr. Wetmore preached to this people twenty-four years. There is no record to be found of admissions to the church during this period. Mr. Wetmore was a graduate of Yale College, "a faithful preacher, and in social life an agreeable and instructive companion."

After Mr. Wetmore's dismissal there was much division of counsel and action in the society, and a number of the members were strongly disposed to disband and return to Danbury. Such counsels did not prevail, but it was seven years before they could find a preacher to settle with them upon whom a ma-

jority were agreed. Still, during this interval they hired a number of ministers, some of them for one year and some of them for a shorter term, and the catalogue (issued in 1870) enumerates the names of sixty new members admitted during this period. Capt. John Benedict and Capt. Ebenezer Hickok, the first deacons in the church, were appointed Feb. 11, 1761.

Rev. John Ely, a young minister from Lyme, who had preached acceptably as a candidate, received a call to settle, Sept. 6, 1791. The call was favorably entertained, and he was ordained November 31st of that year. The meeting-house had been in use now thirty-six years, with only partial finishing inside, when in 1797 it was accomplished. The lower floor was furnished with pews, a pulpit built, a floor laid in the gallery and a breastwork and one seat around it, and two flights of stairs.

Mr. Ely remained with the church twelve and one-half years, and was dismissed June 7, 1804. He was a graduate of Yale College, in class 1776, being a student at the time the college was temporarily closed in consequence of the approach of the British army.

In 1806 the Rev. Samuel Sturges, who had preached several weeks or months in 1790 very acceptably, received a regular call to become the settled pastor. He accepted and was installed April 9th of that year.

Mr. Sturges preached nearly six years with no events of particular importance, unless it was an *increasing* difficulty in raising funds to meet the annual salary.\*

After the resignation and dismissal of Mr. Sturges there was a long interval of ten years during which the church and society were without a settled pastor. During much of the time, it is true, they had preachers from adjoining towns, and at other times public worship was conducted by officers of the church.

The first Sunday-school was organized in 1818, during the interval. Rev. Burr Baldwin was the originator, and he supplied a few tracts and pamphlets for the use of the scholars. Mr. Seth Seelye gathered a Sunday-school in Grassy Plain the next summer, which was supplied with a valuable library for those early days, and had an attendance of from thirty to fifty scholars.

In November, 1821, the church and society extended a unanimous call to Rev. John G. Lowe, of Bedford, N. Y., to settle with them. He accepted and was installed Jan. 1, 1822. "Mr. Lowe was an English minister who had emigrated to this country with his family a few years before, and whose education had been at the Dissenting Seminary at Homerton, under the celebrated Dr. John Pye Smith."

In 1824 additional seats were made in the galleries, and in 1828 the first bell was procured. Mr. Lowe was dismissed Jan. 20, 1829, his ministry having continued seven years.

\* Mr. Sturges was also a graduate of Yale College, of class of 1787.



Rev. Erastus Cole, from Otsego Co., N. Y., was invited to settle Aug. 6, 1830, and was installed as pastor on September 29th of that year. During the next year, 1831, fifty-seven members were added to the church. In 1832 the meeting-house was repaired and the modern style of slips were substituted for the old-fashioned square pews.

Mr. Cole was dismissed Sept. 26, 1837, having been pastor seven years.

A few months after Mr. Cole's dismissal Rev. John Greenwood, who had recently arrived in this country from England, was called to settle, which call he accepted and was installed April 17, 1838.

Mr. Greenwood's health was feeble, and, perhaps mainly on this account, he was dismissed from the charge on the 27th of April, 1842.

On the night of the 21st of July of that year the meeting-house was totally destroyed by fire, the flames being communicated to it by the burning of a large barn directly in the rear. The society voted at once to rebuild, the new house to be fifty-two feet by thirty-eight feet. During the autumn and winter public worship was held in a small room known as Temperance Hall, corner of Elm and Maple Streets, and in the basement of the new structure. Here under the pastoral care of Rev. James Knox, of Norwalk, who was only a temporary supply, there was a very great religious awakening. The new house was soon completed and was dedicated June 1, 1843, on which occasion Mr. Knox preached a dedicatory sermon, and on the following Sunday, June 4th, one hundred and twenty-five members were added to the church.

The society continued without a settled minister until Nov. 4, 1846, at which date Rev. Sylvanus Haight, recently from Pottsville, Pa., was installed. His ministry was of short duration, as he was dismissed Feb. 8, 1848.

After Mr. Haight there was an interregnum of nearly a year, when Rev. John S. Whittlesey was settled. His term as minister continued two years, and he was dismissed Jan. 1, 1852.

On March 28, 1853, the Rev. Wheelock Nye Harvey was ordained. His ministry was very successful, but it terminated June 29, 1858.

In 1855, when Bethel was set off as a separate town, the society, by a change of its charter, became the First Ecclesiastical Society of the town of Bethel.

On Dec. 30, 1859, it was voted "That there be a committee of six to consider the propriety of a centennial celebration of the organization of this church, and report to a future meeting." This committee reported favorably, and Rev. Dr. L. P. Hickok, then president of Union College, and a native of this town, was requested to prepare a historical discourse for the occasion. He accepted the invitation, and the day selected for the celebration was Nov. 30, 1860.

Many of the facts thus far in the history of this church have been condensed from the above-mentioned historical discourse of Dr. Hickok.

Rev. Elijah C. Baldwin was called to settle as pastor in June, 1860, and was ordained Sept. 5, 1860. Mr. Baldwin remained pastor about five years, having been dismissed Feb. 5, 1865.

On the 11th of May of that year the church met its second loss of their house of worship. It was the result of a terrible tornado, which sent the tall spire through the roof into the body of the structure below. Divine services were held during the time occupied in building a new edifice in Fisher's Hall and in the old house of worship, which has been removed and repaired for a public hall. The new house was finished and dedicated in January, 1867. In August, 1869, more than four years after the dismissal of Mr. Baldwin, Rev. Robert C. Bell was unanimously called to settle, and was ordained Nov. 3, 1869. This pastorate was of short duration. Mr. Bell was dismissed by his own request after a settlement of less than two and a half years, April 1872.

An interval of a little more than a year elapsed, when a call was extended to the present incumbent, Rev. George F. Waters. He was ordained in July, 1872. The church continued to increase in numbers and in resources, and has a present membership of three hundred and forty-five. The Sunday-school is also prospering, and, including officers and teachers, numbers two hundred and fifty, with a valuable library consisting of six hundred and eighty volumes. The value of the church property, including a convenient parsonage, is from twenty-five thousand to twenty-eight thousand dollars.

A union Sunday-school, though mostly officered by members of the Congregational Church, has been successfully conducted at the school-house in Plumtrees District, during the summer and autumn, for many years. The attendance will average forty or more, and the district library contains more than one hundred volumes.

The officers of the church at the present time are: Pastor and Clerk, Rev. George F. Waters; Deacons, A. L. Benedict, W. W. Sherman, Samuel Kyle, and Charles Bailey.

#### PASTORS.

1. Rev. Noah Wetmore, ordained Nov. 25, 1760; dismissed Nov. 2, 1784; died March 9, 1796, aged sixty-five.

2. Rev. John Ely, ordained Nov. 31, 1791; dismissed July 7, 1804; died Nov. 2, 1827, aged sixty-four.

3. Rev. Samuel Sturges, installed April 9, 1806; dismissed Dec. 11, 1811; died Nov. 22, 1835, aged sixty-eight.

4. Rev. John G. Lowe, installed Jan. 1, 1822; dismissed Jan. 20, 1829; died March 1, 1855, aged sixty-seven.

5. Rev. Erastus Cole, installed Sept. 29, 1830; dismissed Sept. 26, 1837; died (date and age unknown).

6. Rev. John Greenwood, installed April 17, 1838; dismissed April 27, 1842; died 1879.

7. Rev. Sylvanus Haight, installed Nov. 4, 1846; dismissed Feb. 8, 1848 (date of death unknown).

8. Rev. John Whittlesey, installed Dec. 12, 1849; dismissed Jan. 1, 1852 (date of death unknown).

9. Rev. Wheelock Nye Harvey, ordained May 18, 1853; dismissed June 29, 1858.

10. Rev. Elijah C. Baldwin, ordained Sept. 5, 1860; dismissed Feb. 5, 1865.

11. Rev. Robert C. Bell, ordained Nov. 3, 1869; dismissed April, 1872.

12. Rev. George F. Waters, ordained July, 1872.

#### DEACONS.

Capt. John Benedict, appointed Feb. 11, 1761; Capt. Ebenezer Hickok, appointed Feb. 11, 1761; Phineas Judd; Lieut. John Dibble, appointed Oct. 17, 1771; Benjamin Benedict, appointed Sept. 29, 1774; Stephen Trowbridge, appointed Oct. 3, 1776; Lieut. James Seelye, appointed Oct. 30, 1790; Ebenezer Silliman, appointed Oct. 30, 1790; Oliver Benedict, appointed Feb. 8, 1797; Daniel Judd, appointed December, 1803; Capt. Eliakim Benedict, appointed June 4, 1806; Ira Benedict, appointed July, 1803; Ephraim Barnum, appointed July, 1813; Ebenezer Hickok, appointed 1818; Elud Taylor, appointed 1818; Najah Benedict, appointed Sept. 28, 1832; Seth Seelye, appointed Sept. 28, 1832; Elizur Benedict, appointed Sept. 10, 1841; Asahel Dunning, appointed Sept. 10, 1841; Munson Lockwood, appointed Oct. 29, 1844; Matthew W. Starr, appointed Oct. 29, 1844; Henry O. Judd, appointed Dec. 15, 1848; George A. Hickok, appointed Nov. 10, 1853; Andrew L. Benedict, appointed Nov. 10, 1853; William A. Judd, appointed March 1, 1863; William W. Sherman, appointed March 1, 1863; Oliver Stone, appointed Jan. 1, 1871; Samuel Kyle, appointed October, 1875; Charles Bailey, appointed December, 1878.

The oldest living member of the church is Capt. Lemuel Beebee, in the eighty-ninth year of his age.

#### HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF ST. THOMAS' CHURCH.

St. Thomas' Church, Bethel, was organized as a separate parish on Monday, in Easter week, April 13, 1846, having been for eleven years previously a chapel of St. James' Church, Danbury. Its first officers were Everett Clark, Senior Warden; Starr Ferry, Junior Warden; Ira Benedict, William Hinman, Samuel Judd, Sherman Ferry, George Clapp, Vestrymen.

The following persons were also among the original corporators of the parish: Samuel Judd, George Ferry, Hiram Cole, Jabez Trowbridge, Orrin Benedict, James Beebee, William Shepard, George B. Beachem, Russell Eaton, James Starr Clark, Abram Stone, Clark B. Ferry, Noah S. Barnum, Whipple Williams, Eliakim Trowbridge, Charles H. Shepard, James Morrow, Levi Beebee, Horace R. Quick, Henry Williams.

The church edifice was erected during the summer

of 1835, and consecrated October 26th of the same year. It was subsequently enlarged, furnished with a new bell and organ, and reopened with dedicatory services, Nov. 14, 1855, at a cost of three thousand six hundred dollars. The parsonage was purchased Jan. 15, 1849.

The first rectors were the Revs. David H. Short, Thomas G. Guion, John Purves, Henry Olmsted, and William Everett. The Rev. Mr. Purves was then recalled, Jan. 23, 1847, remaining six years, and laying solid foundations for future growth. He was succeeded, in September, 1853, by the Rev. George Rumsey, who, after a faithful rectorship of nearly seven years, resigned before Easter, 1860. The Rev. C. C. Barclay was then rector for one and a half years, and the Rev. F. D. Lewin for about two years, and was succeeded by the present incumbent, the Rev. Eugene C. Pattison, who entered upon his duties the first Sunday in April, 1868.

The church property, including the rectory, is estimated to be worth sixteen thousand dollars, and is entirely free from debt.

The present officers of the church are Harry S. Glover, Senior Warden; Zalmon Whitlock, Junior Warden; Orrin Benedict, Charles Peck, William H. Barnum, George M. Cole, Joseph W. Burr, William O. Bassett, E. T. Andrews, Vestrymen; Edwin Short, Treasurer; Robert S. Dauchy, Clerk; D. F. Taylor, Sunday-school Superintendent.

The church now numbers one hundred and sixty families and two hundred and eight communicants; the Sunday-school, fourteen teachers and one hundred and fifty scholars.

The brotherhood and ladies' society have been fruitful in good works, and this parish, now only in its forty-fifth year, is in a flourishing condition, and may well "thank God" for the past and "take courage" for the future.

The foregoing concise history was kindly furnished by the esteemed rector, Rev. Mr. Pattison.

#### HISTORY OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The origin of this, the youngest of the three churches in our village, was quite humble. Its history, however, is only a fresh proof that it is not well to despise the day of small things.

It was in the winter of 1837 that five persons—namely, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Trowbridge, Heman Benedict and wife, and Miss Laura Trowbridge—met at the house now occupied by Mr. Erie Wood, which then belonged to (and was occupied by) Mr. Trowbridge. At this time Rev. Jacob Shaw was preaching in Danbury, and occasionally holding meetings in Plumtrees District, in Bethel. Being unable to attend worship in Danbury, these five above mentioned and a few neighbors met together for prayer and class-meeting. The numbers interested in this early movement rapidly increased, and they were soon compelled to find larger quarters. There were a number



of conversions from the outset, and their place of meeting was crowded. During 1839 they occupied as a place of worship a hall on the corner of Elm and Maple Streets. Here they had preaching by a minister from Danbury once in four weeks, and the district meetings in Plumtrees were discontinued except on irregular occasions.

At this time they became connected with the Conference circuit which at that time included Ridgefield, Danbury, and Poplar Plains, thus making a four weeks' circuit. They then removed to a hall suitably furnished for a place of worship, a few doors north of the corner, on Maple Street. This building was destroyed by fire during their occupancy, and they removed to Judd's Hall, over the store now occupied by B. Sparks on Main Street, opposite the Congregational church, and here they continued to worship until the building of their first church edifice in 1848 on Centre Street. This building, with repeated enlargements, is now known as Judd & Co.'s hat-factory.

Rev. Levi Perry was the first preacher, and entered upon his duties in 1848. He was succeeded by Rev. Morris Hill in 1849, and in this year the Long Ridge Society united with Bethel, and Mr. Hill was assisted by Rev. Elias Gilbert, a local preacher, now living in Ridgefield. In 1851 and 1852, Rev. Horace Bartlett was pastor; in 1853 and 1854, Rev. G. S. Stillman; in 1855 and 1856, Rev. S. H. Smith; and in 1857 and 1858, Rev. John Crawford. During his term of service there was a season of great religious interest, and during its progress there were more than one hundred conversions.

The Rev. D. Osborne succeeded Mr. Crawford, 1859. During 1860, and until 1863, Rev. S. H. Pease was pastor, and it was during his pastorate that the present large and commodious house of worship was erected. Rev. J. S. Breckenridge preached from 1863 to 1866. Rev. B. F. Abbott was pastor for the three following years. Rev. W. J. Robinson remained one year. Rev. T. N. Laine preached two years, and was succeeded by Rev. E. H. Dutcher, and Rev. George A. Parkington succeeded Mr. Dutcher. Rev. A. P. Chapman was next in order of succession, remaining in charge three years. The present incumbent, Rev. Wm. Brown, now in the second year of his pastorate, followed Mr. Chapman. During all these years the church has continued to increase in numbers and influence, and is now in a healthy condition. The present number of members of this church is two hundred.

The Sunday-school has six officers, twenty-two teachers, one hundred and seventy-five scholars,—total, two hundred and three.

Number of volumes in Sunday-school library is two hundred. Value of church property, including the parsonage, seventeen thousand dollars.

The oldest member is Mr. Cyrus Andrews, in the ninetyeth year of his age.

## GRAND LIST, 1793.

The following valuable table is the grand list for the town of Bethel for 1793:

	£.	s.	d.
Andrews, Robert.....	29	15	0
Andrews, Jr., Robert.....	36	19	0
Andrews, John.....	47	05	0
Andrews, Jr., John.....	65	46	0
Andrews, Eden.....	65	15	0
Benedict, Isaac.....	17	05	0
Benedict, Joseph.....	42	14	0
Benedict, Nathaniel.....	27	18	3
Benedict, Benajah.....	79	56	0
Benedict, Oliver.....	92	16	9
Benedict, Eliakim.....	34	4	9
Benedict, Seth.....	44	17	6
Benedict, Abel.....	33	2	3
Benedict, Ira.....	24	9	9
Benedict, John.....	49	13	0
Benedict, Jr., Hezekiah.....	27	11	0
Benedict, Asael.....	92	0	6
Benedict, Jr., David.....	24	16	6
Benedict, Hezekiah.....	19	1	3
Benedict, James.....	35	9	3
Benedict, William.....	14	0	6
Benedict, Jr., Eleazer.....	59	0	0
Benedict, Jr., Nathaniel.....	44	11	9
Benedict, Jonathan.....	35	4	6
Barnum, Ephraim.....	93	16	0
Barnum, Elijah.....	72	15	6
Barnum, Abel.....	49	0	6
Barnum, Jr., Ephraim.....	36	3	6
Barnum, Matthew.....	73	12	9
Barnum, Jr., Matthew.....	37	2	6
Barnum, Daniel.....	36	13	0
Barnum, David.....	61	3	0
Barnum, Jr., Ezra.....	25	7	0
Barnum, Lazarus.....	20	0	0
Barnum, Levi.....	20	0	0
Barnum, Jr., Joseph.....	51	7	0
Bailey, Samuel.....	43	16	0
Bailey, Benjamin.....	37	18	0
Bailey, Eleazer.....	13	4	0
Beebe, Joseph.....	37	6	3
Beebe, Jr., Joseph.....	73	11	0
Beebe, Lemuel.....	35	10	6
Beebe, Ethel.....	38	2	3
Beebe, Edmond.....	37	4	6
Canfield, Samuel.....	27	9	6
Crofut, Samuel.....	51	7	0
Crofut, Jr., Samuel.....	37	9	3
Crofut, Seelye.....	39	9	3
Crofut, Daniel.....	48	4	6
Crofut, Josiah.....	36	8	9
Comstock, M.....	15	2	9
Dibble, Samuel.....	76	9	6
Dibble, Jr., Samuel.....	42	5	0
Dibble, Thomas.....	51	2	9
Dibble, Hannah.....	8	2	0
Dibble, Jedediah.....	15	16	0
Dibble, John.....	26	19	0
Dibble, Zar.....	37	13	4
Elmore, Hezekiah.....	30	7	6
Hayes, Peter.....	32	14	0
Holcomb, Luther.....	20	18	9
Judd, Daniel.....	63	3	6
Judd, David.....	60	5	6
Judd, Elihu.....	38	3	3
Judd, Ebenezer.....	54	15	0
Judd, Elijah.....	5	13	0
Judd, Benjamin.....	20	0	0
Jacobs, Philip.....	29	0	0
Judson, Andrew.....	26	16	0
Jennings, Barritt.....	26	1	6
Lacy, Aaron.....	20	2	6
Lacy, Atel.....	20	2	6
Mygatt, Jr., Eli.....	22	10	0
Northrop, Thompson.....	6	1	0
Platt, Ebenezer.....	46	6	0
Prindle, William.....	45	10	0
Peck, Jesse.....	26	0	3
Peck, Benjamin.....	25	2	9
Peck, Calvin.....	26	15	6
Peck, Eliphalet.....	24	15	0
Ferry, Eliphalet.....	24	12	0
Ferry, Benjamin.....	42	0	6
Ferry, Joshua.....	25	3	6
Ferry, Ebenezer.....	20	10	0
Hickok, Ebenezer.....	119	10	0
Hickok, Daniel.....	91	14	6
Hickok, Benjamin.....	124	9	0
Hickok, Eli.....	32	15	0
Hickok & Mygatt.....	32	1	9
Hoyt, Nathl.....	49	9	9
Hoyt, Mirjah.....	29	0	0
Hoyt, James.....	61	0	6
Hoyt, Jesse.....	36	18	0
Hoyt, Samuel.....	12	0	0
Hoyt, Joshua.....	60	7	6
Hoyt, Theophilus.....	36	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Hoyt, Asa.....	38	15	0
Hoyt, Thomas.....	88	7	6
Hoyt, Benjamin.....	41	1	3
Hamilton, Ezra.....	18	0	0
Hubbell, Sullivan.....	39	6	3
Hubbell, Daniel.....	20	10	0
Roberts, Luke.....	20	36	0
Roberts, Thomas.....	3	0	0
Rockwell, Noah.....	22	11	0
Seelye, James.....	62	18	0
Silliman, Ebenezer.....	68	18	0
Starr, Matthew.....	34	13	0
Starr, Thaddeus.....	50	13	0
Starr, Elikim.....	74	7	9
Starr, Samuel.....	54	8	3
Starr, Ira.....	77	12	0
Starr, Joseph.....	18	0	0
Starr, Zadock.....	60	11	0
Starr, Jr., Joseph.....	45	15	0
Horr, Samuel.....	38	1	0
Horr, Robert.....	15	13	0
Sherman, Noah.....	38	15	0
Mongull, James.....	39	16	6
Trowbridge, H.....	40	5	6
Trowbridge, James.....	80	10	4
Trowbridge, Nathan.....	31	5	0
Taylor, Thomas.....	45	18	9
Taylor, Eli.....	59	6	6
Taylor, Elizabeth.....	18	19	9
Taylor, Joshua.....	50	18	6
Taylor, Silas.....	38	3	0
Taylor, Phineas.....	59	0	0
Taylor, Noah.....	37	4	6
Taylor, Eliakim.....	26	3	6
Taylor, Widow Esther.....	8	3	6
Taylor, Widow Abigail.....	6	5	0
Taylor, Levi.....	2	19	6
Taylor, Matthew.....	28	8	3
Taylor, Elijah.....	27	18	6
Taylor, Timothy.....	71	10	0
Taylor, Jr., Jabez.....	37	5	9
Taylor, Ebenezer.....	48	1	6
Taylor, Jr., Thomas.....	81	16	0
Taylor, Samuel.....	44	17	6
Vial, Moses.....	15	2	0
Wied, Solomon.....	61	11	0
Wheeler, Philip.....	41	17	0
Williams, Benjamin.....	36	4	6
Williams, Hezekiah.....	32	17	6
Williams, Thaddeus.....	74	12	3
Whitlock, John (Dyd).....	29	19	6
Whitlock, Nehemiah.....	58	2	6
Whitlock, Squier.....	30	0	0
Whitlock, Ebenezer.....	38	8	0
Whitlock, Hezekiah.....	35	1	6
Whitlock, Seth.....	24	13	0
Wildman, John.....	5	4	6

## REPRESENTATIVES.

This town was incorporated in 1855, and the following is the list of representatives:

1856, William H. Judson; 1857, William A. Judd; 1858, Edgar B. Hoyt; 1859, Charles Dart; 1860, E. F. Farnam; 1861, Eli S. Judd; 1862, George S. Crofut; 1863, Burr Edmonds; 1864, Abel B. Blackman; 1865, N. B. Corning; 1866, George A. Hickok; 1867, James D. Baldwin; 1868, H. W. Timanus; 1869, Ebenezer S. Judd; 1870, Alva Taylor; 1871, Henry Gilbert; 1872, Charles H. Shepard; 1873, Zalmom Whitlock; 1874, Austin B. Lockwood; 1875, William H. Ferry; 1876, John McCorkell; 1877, E. Starr Judd; 1878, George M. Lyon; 1879, William H. Judson; 1880-81, Philo Gilbert.

## MILITARY RECORD.

## THIRD REGIMENT.

*Company C.*

Eli Ferry, Jr., enl. May 14, 1861; hon. disch. Aug. 12, 1861.  
George Northrop, enl. May 14, 1861; hon. disch. Aug. 12, 1861.

## FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.

*Company A.*

Henry Carson, enl. Dec. 12, 1864; must. out Aug. 2, 1865.

*Company C.*

Frank Myers, enl. Dec. 12, 1864.

*Company L.*

Jeremiah O'Connor, enl. Jan. 5, 1864.

*Unassigned.*

Thomas Cook, enl. Dec. 12, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Charles Flynn, enl. Dec. 15, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
Thomas McMullen, enl. Dec. 15, 1864; not taken up on rolls.  
John Satorius, enl. Dec. 15, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

## FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

*Company B.*

John C. Taylor, enl. Jan. 22, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 5, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

*Company E.*

John Gordon, enl. Dec. 26, 1863.

*Company F.*

Ansel H. Couch, enl. Feb. 11, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 12, 1864; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.  
Otto Gaudendorff, enl. Dec. 3, 1864; must. out Sept. 25, 1865.

*Unassigned.*

Edward Corbey, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

## SECOND REGIMENT ARTILLERY.

*Company C.*

Leonard Hower, enl. Dec. 16, 1863; wounded Sept. 19, 1864; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
Eugene Hyatt, enl. Dec. 30, 1863; must. out Aug. 19, 1865.

*Company K.*

John Fitzpatrick, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.  
George H. Hoxly, enl. Jan. 30, 1864; wounded June 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 18, 1865.

*Company M.*

Edso Patrick, enl. Feb. 12, 1864.

*Unassigned.*

Joseph Arley, enl. Dec. 6, 1864; not taken up on rolls.

## FIFTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Daniel L. Smith, corporal; enl. July 22, 1861; killed Aug. 9, 1862.  
Addison M. Whitlock, corporal; enl. July 22, 1861; pro. to second lieutenant; must. out Nov. 1, 1864.  
Edward A. Durand, musician; enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
Hiram M. Cole, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, July 27, 1863.  
David O. Constock, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. July 22, 1864.  
James E. Durand, enl. July 22, 1861; disch. for disability, Dec. 5, 1862.  
George S. Ferry, enl. July 22, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 21, 1863; died March 22, 1864.  
David B. Mills, enl. July 22, 1861; wounded May 22, 1863; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps April 7, 1864.

*Company C.*

John Owens, enl. Dec. 15, 1864.

*Company F.*

Henry Penny, enl. Aug. 24, 1864.

*Company K.*

Theodore F. Cole, enl. Feb. 18, 1862; re-enl. Feb. 29, 1864; disch. for disability, July 26, 1865.  
John Gannon, enl. March 13, 1862; wounded Aug. 9, 1862; disch. for disability, Feb. 21, 1863.  
Rollin H. Johnson, enl. Feb. 18, 1862; re-enl. March 21, 1864; must. out Aug. 11, 1865.

*Unassigned.*

James Owens, enl. Dec. 15, 1864.

## SIXTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Charles Bishop, enl. Oct. 19, 1863; wounded Aug. 14, 1864; disch. for disability, June 31, 1865.  
Jonas Brown, enl. Oct. 19, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

*Company B.*

Joseph Brown, enl. Oct. 21, 1863; disch. Sept. 16, 1864.  
John McDonald, enl. Oct. 19, 1863; disch. for disability, Feb. 17, 1865.



*Company E.*

John H. Arapke, enl. Jan. 5, 1864; wounded May 16, 1864; must. out Nov. 8, 1865.  
 Martin Lanches, enl. Oct. 22, 1863; died Sept. 23, 1864.

*Company F.*

Peter F. Dunn, enl. Oct. 16, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.  
 George Gariophy, enl. Oct. 19, 1863.  
 Smith Hambling, enl. Oct. 17, 1863.  
 Alexander P. McClay, enl. Oct. 17, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

*Company H.*

Charles Brown, enl. Oct. 16, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

*Company I.*

Robert Phillips, enl. Oct. 16, 1863; must. out Aug. 21, 1865.

## SEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Edward Bennett, enl. Oct. 23, 1863; killed Feb. 20, 1864.

*Company D.*

Joseph S. Deming, first lieutenant; com. Sept. 5, 1861.  
 Henry Erwin, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; disch. for disability, Feb. 4, 1863.  
 Adam Grimm, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; died July 13, 1864.  
 William H. Smith, enl. Sept. 5, 1861; re-enl. Dec. 22, 1863; died March 25, 1864.  
 John McDermott, enl. Oct. 26, 1863; must. out June 12, 1865.

*Company I.*

Michael Nichols, enl. Oct. 23, 1863; died Oct. 14, 1864.

## EIGHTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Lemuel B. Clark, corporal; enl. Sept. 25, 1861; wounded Sept. 17, 1862; disch. for disability, May 14, 1863.

*Company G.*

Austin Connell, enl. Dec. 31, 1863; must. out Dec. 12, 1865.

## NINTH REGIMENT.

*Company K.*

Johnson, James, enl. Dec. 19, 1861; transferred.  
 Becker, Jos. W., enl. March 29, 1862; re-enl. Jan. 6, 1864; trans. to Co. D; must. out Aug. 3, 1863.  
 Cole, Andrew, enl. April 1, 1862; pro. to second lieutenant, Jan. 26, 1863; res. Dec. 30, 1863.  
 Durant, George B., enl. April 8, 1862; disch. Oct. 27, 1862.  
 Lane, John J., enl. March 29, 1862; died Aug. 12, 1862.

## TENTH REGIMENT.

*Company D.*

Barber, Eli N., sergeant; enl. Oct. 1, 1861; disch. for disability, March 4, 1862.  
 Northrop, George, sergeant; enl. Oct. 1, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; died Nov. 10, 1864.  
 Moffitt, Abram, enl. Oct. 1, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

*Company E.*

Farley, Patrick, enl. Nov. 23, 1864.

*Company I.*

Dempsey, John, enl. Dec. 15, 1864; must. out Aug. 25, 1865.

## ELEVENTH REGIMENT.

*Company A.*

Dibble, Samuel L., enl. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enl.; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.  
 Gregory, Daniel, enl. Oct. 24, 1861; re-enl.; wounded; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

*Company I.*

Sims, James, enl. Nov. 25, 1864.

*Company K.*

Brotherton, Jos. H., enl. Dec. 13, 1861; wounded Sept. 17, 1862; disch. for disability Oct. 27, 1862.

## TWELFTH REGIMENT.

*Company E.*

Holly, William H., enl. Nov. 19, 1861; wounded and captured.  
 Payne, Charles H., enl. Dec. 28, 1861; re-enl. Jan. 1, 1864; must. out Aug. 12, 1865.  
 Lyon, Orsa, enl. Dec. 22, 1863.

## THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Wheeler, Alonzo, enl. Feb. 20, 1862; disch. Jan. 6, 1865, term expired.  
 Brown, William A., enl. February, 1864; trans. to Co. A; must. out April 25, 1866.

## FIFTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company D.*

Hines, James, enl. Sept. 13, 1864; trans. to 7th Conn. Vol.; must. out July 20, 1865.

*Company F.*

Brady, Philip, enl. Dec. 6, 1864; trans. to 7th Conn. Vol.; must. out July 20, 1865.  
 Carney, James, enl. Dec. 6, 1864.  
 Dunn, John, enl. Dec. 6, 1864.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Barrett, Patrick, enl. Sept. 2, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Thompson, Charles H., enl. Sept. 1, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company C.*

Dauchy, Robert S., sergeant; enl. Aug. 6, 1862; died July 5, 1863.  
 Barnum, Bethel S., sergeant; enl. July 24, 1862; killed July 1, 1863.  
 Williams, Henry E., corporal; enl. July 26, 1862; pro. to first lieutenant; must. out as sergeant, July 19, 1865.  
 McCormell, Thomas, wagoner; enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Benedict, Charles S., enl. Aug. 12, 1862; died June 1, 1863.  
 Beers, Jarvis F., enl. Aug. 7, 1862; wounded May 2, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Blackman, Theodore, enl. Aug. 8, 1862; killed July 2, 1863.  
 Edwards, Thaddeus S., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; wounded July, 1863; disch. for disability, Nov. 1, 1864.  
 Ferry, Francis H., enl. July 23, 1862; wounded; trans. to Vet. Res. Corps; must. out July 25, 1865.  
 McCorkel, John, enl. July 24, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Shepard, Samuel G., enl. July 28, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Smith, William H., enl. July 26, 1862; wounded July, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Smith, Frederick S., enl. Aug. 8, 1862; trans. to Inv. Corps, Dec. 15, 1863.  
 Tomlinson, Horace E., enl. Aug. 6, 1862; disch. for disability, Dec. 10, 1862.  
 Williams, Adam C., enl. Aug. 6, 1862; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Woodman, Uraneous P., enl. July 26, 1862; died May 19, 1863.  
 Daniels, Patrick, enl. Dec. 24, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Kyle, William, enl. Dec. 26, 1863; must. out July 19, 1865.

*Company G.*

Barsley, Elbert J., enl. Sept. 2, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Ferry, George S., enl. Aug. 6, 1864; must. out June 14, 1865.  
 Northrop, Warner H., enl. Sept. 2, 1864; must. out July 10, 1865.  
 Perry, William H., enl. Sept. 1, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Sherwood, Jos. B., enl. Sept. 6, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.  
 Wheelock, Henry, enl. Sept. 2, 1864; must. out July 19, 1865.

## TWENTIETH REGIMENT.

*Company B.*

Burton, William, enl. Dec. 6, 1864.

## TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

Ransom, P. Lyon, first assistant surgeon; enl. Oct. 4, 1862; pro. to surgeon 28th Conn. Vol., Dec. 1, 1862.

*Company B.*

Oliver, Wood, enl. Aug. 30, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

*Company G.*

Croft, George S., captain; com. Sept. 2, 1862; taken prisoner June 23, 1863.  
 Hibbard, Oscar H., first lieutenant; com. Sept. 2, 1862; taken prisoner June 23, 1863.  
 Bailey, Charles, second lieutenant; com. Sept. 2, 1862; taken prisoner June 23, 1863.  
 Cole, William F., sergeant; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.  
 Ambler, Samuel S., sergeant; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Northrop, Frederick W., Jr., sergeant; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Barnum, E. Romine, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Wheeler, William C., corporal; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Clapp, John B., corporal; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Evans, John J., corporal; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Farnam, George W., corporal; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Williams, Isaac J., corporal; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Ferry, Frederick, corporal; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Benjamin, Frank L., musician; enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Barber, William H., enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Chase, Daniel, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Clark, Ezra, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Cole, Charles L., enl. Oct. 29, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Daniel, Patrick, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Hart, John M., enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Jenkins, Henry, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

Patrick, Edson, enl. Sept. 2, 1862; hon. disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

#### TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT.

Lyon, Ransom P., surgeon; com. Dec. 1, 1862; died Aug. 6, 1863.

#### TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

##### *Company D.*

Hammer, William H., enl. Dec. 3, 1863; died Dec. 18, 1864.

##### *Company K.*

Dennis, Francis, enl. Jan. 2, 1864; died Feb. 20, 1864.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### WILLIS JUDD.

Willis Judd was born in Bethel, Fairfield Co., Conn., Oct. 15, 1808.

His great-grandfather, Phineas Judd, was an active man in the church, and one of the founders of, and a deacon in, the Congregational Church in Bethel. His grandfather, Daniel Judd, was also a prominent man in church affairs, and a farmer by occupation. He was married to Eunice Dykeman, and their children were Phineas, Ard, Eli, Betty, Clara, Althea, and David.

Phineas, the eldest, was born in Bethel, April 4, 1773. He married Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer Silliman and niece of Gen. Silliman, of Revolutionary fame. The children of Phineas and Sarah Judd were Ebenezer S., Mary P. (who died on her eighteenth birthday), Betsey E., Willis, Sarah, Almon, and Julia.

Willis Judd spent his early life upon a farm, which he left at sixteen to learn the trade of hat-making, then a considerable industry in his native town of Bethel. He began in the shop of the Messrs. Beebe, remaining till reaching the age of twenty-one, when he removed to Saratoga Co., N. Y., working there at his trade for a little more than a year, when he returned to his native county and settled in Danbury. Thence he removed to Woodbury and started business in a small way on his own account. Here he met and married Miss Augusta M., daughter of Reuben Mallory. In 1849 he removed to Bridgeport, and for a year carried on the business of confectioner, but, this business not being to his liking, he sold out,

returned to Bethel, and again took up his trade of hat-making, working as journeyman for seventeen years.

In 1867 he assisted his only child, Julius B. Judd, to enter upon the manufacture of hats, in company with Mr. George M. Cole, under the firm-name of Cole & Judd. This firm prospered, but Mr. Cole remained but a short time, selling his interest, to form other business connections, to Mr. Willis Judd. The firm has since been Judd & Co. The product of this factory has grown from a very small beginning to over one hundred thousand dollars' worth of goods per annum.

In 1856, Mr. Judd was elected justice of the peace for two years. He has served several terms in the Board of Relief, and at different times as treasurer of the town, and in every instance to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. He has also been frequently elected to the office of warden of the borough of Bethel.

### GEORGE M. COLE.

George M. Cole is a native of Newtown, Conn., where he was born Aug. 3, 1823. Hiram Cole, his father, was a hatter in Newtown, beginning the business there in 1814. He married Mary, daughter of Ichabod and Tamer Gilbert, and raised a family of thirteen children, of whom George was the eldest. He worked with his father after attaining to the proper age, learning the trade of hat-making. His father, with his family, removed to Newtown when George was sixteen years old. At the age of twenty-one he took his father's shop and did piece-work for four or five years, after which he worked as journeyman hatter in New York City, Danbury, and elsewhere, till 1867, when he formed a partnership with J. B. Judd and engaged in hat-manufacturing in Bethel. This partnership existed one year, when, disposing of his interest to Mr. Judd, Mr. Cole connected himself with Mr. S. S. Ambler in the same business. The business of Cole & Ambler, from a small beginning, has reached over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars per annum, turning out sixty dozen hats daily.

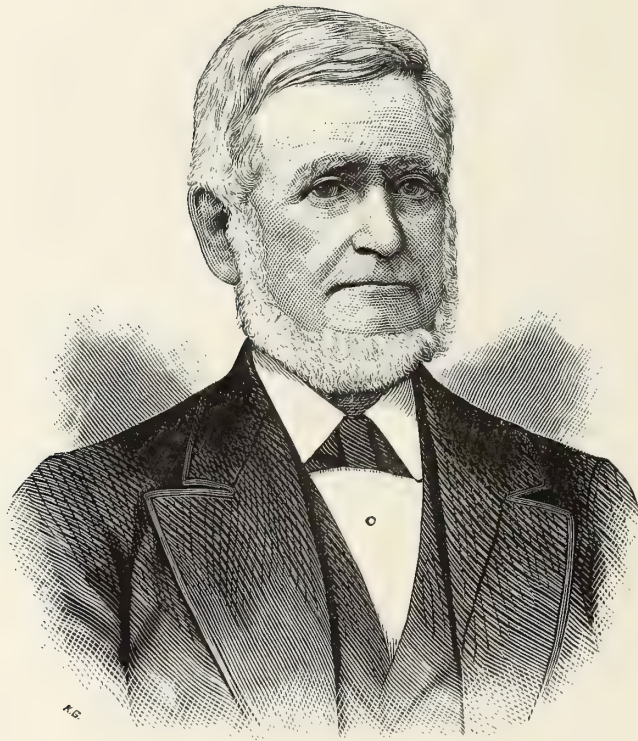
Mr. Cole was married in March, 1846, to Miss Eliza M., daughter of Eli and Jeannette French, of Monroe, Conn. But one child has been born to them, George H.

In 1873, Mr. Cole was elected warden of Bethel Borough, which position he held seven consecutive terms, and was re-elected to it again in 1880. It was chiefly through his efforts that Bethel was provided with the excellent water-works she possesses. Mr. Cole has held various town-offices. In 1878 he was elected selectman, and the year following one of the town-assessors. In politics he is a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school, as was his father before him.

Mr. and Mrs. Cole are members of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church of Bethel.







*Willis Judd*





*J. M. Cole*





## S U P P L E M E N T.

THE following items were received too late for insertion in the body of the work.

### DANBURY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

This company has been in operation about twenty-five years. The first officers were: Aaron Seeley, President; Roger Averill, Secretary and Treasurer. The present officers are: F. L. Wildman, President; Roger Averill, Treasurer; William S. Peck, Secretary.

### DARIEN MILITARY RECORD.

John Johnson, Co. B., 7th Regt.; enl. Nov. 16, 1863.

Thomas Smith, Co. B, 7th Regt.; enl. Nov. 11, 1863; died at Andersonville, Aug. 15, 1864.

J. R. Brighton, Co. F, 11th Regt.; enl. March 27, 1864; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

Thomas Jackson, Co. H, 11th Regt.; enl. March 31, 1864; wounded; must. out Dec. 21, 1865.

E. J. Johnson, Co. H, 11th Regt.; enl. March 29, 1864.

William Laverick, Co. H, 11th Regt.; enl. March 29, 1864; disch. Dec. 7, 1864.

### BENCH AND BAR.

HON. THADDEUS BETTS, an able lawyer, was born in Norwalk, Feb. 4, 1789; his parents were William Maltby Betts and his wife Lucretia Gregory. His grandparents were Dr. Thaddeus Betts and Elizabeth Maltby. The Betts in Norwalk appear to have rendered public services for several generations. Capt. Stephen Betts was in command in the skirmish with the enemy at Norwalk in 1779. Thaddeus Betts, justice of the peace, took his testimony, which is preserved in the records at Hartford. The late Thaddeus Betts graduated at Yale College, 1807, and was lieutenant-governor of Connecticut. Hon. Thomas B. Osborne, of Fairfield, said in the House: "Mr. Betts was distinguished for acuteness of intellect, vigor of understanding, and soundness and probity of his life. He was early brought in contact with the most eminent men that ever adorned the bar of New England. It is sufficient to say that he sustained and distinguished himself among such men as Daggett, Sherman, Smith, and Sherwood. He filled many important trusts in his own State."

He was admitted to the bar in 1810, and died in Washington, D. C., April 7, 1840. Two sons, Charles C. and Frederick T., are residents of Norwalk.

### STRATFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH.\*

This church is located in the northeastern part of the town of Fairfield, and is the oldest Baptist Church

in this section. Its first minister was the Rev. Joshua Morris, who organized the church in 1751. He was succeeded by Rev. John Sherwood, who was the first resident pastor. Meetings of the church were first held in his dwelling-house. He was succeeded by Rev. Benjamin Coles in 1767. The fourth pastor was Rev. John Whitman. He was succeeded by Rev. Seth Higby in 1771. He was succeeded in 1794 by Rev. Stephen Royce, whose salary was three hundred and thirty-six dollars per year. The next pastor was the Rev. Asahel Morse, who remained until 1812. In 1801 the church voted that the deacons should take care of what should be contributed to *git* books for the Indians, and in 1802 a committee was appointed to hunt up *straid* brethren and sisters.

Rev. Daniel Wildman became pastor of the church in 1813. He was succeeded by Rev. Matthew Bolles, and he in turn by Daniel Wildman in 1817. Rev. Mr. Wildman was followed by Rev. Asa Bronson in 1822. Among his converts was Mr. Russell Jennings, who subsequently entered the ministry by ordination. He has since made large donations of money for religious and other praiseworthy purposes. Mr. Bronson resigned in 1829, and was succeeded in the same year by Rev. Elisha Cushman. He resigned in 1831, and was succeeded by Rev. James H. Lindsley. The thirteenth pastor was Rev. Enoch E. Chase in 1836. Mr. Chase closed his labors in October, 1839, and was followed by Rev. Matthew Batchelor in 1840. Mr. Batchelor was succeeded in 1842 by Rev. John Scott. In 1847 he resigned, and Rev. A. E. Clark became pastor, and remained as such until 1849. Since that time the pastors have been as follows: Rev. Harmon Ellis, one year; Rev. Nathan Dunning Benedict, from 1851 to 1860; Rev. Joseph Babbage, from 1860 to 1865. Rev. N. Benedict became pastor in 1865, and remains as such at the present time.

The first church building was erected in 1770. The church worshiped in this structure until 1813, when the present edifice was erected, having no external changes except recently blinds have been placed on the windows and a bell hung in the tower.

### HOPE CHAPEL†

belongs to the Congregational Society of Fairfield. It was organized about eleven years ago, and public worship has been sustained by the Congregational and Episcopal Churches in Fairfield, the Congrega-

\* Condensed from an elaborate history of the church, written by Mrs. Kate E. Perry.

† Contributed by Mrs. Kate E. Perry.

tional in Black Rock, and the Congregational Church in Greenfield Hill. Its capacity was inadequate, so this present year (1880) it was enlarged and rededicated. It is doing a good work, and is successful. It is located in Fairfield Woods, quite a distance from any church.

#### NEWTOWN ACADEMY.\*

The academy at Newtown, Conn., was built in 1837. It is a modest structure, neatly painted white, and furnished with green blinds. It is surmounted by a cupola, in which is a bell to summon the cheerful company to their daily tasks. There is a playground of limited extent immediately in the rear. Up to the present time no perceptible change has been made in the external appearance of the building.

Rev. George L. Foote, a native of Newtown, and a recent graduate of Trinity (then Washington) College, at Hartford, Conn., was the first principal. He was ably assisted in both the male and female departments, one of the assistants being his sister, Miss Harriet Foote. A teacher of music was also employed, and it was the first school remembered hereabouts in which "the service of song" accompanied devotional exercises at the opening of daily school duties.

The school was very successful under the charge of Mr. Foote. The number of pupils amounted to one hundred and twenty-five, and probably at times there was even a larger number.

Mr. Foote continued principal of the academy two and a half or three years. He died in Central New York a number of years ago, his disease being *ramolissement*, or softening of the brain. Miss Harriet Foote became the wife of the Rev. Mr. Atwell, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church. She died many years ago, while still young, in Steuben Co., N. Y.

The Rev. James S. Clark, D.D., a native of Bethel, now and for many years past principal of a large school, and rector of a church at Tivoli-on-the-Hudson, and A. L. Benedict, Esq., still a resident of Bethel, were pupils of Mr. Foote.

The Rev. Levi H. Corson succeeded as principal of the academy in the spring of 1840. Mr. Corson employed Miss Mary Foote, a sister of the late principal, as assistant and teacher in the female department.

There was quite a falling off in the number of pupils when Mr. Corson took charge of the school, so that when the writer commenced attendance—almost forty years ago (January, 1841)—there were only eighty-five or ninety scholars in both departments.

Hon. D. B. Booth, of Danbury, Maj. L. N. Middlebrook, attorney and counselor-at-law, of Bridgeport, E. M. Beardsley, M.D., of Monroe, the late John Deacon, M.D., of Waterbury, and others from different towns, more or less distinguished in their respective stations in life, were fellow-students in the institution.

Mr. Henry Sanford, senior partner of the firm of

Sanford & Hawley, in Newtown, had completed his academical studies previous to the writer's advent in the town, and had commenced his successful mercantile career as clerk in the old, low store-building of Messrs. Baldwin & Beers, on the same corner where he now occupies a much more imposing edifice. Messrs. Baldwin & Beers were at that time actively engaged in trade and doing a large business. They lived to a good old age, and have long since been "gathered to their fathers."

The Rev. Mr. Corson, besides teaching as principal of the academy, was also hired for the year to supply the desk and pulpit of Trinity church. In 1880, Mr. Corson was living in Michigan at a very advanced age.

In the spring of 1841 the Rev. Thomas T. Guion, who had previously graduated at Trinity College, Hartford, was called to the charge of the academy. The number of pupils was still further diminished, and yet the rooms were even now comfortably filled.

I should have sooner mentioned that during Mr. Foote's administration there was quite a number of students from several of the Southern States, particularly from Virginia; and as many as fifteen of these remained during the year that Mr. Corson taught. But very few of these attended the school under Mr. Guion.

However, the school opened very pleasantly, and so continued for more than half of the year. In the summer of this year, I think in August, we lost one of our mates by death. Andrew J. Jarvis, with a number of others, had walked to Taunton Pond, now known as Fountain Lake, a distance of about a mile and a half, and while heated and perspiring went into the water to swim. The exposure resulted in an attack of acute erysipelas of the head, and after an illness of a few days his life closed, at the age of eighteen years. Poor Jarvis was kindly cared for, but he died far from home and kindred. He was buried in Newtown Cemetery.

In the following winter two opposing dancing-schools were opened, one at each of the hotels, at the north and south ends of Main Street. Mr. Guion did not think it proper or profitable that the attention of his pupils should be distracted by such exercises and associations. He therefore notified the young people of the school and the parents of some of them that they could not continue pupils of the academy and attend either of the dancing-schools. But the spirit of old Adam was aroused. Probably half the students, perhaps more than half, decided to cultivate the graces of their heels rather than of their heads and their hearts. In consequence of this unfortunate revolt the attendance was at once reduced to a minimum, not more than thirty or thirty-five of us remaining. Small as it was, however, the little company of the faithful continued on through the term which closed the school year. Mr. Guion was an excellent and most lovable man. His health had

\* Contributed by George Benedict, M.D., of Bethel.



been impaired by a severe cold, and this unexpected and uncalled-for trouble laid him by sick for several days.

Mr. Guion preached a number of years in Danbury and Bethel, and was at length called as rector of St. John's Church, Brooklyn. While here he received the degree of doctor of divinity. He was an energetic man and a hard worker in the cause of his Divine Master. In the midst of his usefulness he was disabled by sickness, and after lingering many months he, like Mr. Foote, one of his predecessors in the academy, died of *ramollissement*.

Succeeding Mr. Guion in the spring of 1842, Mr. Charles W. Wooster, another graduate of Trinity College, took charge of the school. Mr. Wooster had recently taken a wife from a family in Waterbury. Mrs. Wooster was an educated and accomplished lady, and came to Newtown with her husband to take charge of the female department. Her health proved insufficient to the labor and care incumbent upon her as teacher, and Miss Caroline Tudor, of Hartford (now the wife of Dr. Platt, of Waterbury), was engaged in her place. Mrs. Wooster had been in feeble health for months before removing to Newtown, and she declined rapidly after leaving the school, and died in June of that year. Her remains were taken to Waterbury for interment, and a number of the older pupils from both departments of the school made up a portion of the funeral procession. The school was not so large as it had been in its earlier years, yet there were as many as eighty different students during the year.

With the opening of the next school year, in 1843, Mr. Wooster continued with the same staff of assistants as during the preceding. A few of the older pupils still continued, but most of the newcomers were of more tender years. Of the Southern scholars, only one was left. The material in Newtown had been pretty thoroughly used except from the younger class, and, in fact, the academy had ceased to be a new thing, had lost prestige abroad, and with the close of the academic year it was closed for some time.

The Rev. D. P. Sanford made an effort to revive an interest in the neighboring towns as well as in Newtown, but did not meet with the success he had hoped for, and gave over the attempt.

After a time a select school was opened in one of the rooms by Mr. Elizur Keeler, a resident of the village. He continued for a year or more, and since then others have taught with varying success for longer or shorter periods. But the glory of its early days had departed for the time, and until it was taken in hand by Rev. J. P. Hoyt, of the Congregational Church, a few years ago. Mr. Hoyt has the reputation of teaching an excellent school and employs several assistants. It seems now as if some of the old-time prosperity must return, although it is hardly probable that the building will ever accommo-

date such a company as it did during the first years of its existence.

The following is a list of the teachers and officers in 1843: Charles W. Wooster, A.B., Principal; S. J. B. Dibble, Assistant; Caroline Tudor, Preceptress; Lewis T. Downs, Teacher of Music; Trustees, David V. B. Baldwin, David H. Belden, Josiah B. Fairchild, Charles Fairman, Charles Blakeslee; Josiah Sanford, Chairman; Charles Clarke, Secretary.

#### HIRAM LODGE, NO. 18, F. AND A. M.,

was organized by virtue of a charter derived from the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut, dated Jan. 6, 1791. The lodge continued in good working order for a number of years, till up as far as 1832, when there appears to have been a decline in its prosperity, which continued until the year 1848, when it ceased to work. It was a long time before Masonry revived in Newtown,—not until the years 1860–66, when a decided reaction took place. Perhaps one of the great incentives to this was the war which was about to be and was fought during these years. Two new lodges had been organized,—one at Bethel and one at Monroe, and to which numbers were added from Newtown, and from whom originated the idea of reviving the old lodge. A petition was presented to the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut for a renewal of the old charter by the following-named brethren: From Eureka Lodge, No. 83, Bethel, Conn., Julius Sanford, Wm. L. Horr, George Woffenden, Scofield C. Lamb, Smith P. Glover, Wm. E. Akley, Aaron Sanford; from Monroe Lodge, No. 93, Monroe, Conn., Augustus Warner, G. A. Hough; from Montgomery Lodge, No. 13, Salisbury, Conn., James A. Wilson; Wm. C. Perkins, Roxbury, Mass., who recommended Bro. Julius Sanford as first W. Master, Bro. Wm. L. Horr as first Senior Warden, and Bro. George Woffenden as first Junior Warden of said lodge. This petition was granted by the Grand Lodge at its annual communication, held in May, 1866, at New Haven.

The following officers were publicly installed June 25, 1866, by M. W. Chauncy M. Hatch, Deputy Grand Master: Julius Sanford, W. M.; Wm. L. Horr, S. W.; George Woffenden, J. W.; Smith P. Glover, Treas.; James A. Wilson, Sec.; Scofield C. Lamb, Chaplain; Wm. E. Akley, S. D.; G. A. Hough, J. D.

The following are the Masters to date: 1867, Wm. L. Horr; 1868, George Woffenden; 1869, George Woffenden; 1870, Clark H. Lockwood; 1871, Wm. I. Sanford; 1872, Charles Webster; 1873, Rev. Wm. N. Akley; 1874, James A. Wilson; 1875, James A. Wilson; 1876, John L. Sanford; 1877, Wm. I. Sanford; 1878, Wm. I. Sanford; 1879, Somers D. Croffutt.

The present officers are as follows: Somers D. Croffutt, W. M.; Daniel H. Botsford, S. W.; George Winton, J. W.; Wm. I. Sanford, Sec.; James M. Blackman, Treas.; Charles H. Payne, S. D.; Arthur S. Wells, J. D.; John L. Sanford, Tiler.

## HIRAM CHAPTER,

located at Newtown, was the first chartered body of Royal Arch Masons in the State. Its charter was granted by Washington Chapter, of New York City, and was dated April 29, A.D. 1791, signed by Josiah O. Hoffman, H. P. W. C. R. A. N.; George Author, H. P. W. C. R. A. N.; Martin Hoffman, S. P. W. C. R. A. N.

The first session was held at Newtown, Conn., the 29th of April, 1791, and the following officers were installed: Andrew Beers, H. P.; David Baldwin, K.; Oliver Peck, S. Records are missing until Sept. 29, 1806, at which time the following are the three first officers: David Baldwin, H. P.; S. C. Blackman, K.; Solomon Glover, S.

Election was held this eve, and the following officers were elected: David Baldwin, H. P.; Samuel C. Blackman, K.; Luther Harris, S.

The present officers of the chapter are as follows: James M. Blackman, H. P.; James A. Wilson, K.;

Phil. G. Nichols, S.; Wm. I. Sanford, C. H.; John L. Sanford, P. S.; George Woffenden, R. A. C.; S. D. Croffutt, M. 3d V.; Chas. Payne, M. 2d V.; Ammon Taylor, M. 1st V.

## HIGH PRIESTS FROM 1807 TO 1880.

David Baldwin, 1807, 1809; Samuel C. Blackman, 1810-15, 1817-18, 1827; Marcus Botsford, 1816; Timothy Shepard, 1819-22; Daniel Blackman, 1823-24, 1829; John R. Wildman, 1825-26; Alex. Hall, 1828-30, 1833-35; Chauncey M. Hatch, 1831; Geo. Woffenden, 1870-71, 1877-78; Wm. I. Sanford, 1872, 1874, 1876; Henry L. Wheeler, 1873; James M. Blackman, 1875-79.

A session of the Grand Lodge was held in Newtown, Jan. 17, 1791.

In 1835 the chapter seems to have ceased to work, or at least the records are missing until May 10, 1870, when the Grand Chapter of Connecticut revised or constituted a new chapter known as Hiram No. 1.



FAC-SIMILE OF CONTINENTAL CURRENCY.



